



FROM THE VINEYARD

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THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD MOURN THE PASSING OF POPE FRANCIS, who died on Easter Monday morning. Although he had been in ill health recently, he seemed to be recovering and so his death came as something of a surprise. Many tributes have been pouring in, recognizing both Pope Francis and the impact of his twelve-year papacy. My statement may be found [here](#). Additionally, Bishop William McGrattan, President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, issued this [statement](#). You may also view a very good page about Pope Francis, his life and papacy, on the [CCCB website](#).

THE FUNERAL FOR POPE FRANCIS will be celebrated at St. Peter's Basilica on Saturday, beginning at 4:00 a.m. our time. It will be attended by Church and civic leaders from around the world and by the many ordinary people who were moved by his pastoral leadership, simplicity, and love for the poor and suffering. I was gratified that our **Memorial Mass** for Pope Francis, offered at the Cathedral on Wednesday evening, was attended by many priests and lay people.

THIS PRAYER IS FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF POPE FRANCIS.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.

R: And let perpetual light shine upon him.

O God, faithful rewarder of souls, grant that your departed servant, Francis, whom you made successor Peter and shepherd of your Church, may happily enjoy forever in your presence in heaven the mysteries of your grace and compassion, which he faithfully ministered on earth. Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. R: Amen.

OUR JUBILEE OF YOUTH, scheduled for this Sunday, has been postponed in light of recent events. We had planned it to coincide with the canonization of Carlo Acutis the "first millennial saint." Since his canonization has been postponed because of the nine-day period of mourning following a Pope's death, we thought it best to reschedule our own event. We will await the announcement of a new date for the canonization and make our plans accordingly.

THERE IS STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR OUR "TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST" retreat. Father Stephen DeCarlo has been working with an excellent team of adult leaders to put on this first TEC Retreat at Ganaraska Forest Center on May 17 to 19. This is an excellent experience for a young person seeking to grow in his or her faith alongside other young people. Check out the [website here](#) for more information.

IT WAS A WONDERFUL HOLY WEEK IN PETERBOROUGH which included another moving presentation of the "**Outdoor Way of the Cross.**" Sincere thanks to the dedicated young cast, crew and organizers who put it all together and to the hundreds of people who participated. Check out the photos of this event [here](#).

Fraternally,
† Daniel