



THE TRAGIC DEATHS OF TEN MIGRANT WORKERS LAST MONDAY IN HAMPSTEAD has deeply affected parishioners in the Diocese of Hamilton since most of the victims lived in or close to Kitchener. Most affected locally are members of the large Spanish-speaking community in the area. The Diocese issued a [press release](#) (follow the link to view) in which we expressed our sympathy the following day. We continue to pray for the families and friends of those who were killed.

TOMORROW, FEBRUARY 11, IS WORLD DAY OF THE SICK. The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes was designated a Day of Prayer for the sick by Pope John Paul II. Together we pray for family members, friends and neighbours who struggle with poor health. May the Lord be their help and their shield!

OUR DIOCESAN CELEBRATION FOR HIS EMINENCE THOMAS CARDINAL COLLINS, is being planned for 7 p.m., Thursday, March 22nd at Church of Our Lady in Guelph. The Cardinal will preside and preach at Evening Prayer and have the opportunity to greet well-wishers at a reception following. Anne Gibbs has accepted to coordinate things at the Chancery Office end. She will be working closely with Father Dennis Noon and his staff in Guelph. Plan to join us!

FOUR CONGREGATIONS OF THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH are moving forward with plans to amalgamate, perhaps as soon as this year. Representatives from the four Congregations (Pembroke, Peterborough, London, and Hamilton) met at the Motherhouse in Hamilton this week. I joined them for Mass and dinner last evening, renewing many friendships. It is an important undertaking, responding to the needs of the time – as the Sisters have always done.

THERE IS AN EXHIBITION OF THE WORK OF “WILLIAM KURELEK: THE MESSENGER” at the Art Gallery of Hamilton (123 King Street West, Hamilton), continuing until April 29th. Kurelek was a Ukrainian-Canadian artist who experienced a profound conversion to Catholicism while in a psychiatric hospital in England. This is the largest exhibition of his work ever and the first in 25 years. Many of his paintings are religious and deeply moving. You might want to give it a visit.

LENT IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER – ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 22nd. I have prepared a letter for the Diocese which is attached to this issue of Heart to Heart. The letter may be read or printed for distribution in the parishes, Religious houses, and institutions in the Diocese for February 19th, the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. It is a brief reflection on the principal focus of the season and an encouragement to enter the season with an open heart, ready to deepen one's relationship with the Lord.

FR. JOE SELVANAYAGAM AND CANADIAN MARTYRS' PARISHIONERS IN HAMILTON, including McMaster Students who gather there for prayer, will be my hosts this weekend. Father Joe has recently returned from a visit to his beloved Sri Lanka. We are happy to have him back with us!

I WILL TRAVEL TO AN ICEL MEETING IN NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, NEXT WEDNESDAY. ICEL is the acronym for the *International Commission on English in the Liturgy*. It is the group which oversaw the translation of the Roman Missal for the eleven English-speaking Episcopal Conferences around the world. Besides other concerns, the meeting will be an opportunity for me to hear international response to the new translation!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde invicem,

+ *Douglas*, OMI