



Heart to Heart

October 6, 2017 (#297)

THE REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE AT HOLY FAMILY PARISH, New Hamburg, with their Pastor, Father Stephen Gilbert, met on Wednesday, September 27th to finalize plans to sponsor a refugee under the BVOR program. After impressive planning and fundraising efforts, Erin Pease, Director of our Refugee Office, reports that the Parish is nearly ready to be matched with a family! Exciting times!

CANDIA FLETCHER WILL JOIN *THE ORDER OF CONSECRATED VIRGINS* in a ceremony at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, tomorrow. The commitment follows a time of prayer and discernment. The Order of Consecrated Virgins has a long history in the Church. While not chosen by many, each year several women feel called to make this life commitment in response to a call from the Lord. We offer our prayers and good wishes!

THE BEREAVEMENT AUTHORITY OF ONTARIO recently announced its new Board of Directors. Included among them was our own John O'Brien, chosen from among the Advisory Committee Chairs. His long experience serving as the Diocesan Director of Cemeteries, and more recently as Episcopal Delegate for Cemeteries and Insurance, makes him eminently qualified to serve the Province of Ontario in this capacity. Congratulations, John!

SALT & LIGHT TV is organizing a televised cross-country "Town Hall" discussion for Canadian youth in preparation for the 2018 Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops on *Young People, Faith and Discernment*. Groups across Canada – in Vancouver, Calgary, Windsor, Toronto, Montreal and Quebec City – will be linked with Cardinal Kevin Farrell, Prefect for the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life, who will be in the Salt & Light studio in Toronto. Taped next week, the 2017 Forum will be broadcast on S&L TV on October 22nd. Not to be missed!

ELEVEN YOUNG ADULTS FROM HAMILTON DIOCESE will participate in the S&L TV Forum in their Toronto studio. The Diocesan representatives are: D'Arcy Murphy (St. Matthew, Oakville), Molly Fisher (Mary Mother of God, Oakville), Sister Maria Immaculata (SOLI), Robin Mendonca (Seminarist Intern, Holy Rosary, Milton), Megan Misner (St. Pius X, Brantford), Liam Culp (student, St. John's College, Brantford), Christopher Jobity (St. Francis Xavier, Stoney Creek), Kathleen LeBlanc (Campus Minister, McMaster University), Jesse LeBlanc (St. Ann, Ancaster), Victoria Henry (teacher, Wellington Catholic District School Board), and James McCowell (C.Y.O. Youth Ministry Specialist). The strong team was chosen by our Diocesan Youth Office. They leave by bus from the Cathedral Basilica early Tuesday morning. May all go well!

ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTH SYSTEM is one of 124 member organizations of the *Catholic Health Alliance of Canada*. The statistics for the Alliance are impressive. The total staff of all member organizations is 88,052; total beds, 19,575; number of people served, 5 million; total operating budgets, \$6 Billion! A legacy of care from Religious communities across the country, Catholic health care is still a strong ministry in Canada!

ST. BASIL PARISH, BRANTFORD celebrates the 175th Anniversary of its establishment this weekend. Throughout the year, former Pastors have been invited to preside at Sunday Masses. Historically, it belonged to Kingston Diocese, then to the Diocese of Toronto, and finally to the Diocese of Hamilton. It is one of our foundational Parishes. Congratulations to Msgr. Earl Talbot and parishioners on this remarkable achievement!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY TO ONE AND ALL ON MONDAY!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, +*Douglas*, OMI