



**THE DEATH OF MONSIGNOR HARVEY ROACH, P.A., AFTER LINGERING ILLNESSES** drew together family, friends and co-workers in the Lord's vineyard including Deacons, fellow Priests and Bishops. His funeral Mass was celebrated this morning at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, followed by burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Burlington. Monsignor lived a full life marked by unending joy and generosity, engendering profound respect. May he know the reward promised to good and faithful servants.

**A RECENT NOTE FROM FATHER DAVID REILANDER**, our Priest in Whitehorse, Yukon, informs us that he has been named Chancellor and Vicar General of the Diocese, in addition to his service as Rector of the Cathedral! He will soon experience the long darkness that envelopes the North at this time of year. May his ministry be blessed and effective!

**THE SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR SYRIAN RELIEF** sponsored by *Development and Peace* has already raised over \$260,000.00 to date from Parishes and individuals in the Diocese of Hamilton. Pastors are asked to forward funds to the Chancery Office by the end of November. This will ensure that the monies are sent to *Development and Peace* in time for matching grants from the Federal Government. Sincerest thanks to parishioners who have been so generous in their response to this special collection!

**MORE THAN 40 PARISHES IN THE DIOCESE HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST** in welcoming Syrian refugees. Erin Pease, Director of our Refugee Office, has visited many Deaneries and a few individual Parishes to explain the three Government programs we promote and support. She will help navigate the application processes where necessary. Once we receive our 2016 quota from the Government, the real work will start.

**THE DIOCESAN OFFICES FOR REFUGEES, JUSTICE AND PEACE AND YOUTH MINISTRY** have developed a Youth Ministry Resource for Advent 2015. *I Was a Stranger And You Welcomed Me*, complements beautifully the recent pastoral letter from the CCCB Justice and Peace Commission with the same title. Both are powerful reflections on our current refugee crisis and the need for prayerful solidarity with our vulnerable brothers and sisters. It is a perfect resource for prayer during the season of Advent hope. The interactive document can be found [here](#).

**THE CCCB OFFICE FOR EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS (OEC)** has published a newsletter for catechists across the country. The first edition of *ENCOUNTER* is focused on evangelization and catechesis of children, youth and families. The same office has also published a newsletter providing ideas and resources for diocesan directors of adult faith formation in the planning and development of programs. *ON GOOD SOIL* takes its name from the book published a few years ago by the Episcopal Commission for Evangelization which promoted adult catechesis. Both newsletters are available on the CCCB website.

**CULTIVATING AND CARING FOR CREATION IS A 12-PART PROGRAM** prepared by Green Spirit Television and sponsored by the Justice and Peace Commission of the CCCB. The video-based program is perfect for Parishes wanting to study Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*. The Diocesan Offices of Discipleship and Catechesis can help you acquire this resource and guide you in how best to use it.

**CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES OF HAMILTON** announced this week that Linda Dayler, current Executive Director will retire on June 30, 2016. She leaves CFS after years of hard work and gifted leadership. The Board has established a search committee and will recruit over the next few months.

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!