

Heart to Heart

April 24, 2015 (#203)

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER IS KNOWN AS GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY, because of the Gospel reference to the Good Shepherd. It is also called Vocation Sunday – a time to pray for and encourage vocations to the Priesthood. We, in the Diocese of Hamilton, can pray in thanksgiving for our 31 seminarians, for those who are hoping to take up studies in the Fall, and for Father Wojciech Kuzma, our Director of Vocations!

WE CELEBRATE THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE CANONIZATIONS of Saint Pope John XXIII and Saint Pope John Paul II this Sunday at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 11 a.m., and at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph at 3 p.m. Floribeth Mora Diaz, whose healing through the intercession of Saint Pope John Paul II was the miracle presented for his canonization, will give a brief testimony at the beginning of the Mass, and a longer testimony immediately following Mass. We welcome her warmly to the Diocese of Hamilton. Thanks to Father Jerzy Tomon who organized the event!

WELCOME ALSO TO BISHOP DONALD BOLEN, BISHOP OF SASKATOON, who is the guest lecturer for the Scarboro Missions Lecture at St. Jerome's University tonight at 7:30 p.m. His topic: *A Church in Dialogue: Pope Francis and the summons to ecumenical, inter-faith and cultural conversations*. It takes place at Siegfried Hall. Bishop Bolen served the Church for many years in Rome at the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of Christian Unity. It will be a lecture worth hearing!

THE SERRA CLUB OF HAMILTON SPONSORS THE 12th ANNUAL Celebration of Priesthood and Religious Life Dinner next Tuesday, April 28th, at Liuna Station in Hamilton. While marking especially the 50th anniversary Jubilarians (there are 10), they also give honourable mention to those celebrating 25, 40, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 75, 76, 80(!) and 85(!!) years of commitment to Priesthood and Religious Life (there are 69)! Thanks to the Serra Club for this wonderful evening – congratulations to all the Jubilarians!

A SPECIAL DINNER TONIGHT WITH CERTAIN KNIGHTS FROM HAMILTON follows another successful Bishop's Charities Dinner Dance. At the dinner, Mr. Fred Miscio will present the donation which will assist several charities in the area. This is the 30th year for the dinner – and over the 30 years the Knights have raised over two million dollars! Every penny has been given over to good works! Congratulations and THANK YOU!

THE HALTON CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD HOLDS THEIR 27th Annual Student Awards of Excellence Mass and Ceremony at Corpus Christi High School in Burlington on Monday evening. The students are honoured for excellence in education and Christian living! We offer our congratulations to them, their families, and their schools! Well done.

MY SISTER JANE AND MY NIECE EMILY ARE VISITING THIS WEEKEND. Emily participates with her team in the annual Blessed Sacrament Basketball Tournament. Last year they did well. This year they are coming to win! She graduates from high school this year, so it will be the last opportunity for such a visit. We'll make it a good one!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us.

Ex corde, + Douglas, OMI