



FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 282; February 14, 2025

AN ONLINE MEETING ABOUT THE JUBILEE YEAR was held with our priests and deacons this week. We looked ahead to the approaching months and especially to the season of Lent with two major events coming up. “24 Hours for the Lord” will provide for times of prayer and Eucharistic Adoration in each parish church on Friday, March 7 and Saturday, March 8. Toward the end of Lent, our Diocese-wide Day of Confessions will take place on Saturday, April 5. We are planning to publish the confession times for each parish in the diocese for that day of grace and mercy. To keep up with all the planned events of the Jubilee year, be sure to check out our website.

I HAVE ENCOURAGED PARISHES TO USE THE NICENE CREED in this Jubilee Year, as I mentioned in a recent edition of the Vineyard. It is especially appropriate since 2025 marks the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea which produced this great profession of faith. The Archdiocese of Edmonton is presenting “We Believe,” seven online sessions on the history and theology of the Nicene Creed, which looks very informative. These sessions will run more or less monthly throughout the year. You can access the schedule and other information about this series on the Archdiocese of Edmonton [website](#).

LENT IS JUST TWO AND A HALF WEEKS AWAY! Even though it starts late this year, it still kind of snuck up. If you haven’t yet dipped your toe into “FORMED,” the library of great Catholic online videos, this is a wonderful time to start – or a time to start watching again. They have a great four-part series “How to Lent,” which is a fine lead-up as we prepare for this season of penance, prayer, charity and spiritual renewal. Remember, this resource is free to all our parishioners because of our Diocesan subscription. Simply go to our web page [here](#) to sign up if you are a first-time user. Or dust off your log-in credentials if you are returning after a while! It is a real blessing to have these resources free for our use, especially with Lent soon upon us.

OUR PROVINCE GOES TO THE POLLS ON FEBRUARY 27, our first winter election in Ontario in many years. The Archdiocese of Toronto has some helpful resources available for Catholics as we form our consciences and decide how to vote. Both the guide by “Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Toronto” and the resource by “Catholic Conscience” help us to consider various issues through the lens of Catholic social and moral teaching. You can view them through the Archdiocese of Toronto website [here](#).

TODAY IS VALENTINE’S DAY, a major commercial event that maintains just a slender thread to Christianity. The obscure St. Valentine always manages to supplant the saints whose feast is celebrated on this day in the universal calendar, Cyril and Methodius. I will be their publicist and say that as missionaries to the Slavic peoples, they hold an important place in European and Church history. An interesting article about them at Franciscan Media can be found [here](#).

Fraternally,
† Daniel