



## *Heart to Heart*

March 6, 2020 (#394)

**THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** (formerly The Women's World Day of Prayer) is a global ecumenical movement which brings Christians of many traditions together to pray for relevant issues affecting women and children. The movement has been active for nearly 100 years. Each year, a different participating country writes the service. This year's country is Zimbabwe. The World Day of Prayer is traditionally celebrated on the first Friday of March. The motto of the World Day of Prayer movement is *Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action*. Both prayer and action are inseparable and both have immeasurable influence on the world!

**WELCOME TO FATHER HANS ZOLLNER, SJ**, President of the Centre for Child Protection in Rome, who is speaking at the Youth Resilience Conference at the Hamilton Art Gallery tomorrow. This event is sponsored by the Midaynta Community Services in Hamilton.

**CONCERN ABOUT THE SPREAD OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS IS GROWING.** A letter has been sent to Priests and Parishes providing advice to assure a unified response in our Diocese for the celebration of Mass. The letter addresses handwashing, the Sign of Peace, the reception of Holy Communion, and Communion from the Chalice. The letter can be found on the Diocesan website, or [here](#). Further communication may become necessary in the event of a major viral outbreak in Canada.

**THE ANNUAL BISHOP'S FAVOURITE CHARITIES DINNER DANCE**, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Councils in the Hamilton area and supported by hundreds of individuals, organizations and businesses, takes place tomorrow night at Carmen's Banquet Centre. The celebratory evening usually raises about \$80,000.00 which is distributed among a number of organizations providing important works of mercy in the Hamilton-Halton Deaneries in the Diocese. Thanks to the Knights who have worked hard to assure that everything is ready for tomorrow night. See you there!

**THE ASSEMBLY OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF ONTARIO (ACBO)** meets in Toronto next week. This is an occasion for the Bishops to discuss matters of mutual concern and to receive information about the works of Catholic groups in Ontario. Bishop Ronald Fabbro, Bishop of London, is President of the ACBO, and will chair the meeting. Bishop Gerard Bergie, Bishop of St. Catharines, is Chair of the Catholic Education Commission. His report, along with that of Mr. Michael Pautler, Director of the Institute for Catholic Education, is always well prepared and informative. Please pray that the Holy Spirit guide our discussions.

**FOLLOWING A TIME OF RECOVERY** from surgery in January, I have returned to the office and begun celebrations of the Sacrament of Confirmation in the evenings and on weekends. My first celebrations for 2020 were at St. Ambrose Parish in Cambridge, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings. On Saturday, I will be welcomed at the Queen of Peace Croatian Franciscan Centre in Norval; always a happy occasion! Thanks to the Pastors, teachers and Lay Pastoral Ministers who assure the good preparation of the Confirmandi.

**THE 40 DAYS FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN** is a prayerful witness to the importance of life. Mass will be celebrated at the Basilica of Our Lady in Guelph next Thursday evening, and at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Burlington, on March 18<sup>th</sup>, in support of the campaign and to pray for the unborn. Join us!

**PLEASE PRAY FOR FATHER JIM MALONE** who is being cared for at Emmanuel Hospice in Hamilton. The Hospice is operated by the Good Shepherd Ministries under the direction of the Hospitaller Brothers of St. John of God. We pray to the Lord.

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI