



RECENT VISITS TO ST. PHILIP NERI AND ST. AUGUSTINE'S SEMINARIES were very encouraging indeed. The formators speak highly of our seminarians and express confidence in their commitment to the Diocese and their capacity for study and service! I notice that they are a happy and mature group of young men who are dedicated to prayer and enthusiastic about studying for the priesthood! We cannot ask for more than that! Many attribute their vocation to the example and encouragement of priests they know in the Diocese – you have more influence than you might think! Sometimes a simple question can mean a lifetime of joyful service for a young man!

BISHOP PETER HUNDT HAS ACCEPTED AN INVITATION from Father David Wynen to celebrate Mass in Holy Cross Parish, Georgetown, on March 31st, at 7 p.m. It becomes an opportunity to wish him well as he leaves to take on the duties of Bishop of Corner Brook and Labrador. Father Wynen has extended an invitation to the priests of the Diocese to concelebrate at the event. If you plan to attend, do let him know. I'll be there, Father – “with bells on!”

THE 'DAY OF PRAYER FOR PRIESTS' we be held on next Tuesday and Wednesday. As has become the tradition, it will be held on Tuesday at the Cathedral in Hamilton and Wednesday at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Waterloo. Father Peter Tuyen is leading a time of prayer and reconciliation, and I'm told a remarkable speaker has been booked! If you haven't already contacted Father Freitas to register, it is not too late to do so. It helps to assure sufficient food for lunch!

THE PERSONNEL OF THE DIOCESAN PASTORAL OFFICES are working assiduously on a plan to reconfigure the offices to facilitate services to the parishes and the Diocese. We met on Monday last to begin the formal process, and we will meet again on Monday to discuss alternatives. We hope to announce the new structure in the March **Inter Nos**, but that may prove to be a bit ambitious. The work continues.

THE EPISCOPAL BOARD SPENT ALL DAY MONDAY with Mr. John O'Brien, Diocesan Financial Administrator, getting an overview of the Diocesan finances and current administrative projects. We are blessed to have such a capable administrator who is dedicated to the good of the Diocese! It was an informative session and provides a firm foundation for future planning!

FATHER JULIO MARTÌ, PROVINCIAL OF THE LEGIONARIES OF CHRIST, visited me last week with the Legionaries who are working in our Diocese. They are an impressive group of priests who are committed to preach and teach the Gospel. Our conversation provided an opportunity to thank them for the services they have provided to several of our parishes since their arrival. Pastors who know them have spoken highly to me of their dedication and service.

FATHER ROGER FORMOSI IS AT THE ST. JOSEPH MOTHERHOUSE recuperating from a hairline fracture on his hip, sustained when he fell on ice and snow last week. It is going to be a slow recovery – a tough Lenten journey! We offer our prayers!

MASS WITH THE McMASTER UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC STUDENTS' GROUP at Canadian Martyrs' Parish last Sunday was a lively and joyful occasion. Congratulations to Father Joe Selvanayagam and Sr. Mary McIntyre, CSJ, for their effective ministry with the young people!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!