



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 278; January 17, 2025

THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY takes place this year from January 18 to 25. During this annual observance, Christians are encouraged to pray that the desire of the Lord, that “all may be one,” might be fulfilled. The theme for this year focuses on the 1700th Anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, which produced the Nicene Creed that we often profess at Mass. The resources for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity are produced jointly by the Vatican and the World Council of Churches, as noted in [this statement](#) on the Canadian Bishops’ website.

BECAUSE OF THIS MAJOR ANNIVERSARY OF THE NICENE CREED, I have asked that priests of the diocese to prioritize its use during this Jubilee Year. In Canada, we often incline to the use of the Apostles’ Creed, which is shorter and echoes the Baptismal Promises. Professing our faith with the Nicene Creed more often will help us to appreciate its richness and more developed theology of the Trinity. This brief [article](#) on the Nicene Creed provides a nice historical overview.

[OUR JUBILEE EVENTS PAGE](#) on the Diocesan website has been recently updated, which includes the most current calendar of events. Among the first major liturgical celebrations is the “Jubilee of Consecrated Life,” which will take place at St. Mary’s Church in Lindsay on Sunday, February 2 at the 11:00 a.m. Mass. This Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is annually the World Day of Consecrated Life, and we are blessed that it falls on a Sunday this year. We look forward to welcoming priests and sisters from religious orders who serve with great faithfulness in the Diocese of Peterborough to this Mass. Who are these men and women? This [page on our website](#) tells you a little something about the religious orders who serve here.

[NATIONAL CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE WEEK](#) runs from Sunday, February 2 to Saturday, February 8. This annual event celebrates Catholic health care organizations across Canada that have been united in a 400-year mission of healing, providing compassionate care that addresses body, mind and spirit. This year’s theme, “Caring for our Common Home,” emphasizes our responsibility for creation and the promotion of environmental sustainability and health and wellbeing in our homes, workplaces and communities. Nationally, Catholic health care serves over five million people annually and employs over 88,000 people. You can find more information on the website of the [Catholic Health Alliance of Canada](#).

OUR PRIESTS ONGOING FORMATION COMMITTEE met earlier this week, looking ahead to the planning of Study Days and Retreats in the next couple of years. This group does very important work attending to the ongoing pastoral and spiritual development of our clergy. We are looking forward to our upcoming Priests’ Retreat in June, led by Bishop Gerard Bergie of the Diocese of St. Catharines.

Fraternally,
† Daniel