



Heart to Heart

December 19, 2014 (#187)

ON WEDNESDAY WE CELEBRATED THE MASS FOR CHRISTIAN BURIAL for Father Arthur Busch, who died following a long and debilitating illness. He is survived by four of his five sisters (and their families). He was baptized, received his First Holy Communion, was Confirmed, celebrated his First Mass, and was buried from St. Clement's Church in St. Clements, Ontario. Family, friends and parishioners gathered to pray for him. May he rest in peace.

THE CHANCERY OFFICE PERSONNEL GATHER FOR MASS THIS MORNING at the Cathedral Basilica. Following Mass, we will gather for a celebratory luncheon in McNally Hall, (the Cathedral Auditorium). It is a time to celebrate the coming season and to express our gratitude to the people who facilitate the life of the Diocese at its centre. The office will be open briefly this morning, then close for the rest of the day.

ARCHBISHOP JOSE RODRIQUEZ CARBALLO, OFM, Secretary of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life, has notified the Diocese that the *Little Brothers of the Good Shepherd*, whose General House is located in Hamilton, will be formally "fused" with the *Hospitaller Order of St. John of God*, whose General House is located in Rome. We understand that the date for the fusion will take place mid-January, 2015. The fusion will not affect their ministry in the Diocese, but it is an important moment in the lives of the Brothers themselves. We wish them well in this transition.

ST. ADALBERT PARISH WILL FORMALLY CLOSE ON DECEMBER 31, 2014. The Parish, under the pastoral care of Father Jiri Macenauer, has gathered in the Chapel in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery for many years. A dwindling number of parishioners, unable to sustain the Parish, is the principle reason for the closure. Remaining parishioners will seek pastoral care in other parishes throughout the Diocese. Thanks to Father Macenauer for his pastoral concern and assistance in this process.

REGISTRATIONS ARE COMING IN FOR THE WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES which will take place in Philadelphia, September 21-27, 2015. Pope Francis has confirmed his intention to participate on September 25th, 26th and 27th. Check out the [Office for Family Ministry page on our Diocesan website](#) for the Registration Form – and register on-line if you wish to join our pilgrimage.

ALL 32 OF OUR SEMINARIANS WILL GATHER AT ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH in Waterdown on December 27th, to celebrate Mass at 11 a.m., followed by a lunch at 12 noon in the Parish Hall. Because they study in five different seminaries, this is one of few opportunities for them to come together. We pray in thanksgiving that so many men have entered programs of formation and study to serve as Priests in our Diocese. We also acknowledge the valuable service of Father Wojciech Kuzma and his team! We are truly blessed.

AS WE APPROACH THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, I thank the Priests, Deacons, Lay Pastoral Associates, and Parish ministers (*Music, Word, Extraordinary Communion Ministers, Hospitality (Ushers), Sacristans, Environment, and Maintenance*) for the extra time, energy, and effort you put into the Christmas and New Year's liturgical celebrations! It is a very demanding time of year and so very important for everyone who makes their way to church to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ – the Light of the World! Let our greetings be warm, welcoming, and reassuring – representing the love of God for each and for all!

THIS WILL BE THE LAST ISSUE OF *Heart To Heart* FOR 2014! The next issue of Heart to Heart will be published on January 9, 2015. Merry Christmas to all our readers – and rich blessings of health and happiness throughout the New Year!

Mary, Mother of God, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI