



Heart to Heart

November 30, 2018 (#346)

SEMINARIAN RAPHAEL MA made his final profession of vows as a member of the Congregation of the Resurrection earlier this week. He will be ordained a Deacon by Bishop Robert Kurtz, C.R. this weekend. We offer him our congratulations and good wishes, and we look forward to his Ordination as a Priest in 2019!

THE HAMILTON DIOCESAN CHOIR presents the *Advent Hymn Festival* on Sunday evening, December 2nd, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the recently renovated St. Augustine Church in Dundas! Begin the Advent Season with Scripture, prayer and song! Not to be missed.

THE MASS AT WHICH WE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR CHILDREN who have died before or after birth will be offered on Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica. Parents who grieve their loss are invited to join us in prayer. As we prepare for Christmas, such a loss can seem unbearable. Prayer can be a healing balm.

THE FINAL CONFIRMATIONS BEFORE THE NEW YEAR are being celebrated this weekend and next. Bishop Anthony Tonnos will celebrate at St. Michael Parish in Waterloo, tomorrow morning, and I will celebrate at Holy Rosary Parish in Milton next Saturday. Thanks to Pastors, Lay Pastoral Ministers, and teachers for ensuring the fine preparation of the young people! They are a blessing for the Church!

CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS IN THE DIOCESE hold their inaugural board meetings next week, electing executives and committee members who will serve for the coming four years. Masses will be held prior to the meetings, praying for God's blessing on the service of the recently elected Trustees. School Board elections assure that parents have an active part in the selection of Trustees who ensure the good running of the Boards! We wish them well!

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE PERSONNEL BOARD AND DEANS for clergy appointments for 2019 takes place next Friday, December 7th. The meeting is an opportunity to get an overview of the needs and opportunities of the Priests and the Parishes in the Diocese. May we be guided by the Holy Spirit.

WELCOME BACK TO FATHER IAN DUFFY who has completed a sabbatical at the North American College in Rome, with several weeks learning about the English Martyrs in England! He returns full of enthusiasm and new energy to resume his ministry at St. Ann Parish in Ancaster!

THE SEASON OF ADVENT BEGINS THIS WEEKEND. It marks the beginning of a new Liturgical Year. Advent prepares us for Christmas, when we recall Christ's first coming among us, and it is also a time when we look forward to his second coming at the end of the ages. Advent is a season of joyful expectation. Lectionary Readings for Sundays are taken from Year C and for Weekdays from Year 1.

REMEMBER THE CANADIAN PREMIER OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST, a choral concert sponsored by Salt & Light TV and hosted by the Diocese of Hamilton, which marks the 15th Anniversary of the Catholic television station. It takes place NEXT FRIDAY at the Cathedral Basilica beginning at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are free. See you there!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us.

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI