



Heart to Heart

February 1, 2019 (#351)

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO OUR ASIAN PARISHIONERS who celebrate the Lunar New Year (TET) on February 5th. It is the year of the Golden Pig! The Korean and Vietnamese Pastors and Parish leaders have visited to offer good wishes and gifts. The Vietnamese community has been busy preparing “sticky rice cakes” for their celebrations. We offer our wishes for a blessed New Year – with much happiness and good fortune!

THE WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE IS TOMORROW, FEBRUARY 2nd. Pope St. John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. It was attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also known as *Candlemas Day*, the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the Light of the World. Please pray for all those who have made commitments to consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples.

THE THEME FOR BIBLE SUNDAY THIS YEAR IS LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD AT MASS. In addition to the homily reflections in our Parishes this Sunday, February 3rd, Father Michael Patella, O.S.B., from Saint John's Abbey, Colledgeville, home of the Saint John's Bible, will speak at two special celebrations. The first is at St. Michael Parish in Waterloo at 2:00 p.m., and the second is at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF THE MISSION COOPERATIVE PROGRAM, annual receipts have surpassed \$500,000.00! 114 Parishes and other benefactors participate in the program which benefits 46 missionary Parishes in developing countries. Thanks to Frank Cappelli, volunteer Director of the program, for his good work in assuring its ongoing success. And thanks to parishioners for your generous support of Catholic communities worldwide!

THE REEL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL continues on February 22, 2019 with the screening of *After the Storm – Building the Pope Francis Village*. St. Raphael Parish (4072 New Street, Burlington) is the venue, with the evening beginning with a potluck meal at 5:30 p.m. The film is shown at 7:00 p.m. followed by a panel discussion with Jess Agustin, the Development and Peace Program Officer for the Philippines. Reel Justice is a partnership between Development and Peace and the Bishop Farrell Library and Archives.

PRIESTS ORDAINED BETWEEN 2013 AND 2019 are invited to a *Symposium for the Recently Ordained*. It will take place from November 4th to 8th at the Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre in Niagara Falls. The session is sponsored by the Commission for Priests of the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario. Father John Lemire has written a letter to the Priests concerned. Recently ordained Priests are strongly encouraged to attend. Save the date!

THE CANADIAN CATHOLIC BIOETHICS INSTITUTE is sponsoring an evening with Michael Buttrey, Moira McQueen and Tracy Trothen entitled *Stronger, Smarter, More Moral? Human Enhancement and Christianity*. The evening of reflection will take place at Charbonnel Lounge, on the campus of the University of St. Michael's College, 81 St. Mary Street, Toronto, on February 28, 2019, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. It promises to be an interesting session!

OUR UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCIES sponsor a silent retreat for students at the Ignatian Retreat Centre in Guelph guided by multiple spiritual directors from the Diocese. The retreat takes place during reading week, February 18-22, 2019. Please keep the students in your prayers!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us.

Ex corde, +*Douglas*, OMI