



THE ORDINATION OF FOUR PRIESTS FOR SERVICE IN THE DIOCESE takes place tomorrow at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King beginning at 11:00 a.m. It is a blessing for those ordained and for the Diocese. We pray that God will bless the ministries of Father David Avila, Father Ross Campbell, Father Kevin D'Souza, and Father Pawel Jamroz. Thanks to those who have worked hard to assure that everything is well prepared for the celebration!

THE BISHOPS OF ONTARIO COMPLETED THEIR *AD LIMINA* VISIT this week with a three-day retreat directed by Father Paul Murray, O.P., Master Theologian at the Angelicum in Rome. His profound reflections and insights brought a beautiful conclusion to a deeply spiritual experience. Long flight home! Safe and sound! Thank you for your prayers.

OVER 115 PARISH SECRETARIES participated in day long workshops offered by the staff of the Administration and Chancellor's Offices last week. The staff presented an overview of the governance structure of the Diocese and the many services provided by the Diocesan Offices to assist Parishes. Among the topics discussed were the role and responsibilities of secretaries regarding sacramental preparation, sacramental records, Mass intentions, the use of social media in the Parish and available information on estate planning. We continue to receive positive reports from those who attended. We are grateful to all of the secretaries for their important work in our Parishes. Keep up the good work!

THE SECOND THREE-DAY WORKSHOP FOR INTERNATIONAL PRIESTS took place this week in Waterloo. Ten priests who have arrived in the Diocese during the past year participated. One of the highlights of the workshop was the presentation by Tanya Missere-Mihias on accents and communication. Thanks to the Committee who prepared the workshop under the leadership of Msgr. Earl Talbot, Vicar for Clergy!

ALL PRIESTS ARE REMINDED TO SIGN UP FOR THE CONVOCATION which takes place at St. Anthony Daniel Parish, Kitchener, on Wednesday, May 10, 2017. The Convocation begins at 1:00 p.m. and concludes at 4:00 p.m. Dinner will follow for those who wish. The Convocation will examine addiction as we understand it in today's society. It will offer insight into addiction from both medical and neurological perspectives and provide practical education and tools so that we can better address personal concerns as well as the concerns of those for whom we care and to whom we minister. The presenters will be Sister Dorothy Heiderscheit, OSF, the Chief Executive Officer of Southdown, and Sister Elaine Dombi, SSJ, Addictions Counsellor at Southdown. Be sure to let us know by Monday that you are coming.

REFUGEES CONTINUE TO BE WELCOMED BY PARISHES IN THE DIOCESE. St. John the Baptist Parish in Hamilton recently welcomed a Syrian family of six. St. Theresa of Avila Parish in Elmira welcomed a young Syrian couple and their newborn baby this week. St. Patrick Parish in Burlington will soon be submitting an application to sponsor an Eritrean family of five from Ethiopia. And Holy Rosary Parish in Milton plans to sponsor a Syrian family of seven from Jordan – the largest family we have yet sponsored through the BVOR program. Thanks to Erin and Stephen in our Office for Refugees for making such good work possible!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, *+Douglas*, OMI