



Heart to Heart

December 9, 2016 (#265)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12th IS THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, patron of the Americas. The Canadian Catholic Aboriginal Council has designated it as a day for prayer for Indigenous Peoples. Each year the Council produces a helpful reflection to assist us in our prayer. This year they have prepared a [Prayer for Families](#), which was published in the recent edition of Inter Nos. Please pray for families on this special feast!

DURING THIS “PROPHETIC” SEASON OF ADVENT WE WELCOME THE SECOND VOLUME of the Heritage Edition of the Saint John’s Bible – Prophets. Join us on Sunday evening at 7 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King for our annual Advent Hymn Festival. It is a time of music and scripture readings and prayer – preparing us for the solemn celebration of the Nativity of Jesus Christ. Come-all-ye!

WELCOME TO STEPHEN KADUULI, ASSISTANT TO ERIN PEASE, in the Diocesan Office for Refugees. Stephen will be supporting newcomers in their efforts to settle and integrate into life in Canada. The Office for Refugees welcomed more than 230 new permanent residents in 2016; 104 refugee sponsorship applications are currently pending with visa offices overseas. At the moment, the Office is still waiting to receive its allocation of sponsorship spaces for the 2017 sponsorship year.

THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC BROADCASTING COUNCIL (NCBC) has announced a variety of ways to access daily Mass on television and on the Internet. Salt + Light Television, Vision TV, and yesTV make the program available each day. It is also available on [Daily TV Mass](#) and on YouTube.

THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES OF THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON hold their Christmas dinner tonight in Burlington. It gives us the opportunity to thank Mr. John Foster, Director of Catholic Cemeteries and the entire staff for their hard work and careful attention to those who seek their help when a loved one dies. Their caring attention to every detail, assures that the deceased and their families and friends receive the most generous care! Thank you. Have a great evening!

THE RECENT ADDITION TO ST. MARY’S PARISH IN CAMBRIDGE WILL BE BLESSED following the Saturday evening Mass tomorrow. The Atrium allows for better access and improved facilities for parishioners. Thank you to Father Frank Freitas and the committee who oversaw the renovation and kept the project on time and on budget!

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PORTUGUESE PARISH IN CAMBRIDGE will celebrate its 50th Anniversary on Sunday. The 11:30 a.m. Mass will be followed by a luncheon at the Portuguese Club. Congratulations to Father Antonio Cunha, Pastor, and the parishioners for your fidelity over the years. We offer our best wishes to Father Cunha who will retire from ministry at the end of December following a long and blessed ministry at the Parish!

THE FINAL TOUCHES ARE BEING MADE TO THE 2017 BUDGET for the Diocese of Hamilton. It will be presented to the Diocesan Finance Committee at our meeting Monday, December 19th. Thanks to Mr. Jim Long, Episcopal Director of Finance and Administration for the Diocese, for his remarkable and capable service to the Diocese. There are many important projects underway requiring our financial support – the proclamation of the Good News among us and beyond!

A MEMORIAL GARDEN, REMEMBERING TEACHER JENNA GAZZOLA, who was murdered in April, was blessed on Wednesday. She was a young teacher at St. Charles Garnier Adult Education Centre near Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Hamilton, at the time of her death. Jenna’s family and friends, her colleagues and students gathered at the school for the time of prayer, blessing and remembrance. We pray that God will hold her close and give consolation to her family!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, *+Douglas*, OMI