



# FROM THE VINEYARD

Newsletter No. 323; March 27, 2026

**“HELP NOT HARM”** is a campaign that invites support from the Catholic community for private member’s bill C-218. This bill will amend the criminal code to make it illegal to provide Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) to those whose sole underlying condition is mental illness. If this bill does not pass, then this practice will become the law in Canada on March 17 next year. This would have a devastating effect on vulnerable people and their families. This campaign invites people to contact their local Member of Parliament to urge them to support this bill: time is short, as this will come to a vote in Parliament in mid-April. You may go to the [“Help not Harm” website](#) for more information and will find there an easy platform from which to email your local MP. You will find more information and a helpful “Backgrounder” on our Diocesan website. This campaign gives us an opening to stand against the growing MAiD regime in Canada and to affirm the dignity of life!

**EMBRACING THE GREAT COMMISSION**, is a workshop for parish leaders run by the Augustine Institute. It will be held in two locations in our diocese: at St. Peter the Apostle in Parry Sound on Thursday, April 23, and at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains / Bishop Doyle Hall on Saturday, April 25. This is a great opportunity for priests, deacons, and catechetical and ministry leaders to consider strategies for reaching out to people with the Gospel message. Click here for Parry Sound registration and here for Peterborough. I look forward to being at both!

**THE “ORDINANDI DINNER”** was held in the Archdiocese of Toronto this past Tuesday, recognizing four young men to be ordained to the priesthood from St. Augustine’s Seminary this spring. I was happy to join in the festivities, with five other bishops, 1900 people, and two tables of folks from Peterborough. Sincere thanks to Fr. Stephen DeCarlo and Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School for organizing our local delegation! This article with photos from the dinner can be found on the Archdiocesan [website](#).

**THE FINAL PRACTICE FOR THE OUTDOOR WAY OF THE CROSS** was held earlier this week. Father DeCarlo tells me that everything is ready for this moving presentation of the Lord’s Passion, taking place on Good Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. We begin at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains and eventually make our way to Immaculate Conception Church on Rogers St. You are all welcome to join us for this solemn Holy Week devotion!

**A REMINDER ABOUT THE CHRISM MASS** which will be celebrated at our Cathedral this Monday, March 30 at 2:00 p.m. We look forward to welcoming many people to this prayerful and jubilant celebration of the priesthood at which the holy oils for the diocese will be blessed.

**I BLESSED THE NEW TABERNACLE** at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Cardiff this past Sunday. The weather cooperated and I was warmly welcomed by Father Darlington Oparaike, Deacon Tom Welsh and parishioners. It was a pleasure to be with you!

*Fraternally,  
+Daniel*