



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 266; September 20, 2024

THE CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS (CCCB) holds its annual Plenary meeting in Quebec City next week. It will be a full agenda and busy week of conversation and collaboration. Additionally, the bishops will also mark the 350th Anniversary of the founding of the Church in North America, with the establishment of the Diocese of Quebec and the appointment of Francois de Laval as its first bishop. Cardinal Gerald Lacroix, Archbishop of Quebec, has prepared a joyful program of festivity this weekend, which will include a Mass of Thanksgiving, concert, youth and family celebration, and passage through the Holy Door of the Cathedral of Notre Dame de Quebec. May this be a time of grace for the Archdiocese and the Church in Canada!

SPIRIT GARDEN IS READY AND SOON TO OPEN. Ontario's monument to residential school survivors and those who died there will be officially unveiled in Nathan Phillip's Square on Monday, September 30 at 1:00 p.m. The Opening Ceremony will be part of the Sixth Annual Indigenous Legacy Gathering. The Spirit Garden project was supported by many community and church groups from across Ontario, as we strive to find ways to walk together on the journey of reconciliation. An informative video about Spirit Garden can be viewed here.

IT WAS A GREAT OPENING CEREMONY for our new Catholic Student Center for Campus Ministry this past Sunday. The weather was beautiful and many people came out for the formal program and the informal Open House afterwards. Students from Trent University and Fleming College have already started making it their home and Father Chukwudi Jieme is blessed to have a chaplaincy headquarters that is beautiful, functional, and well-located!

SCHOOL IS BACK IN AND I HAVE ENJOYED SOME CATHOLIC EDUCATION events this week. St. Anne's Catholic School in Peterborough marked their 75th Anniversary yesterday, with a Mass and program in the morning and open house later that evening. It was wonderful to gather with current and former students, staff, teachers and principals to mark this important anniversary. Earlier today, I was also blessed to celebrate Mass for Directors of Education and Superintendents from Eastern Ontario, hosted by the PVNC Catholic School Board at their offices.

EVERY YEAR WE RECEIVE PRIESTS TO OUR DIOCESE from various parts of the world – near and far! In a couple of weeks we will hold our annual orientation session for “new arrivals” at our Diocesan Pastoral Center. It is always a full day of information and sharing and an opportunity to get to know these priests who have come from away to offer their priestly ministry here among us.

A REMINDER THAT FORMED has great Catholic video resources on a whole range of subjects and is available to all parishioners in our Diocese as part of our three-year subscription. As the busy pastoral year gets going, be sure to take advantage of these faith-filled and high quality programs, which are free to you!

*Fraternally,
+Daniel*