

Heart to Heart

November 7, 2014 (#181)

OUR SINCEREST SYMPATHY TO THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH on the death of Sr. Geraldine Madigan in the 62nd year of her Religious Life! Following her retirement after many years of service in pastoral care, Sister provided pastoral ministry in her hometown of Kenilworth until illness made it impossible to continue. May God give her the reward of a good and faithful servant.

PAPAL HONOURS WILL BE CONFERRED UPON 15 DESERVING RECIPIENTS by Gerald Cyprien Cardinal LaCroix, Archbishop of Quebec and Primate of Canada, on November 23, 2014, at the 11 a.m. Sunday Mass, at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. Congratulations to Mr. Natale (Nat) Gallo, Knight Commander with Star of St. Gregory the Great; Mr. Patrick Daly and Mr. Terence Whelan, QC, Knights of St. Gregory the Great; Dr. Moira McQueen, Dame of St. Gregory the Great; Mrs. Shari Guinta, Sister Sharon Kroetsch, SSND, Mr. Edward Krupica, Brother Richard MacPhee, BGS, Sister Ann Marshall, CSJ, Sr. Teresita McInally, CSJ, Mr. Lou Piovesan, and Sister Eileen Schuller, OSU, all recipients of the *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* Cross; and Joseph and Stephanie Mancini, and Dr. Donna Ward, the *Bene Merenti* Medal. All recipients have had a remarkable impact in their communities and in the Diocese of Hamilton! Congratulations to each and to all, and thank you for your exemplary lives!

THE 2014 READERS' CHOICE AWARDS OF THE HAMILTON SPECTATOR confirmed what we have known for some time. Catholic churches and agencies in Hamilton are providing services to the community that are highly regarded. In the Churches/Temples section, St. Patrick's Church and the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King were awarded the Platinum and Diamond Award respectively. Holy Sepulchre Cemetery received the Platinum Award, St. Joseph's Villa – Platinum, Catholic Family Services – Platinum, Camp Marydale – Platinum, St. Joseph's Homecare – Diamond. And it goes on! Congratulations to these services and those recognized at other levels. Well deserved – well done!

BARBARA DOLLAK, DIRECTOR OF OUR REFUGEE AND IMMIGRATION OFFICE reports that to date in 2014, with the assistance of our office, 12 families (cases), i.e. 21 persons, have arrived in Canada from Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and Eritrea, having been in asylum in Iran, Pakistan, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, and Sudan. These "family-linked" sponsorships will resume in 2015, when we receive our 2015 quota, which is expected in January or February. Life saving work indeed!

THE SCHOOL SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME RECENTLY CELEBRATED the 150th Anniversary of ministry in England. Blessed Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger responded to the request of Rev. Arthur Dillon-Purcell of St. Boniface Church, by sending six Sisters to teach the German immigrant children in the parish. Sisters from Bavaria, Canada and the United States served in the English missions over the years. SSND Sisters are still involved in pastoral ministry in London, Wales, Merseyside and Ireland. An outstanding commitment!

A HEALING MASS FOR THOSE MOURNING THE LOSS OF A CHILD will be celebrated on December 7, 2014 at the 4 p.m. Sunday Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. Bishop Daniel Miehm will preside and preach. Those who have lost a child of any age from any cause, and those who have lost a child prior to birth or had a still-birth, are welcome to gather to pray with others for their children and for inner healing and peace – a worthy Advent initiative. Pastors are kindly asked to inform parishioners.

THE ANNUAL VISIT OF THE CCCB PRESIDENCY TO ROME begins on Monday, November 10th. I leave later today and return on November 21st. Please pray for safe travel. You will be remembered at all Masses, most especially the Mass we will celebrate at the Tomb of St. Peter. We are scheduled to meet Pope Francis NEXT Saturday, November 15th – always an experience of blessing!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us.

Ex corde, + Douglas, OMI