



## *Heart to Heart*

June 5, 2015 (#208)

**THE YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE WAS CELEBRATED WELL ON TUESDAY** evening, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. 185 of 315 women and men in Consecrated Life gathered at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Waterdown, for prayer, a presentation on the past, present and future of Religious Life in the Church by Brother Sean Sammon, FMS, a barbeque-style dinner, and a presentation by each Religious Community and the Consecrated Virgin present. A recent publication by Novalis, *Love Is Giving Everything*, a book of testimonies from Religious men and women, was a small gift given to each participant. The joy was palpable and the celebration vibrant! Thanks to Father Wayne Lobsinger, Episcopal Vicar for Religious, and Pastor at St. Thomas for hosting the event!

**THE PERMANENT DEACONS OF THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON** and their wives begin their annual retreat tonight. It continues through the weekend. The retreat will be held at the Ivey-Spencer Leadership Centre in London, Ontario. Father Michael Prieur from St. Peter's Seminary will direct the retreat. The theme of the retreat is "*The Deacon, a Servant of Mercy*".

**THERE WILL BE TWO ORDINATIONS TO THE TRANSITIONAL DIACONATE** this weekend. Bishop Daniel Miehm will ordain Mr. David Reitzel to the Order of Deacons at St. Agnes Parish in Waterloo tonight, and I will ordain Mr. Scott Whitfield to the Order of Deacons at St. Patrick's Parish in Hamilton on Saturday evening. We pray for both men, that this final step before their Ordination to the Priesthood may deepen their commitment to servant leadership!

**SISTER MIRIAM OF JESUS CRUCIFIED PROFESSED HER FINAL VOWS** as a Carmelite Nun at the Carmel of St. Joseph in St. Agatha earlier this morning. In addition to members of the Community and her family, several members of the Congregation of the Resurrection were present for the solemn event. We pray for Sister Miriam at this time of total commitment.

**ALMOST 450 COUPLES WILL GATHER AT THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA** on Sunday afternoon at 1 p.m. for the annual Anniversary Mass. Couples celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60 and 60+ years of married life will gather and renew their vows together. It is a moving testimony of commitment and love! Happy anniversary to each couple and to all who celebrate this year!

**MONSIGNOR BILL O'BRIEN MOVED YESTERDAY TO ST. PETER'S HOSPITAL** on Maplewood Avenue in Hamilton. This move will facilitate further therapeutic care for Monsignor. Please keep him in your prayers.

**FATHER JAMES MCSHARRY SENT A NOTE OF GRATITUDE TO US** upon his return home from the funeral of his mother. "On my return from Ireland I was extremely honoured and humbled by the incredible amount of expressions of sympathy with Mass Cards that I received from so many Priests. Please communicate my deepest thanks and sincere appreciation for the rich sense of priestly fraternity that I experience in our Diocese."

**THE CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC CURSILLOS (CCCC)** gathers at Carleton University in Ottawa, from June 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. The meeting is a *Cursillo of Cursillos* during which participants will deepen their understanding of the Cursillo method. Several members of the Cursillo Secretariat in the Diocese of Hamilton will participate in the program. This year over 50 people made the Cursillo weekends, adding about 35 new Cursillitas to the community! Well done indeed!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI