



## *Heart to Heart*

October 20, 2017 (#299)

**BETHANY HOUSE, A NEW RETREAT HOUSE IN HAMILTON**, was blessed yesterday. Built by the Saint Elizabeth Home Society under the direction of Sister Maria Szucs, S.S.J.C., the house is situated at 384 Rymal Road, and is ready to welcome individuals who desire quiet time for reflection and prayer. Congratulations to Sister Maria on completing a long-time dream and thank you for providing such a beautiful place for encountering the Lord!

**THIS SUNDAY IS MISSION SUNDAY** – a time to focus on the needs of developing countries. There are 1,284,810,000 Catholics in the world, in 3,006 Dioceses. There are 5,304 Bishops and 281,000 Diocesan Priests and 134,000 Priests in Religious Communities. 351,000 Lay Missionaries serve the Church and 3 million catechists share the faith with children in schools and educational centres around the world. The special collection this Sunday supports the proclamation of the Gospel in mission territory! Please be generous.

**PRIESTS AND PARISHIONERS IN THE KITCHENER-WATERLOO AREA** are reminded of the invitation from Bishop Michael Pryse to gather at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Kitchener (49 Queen Street North) for the Commemoration of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation. The service will be televised. It will be followed by a reception. A similar commemoration will be held at the Cathedral Basilica in Hamilton on November 10<sup>th</sup>.

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN HAMILTON** held their Clergy Appreciation Night Dinner last night. It is a fraternal evening of food and reunion – always a relaxing event! Thank you.

**PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE GATHER NEXT WEEK** in Burlington for the Annual Priests' Seminar. This year's topic is *Parish Vitalization* and the presenters are Fr. Michael White and Tom Corcoran. On Thursday evening we honour Priests who are celebrating Jubilees – Fifty years: Monsignor Edward Sheridan, Father Peter Coughlin, Father James Malone, Father Edward Hinsperger, Father Frank Trzupsek; Twenty-five years: Father James McSharry, Father Luc Payette, Father Junghyuk Choi, and Father Joseph de Viveiros, C.R. We offer our congratulations and thanks!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE COMBONI MISSIONARIES** at St. Joseph Parish in Kitchener who celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of their Congregation this weekend. On June 1, 1867, Daniel Comboni founded in Verona the "Institute for African Missions" which was transformed into a religious congregation in 1885. As a young man he dedicated his entire life to proclaiming the Gospel to the African peoples. Mission Sunday is a perfect weekend to celebrate this anniversary!

**CONFIRMATIONS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN FOR THE NEW PASTORAL YEAR!** I head to Melancthon on Sunday morning and to Formosa next weekend! Pray for the young people preparing for this Sacrament, that the Spirit might work powerfully in their lives! Thanks to the teachers and catechists who assure their preparation!

**THE EX CORDE BOARD** holds its annual general meeting next week to review the work of the past year. It is an opportunity to thank John Devine for his service to the Board and to welcome Francis Doyle to the Board as a member! The generosity of the Ex Corde Board has benefitted many parishes and projects throughout the Diocese and beyond. Thank you!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI