



Heart to Heart

January 30, 2015 (#191)

MOTHER MARY OF THE ANGELS, O.C.D., CELEBRATED HER 70th ANNIVERSARY of Religious Profession on January 23rd! The Carmelite Nuns at the Carmel of St. Joseph in St. Agatha marked the event joyfully throughout the day. Bishop Daniel Miehm presided at a Mass of Thanksgiving for her vocation and for the leadership she has provided in the community from its beginning. We offer our heart-felt congratulations to Mother Mary!

THE SISTERS ADORERS OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD have notified us of the death, on January 28, 2015, of Sister Marie Arsenault in her 88th year and 67th of religious life. The Mass of Christian Burial will take place at the Precious Blood Monastery in Dundas, on Tuesday, February 3rd, at 11 a.m., following visitation and prayer vigil on February 2nd. We offer our sympathy and assurance of prayers to Sister Margaret Nadeau, Superior, and to the entire community.

ECCE QUAM BONUM – HOW GOOD IT IS! IS THE TITLE OF MY PASTORAL LETTER written on the occasion of this year dedicated to those in Consecrated Life. Copies will be delivered to Parishes next week for inclusion in Parish bulletins next weekend. We are grateful for the assistance of the Knights of Columbus who will be delivering the letters to Parishes. The letter expresses gratitude to consecrated men and women who have served in the Diocese of Hamilton since the foundation of our Diocese. Currently there are 26 Institutes of Consecrated Life and one Consecrated Virgin in the Diocese. The special year continues until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, February 2, 2016.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL IN HAMILTON has sent off yet another D.R.E.A.M.S. team to San Jose de Ocoa in the Dominican Republic. Father Joe Selvanayagam, Pastor of Canadian Martyrs Parish celebrated a 10 p.m. Mass with the 34 "DREAMERS" and families before their departure. Recently retired Director of Education for the Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board, Patricia Amos, joined the group for the journey. It is her second visit. The D.R.E.A.M.S. experience can be life changing for the Grade 12 students who participate. We pray for a safe journey and a powerful experience.

FATHER RAFAL TOMON AND PARISHIONERS AT ST. MARY'S PARISH in Elora will welcome me for the Sunday Masses this weekend. I look forward to meeting parishioners and to experiencing Parish life there. Thanks to Father Tomon for the invitation and for his fine ministry!

TWO DAYS OF "RETREAT" NEXT WEEK: the first on Monday with the Catholic Health Association of Ontario in Toronto, and the second on Tuesday with Church Leaders of the Canadian Council of Churches at the Queen of Apostles Retreat House in Mississauga. Both events provide an extended time for prayerful reflection on future directions of the respective organizations. Please support the retreats with your prayer.

GOOD LEADERS, GOOD SHEPHERDS – MODULE 4 takes place March 10th to 12th at Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston, Ontario. Over 40 Priests from the Diocese of Hamilton have assiduously followed the program sponsored by the Catholic Leadership Institute. The program concludes next September. Thanks to Father Wayne Lobsinger for serving as a liaison between the Institute and the Diocese. Blessings on the Priest participants!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us.

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI