



Heart to Heart

February 24, 2017 (#274)

THE ANNUAL BISHOP'S CHARITIES DINNER DANCE which is organized by the Knights of Columbus in the Hamilton area takes place tomorrow evening at Carmen's Banquet Centre. It is an evening when the Catholic community, many friends and supporters, come together to enjoy a meal and to celebrate and support many good works that help a countless number of people in our community and beyond. This is the 32nd year for the event – a gracious celebration of generosity and goodness!

THOMAS CARDINAL COLLINS WILL SPEAK ON THE BOOK OF REVELATION on Sunday night at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. The theme of his presentation is *The Book of Revelation as a Beacon for Christian Discipleship in the Modern Age*. The evening of prayer and song will welcome our third volume of the Heritage Edition of the Saint John's Bible – Letters and Revelation. The event begins at 7 p.m. Not to be missed!

THE RITE OF ELECTION FOR CATECHUMENS WILL BE CELEBRATED NEXT SUNDAY at 1:30 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King for Parishes in Brant, Halton and Hamilton Deaneries, and at 1:30 p.m. at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph for Parishes in Bruce-Grey, Waterloo and Wellington Deaneries. Pastors are reminded to register their Catechumens for the event by contacting Christina Ronzio at the Chancery. The celebration is a unique and moving moment in the RCIA process – and in the lives of those who are making a profound life-changing decision about faith.

OUR DIOCESAN OFFICE FOR REFUGEES IS SPONSORING A WORKSHOP on the BVOR Program for Pastors and parishioners who have been involved. The workshop takes place on Saturday, March 18th, at St. Anthony Daniel Parish in Kitchener from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Many of our Parishes have sponsored newcomers through the BVOR Program, so this session will provide helpful information. See you there!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SCHOOL SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME who marked the 90th Anniversary of the opening of Notre Dame Convent in Waterdown, on February 14, 2017. It has been a landmark institution and a source of religious formation, education, and celebration of life and faith, in the community and in the Diocese.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION was recently established by the Catholic Women's League of Canada. Under the leadership of Claire Heron, Former National President and Honorary Life Member of the CWL, and Chair of the Campaign Cabinet, the Foundation began to seek \$1.5M funding for the Foundation last November. In a recent communication, she announced that already the Foundation has attained 60% of the goal! The next step is to seek support for the mission and the financial campaign from the 90,000 CWL members across the country. It is an exciting project! We wish them well.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOB O'BRIEN, long-time Director of the Catholic Cemeteries who celebrates his 90th birthday tomorrow! Family and friends will gather at Holy Rosary Parish Hall, Burlington tomorrow afternoon to bring greetings and good wishes! Happy Birthday to you, Bob! May you have many happy years ahead!

THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT BEGINS with the celebration of Ash Wednesday next week. The ashes remind us that we will die. During the 40 days of Lent we reflect on how we choose to live as followers of Jesus Christ. Jesus teaches us how to live fully. *"In Him we live, and move and have our being!"*

Our Lady of the Annunciation, have mercy on us!

Ex corde, *+ Douglas*, OMI