



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 279; January 24, 2025

A NEW VIDEO ABOUT SOCIAL MEDIA has just been released by the Canadian Bishops. A year ago, a pastoral letter was published by Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) titled, “Let Your Speech Always Be Gracious.” The letter addresses the complexities of the changing social media landscape, offering guidance for using these platforms in a way that aligns with our faith and values. It is worth a read and you may download it here: [Pastoral-Letter-on-Social-Media_EN-2024-01-22.pdf](#). A new video about the letter is available on the CCCB website here: [Introduction to the Pastoral Letter on the Use of Social Media](#). Bishop Scott McCaig gives a helpful overview of this timely letter and introduces the upcoming video series.

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS is going full steam in the parishes of our diocese. Last week, I was privileged to visit the large RCIA group at our Cathedral which has over a dozen participants! My presentations on Covenants in the Old Testament and the Sacrament of Holy Orders were followed by a few questions and answers – very few, because I went a little over my allotted time. Please pray for candidates and catechumens across the Diocese who are involved in this journey of faith as they prepare for the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter – and likewise pray for their pastors, catechists and sponsors who accompany them on this journey.

IF YOU MISSED PICKING UP A COPY OF THE CATHOLIC HERALD at your parish, you can always view it online. Our latest edition was published just before Christmas, and it is filled with news about the Jubilee year, many events going on in our parishes and updates on Vocations and Youth. I am always heartened by the many contributors who help to make this publication one of the best Diocesan magazines around! You can access the latest edition on our website here.

OUR INDIGENOUS RECONCILIATION FUND will soon open its third round of applications for projects. We are grateful to all those who have donated to this important cause and to the members of our IRF Committee who carefully screen the submissions, seeking projects that will promote the cause of Truth and Reconciliation in our Diocese. You can see more about the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund on our website, including a list of those worthy projects that were supported in rounds one and two.

BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS AND BLESSED PIER GIORGIO FRASSATTI will both be canonized in this Jubilee Year of Hope: Bl. Carlo at the Jubilee for Teenagers on April 27, and Bl. Pier Giorgio as part of the Jubilee for Youth on August 3. Although the Diocese is not sponsoring pilgrimages to these events, parishes may wish to mark the canonization of these two remarkable young men! Blessed Carlo, who passed away in 2006 at the age of fifteen, is often referred to as “the first millennial saint.”

Fraternally,
† Daniel