



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 275; December 13, 2024

THE ARCHBISHOP OF TORONTO, THE MOST REVEREND FRANCIS LEO, was elevated to the College of Cardinals in a ceremony held in Vatican City this past Saturday. We extend our most sincere congratulations to him as he takes on this role of further service in the Church. As noted in this article on the Canadian Bishop's website, Cardinal Leo continues his role of pastoral leadership in the Archdiocese of Toronto while taking on additional roles as an advisor to the Holy Father. Additionally, he has become one of the electors who will choose a new pope when the papal seat becomes vacant.

ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS were a great success at our Cathedral last night, despite being rescheduled because of Monday's freezing rain. The students, staff and choir of **Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School** did a fine job with the readings and hymns, and Father Stephen DeCarlo presided over a wonderful, prayerful liturgy. And it was nice to see a good crowd of people who came out to participate.

ADVENT IS ABOUT HALFWAY THROUGH but there is still time to view the weekly reflections "Journey Through Advent," on the Canadian Bishops' website. These brief, spiritual presentations on readings and themes of the season are offered by newly minted Cardinal Francis Leo of Toronto. You may access the videos [here](#).

THE RESTORATION OF THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. PETER-IN-CHAINS is progressing, with work on the new roof nearing completion. Recent efforts have focused on the magnificent steeple, as anyone who drives by and sees the scaffolding can tell. We received the good news that the cross will be replaced atop the steeple next week. You may recall that the old cross was sheered off in the "derecho" storm that blew through Peterborough in May of 2023, wreaking such havoc here and in other regions. The new cross has arrived at the Cathedral compound is awaiting its installation. I look forward to blessing it next week – very safely from ground level!

IF IT HAS BEEN A WHILE SINCE YOU CHECKED OUT "FORMED," (the rich Catholic video library) this is a great time to re-connect. They have a whole range of offerings for Advent and Christmas, videos for children, teens and adults. In the busy rush of this season, these resources can help us focus on the deep meaning of all that we celebrate. A reminder that these resources are free to you, by virtue of our three-year subscription to Formed in the Diocese of Peterborough. So, this is the time to sign back into your account or create an account by going to our Diocesan website [here](#).

THE FILIPPINO COMMUNITY CONTINUES THE TRADITION OF "SIMBANG GABI" a novena of Masses leading up to Christmas. This year, Simbang Gabi will be celebrated at St. Anne's Parish in Peterborough, from Sunday December 15 to Monday, December 23. Mass on the two Sundays will begin at 5:00 p.m. Mass on all other days of Simbang Gabi will be celebrated at 6:30 p.m. It promises to be a festive celebration preparing us for the Nativity of the Lord.

Fraternally,

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