



## *Heart to Heart*

February 14, 2014 (#151)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR FATHER HARRY SCHMUCK**, who suffered a heart attack yesterday and is in serious condition in hospital in Cambridge. Because of health concerns earlier in the week, he had decided not to take a planned mid-winter vacation with some priest friends. This is Father's fourth heart attack and, at this point, it seems the prognosis is not good.

**ALMOST 250 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE DIOCESE** gathered yesterday for the Culture of Life Leadership Conference here in Hamilton. The Conference educated student leaders on a variety of life issues. Ryan Bomberger, one of thirteen children, ten of whom are adopted, including himself, was the guest speaker. He encouraged the students to speak the truth about the value of every human person. Bishop Daniel Miehm presided at the concluding Mass in the Cathedral Basilica. Thanks to Teresa Hartnett, Director for the Office for Family Ministry, for organizing the informative and inspirational day!

**THE MEETING OF THE BISHOPS OF AMERICA** studied the *Concluding Document of the V General Conference of the Bishops of Latin America and the Caribbean (Aparecida Document)*, among its many topics of concern. The chairman of the writing committee that produced the document was Cardinal Jorge Maria Bergoglio, now Pope Francis. Many of the themes of the document are reflected in the recent Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel), authored by the Pope.

**PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE ARE REMINDED OF THE CONVOCATION** scheduled for NEXT Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 1 p.m. The Convocation will be held at Holy Family Parish Hall in Kitchener. In addition to the topic of the day, Priests will be given copies of the Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, for their study.

**FATHER JAREK PACHOCKI, OMI, WAS INTERVIEWED ON A RADIO STATION** program in Hamilton, about the upcoming *Around the Bay Road Race*. The race is an annual fundraising event in support of St. Joseph's Hospital, scheduled for the month of March. Father Jarek, who began running two years ago, plans to participate in it again this year!

**PARISH MINISTERS WILL MEET AT ARDREE NEXT WEEK** for their own version of Conversations at Ardree. The following week, Parish Youth Ministers will participate in a similar gathering and, on the following day, High School Chaplains will gather there as well. The format works well for small group gatherings and it gives me a good opportunity to get to know the participants and to hear about their ministries and their concerns.

**THE PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL OF THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON** meets next Tuesday in the Bishops' Board Room of the Chancery. This will be the first time for the Council to meet in the Board Room since it has been renovated. Council members are reminded to mark their calendars for the day.

**MONDAY IS FAMILY DAY AND THE CHANCERY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED.** The midwinter holiday is given by the Provincial Government to allow families to celebrate the winter season. Have a great holiday!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI