



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 269; October 18, 2024

OUR ANNUAL FINANCE FORUMS are held in the fall each year for priests and Parish finance council members. The in-person session takes place this Sunday, October 20, 2:00 to 4:00 pm., at St. Anne's Church in Peterborough. Alternatively, the online session will be held on Tuesday, October 22, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. We are grateful to the parish finance council members around our diocese who give generously of their time and expertise!

THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH PREPARES TO CELEBRATE A JUBILEE YEAR IN 2025, around the theme "Pilgrims of Hope." Such jubilees are held every 25 years and invite us to rejoice in the blessings of almighty God and the gift of faith. As Pope Francis has said, "The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth we so urgently desire." Our local Jubilee Planning Committee met this week as we continue to put more plans in place for the coming year. Be sure to check out our webpage as we add information and resources about the Jubilee. Pope Francis will formally open the Jubilee Year on Christmas eve at St. Peter's Basilica. The year will then be inaugurated in the Cathedrals of all dioceses around the world (including ours) on the Feast of the Holy Family, Sunday, December 29.

PRIESTS, PRINCIPALS AND CHAPLAINCY LEADERS will meet this week at the PVNC Catholic District School Board – one of two such meetings where we gather to address various pastoral and educational issues. Of particular importance this time will be the new Family Life Curriculum in Ontario Catholic Schools which the Assembly of Bishops recently released. Along with that curriculum the new student and teacher resource, "Blessed and Beloved," promises to be an excellent program that faithfully presents Catholic teaching on marriage and family. Priests are reminded to RSVP if they haven't done so yet!

OUR ANNUAL CLERGY STUDY STAYS (which will include priests and permanent deacons) takes place from November 5 to 7. In addition to reviewing progress on our Diocesan Pastoral Plan, we will hear from Father John-Mark Missio on various aspects of liturgy – music, proclamation and some do's and don'ts for priests as they celebrate Mass! We always look forward to these annual days of study and fraternity. Once again, clergy are reminded to RSVP.

THIS SUNDAY IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY, first initiated by Pope Pius XI in 1926. It is an occasion that invites Catholics to pray for and give to the missions. The funds collected will help to support some 1,250 mission dioceses around the world, local churches that are unable to sustain themselves financially because of limited resources. We pray for all those who are proclaiming the Gospel in missionary territories and who often labour in challenging conditions. Nor should we forget the good work of Catholic Missions in Canada, which does so much to support faith communities in remote regions of our own country.

*Fraternally,
+Daniel*