

Heart to Heart

March 1, 2013 (#109)

"HERE ALLOW ME TO RETURN ONCE AGAIN TO APRIL 19, 2005. The gravity of the decision was precisely in the fact that from that moment on I was committed always and forever by the Lord. Always – he who assumes the Petrine ministry no longer has any privacy. He belongs always and totally to everyone, to the whole Church. His life is, so to speak, totally deprived of the private sphere. I have felt, and I feel even in this very moment, that one receives one's life precisely when he offers it as a gift." Pope Benedict XVI, Final public audience, Wednesday, February 25, 2013. We pray in profound thanksgiving for the ministry of Pope Benedict XVI, and for the gift of the Holy Spirit for the Cardinal-electors.

WE OFFER OUR CONDOLENCES TO FATHER ANTHONY AZZOPARDI on the recent death of his only sister, Doris. We pray for her repose and his consolation.

A WARM WELCOME TO BISHOP PETER HUNDT, who is preaching a Lenten Parish Mission at St. John's Parish in Guelph. The event begins tomorrow and continues through to Tuesday evening. May it be a time of prayer and blessing for all who participate.

THE ANNUAL CYO CELEBRITY DINNER which, this year, marked the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of Camp Marydale, was a moving and joy-filled event. Evan, the honorary camper, and his family were the "stars" of the evening. His father delivered a moving account of Evan's introduction to Camp Marydale and expressed the gratitude of his family for the support provided by CYO camp counsellors. Camp Brebeuf and Camp Marydale operate with the generous support of thousands of generous people! Mayor Bob Bratina generously praised the Catholic community for the contribution made to the City of Hamilton by the CYO and other Catholic organizations. Congratulations on another successful evening!

THE SECOND CONVOCATION OF PRIESTS TAKES PLACE ON MARCH 14th at Holy Family Parish in Kitchener. This session will review financial norms and practices in the Diocese and in our Parishes. Priests have received response forms so that we can ensure adequate food (without being wasteful). Confirmation of your attendance and presence at dinner is appreciated.

THE DIOCESAN CONFERENCE FOR THE YEAR OF FAITH takes place on Saturday, April 13th, at the Hamilton Convention Centre, from 9am to 4pm. The theme for the event is *Sacraments and Sacramentality*. This conference is a major initiative of the Diocesan Pastoral Offices for this special year. Encourage parishioners to participate in the day – and *Rediscover the Joy* of believing!

OVER 100 COUPLES HAVE REGISTERED FOR THE ANNIVERSARY MASS which takes place at the Cathedral of Christ the King on June 2nd. Parish Priests are asked to ensure that couples celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60 (and over) Anniversaries of Marriage are informed of the Mass, and are aware that they are invited to attend. Special certificates are prepared to honour the couples.

THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC MISSION FOR 2013 will be broadcast on Vision TV on Monday and Tuesday evening of Holy Week, March 25 and 26. *Trust and Remembering* will be the focus of the three speakers, Father Ronald Rolheiser, OMI, Father Anthony Gittins, C.S.Sp, and Father Pat Fitzpatrick, C.S.Sp. Another opportunity to nurture our faith in this Year of Faith!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + Douglas, OMI