



Heart to Heart

March 18, 2011 (#18)

THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH (HAMILTON) have invited me to celebrate Mass at their Motherhouse this evening, the vigil of the Feast of St. Joseph. I will also be celebrating the Feast Day Mass on Saturday morning at St. Joseph's Hospital in Guelph. We owe profound gratitude to the Sisters for all they do for the Diocese (and have done over the years) – and we wish them every blessing on their Feast Day!

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE INVITES CONTRIBUTIONS FOR JAPAN on their website. They are in communication and collaboration with *Caritas Japan* and *Caritas Internationalis (Rome)*, following closely the extent of the tragedy. If parishes wish to assist by taking up a special collection, they are hereby authorized to do so. Funds collected should be forwarded to the Diocesan Chancery, where they will be sent on to Development and Peace. Alternatively, parishioners may be directed to the CCODP website (<http://www.devp.org>) where they are invited to make personal contributions. In their turn, Development and Peace will be sending all funds collected to *Caritas Japan* for its reconstruction programs.

I WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO THOSE PRIESTS who attended the Day of Prayer at the Cathedral in Hamilton (March 15), and at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Waterloo (March 16). You have had a number of sessions to prepare you to welcome the third edition of the Roman Missal, and I appreciated the invitation to share my own reflections on the topic. The number of priests attending both sessions was heartening and the new format for the day seemed to be appreciated. Thanks to Father Peter Tuyen Nguyen for his thoughtful reflection on priestly holiness, and to the priests who led the prayer and Benediction. All very well done! We are blessed to have such events which build priestly fraternity, provide time to pray together as brothers, and to reflect on topics of interest and concern. Congratulations to the organizing committee.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ANNUAL CLERGY SEMINAR FOR PRIESTS entitled “The Wellness of Priests” will take place *Tuesday, October 25th - Thursday, October 27th*, this year, at the Holiday Inn in Burlington. The Seminar Committee wishes to inform all parish priests that registrations will be sent out on August 1st, and will be due back by Tuesday, September 5th, the day after Labour Day. The parish in which the priest is serving on August 1st, will be responsible for his registration fee! This announcement provides advance notice of the dates – so mark your calendars now. It promises to be an excellent session!

THOSE CELEBRATING SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES OF ORDINATION should note that, following a full discussion at the recent meeting of the Presbyteral Council, we will NOT be marking those anniversaries at the Chrism Mass dinner this year. Rather, we will be having a special dinner honouring jubilarians at the ANNUAL CLERGY SEMINAR in October. Special notification of the celebration will be sent out closer to the October date. Just thought it best to let you know of the change now, so you won't expect something next month!

NEXT WEEK IS THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF BISHOP JOSEPH F. RYAN, sixth Bishop of Hamilton. He died on March 22, 1990. We pray for the repose of his soul.

I AM AT ST. PIUS X PARISH IN BRANTFORD THIS WEEKEND for all four Masses! I look forward to greeting parishioners and to seeing what Monsignor Murray Kroetsch does in his *other* life!

Ex corde,

+ *Douglas*, OMI