



## *Heart to Heart*

February 7, 2014 (#150)

**THE CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (CLI)** sponsors a 20-month program called *Good Shepherd, Good Leaders*. Almost 50 of the Priests of Hamilton Diocese have signed up for the program. Bishop Daniel Miehm, Bishop Matthew Ustrzycki, and I have just completed one of their programs for Bishops. The session strives to increase confidence and competence in ministry by providing insights and practical skills that will improve our service. We shall see what the coming months bring for us and for the Priests who will be experiencing the program.

**NEXT WEEK THE CCCB EXECUTIVE** meets with the executive of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and CELAM, the Conference of Bishops for Latin America, at the Bethany Renewal Centre near Tampa, Florida. During the session we will be discussing the Pope's Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, and the New Evangelization. The commitment for the three conferences to meet regularly was made following the Continental Synod on America which took place in Rome in 1997.

**WELCOME TO FATHER MATTHEW SCHNEIDER, LC**, a newly-ordained member of the Legionaries of Christ who has joined their Community in Oakville. Father Schneider will be working in our Diocese and in Calgary. Lots of travel! We wish him well in his ministry.

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH IN WATERLOO** has welcomed the Vietnamese Martyrs Community to share their facilities (church and hall) on Sunday afternoons and evenings. For several years the Community has been at St. Louis Parish in Waterloo, but commitments to other programs made that sharing more and more difficult. Thanks to Monsignor Edward Sheridan and Father Hanh Van Tran, OMI, for working out the details of this very generous arrangement. May it be a blessing for both Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and the Vietnamese Community. And thanks to St. Louis Parish for their many years of hospitality and welcome to the Vietnamese Community!

**THE PRIESTS FOR LIFE** are sponsoring a Pro-Life Congress for seminarians beginning on February 14<sup>th</sup> and continuing to noon on February 17<sup>th</sup>. I am pleased to preside at their closing Mass. Some of our seminarians plan to benefit from the session. It is a good initiative, worthy of our prayers.

**PRIESTS ARE REMINDED OF THE CONVOCATION** which takes place on Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, at Holy Family Parish Hall in Kitchener. Monsignor Murray Kroetsch and Father Adam Voisin will be presenters on marriage preparation documentation and the processes of the Marriage Tribunal. It is vitally important for our ministry with couples. See you there!

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN HAMILTON AND HALTON** are completing preparations for this year's Bishop's Charity Dinner Dance. It takes place at Carmen's Banquet Centre on Stone Church Road East on March 1<sup>st</sup> – the last Saturday before Lent. It is always a joy-filled gathering and a great way to support several good causes! See a Knight if you want a ticket. See you there too!

**BAD WEATHER SHUT DOWN THE CHANCERY** on Wednesday afternoon. Everyone got home safely, thanks be to God. The offices were open again first thing Thursday morning!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI