



## *Heart to Heart*

November 27, 2015 (#221)

**WELCOME TO FATHER ROSHAN D'SOUZA, O.C.D.**, who finally received his immigration papers and joins his brother, Father Jerome Mascarenhas, O.C.D. at St. Aloysius Parish. Father Roshan will visit the Chancery Office next week to receive his documents and to be formally welcomed to Canada and to the Diocese of Hamilton. We pray for God's blessing on your ministry!

**ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY IS SEEKING INTERESTED VOLUNTEERS** for service on the Board of Governors. Successful candidates will advise, govern, oversee policy and direction, and assist with the leadership and promotion of the mission and vision of St. Jerome's University. Experienced in finance and human resources? Consider this as an interesting contribution of time and talent! Check out: <http://www.sju.ca/>

**ADVENT PRAYER DAYS FOR PRIESTS TAKE PLACE ON TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY**, December 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the Cathedral Basilica in Hamilton and Our Lady of Lourdes in Waterloo. *Fr. Thomas Murphy* of the Legionaries of Christ is the speaker for the time of reflection. Please note the time change. The session begins at 11:00 a.m. each day (coffee available at 10:30 a.m.).

**COPING WITH THE HOLIDAYS OFFERS PRACTICAL TOOLS** for dealing with the death of a loved one during the Christmas season. It is a session scheduled for **THIS Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>** from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. It will help those who feel overwhelmed as they face Christmas suffering from the grief of loss, old or new. As well, a **HEALING MASS FOR PARENTS** (and their families) who have experienced the death of a child, before or after birth, recently or long ago, will be held at 4 p.m. **THIS Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>** at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King.

**FATHER HECTOR VILA, RECTOR OF THE REDEMPTORIS MATER SEMINARY** in Toronto has been named Bishop of Whitehorse, Yukon by Pope Francis. The appointment was announced in Rome earlier today. Father Hector, a Peruvian, grew up in Toronto. He will bring a great missionary vision to his ministry in the North. We pray in gratitude for this appointment!

**THE ANNUAL VISIT OF THE PRESIDENCY TO THE CURIA IN ROME BEGINS ON MONDAY.** It continues through December 11<sup>th</sup>. I leave for Rome this evening with Monsignor Frank Leo, CCCB General Secretary. We will meet Bishop Lionel Gendron (St. Jean-Longueuil, QC), CCCB Vice-President, upon our arrival in Rome tomorrow morning. The days are well scheduled, including a December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting with Pope Francis. Pray for safe travel and blessed meetings.

**THE YEAR OF MERCY BEGINS ON DECEMBER 8<sup>th</sup> WITH THE OPENING OF THE HOLY DOOR** of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. I hope to be present at that blessed event which coincides with the Visit of the CCCB Presidency. The Holy Door of the Cathedral Basilica will be opened at a ceremony on **December 13<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 7 p.m.** Join us as we begin the sacred journey of this Jubilee Year of Mercy. A **pastoral letter** will be published on Monday, providing an outline of the year, and calling parishioners to enter the year with hearts open to encounter the Lord who is full of mercy and compassion!

**THE PERSONNEL BOARD HOLDS ITS FIRST MEETING WITH DEANS ON DECEMBER 15<sup>th</sup>.** Diocesan Priests are reminded to return their consultation forms to any member of the Personnel Board before this date. It helps in our discussion about possible pastoral appointments in 2016. Thanks to those Priests who have already returned the forms.

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us.

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI