



# FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 312; January 9, 2026

**A HIGHLIGHT OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON** was the Mass on the Feast of the Holy Family, when we closed the **Jubilee Year** in the Diocese of Peterborough. Sincere thanks to all who planned that wonderful celebration and to the clergy and parish representatives from around the diocese who joined us at the Cathedral on that day. It was a fitting finale to this Jubilee Year of Hope. Pope Leo XIV officially concluded the Jubilee on the Feast of the Epiphany at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, closing and sealing the Holy Door. His homily from that Mass can be found [here](#). The Church will next celebrate an Ordinary ("regularly scheduled") Jubilee in the year 2050: though all signs point to an Extraordinary Jubilee being called for 2033, marking two millennia since the death and resurrection of the Lord.

**"PLANNING FOR THE FINAL MOMENTS AND BEYOND"** is being offered at Immaculate Conception Parish in Peterborough. This is a series of presentations about preparing for the end of life. This three-night series includes seminars by a pastor, funeral director, estate planner and moral theologian. The sessions will be held on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. on January 14, 28 and February 11. Admission is free. Priests of the City Deanery invite you to attend and participate in these important informational talks.

**PLANS ARE UNDERWAY FOR OUR ANNUAL OUTDOOR WAY OF THE CROSS.** The first planning and casting meeting will be held tomorrow, Saturday, at the Cathedral of St. Peter's-in-Chains beginning at 12:00 noon. We are happy to invite any teens and young adults who are interested in participating in this production. It is one of the great Holy Week traditions in our community and always a great experience for our young people.

**WE CELEBRATED THE LAST OF OUR PETER ROBINSON BICENTENNIAL MASSES** at St. Luke's in Downeyville on New Year's Eve. Father Tom Lynch was the homilist and both of us were very kindly welcomed by Father Israel Oruebi and the many parishioners who attended this Candlelight Mass. It was a lovely and fitting way to conclude this component of the bicentennial celebrations, commemorating that emigration that was so foundational to the Catholic community in Peterborough and beyond.

**THE FILIPINO COMMUNITY IS CELEBRATING "SANTO NINO,"** a Novena of Masses honouring the Holy Child Jesus. Masses begin this evening at Immaculate Conception Parish in Peterborough. The first nine Masses will take place at 6:30 p.m. each night, with the final Mass on Sunday, January 18 being celebrated by me at 2:00 p.m.

**MANY OF OUR INTERNATIONAL PRIESTS** travel home in January, taking a well-deserved post-Christmas break. We pray that they all may travel and return safely! And sincere thanks to those priests who are generously providing substitute ministry in many parishes of the diocese.

*Fraternally,*

*+Daniel*