



# FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 307; November 21, 2025

**SIXTY-TWO INDIGENOUS ARTIFACTS** are being gifted from the Holy See to the Bishops of Canada as a step to return them to their communities of origin. Pope Leo XIV is carrying out the wish of his predecessor, Pope Francis, in the hope that this will aid the Church in Canada to take further steps on the journey of reconciliation with Indigenous people. These artefacts will arrive in Canada in the first week of December and be given over the care of National Indigenous Organizations. They will be housed at the Canadian Museum of History in Gatineau which will work with NIO's to clarify provenance and ownership. More details may be found in this [joint statement](#) that was issued on Saturday by the Holy See and the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.

**OUR INDIGENOUS RECONCILIATION FUND COMMITTEE** met last Friday, and we were happy to greenlight eight project proposals. These projects include ventures by First Nation communities, Friendship Centers and educational institutions from all parts of the Diocese of Peterborough. I appreciate the efforts of the IRF Committee members who work diligently to encourage and review these submissions from various groups. Check out the [IRF page](#) on our website to learn more about this important effort in our diocese.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO KEVIN MACKENZIE & JENNY LEAHY**, acclaimed on Tuesday as Chair and Vice-chair respectively of the PVNC Catholic District School Board. I was happy to attend the inaugural meeting for the fourth year of this Board's term, and to celebrate Mass afterwards with the trustees and senior administration. May all those tasked with leadership in our Catholic schools be blessed with wisdom, strength and discernment.

**IT WAS A FESTIVE 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY GALA** for [Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School](#) last night. After celebrating Mass at the Cathedral, participants enjoyed a delicious meal and program at Doyle Hall, including a panel discussion with some of the "Pioneer Families" from three decades ago. Congratulations to the Event Committee who staged a terrific evening!

**I VISITED CENTRAL EAST CORRECTIONAL CENTER** in Lindsay on Tuesday, where I celebrated Mass with two groups of inmates. It was my first time there in a while, so I was also happy to meet with the site chaplain and several of the senior officers in the course of the morning. Sincere thanks to Father Dominic Clovis and Deacon Sean Gallagher who accompanied me and who provide regular and faithful pastoral care at Central East Correctional Center.

**WE CONTINUE THE PETER ROBINSON BICENTENNIAL** celebrations at a Candlelight Mass being offered this Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at St. John the Evangelist Church in Keene. Opened in 1856, it is among the oldest churches in the Diocese of Peterborough. I look forward to being with Monsignor Michael Heffernan, our homilist Father Garry Leahy, and parishioners, as we continue the celebration of "The Nine Ships."

Fraternally,  
† Daniel