



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 328; May 8, 2026

THREE MEN WILL BE ORDAINED AS PERMANENT DEACONS for our diocese on Saturday, May 30, 11:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains. Peter Bagnall, Sean Dunlop and Nic Dubonnet have been preparing for four years as participants in our Permanent Deacon Formation Program. It will be my privilege to confer the Sacrament of Holy Orders upon them as they begin their diaconal ministry in the Church – a ministry of charity, word and sacrament. Please pray for them and their families as they prepare for this day and for their dedicated service to the Church in the years to come.

THE GREAT COMMISSION PARISH WORKSHOPS were a huge success a couple of weeks ago, both in Parry Sound and in Peterborough. Some 180 people attended the sessions, with participants from all of our parishes. Sincere thanks to the team from Augustine Institute who gave great presentations with practical advice on how parishes can do outreach and evangelization in these times. I could tell that people left feeling encouraged, inspired and energized!

THE PROVINCE-WIDE MASS FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK was celebrated at our Cathedral on Wednesday and livestreamed to schools around Ontario. Sincere thanks to our PVNC Catholic Community, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association and our Cathedral staff for all that they did to organize a beautiful liturgy. Special recognition goes to the excellent choir from St. Mary's Catholic Secondary School in Cobourg, who provided such great music: they showed why they are one of the best choirs around!

PRIME MINISTER CARNEY MET WITH THE LEADERS OF THE CCCB (Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops) on Friday, last week. As noted in the media release, this meeting afforded the opportunity for CCCB leadership "to contribute to public life in Canada in a spirit of dialogue by communicating the concerns of the Bishops and the Catholic faithful, informed by the Gospel and the Church's social teaching." You may read the full media release [here](#).

I WAS PLEASED TO ATTEND THE CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP AWARDS for the PVNC Catholic District School Board on Wednesday. This annual event, held in Catholic Education Week, honours Grade 8 and Grade 12 students who have embraced the call to Christian service at school, community and parish. Congratulations to all the award winners!

THE ABRAHAM FESTIVAL TAKES PLACE this Saturday at Mark St. United Church, beginning at 1:30 p.m. For twenty-three years, this festival in Peterborough has brought together Jews, Christians and Muslims to help us grow in mutual understanding and respect. Please see the poster and program for this year's Abraham festival [here](#).

TODAY MARKS THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF POPE LEO XIV'S election to the papacy. Let us keep him in our prayers, that God may grace him with the strength and wisdom he needs as Chief Shepherd of the Universal Church.

*Fraternally,
+Daniel*