

Heart to Heart

November 17, 2017 (#303)

THE WORLD DAY OF THE POOR announced by Pope Francis at the end of the *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, will be marked this year on Sunday, November 19th. The theme of this year's event, "Love not in word but in deed", seeks to sensitize the consciences of believers to the cries of the poor and the suffering. Pope Francis will preside at Mass with the poor in St. Peter's Basilica, and after the recitation of the Angelus, there will be a sitdown lunch in the Audience Hall of the Vatican. More information can be obtained on the website of the Dicastery for the New Evangelization (www.pcpne.ca).

THE SCHOOL SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME held their 24th General Chapter in Rome in late September through October. The Chapter elected a General Council and set future directions for the Congregation for the next six years. *Sister Julianne Lattner* was elected General Councilor for Canada. Sister Julianne was born in Kitchener and worked with the Diocese in helping our international Priests adjust to the Canadian reality. The new Council will be installed on January 20, 2018, at their General House in Rome. We wish them well. Godspeed Sr. Julie!

THE BISHOP FARRELL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES is working with Development and Peace in organizing a film series called *REEL JUSTICE*. Every month from September to June a film will be screened in a Parish in the Diocese of Hamilton – with the hope that the films will spark awareness and encourage dialogue about social justice issues. All of the films in the series will be available from the Library. The next film, *Poverty Inc*, will be shown at St. Joseph Parish in Guelph on December 15th.

THE LIBRARY RECEIVED ANOTHER VOLUME of the Heritage Edition of The Saint John's Bible on October 30th! Dominy Williams, our Diocesan Archivist and Librarian, attests that the Pentateuch volume is stunning! The Library will be hosting open viewings on November 21, 22, 23, and 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Don't miss the opportunity – plan your visit now! All are welcome!

THE ANNUAL *ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS* will be held at the Cathedral Basilica on December 10, 2017, beginning at 7:00 p.m. It is a beautiful and prayerful way to celebrate the Advent season in word and song and to prepare worthily for the celebration of Christmas. Mark your calendars!

ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY is working closely with Kitchener's Grand Philharmonic Choir in this year's presentation of Handel's *MESSIAH*. The choral "event" takes place on Saturday evening, December 9th, beginning at 7:30 p.m., at *The Centre in the Square*, Kitchener, and will feature digital presentations of illustrations from The Saint John's Bible throughout the choral presentation. A pre-concert lecture at the Art Gallery begins at 6:30 p.m. for those who are interested (This will conclude the year-long visit of one of the volumes of The Saint John's Bible to St. Jerome's.) Another superb Advent celebration!

A WARM WELCOME TO BISHOP DANIEL MIEHM, Bishop of Peterborough, who will be spending next week in the Diocese celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation in various Parishes! He begins on Sunday at St. Gabriel Parish in Burlington. It will be good to have him among us once again! He is already scheduled to return next Spring for another week of Confirmations. We are grateful for his presence and ministry!

THE NEW BUILDING COMMITTEE for St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Hamilton held its inaugural meeting last evening. Deacon Tom Vert chairs the committee which has been convened by Father Mark Gatto, Pastor of the Parish. Surveys of the property are already underway – so the exciting work has begun. Thanks to the Committee members who have agreed to serve. May the results be a blessing for the Parish, for the Diocese, and for the Church!

St. Catherine of Siena, pray for us!

Ex corde, + Douglas, OMI