



Heart to Heart

November 6, 2020 (#415)

THE NATIONAL EVANGELIZATION TEAM (NET), based in Ottawa, has sent a seven-member Team to Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Stoney Creek at the invitation of Father Bill Trusz, Pastor. The Team will work with the young people of the Parish for the coming two years, encouraging their growth in faith and understanding the Gospels. Welcome to Pierre Caron (London, ON), Peter Roddis (Abbotsford, BC), Kyle Abrahamse (Whitby, ON), Emily Shortell (Belleville, ON), Abbygail MacDonald (Halifax, NS), Marinna Fillion (Tache, MB), and Amber Laybolt (Charlottetown, PEI)! In previous years, NET Ministries has visited certain Parishes in the Diocese to assist in preparing our young people for the Sacrament of Confirmation. We look forward to having this Team do their transformative and evangelizing work.

WANT TO LEARN MORE about the spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola? The founder of the Jesuits developed a way of praying that helps people “find God in all things.” Ignatian spirituality is grounded in the conviction that God is active in our world. The Jesuits of Canada are sponsoring an Advent 4-evening ZOOM session to introduce the gift St. Ignatius gave to the world. The Tuesday night sessions begin at 7:00 p.m., November 17th, November 24th, December 1st, and December 8th. Contact poreilly@jesuits.org for more information. Time well spent!

THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IN SOLIDARITY WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES is celebrated on December 12th, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas. The 2020 Message in English and French written by the CCCB Indigenous Council can be found on the [website](#) of the Diocese. Pastors are invited to post the message on their Parish websites or include it in their on-line Parish Bulletin.

THE PRIESTS AND LAY MINISTERS serving Catholic University Chaplaincies in our Diocese met “virtually” yesterday to share about their activities during these pandemic days. Father Mark Morley and Ania Krysciak serve students at Guelph University at St. John Henry Newman Student Centre; Father Brad Markus, Sr. Mary McIntyre, CSJ, and Paul O’Hagan, serve McMaster University Students from Canadian Martyrs Student Centre; Martha Fauteux and Erika Toffelmire serve students at St. Jerome’s University, and Joseph Goodwin serves at St. John Paul II Student Centre at St. Michael Parish in Waterloo; Father Pawel (Paul) Jamroz will be joining him when he takes up his duties as Pastor at St. Michael Parish on November 25th. Much of the Summer and Fall activity at these Centres has been “on-line” because of the coronavirus restrictions. There is a new kind of “busy” and outreach, supporting and encouraging students who are experiencing the difficulty of isolation and loneliness. We are blessed with such committed leaders!

REMEMBRANCE DAY – November 11th. Canadians pause today in silence to remember those who died in war and to pray for the victims of aggression and inhumanity throughout the world. This is a day to pray for peace, to consider what we are doing as individuals, as a community, and as a nation to bring God’s peace into the world. This is a day when a believing community should rededicate itself by prayer and action to the ideals Jesus gives us in the Beatitudes.

SINCERE THANKS TO ALL WHO SENT EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY and assurances of prayer on the death of my youngest sister, Jane Donaldson. Your kind words have been consoling and uplifting. Late last week, I travelled to Stittsville, Ontario, for her funeral. Sad though it was, the prayers of family and friends for her – and for her young family – brought profound peace and reassurance.

ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8th, I celebrate the 10th Anniversary of my Installation as Bishop of Hamilton. It has been a blessing in my life for which I am profoundly grateful. Please pray for me!

St. Therese of the Child Jesus of the Holy Face, pray for us!

Ex corde, +*Douglas*, OMI