



FROM THE VINEYARD

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POPE LEO XIV IS MAKING HIS FIRST OVERSEAS TRIP to Turkey and Lebanon this week. In addition to bringing a message of peace and solidarity, the Holy Father is commemorating the 1700th Anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, the Church's first ecumenical council. That gathering of bishops was largely responsible for producing the Nicene Creed which we recite so often at Sunday Mass. Today, Pope Leo meets with Orthodox Patriarch Bartholemew as they jointly observe this important anniversary.

IN ADVANCE OF THIS TRIP, POPE LEO PUBLISHED THE APOSTOLIC LETTER *"In Unitate Fidei,"* marking the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea. It is both a brief read and an interesting summary of the history and theology behind the Nicene Creed.

OUR CAMPUS MINISTRY CENTRE on Rubidge Street now has a proper name. The "McCloskey Campus Ministry Centre" acknowledges the generous donation of Paschal and Sylvia McCloskey that made the acquisition of this house possible. It has been serving us well as we minister to students at Trent University and Fleming College, and provides an agreeable meeting place for social activities, study and prayer.

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH IN POWASSAN celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation this past Sunday. I enjoyed being there to confirm the six young people and I was hosted very kindly by Father Emmanuel Mbam and parishioners. The Confirmation was followed by a potluck reception in the parish hall, which has been repaired and brought back into ship shape through the efforts of many parishioners. It was a great weekend, and we weren't deterred by the couple of inches of snow that fell on Saturday night!

OUR ADVENT GATHERING FOR PRIESTS AND DEACONS takes place this coming Thursday at our Cathedral. We make it a point to gather the clergy of the diocese for a Mass and luncheon early in Advent, before we are staring down the barrel of a busy Christmas. It is always a pleasant get-together at a joyful time of the year. Priests and deacons are reminded to reply to the digital invitation if they haven't done so already.

JOURNEY THROUGH ADVENT is a video series that you can view on the Canadian Bishops' website. Each Sunday of the season, Bishop Wayne Lobsinger (Auxiliary Bishop of Hamilton) will offer a brief reflection on the Scriptures and the important themes that we celebrate in Advent. You may access the video series [here](#). At a busy time of the year, this is a simple way to keep our minds and hearts focused on the coming of Christ as we prepare the way of the Lord.

OUR COUNCIL OF PRIESTS meets this Wednesday as they do four times a year. This body is an important advisory group and one that every diocese is required to have. I am grateful to the priest-members who give generously of their time to serve on this council!

*Fraternally,
+Daniel*