



Heart to Heart

November 24, 2017 (#304)

THE ADVENT DAY OF PRAYER FOR PRIESTS SERVING IN THE DIOCESE takes place at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton, on Tuesday, December 5th, and at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Waterloo, on Wednesday, December 6th. Priests are invited to attend either session, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Father Sam Restivo, C.R., is the homilist for both events. The day will provide an opportunity for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and Benediction, along with a good meal and fraternal interaction! Please be sure to respond to the invitation that has been sent out. It is a simple courtesy and helps the host Parishes to prepare the luncheon.

A HEALING MASS FOR PARENTS OF DECEASED CHILDREN will be offered at the 4:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday, December 3rd, at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. This will provide an opportunity to remember and pray for children who have died before or after birth. Please invite parishioners to join us for this consoling Mass – an opportunity to be treasured.

A SESSION ENTITLED “COPING WITH THE HOLIDAYS”, offering practical tools for dealing with the death of a loved one during the Christmas season will take place on Sunday, December 3rd, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. at the Chancery Office. It will help those who feel overwhelmed as they face Christmas suffering from the grief of loss, old or new. Contact the Family Ministry Office for more information.

FAREWELL TO BISHOP DANIEL MIEHM who returns to Peterborough following a full week celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation throughout the Diocese. Thank you Bishop Miehm for your help and for your ongoing kindness to the Diocese!

THE EPISCOPAL RING AND PECTORAL CROSS OF BISHOP JOHN FARRELL, first Bishop of Hamilton, have been cleaned, polished, and entrusted to the care of the Bishop Farrell Library and Archives. They will be placed on display in the coming days. Our gratitude to Mr. Frank Pados of Pados Jewellery Design in Dundas, for the professional care provided to these important historical artifacts.

THE FRATERNITY OF THE POOR OF JESUS CHRIST have moved from their first home in the Diocese at St. Louis Parish in Waterloo. The Sisters now work closely with the Hospitaller Brothers of St. John of God in the Good Shepherd Ministries in Hamilton. We are grateful for their presence and ministry and trust that these new assignments will be a blessing for the young community.

THE SUPERIORS OF TWO RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES OF MEN serving in the Diocese have transferred two Priests to new ministries. Father Shane Degblor, MCCJ, who has served at St. Joseph Parish in Kitchener, has been called to the Provincial House in the United States awaiting necessary documentation to serve with the team in Los Angeles. Father Pawel Szymanowski, CR, currently at St. Mary Parish in Kitchener, has been assigned to the General House in Rome. His linguistic skills will be put to work there! Thank you both for your service in the Diocese of Hamilton. Blessings and good wishes as you take up new ministries for your communities!

REVEREND MR. STEPHANE ZARA will be Moderator of Permanent Deacons beginning next Friday, December 1st. Father Michael King had this responsibility in his capacity as Episcopal Vicar for Clergy. This appointment will reduce his workload somewhat, returning the Vicar's responsibility to be for Priests only. Thank you to Deacon Zara for accepting the appointment.

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, *+Douglas*, OMI