



Heart to Heart

June 21, 2013 (#125)

THE CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS is collaborating with the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP) in a joint emergency campaign this summer in response to the urgent crisis in Syria. Pope Francis has repeatedly encouraged Catholics to provide emergency assistance to the Syrian homeless, refugees, and wounded. The special campaign will begin on Sunday, June 30, and continue throughout the summer. It will include a special collection during the summer to be presented to CCODP on September 14, Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. On that day, parishioners are encouraged to fast and pray for the people of Syria and all the Middle East. Material will be provided to the parishes in the coming week. The letter of Archbishop Smith to Catholics in Canada can be found on the CCCB website www.cccb.ca.

NEXT WEDNESDAY IS MOVING DAY for many of the Pastors and Associates in the Diocese of Hamilton. The appointments announced earlier in the year are effective at noon on June, 26. For some, it marks the beginning of retirement after a lifetime of service. May the coming years be blessed. Thanks to those who have accepted new appointments. May your service to parishioners bear witness to the Good Shepherd who came to seek and save!

THE HALTON CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD BID FAREWELL to Michael Pautler, who has served as Director of Education for the past five years. The ceremony, which followed a Mass of Thanksgiving at Holy Rosary Parish in Burlington, gave Board Chair, Diane Rabenda the opportunity to thank him for his service. Earlier in the week, the Board announced that Paula Dawson, currently a Superintendent in the Wellington Catholic District School Board, has been appointed the new Director of Education for Halton.

BISHOP DANIEL MIEHM AND TERESA HARTNETT HAVE BEEN TEACHING at the Summer Spiritual Program for seminarians at St. Peter's Seminary in London. Following a year of intense study, the program helps seminarians reflect on a variety of topics and integrate their study into their spiritual life. We received word that David Avila, one of our seminarians, fractured an ankle while playing soccer. Surgery mended the fracture, and he will be on crutches for a while!

THE ANNUAL MISSION LEGACY AWARDS WERE PRESENTED by the St. Joseph's Health System to 11 deserving recipients at a ceremony at St. Joseph's Hospital in Hamilton yesterday. The awards honour men and women who exemplify the charism and qualities of the Sisters of St. Joseph, founders of the Health System. Sr. Anne Anderson, CSJ, Chair of the Board and Dr. Kevin Smith, CEO of the System, presented the awards. It was a privilege for me to have the opportunity to congratulate and thank the recipients for their contribution to the System.

EVERYTHING IS READY FOR THE SPECIAL MASS ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON marking the formal designation of Minor Basilica for the Cathedral of Christ the King. An *ombrellino* bearing the new Coat-of-Arms for the Cathedral Basilica will be blessed at the Mass. It will remain near the sanctuary as a sign of the honour. Many thanks to Monsignor Edward House who has nursed this project through to completion – as he completes his 12-year service as Rector of the Cathedral next week.

ST. JEROME UNIVERSITY SPONSORS THE BISHOP'S BARBEQUE at noon today at their campus in Waterloo. Priests of the Diocese have been invited to gather with university personnel for a casual meal and friendly conversation. It gives us all the opportunity to be connected with THE Catholic University in our Diocese, to become informed about the programs offered and future directions, and to offer encouragement and support to the leadership there!

Our Lady of the Annunciation pray for us.

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI