



Heart to Heart

May 1, 2015 (#204)

A SPECIAL COLLECTION HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED to assist in the relief of earthquake-stricken **Nepal**. Collected funds will be sent to the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace and forwarded to *Caritas Internationalis*, the charitable arm of the Vatican. The Canadian government has generously announced that donations given to such charitable organizations before May 25th will be matched! Parishioners are urged to be generous. Pastors are invited to inform their Parishes this weekend about next week's collection.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK IS NEXT WEEK, MAY 3-8, 2015. The theme for the week is *Exploring Paths of Joy!* An audio message enhanced by appropriate photos can be found on our Diocesan website in [English](#) and in [French](#). Thank you to the Office for Catechesis and our Communications Office for producing such a dynamic resource. We celebrate with enthusiasm the gift that publicly-funded Catholic Education is for our Diocese and for the entire Province! The Catholic School Boards throughout the Diocese sponsor a number of events throughout the week – opportunities to join in and celebrate!

THE ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE TAKES PLACE IN OTTAWA, and in other venues throughout Canada, next week. Every year the *Catholic Organization for Life and Family* (COLF) publishes a message in support of the March – and in support of LIFE! Their message has been sent to our Parishes and is available in our Diocesan monthly publication, *Inter Nos*! We wish safe travel to all those who travel to Ottawa for this important and strong demonstration of our support for LIFE!

THE NATIONAL WEEK FOR FAMILIES, MAY 10-17, 2015, sponsored by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, has produced resource material for parishes/families to use to mark the week. These materials have been sent to Parishes by our Office for Family Ministry. The week is meant to celebrate and support the venerable institution of the family and to nurture family ties.

THE CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE holds its Ontario Provincial meeting this weekend at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph. The meeting begins tonight. The strength of Development and Peace is its grassroots support throughout the country. The weekend is a time for reporting and planning into the future. Blessings on your gathering!

MRS. ROSE MARRIN DIED ON APRIL 27, 2015, FOLLOWING A BRIEF ILLNESS. She served as Secretary for Bishop Matthew Ustrzycki for many years. We offer our sympathy to the Bishop and to Mrs. Marrin's family, and pray that she be welcomed into eternal life!

CONFIRMATIONS ARE IN FULL SWING AT THIS TIME OF YEAR. I will be celebrating the Sacrament for young people from St. Philippe Parish at St. Matthew Church in Oakville tomorrow morning. On Sunday morning I will be celebrating with St. Peter Yu Korean Catholic Church in Hamilton. Pray for the young people throughout the Diocese who are presenting themselves for this Sacrament which unites us to the mission of Jesus Christ through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit!

MANY PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE CELEBRATE THE ANNIVERSARY of their Ordination at this time of year. (Ordinations here traditionally take place on the first Saturday of May.) We offer hearty congratulations and we express our profound gratitude for your generous service to the Diocese. May the Good Shepherd fill you with joy in your ministry!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI