



Heart to Heart

September 7, 2012 (#85)

THE UNEXPECTED DEATH OF 57 YEAR-OLD FATHER EUGENE PIETRASIK, C.R., on August 25th, was a shock for his brother religious in the Congregation of the Resurrection, for his parishioners at Sacred Heart Parish in Kitchener and for us all. The parish church was packed on Monday past for the Wake Service and again on Tuesday morning for his Funeral which was presided over by the C.R. Provincial Superior, Father Sam Restivo. We offer our sympathy to the Congregation, our gratitude for his service in the Diocese, and our delight that Father Stanley Zaryczny, C.R., former Associate Pastor, has been appointed Parish Administrator.

MS. CHRISTINA RONZIO HAS ACCEPTED THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF LITURGY for the Diocese of Hamilton. Coming from Kitchener, she serves currently in the Diocese of Cleveland and prior to that in the Diocese of London, Ontario. She is happy to be coming “home”. She will begin her ministry with us on October 1, 2012. After 31 years in the office, Monsignor Murray Kroetsch is delighted to be followed by such a well-qualified and experienced successor!

THE CHANCERY STAFF MARKED THE BEGINNING OF THE NEW PASTORAL YEAR this morning with our second annual “end-of-summer-hours” breakfast. Following summer vacations and relaxed office hours, there is a sense of enthusiasm and energy among the diocesan personnel. The coming year promises to be a busy one, given the special focus on The Year of Faith, which begins on October 11th.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ANNUAL MASS FOR THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARDS in our Diocese is scheduled for **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th beginning at 4 p.m.** Because the Mass is being hosted this year by the Wellington Catholic District School Board, the Mass will be celebrated in Guelph at the Church of Our Lady Immaculate. Parish Priests and Deacons are encouraged to attend and to ensure that parishioners are informed about the event and invited to participate. It is an important opportunity to pray for God’s blessing on our schools during this new school year and to give thanks for the wonderful gift that Catholic education is in our Diocese!

THE ANNUAL DIOCESAN MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY MASS takes place this weekend at Christ the King Cathedral in Hamilton. Over 475 couples have registered to celebrate 60, 50, 40, and 25th anniversaries. More than 80 are celebrating 60 years and more! The logistics are overwhelming for both the Cathedral and Family Ministry Office staff. The blessings are equally overwhelming for the couples and their families – and for the Diocese. God’s richest blessings on all of the couples and their families!

THE BRANT-HALDIMAND-NORFOLK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD bids farewell to Cathy Horgan, Director of Education, at a ceremony at Assumption College School Chapel, on September 13th. Among other expressions of thanks, Father Con O’Mahony, Vicar for Education for the Diocese of Hamilton, will present her with the well-merited Diocesan Medal of Honour. Mr. Chris Roehrig is already on the job as her successor! We pray for God’s blessing on both.

17 SEMINARIANS BEGIN THEIR STUDIES THIS WEEK FOR OUR DIOCESE! Six are studying at St. Peter’s Seminary in London, Ontario; seven are studying at St. Augustine’s Seminary in Toronto and four are studying at St. Philip Neri Seminary in Toronto. We pray for these young men who commit themselves to discern God’s call in their life in a particular way.

PASTORS ARE ASKED TO NOTE that a pastoral letter supporting pro-life initiatives is being mailed to your office today. Please ensure that the letter is read or communicated to your parishioners in some effective way before the end of the month. Encourage your parishioners to be involved in the pro-life effort in your parish!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI