



Heart to Heart

April 8, 2011 (#21)

DURING THE GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN we should encourage people to exercise their democratic right to vote but I remind everyone to refrain from any semblance of political commentary from the pulpit; such statements are entirely inappropriate.

I JOINED FATHER GARY SCHLACK AND ANNUNCIATION PARISH for the official opening and blessing of their new parish hall, Adoration Chapel, and parish offices, two weeks ago. A large number of parishioners gathered for the happy event – all rejoicing to have such a functional centre in which to provide a variety of activities!

LAST WEEK I TOURED ST. MARTIN'S MANOR under the expert direction of Linda Dayler, Director of Catholic Family Services in Hamilton. Father Mike Francis, who represents the Diocese on the Board, joined us for the tour. It is a beautiful home, welcoming young mothers and their children in a safe and secure environment. Opportunity is provided to complete High School courses on site. The Diocese of Hamilton has been a proud sponsoring partner. It is a place where lives are saved and life is nurtured. I was impressed by the good work that goes on there.

CELEBRATE IN SONG, THE NEW CCCB LITURGICAL RESOURCE, published to assist parishioners with their responses in the Third Edition of the Roman Missal, and providing musical settings for the Mass, is now available from the CCCB Publications Service. Remember, there is a 40% discount if ordered through our Liturgy Office. Thanks to Monsignor Murray Kroetsch for the workshops he is providing to help us become familiar with it all!

FATHER NIAZ TOMA IS WORKING CLOSELY WITH FATHER SAID BELLO as he prepares to assume duties as Pastor of St. Thomas Chaldean Catholic Community on May 1st. Father Toma is a classmate of Father Mark Morley and Father Michael Anderson. We welcome Father to the Diocese and look forward to seeing him with all the priests of the Diocese at the upcoming Christ Mass.

THE BRANT HALDIMAND-NORFOLK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD held their annual Student Leaders Awards evening yesterday. Thirty-four young people, one from each of their Elementary and High Schools, were honoured for their exemplary Christian leadership! The biography for each leader was read by the Board Vice-Chair. It was an impressive outline of the good that these young people can and do accomplish. I will participate in a similar celebration for students of the Halton District Catholic School Board on Monday.

THE LITURGICAL INSTALLATION OF BISHOP PETER HUNDT as Bishop of the Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador takes place on Wednesday evening (April 13th) at the Cathedral of the Most Holy Redeemer and Immaculate Conception in Corner Brook. Bishop Anthony Tonnos, Monsignor Vincent Kerr, and I will be in attendance from our Diocese. We continue to pray for God's blessing on the new Ordinary.

THE BROTHERS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD BEGIN THE CELEBRATION of their 50th Anniversary this coming week. There will be a number of celebrations throughout the year. The Diocese is blessed by their presence and service here!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI