



Heart to Heart

November 13, 2020 (#417)

THE ILLUMINATION OF THE FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE in *The Saint John's Bible* displayed in the Bishop Farrell Library and Archives, gives some insight into our attitude in face of modern day threats: tanks, oil rigs, symbols of nuclear disaster, and microscopic images of viruses and diseases! Amidst the chaos, however, are thin slivers of holographic foil – the light of Christ still with us. The artist, Donald Jackson intended it as “a portrait of environmental, human, and cosmic destruction”. As the pandemic impacts us all not just as a health crisis but in connection to our environmental, social and economic priorities, we can also see the value of the pastoral care provided in our ministry to others.

A WORD TO THE WISE! With the numbers of COVID-19 cases rising each day, we must be diligent in observing the protocols in place regarding the use of masks, physical distancing and hand sanitizing in our Parishes. Let us work together to keep everyone safe and our churches open!

THE CURRENT WAVE of the *One Heart One Soul* Financial Campaign continues to inspire! The generosity of parishioners never fails. A parishioner in one Parish recently made a generous commitment to the Campaign and wrote to the Pastor: “*The Lord God gave (and still gives) me a lot. I am grateful to Him for what He gave me and still gives. I always knew that He gave it to me so that I could use it somehow in His service; but I did not know in what way. And here is the opportunity. He gives me what He does so that I would give it back and use it on His behalf!*” Blessing upon blessing!

DON DAVIDSON, President of the St. Joseph's Villa Foundation, announced yesterday that a \$500,000.00 gift from the Dundas Lion's Club put the *Gift of Love* Campaign for Margaret's Place Hospice at the Villa over the top of its \$13 Million fundraising goal! The hospice is already under construction and should be enclosed before winter weather arrives, with completion set for Spring 2021. Congratulations to Don and the Foundation! Sincere thanks to the Dundas Lion's Club! Good news indeed!

THE ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTH SYSTEM AND NIAGARA HEALTH have launched *COVID Care @ Home*. This new model of care was announced yesterday by Dr. Tom Stewart, President and CEO of SJHS. The program connects patients who do not require hospitalization with 24/7 access to high quality care from an integrated team – in the comfort and safety of their own home. The many benefits of this program include access to expanded home and community services, reduction of unnecessary Emergency Department visits and readmissions, and access to one coordinated team with a primary point of contact! St. Joe's leading the way!

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for Father Tim Higgins who was admitted this week to Cambridge Hospital following a heart attack. May the Lord accompany him with his healing power.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES from Our Lady of The Assumption Parish, Stoney Creek, will gather at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, one group on Friday night and three different groups on Saturday, to celebrate the Sacrament. The larger size of the Cathedral makes it possible to celebrate more safely respecting COVID-19 restrictions. Pray for the young people who are being Confirmed in our Parishes these days. They are a blessing for the Church!

FACING CHRISTMAS WHEN YOU ARE GRIEVING, whether a recent loss or a more distant one, can be an overwhelming experience. When someone special is missing, the holidays heighten the pain. The Diocesan Family Ministry Office is offering a one-hour webinar on Monday, November 30th, at 7:00 p.m., to provide practical ways to cope with the ache in your heart this Christmas. To register or for more information contact the Family Ministry Office or check the [website](#).

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us.

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI