



## *Heart to Heart*

*February 15, 2019 (#353)*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO FATHER CON O'MAHONY** recipient of the Honorary Membership Award from the Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers' Association (OCSOA). The award is given to honour his long and distinguished service to Ontario's Catholic Education community. It will be presented at the Association's Annual General Meeting at the Chateau Laurier in Ottawa, April 11th, 2019. Well deserved!

**ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH** celebrates their first ever gathering as a united community of faith tomorrow night. The event, which will take place at the Michelangelo Banquet Centre in Hamilton, is sold out. Parishioners from both sites, Our Lady of Lourdes and Corpus Christi, will have the opportunity to meet one another and celebrate their unity in faith and as a parish family. Congratulations to Father Mark Gatto and Father Ross Campbell on an excellent initiative! Plans for the new church on Rymal Road (and Sherman) are making their way through the various committees of City Hall. One step at a time!

**CONFIRMATIONS CONTINUE.** St. Philippe Parish in Burlington will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Cathedral next Thursday evening. St. John the Baptist Parish in Guelph will have two celebrations next Saturday, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Thank you to the Pastors, teachers and catechists who assure that the children are so well prepared. We pray for the young people who present themselves for Confirmation.

**TRUSTEES FROM THE SEVEN CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS** serving in our Diocese will meet at Ardree on either February 27th or February 28th to get to know one another following the Fall elections and to discuss the blessings of Catholic education. We will enjoy a meal together, a time of conversation. We pray for the Trustees who are entrusted with the care and oversight of our Catholic schools.

**THE ANNUAL BISHOP'S FAVOURITE CHARITIES DINNER** is on Saturday evening, March 2nd, at Carmen's Banquet Centre in Hamilton. The annual event, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Councils from the Hamilton area, raises over \$80,000.00 annually for distribution to charities contributing to the well-being of the needy in the area and beyond. It is also an opportunity for the Catholic community to celebrate our unity and communion! See you there!

**THE CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION OF DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE** has announced several personnel changes for our area. In late November, 2018, Luke Stocking was appointed Deputy Director of Public Engagement for Ontario and Atlantic Canada. Rebecca Rathbone, the recently appointed animator for our region has been given a six-month leave to work on a special project with *Caritas Internationalis* in Rome. Elena Luna has been appointed to serve as animator in the interim. We wish them well in their new responsibilities!

**THE RUGGED WINTRY WEATHER** has caused us to close the Chancery three times in two weeks! We have also had to cancel two scheduled Confirmations – something that is rarely done. The weather causes hardship to many people, especially the elderly, those with special challenges, and those who are homeless. Keep an eye out for your neighbour, be generous with those who have less, and pray for all who struggle at this time of year!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, *+Douglas*, OMI