



Heart to Heart

October 16, 2020 (#414)

NEW PRIESTS AND NEW PASTORS serving in the Diocese of Hamilton will participate in orientation and formation sessions over the coming weeks. The sessions include presentations on the diocesan governance structure, screening protocols, misconduct policies and procedures, communications and privacy policies. It also provides information about the history of Catholic schools in Ontario, and ministry expectations in elementary and secondary schools and universities. The *Growing In Faith, Growing in Christ* catechetical program is featured. Youth ministry, sacramental preparation, diocesan policies, RCIA, and liturgical celebrations including an overview of the liturgical books available are also covered. They also learn about financial and administration policies, including working with Finance Councils and Parish Pastoral Councils, professional conduct and collaborative ministry. Marriage Preparation, marriage forms, dispensations, and the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal are part of the process. Finally, speech and language expectations are also addressed. Thanks to Monsignor Murray Kroetsch, Jim Long and other Diocesan personnel for the care and attention you give to the new Priests and Pastors who are beginning their ministry in the Diocese!

CHRISTINE ELLIOT, ONTARIO MINISTER OF HEALTH, announced yesterday that St. Joseph's Villa will be one of several "Reactivation Centres" across the Province. The Ontario Government will reactivate 60-beds at the Villa in currently unused space. Congratulations to Dr. Thomas Stewart, President and CEO of St. Joseph's Health System, and to John Woods, Director of St. Joseph's Villa, and his team for negotiating such a wonderful project for the Villa! The project will benefit many seniors into the future!

CONGRATULATIONS TO BRIANNE AND DANNY FOOTE on the birth of Abigail Mary on October 14th! Brianne began her maternity leave two weeks ago, enough time to assure that everything was ready for the arrival of the long-awaited bundle of joy! We look forward to a visit from Mom and baby when everything is safe and sure. Until then, enjoy the bonding!

CONFIRMATIONS THROUGHOUT THE AUTUMN MONTHS are being held in 41 Parishes where the COVID-19 pandemic shut-down caused their cancellation in the Spring months! In most instances the Pastors have been delegated to preside at the celebrations. I will be welcomed tomorrow at St. Gregory the Great Parish, Hamilton to celebrate the Sacrament with COVID restrictions. The celebration will be the Liturgy of the Word and the Sacrament of Confirmation. The anointing will be done with Sacred Chrism applied with a cotton ball. Mass will not be celebrated. Please pray for all the young people who will be Confirmed in the coming weeks.

THE MONTH OF OCTOBER HAS BEEN DESIGNATED Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month. Yesterday was the official day for remembrance. Such loss brings pain and grief to parents who need much support from those who are close to them. The Family Ministry Office can offer information and support to those who have experienced such a loss.

DEMAZENOD DOOR HAS ANNOUNCED that with the help of financial supporters, they are providing housing for some of their guests. It is a significant undertaking and complements their many other good works. Congratulations on this new initiative!

THE OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF ST. JOHN PAUL II is celebrated next Thursday, October 22nd. "O God, who are rich in mercy and who willed that St. John Paul the Second should preside as Pope over your universal Church; grant, we pray, that instructed by his teaching, we may open our hearts to the saving grace of Christ, the sole Redeemer of mankind, Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen"

St. John Paul II, pray for us!

Ex corde, +*Douglas*, OMI