



Heart to Heart

February 17, 2017 (#273)

THE STATUE “ST. LEO” BY WORLD RENOWNED ARTIST WILLIAM McELCHERAN was unveiled outside McMaster Divinity College on Monday. The Hamilton sculptor (1927-1999) designed and provided all of the artwork for the Chapel in the center of McMaster University campus. The College Board Room is full of his art. He claimed the Catholic faith in 1954, and his art adorns churches across Canada and worldwide. His widow, Mie, graciously donated the work to the College. It is worth a visit.

GIVE US A CHANCE TO SUCCEED: VOICES FROM THE MARGINS, is the title of the report of the April 2016 Hamilton Social Audit which was released on Wednesday evening at an event at the Nicholas Mancini Centre. Twenty-nine Hamiltonians living in poverty agreed to talk about what they experience on a daily basis. Their stories and insights from the auditors were used in the report. Several recommendations were made to civic and provincial governments. Sarah Guinta, Coordinator of our Diocesan Office for Justice and Peace, and Deirdre Pike, Senior Social Planner at the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, co-chaired the project. Among several others, Father Con O’Mahony and I served as auditors. It was a moving and informative experience for us. It is hoped that the report will initiate the changes needed to improve the lives of many who struggle every day!

WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT FATHER PHIL SHERLOCK’S HEALTH IS IMPROVING. What was originally thought to be pneumonia seems to be a heart-related ailment possibly requiring surgery. Doctors are undertaking further tests. Please keep him in your prayers.

WE WELCOME FATHER PAUL MATHEW VELLIMOOZHAYIL, SJ, to the Diocese of Hamilton. He is presently assisting at Regina Mundi Parish, Hamilton. We pray for blessings on his ministry in our Diocese.

BURLINGTON MPP ELEANOR McMAHON AND BURLINGTON MAYOR RICK GOLDRING spoke at the Special Olympics games/demonstration night last evening at the Haber Centre. The Knights of Columbus Councils in Burlington and Oakville sponsored the community event. Flag raisings will take place at St. Ignatius High School, Oakville and at Oakville City Hall today. Congratulations to the Knights who organized these events.

THE LENT PRIESTS’ DAYS OF PRAYER ARE SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 7th AND 8th. Monsignor Raymond Modeski, Pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Burlington, is the speaker at both sessions. On March 7th, the day begins at 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. On March 8th, it begins at 10:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Waterloo. There will be time for Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. A meal will be served. As a simple courtesy, please notify [Pam Aleman](#) of your intention to attend, so sufficient food can be prepared.

THE ANNUAL BISHOP’S CHARITIES DINNER DANCE IS NEXT SATURDAY, February 25, 2017, at Carmen’s Banquet Centre. Sponsored by a committee made up of several Councils of the Knights of Columbus in Hamilton and Burlington, the annual dinner is a joyous gathering of Priests, parishioners and friends in the Diocese. It is an opportunity to celebrate who we are and to express gratitude for all the good work that is done by groups and organization throughout the Diocese. Over 850 tickets have already been sold. Join us for a happy evening together!

OVER 200 STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE CULTURE OF LIFE PROGRAM in 22 High Schools gathered yesterday at the Nicholas Mancini Centre in Hamilton for the annual Leadership Conference. Stephanie Gray, a Canadian pro-life activist, spoke eloquently on the theme *Love Unleashes Life*. In the early afternoon, they walked to the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, to celebrate a Mass presided by Bishop Daniel Miehm. Young people across the Diocese are already preparing to travel to Ottawa for the *March for Life* scheduled for May 11th this year. Signs of hope!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us.

Ex corde, +*Douglas*, OMI