



Heart to Heart

March 21, 2014 (#156)

24 HOURS FOR MERCY, a time dedicated to the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession), is scheduled to begin on March 28th at 4:30 pm, and end on March 29th at 4:30 pm, at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. Additionally, a Mass for the Forgiveness of Sins, Stations of the Cross, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held at points during Confession time. A notice has been sent to every Parish for inclusion in parish bulletins. A sincere thanks Father David Wynen, Cathedral Rector, for organizing the event, and to Priests who have accepted the request to assist as Confessors. With the approval of Pope Francis, the Pontifical Council for the New Evangelization made the request that each Diocese have one Church open for 24 hours on March 28-29 for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

ARCHBISHOP LUIGI BONAZZI, RECENTLY ARRIVED APOSTOLIC NUNCIO to Canada, presented a letter of introduction from Cardinal Piero Parolin, Vatican Secretary of State, to Archbishop Paul-Andre Durocher, President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, during a recent meeting of the Permanent Council in Ottawa. Following a formal address and response, and during a formal luncheon, Archbishop Durocher presented the new Nuncio with a warm parka for his travel throughout the country. During the presentation, Archbishop Durocher said that he hoped that the Nuncio would not need to use the parka until NEXT winter! We look forward to the opportunity to welcome the Nuncio to the Diocese of Hamilton in the coming years.

PRIESTS WHO HAVE REGISTERED FOR GOOD LEADERS, GOOD SHEPHERDS, gather in Alliston, Ontario, next week for the first of several sessions that will take place over the coming 20 months. 43 Priests from our Diocese have registered in the program that will guide Priests in studying and improving their leadership and governance styles. Please pray for those Priests who have made the commitment. May the time of study be a blessing for them, for their Parishes, and for the Diocese!

INTERVIEWS FOR CLERGY PERSONNEL CHANGES FOR 2014 are coming to an end. The pastoral appointments should be announced early in April. My thanks to the Personnel Committee for their assistance in this year's process!

THE ANNUAL NATIONAL CATHOLIC MISSION, sponsored by the National Catholic Broadcasting Council will be broadcast on VisionTV on Monday, April 14th and Tuesday April 15th, at 6 pm EDT and repeated at 10 pm each evening. The theme of the Mission this year is "*The Gift of Forgiveness*". Packages are being sent to Parishes advertising the event.

THE SNOW BANKS WERE HIGH AT ST. ANTHONY PARISH IN KINCARDINE last Saturday evening and Sunday when I visited the Parish at the invitation of Father Piotr Jurzyk, Parish Administrator. We walked to the shores of Lake Huron to see the ice features on the frozen expanse! It was cold! In contrast the welcome at the Parish was very warm and joy-filled.

SACRED HEART PARISH IN GUELPH, CELEBRATES the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday morning at their 11 am Mass. Please pray for the young people who will receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and for all the young people who are being Confirmed throughout the Diocese. We are blessed by their energy and enthusiasm.

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI