



# FROM THE VINEYARD

**Newsletter No. 311; December 19, 2025**

**WE ARE INTO THE FINAL DAYS OF ADVENT** and that means the glad celebrations of the Lord's birth at Christmas are soon upon us. Earlier this week I published my message for Christmas and the closing of the Jubilee Year of Hope. I have also produced a video version of this message as we prepare for this great season of joy.

**SIMBANG GABI ("NIGHT MASS")** is already off to a great start here in Peterborough, well-organized and attended by the Filipino community (and others). Sincere thanks to the various priests who are part of the roster for this series of nine Masses at the Cathedral leading up to Christmas. Each night concludes with a snack and social gathering at Bishop Doyle Hall. On the final night (December 23<sup>rd</sup>) the snack will be promoted to a potluck dinner! Everyone is welcome.

**A CHRISTMAS VOCATIONS DINNER WAS HELD THIS TUESDAY EVENING** at St. Alphonsus Parish in Peterborough. Organized by Father Stephen DeCarlo and hosted by the good pastoral staff at the parish, we welcomed six young men who are discerning a possible call to priesthood. Not only was the meal excellent, it gave our guests a chance to meet our seminarian Andrew Roelands, who is doing his parish internship at St. Alphonsus this year, prior to resuming academic studies at St. Augustine's Seminary in the fall of 2026.

**BISHOP PIERRE GOUDREault**, President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, has released his video message for Christmas which you may find [here](#). Quoting recent words of Pope Leo, Bishop Goudreault reminds us of how Christmas calls us to build a better world, especially in our service to the poor.

**CHRISTMAS IS NOT QUITE HERE**, and we are already planning for Holy Week! This is a casting call for our annual **Outdoor Way of the Cross** being held on Good Friday. Interested teens and young adults are welcome this casting session being held at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains on Saturday, January 10, beginning at 12:00 noon. Come and be part of this great Holy Week tradition that is beloved by people from our community and beyond.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR CLOSING MASS FOR THE JUBILEE OF HOPE.** This Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains on the Feast of the Holy Family, Sunday December 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. Let us gather in thanksgiving to God for the graces of this Jubilee Year!

**FROM THE VINEYARD** will now take a Christmas break for a few weeks. Please know of my prayers for you all, that you may enjoy a very Merry Christmas with family and friends and a New Year of much blessing and joy.

*Fraternally,  
+Daniel*