



Heart to Heart

October 23, 2020 (#415)

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION, postponed in the spring due to the COVID-19 pandemic, is being celebrated in our Parishes under strict pandemic protocols. Parish Priests have been delegated to administer the Sacrament. The celebration at St. Gregory the Great Slovenian Parish, Hamilton took place last Saturday. Everyone followed the protocols carefully – and the *confirmandi* will always have happy memories about the important celebration. Thanks to all who are assuring the safe and joyful celebration of Confirmation this autumn!

THE DIOCESAN LITURGY OFFICE under the direction of Deacon John Moss continues to offer “virtual” formation for Ministers of the Word and Special Ministers of the Eucharist. Last Monday, the Liturgy Office began the first of three modules providing on-line formation for over 70 ministers of the Word. Topics included the Liturgy, the celebration of Mass, and the role of Lectors. Modules two and three will focus on *Gathered Into One*, directives for the celebration of Mass in the Diocese, and Rules and Tools for Lectors.

AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS OF DISCUSSION AND PLANNING, two successful and long-standing foundations, supporting both Catholic education and the community-at-large in the Kitchener-Waterloo area have merged. The Waterloo Region Catholic Schools Foundation Inc. and The Catholic Community Foundation of Waterloo Region Inc. have merged under the name *Catholic Community Foundation of Waterloo Region*. For 25 years these foundations have granted millions of dollars to various worthy community causes and organized numerous community events. The new foundation will ensure continued vibrant financial support in the community.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION is accepting applications for the 2021-2022 program. The in-person and online program, facilitated by the Providence School of Transformational Leadership and Spirituality at St. Paul University (Ottawa) runs from April 21st to May 22nd. Visit www.cwlfcanada.ca for more information. Application deadline is November 20, 2020.

CURA PASTORUM (CARE OF PASTORS) is the retirement program for Priests of the Diocese of Hamilton. At the annual meeting which took place earlier today, Priests were given the most recent information about the financial stability of the fund and the number of retired Priests who benefit from it. A new executive committee was elected to manage the fund for the coming year. Father Martin Vallely serves as the Executive Secretary of *Cura Pastorum* and Father David Walter assists him. We are grateful that such a program is so carefully managed!

THE ONTARIO STATE COUNCIL OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS announced the Novena in preparation for the October 31st Beatification of Father McGivney, Founder of the Order. The Novena began yesterday – but it is still not too late to participate. Join the Knights and Catholics around the world in praying the [novena](#)! To learn more about the upcoming beatification of Father McGivney, visit www.kofc.org/beatification.

THE HOSPITALS OF THE ST. JOSEPH’S HEALTH SYSTEM have been gathering their staffs for online meetings and internal discussions. They celebrate the successes of their centres and the commitment of the healthcare professionals who serve the needs of so many. The gatherings also provide me the opportunity to thank them all for their good work which has been recognized by so many over these past several months. How blessed we are!

St. Joseph, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI