



## *Heart to Heart*

January 12, 2018 (#310)

**THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION WILL BE CELEBRATED** in Parishes throughout the Diocese following the Christmas season. Bishop Anthony Tonnos will celebrate at St. Patrick Parish, Cambridge, tonight and next Friday evening. I will be at Mary Mother of God Parish, Oakville, for three celebrations next weekend. I am grateful to Bishop Tonnos, Bishop Ustrzycki and Bishop Miehm, who are so gracious in accepting to help. Bishop Peter Hundt will assist for 10 days or so later in the year. We pray for the young people who are presenting themselves for the sacrament. Thanks to the Pastors, teachers and catechists who work so hard to assure they are well prepared.

**A CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY RETREAT** is scheduled from January 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, at the Deemerton Retreat Centre to reflect on "Prayer and Discernment in Action". From February 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, students will gather for a silent Ignatian Retreat in Guelph, guided by Spiritual Directors in the Diocese. A great initiative!!! Please keep the university students in your prayers!

**THE NEW BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY** will gather with the Bishop at Ardree for conversation and a meal on February 1<sup>st</sup>. This will be a precious opportunity for the Board to reflect on its mandate and character as a Catholic University. In the Fall, there was a major change in Board members. Francis Doyle, Director of our Stewardship and Development Office, is the Bishop's representative, replacing Father Con O'Mahony, who served in the position for many years.

**THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY IN HAMILTON** is opening a new store. The building will be blessed at 2:00 p.m. on January 28<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to the current leadership for carrying on the good work of the Society, often against many challenges. It is the needy in the community who will benefit from the new initiative!

**THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY** begins on January 18<sup>th</sup> through January 25<sup>th</sup>. The theme this year is "Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power (*Exodus 15.6*)" Parishes are invited to use the resources prepared by the Holy See's Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and the Commission on Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches. See [Link to Canadian resources](#) and [Link to international version of the resources](#). "May they be one, Father, as you and I are one."

**THE LECTURES IN CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE AT ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY** presents their next speaker on January 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Austen Invereigh, renowned British writer, journalist, and commentator on Catholic and political affairs on TV and radio, will speak on "Communicating the Church in the age of Francis". It promises to be an interesting and informative session. Not to be missed!

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FROM COUNCILS IN HAMILTON** are preparing the *Bishop's Charities Dinner Dance* for February 10, 2018. Get your tickets now or risk being disappointed! Contact the Knights in any of the Councils in Hamilton for information. Several charities in the Diocese of Hamilton and beyond are the recipients of all of the funds raised!

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SENT GREETINGS ON THE 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY** of my ordination as Bishop on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. The day, 20 years ago, was as moving an event in my life as I could ever imagine. And then I was appointed to Hamilton! My installation as Bishop here, 13 years later, surpassed anything I could ever have dreamt or expected. I am grateful for the blessings that I have received over these many years! God is so very good!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us.

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI