



## *Heart to Heart*

*April 4, 2014 (#158)*

**SAINT FRANCOIS DE LAVAL AND SAINT MARIE OF THE INCARNATION** were canonized by Pope Francis in a decree signed at the Vatican yesterday. Both are considered founders of the Catholic Church in Canada. This is a particular blessing for the Diocese of Quebec which is celebrating the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the canonical establishment of Notre-Dame-de-Quebec, the first Parish in North America. Along with the recent elevation of Cardinal Gerald LaCroix to the College of Cardinals, the Diocese has had many opportunities this year to celebrate and give thanks to God. We join in thanksgiving and praise!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. JOHN FOSTER WHO WAS APPOINTED** *Director of Catholic Cemeteries* for the Diocese of Hamilton earlier this week. He has served as Interim Director since January 1<sup>st</sup>, this year, following the appointment of Mr. John O'Brien as *Episcopal Delegate for Cemeteries and Insurance* for the Diocese. Mr. Foster has worked at our Catholic Cemeteries for the past 25 years providing competent and faithful service. We expect that this will put him in good stead for his new position. We wish him all blessings!

**THE FOUR MEN PREPARING FOR ORDINATION AS PERMANENT DEACONS** on June 7<sup>th</sup> this year met with Bishop Daniel Miehm and me to talk about their future service to the Diocese. Mr. Phong Hoang, Mr. Brian Dunn, Mr. John Fioretti, and Mr. Patrick Crowley are completing their four-year study program and have been called to Ordination, following the recommendation of the Formation Team at St. Augustine's Seminary. We are grateful for their commitment and look forward to the celebration!

**WE OFFER OUR SYMPATHY TO THE CONGREGATION OF THE RESURRECTION** on the recent death of Father Dominic Kirwan. The Funeral Mass will take place at St. Mary's Parish in Kitchener on Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. We thank the Congregation for the ministry he provided to the Church and in particular to the Diocese of Hamilton. May he receive the reward promised to good and faithful servants!

**THE CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS RECEIVED WORD** that Bishop John Corriveau, OFM (Cap), has been appointed a member of the *Congregation for Consecrated Life*, and Archbishop Paul-Andre Durocher has been appointed a member of the *Pontifical Council for Culture* by Pope Francis. We know that both Bishops will bring a life-time of experience and faithful commitment to this special service to the Church.

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT IS DESIGNATED *SOLIDARITY SUNDAY!*** On this Sunday the **special collection** is received for the *Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace*. Our Lenten *fast* leads us to give *alms* to assist the needy. If we say that it costs a-dollar-per-day to feed a family in the developing world, then an offering of \$40.00, one dollar for each day in Lent, can be considered a helpful Lenten contribution. Thank you for any contribution – please be generous!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FRENCH LANGUAGE CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD** on the occasion of the blessing and dedication of Sainte-Trinite French Catholic High School in Oakville, which takes place on Sunday afternoon. This is a wonderful opportunity to salute the good work of the French Language Catholic Board, (which covers five Dioceses!), in the Diocese of Hamilton.

**THE ONTARIO CATHOLIC SUPERVISORY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION** will hold its annual meeting in Ottawa next week. I have been invited to give the opening talk on Wednesday night. Pray for me. Pray for them!

Saint Francois-de-Laval and Sainte Marie-de-l'Incarnation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI