

Heart to Heart

January 17, 2014 (#147)

NEWS OF THE DEATH OF FR. JAMES PROFIT, SJ, LAST SATURDAY EVENING, surrounded by his family and friends in Prince Edward Island, travelled quickly to and throughout the Diocese of Hamilton. Father Profit was deeply loved and highly respected in the Diocese, particularly by those who frequent the Jesuit Centre of Spirituality in Guelph. Visitation begins on Sunday afternoon beginning at 3pm; a Prayer Vigil will be held at 8pm on Sunday evening; the Liturgy of Christian Burial begins on Monday morning at 11am – all at Holy Rosary Parish in Guelph. May God give him the reward promised to a good and faithful servant!

POPE FRANCIS ANNOUNCED THE CREATION OF 19 NEW CARDINALS at the Sunday Angelus earlier this week. Canadian Archbishop Gerald Cyprien LaCroix, Archbishop of Quebec City and Primate for Canada, was among those designated to serve the Church in this capacity. The Consistory will be held at St. Peter's Basilica on February 22, 2014. This appointment comes at an important time for the Church in Quebec City. The Cathedral Parish is marking the 350th Anniversary of its foundation this year. We congratulate the Cardinal-designate and pray for God's blessing on the Church there. A message from Archbishop Paul-Andre Durocher, President of the CCCB, can be found on their website.

SISTER KAROLINA WILCZYNSKA PRONOUNCES HER SOLEMN PERPETUAL VOWS as a Carmelite Nun at a ceremony at the Carmel of St. Joseph in St. Agatha, Ontario, tomorrow morning. We pray for Sister Karolina, and for all the Sisters at the Carmel. Their presence in the Diocese is a remarkable blessing, and we treasure their prayers for us!

THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY BEGINS ON SUNDAY and continues through to next Sunday, January 26. During the week, throughout the Diocese, there will be gatherings at our Parishes and in neighbouring churches at which followers of Jesus Christ will pray fervently the prayer of Jesus Christ, that we may be one! The theme for this year's prayer is *"Has Christ been divided?"* Resources have been jointly published by the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of Christian Unity and the World Council of Churches. Make an effort to join one of the ecumenical events during the week!

DR. KEVIN SMITH WILL BE CEO OF THE NIAGARA HEALTH SYSTEM while continuing to serve in the same capacity for the St. Joseph's Health System which covers institutions in Hamilton, Dundas, Guelph, and Kitchener. The Niagara Health System entered into a management services agreement with St. Joseph's Health System earlier this week. Congratulations to Dr. Smith. This is another sign of the excellence in healthcare which he promotes in his service now to both systems!

THE ORDER FORM FOR THE 2014 SHARE LENT CAMPAIGN by the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP) will be arriving at our Parishes in the coming days. The educational material offered by CCODP will provide parish organizers a means to inform and transform parishioners and encourage generous support for the Share Lent Collection. This year's theme: *One Human Family, Food For All.* Pastors and Lay Pastoral Assistants are encouraged to order and use the educational resources!

FATHER MICHAEL ANDERSON AND PARISHIONERS AT ST. DOMINIC PARISH in Oakville will provide their well-known and appreciated welcome this weekend. I look forward to celebrating the liturgies with them and to enjoying a meal with both Father Anderson and Father Victor McNamara. Then it is off to Ottawa for meetings of the CCCB Executive early next week.

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + Douglas, OMI