



Heart to Heart

December 12, 2014 (#186)

FATHER ART SCIDMORE SUFFERED A HEART ATTACK while celebrating Mass at St. Augustine's Parish in Dundas earlier this week. He was rushed to the Hamilton General Hospital where he underwent surgery during which a stint was inserted. We offer our prayers that his recovery will be rapid and complete.

FATHER TED HUGHES WILL BE FORMALLY INSTALLED AS PASTOR of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Waterloo during the Saturday evening Mass tomorrow. The Rite of Installation follows the homily and is a valuable way for parishioners to understand the role of the Pastor in the life of the Parish. Once again, we pray for God's blessing on Father Ted's ministry.

A VERY WARM WELCOME TO FATHER LASZLO AMASZKA, PASTOR of St. Stephen's Hungarian Parish in Hamilton, who was incardinated into the Diocese of Hamilton earlier this month. With the incardination, he was dispensed of his vows with the Order of Friars Minor, Conventual, professed in Hungary in 2000. We are grateful for his presence among us, and thank him for his ministry to the Hungarian community.

THE GOOD SHEPHERD CHRISTMAS DINNER IS ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON at the Hamilton Convention Centre. A turkey dinner with all the trimmings is usually served to over 3000 people at this annual event. Additionally, Santa gives Christmas gifts to all the diners. It is a tour-de-force for which the Brothers of the Good Shepherd and hundreds of volunteers deserve a hearty applause! Yours truly will be saying the Grace Before Meals, and serving tables – a joyful opportunity!

THE FINAL MEETING OF THE DIOCESAN FINANCE COUNCIL FOR 2014 takes place next Tuesday at the Chancery Office. Thanks to the members of the committee for your service to the Diocese and for your helpful counsel.

ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD MEETS EVERY TWO MONTHS throughout the year. The meetings provide an opportunity for the Board to be informed about developments in all of the five hospitals under their oversight. Sister Anne Anderson, CSJ, is the Board Chair, and Dr. Kevin Smith is the Executive Director of the Health System. Both are excellent guides for the Board and for the entire System. Thousands of people are served by the hospitals – a ministry of the Diocese of Hamilton. So much good – so many to thank!

THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES OF THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON hold their Christmas party tonight in Stoney Creek. It is always a happy occasion during which we can offer thanks for their excellent service to parishioners during an always difficult time in their lives – the death of a loved one. All of our Catholic Cemeteries are beautiful places to visit, to pray, and to remember.

BIG DOIN'S AT RESURRECTION MANOR ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14th! Father Walter Schnarr, CR, celebrates his 103rd birthday surrounded by his Religious community and friends! He is still in good health and lives at the Manor in Waterloo. We add our congratulations and best wishes. He is the oldest Priest living in the Diocese.

OUR OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES REPORTS that in 2014, 31 families were welcomed (representing over 60 people), most coming from Syria via Lebanon or Turkey. Last year we welcomed 13 families. It was a busy year – and a blessed year. *"I was a stranger and you welcomed me!"*

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us.

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI