



## Heart to Heart

February 13, 2015 (#193)

**THE DIOCESAN LITURGY OFFICE HAS ANNOUNCED** that there will be one celebration of the Rite of Election due to the small number of catechumens in the parishes of the Bruce-Grey, Waterloo and Wellington Deaneries. The Rite of Election will take place at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, on Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, beginning at 1:30 p.m. It is expected that there will be about 75 catechumens present for the event. It is an impressive and deeply moving ritual – especially important for those who will be celebrating the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. Please pray for them!

**THERE HAS BEEN SOME DISCUSSION ABOUT THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES** on children under 7 years old. This is because the exhortation, “*Turn away from sin ...*”, presumes that one has the capacity to understand and commit sin. When imposing ashes on children, it might be advisable to use the alternate declaration: “*Remember, you are dust ...*”. Or, it is also possible to impose the ashes in silence. Please provide opportunity and welcome anyone who comes forward for this *sacramental* which begins our annual Lenten journey.

**THE JESUIT FORUM FOR SOCIAL FAITH AND JUSTICE HAS PUBLISHED** an excellent resource for discussion and reflection on the Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel*. The booklet can be used by interested parish groups or for individual reflection. It would be an excellent resource for the Lenten season. If you are interested in getting a copy, contact Monica Verin at our Office for Discipleship and Parish Life.

**DINNER WITH THE BISHOP** takes place tonight at St. Patrick’s Parish in Burlington, with Priests from the Halton Deanery. This fraternal initiative follows several years of *Conversations at Ardree*. It is meant to provide an opportunity for me to meet our Priests in a casual, social and fraternal environment.

**THE DIOCESAN FINANCE COUNCIL MEETS TODAY.** The Council meets at least ten times throughout the year to follow the financial well-being of the Diocese, to discuss major expense items, and to oversee property and investment developments. Members are dedicated and rarely miss meetings which is a blessing for the Diocese. We are particularly grateful to parishes for submitting their annual financial reports for 2014 in a timely manner. It helps the work of our Finance and Administration Office.

**THE ANNUAL K OF C DINNER DANCE FOR BISHOP’S CHARITIES** takes place *NEXT* weekend. Over 800 tickets have been sold for the joyful event. Thanks to the Knights of Columbus Council in the Hamilton area for organizing the event, which benefits so many good works in the area! Thanks also to the Pastors who are so enthusiastic about supporting the event.

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FROM ST. MARGARET MARY PARISH** in Hamilton, have announced the approval by Supreme Council of the new name of their Council: *St. Margaret Mary Father Kyran Kennedy Council*. The name honours Father Kennedy who founded the Parish and the Council, and served the Diocese assiduously throughout his life!

**THE COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS (CCSO)** met earlier this week at the Chancery Office. Loretta Hill Finnamore, Katie Friscolanti, and Elizabeth, informed members of the good work of the Jeanne Scott Parent and Child Resource Centre, yet another program offered by the Good Shepherd Ministries. The CCSO is always an uplifting and encouraging sharing of the good work being done by the Catholic community in the Hamilton Deanery and beyond.

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us.

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI