



Heart to Heart

September 7, 2018 (#335)

THE CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE (D&P) have sent resources for their annual Fall Campaign called *Share the Journey*. The resources will help parishioners understand what forced migration is and how it affects millions of people worldwide. It also provides suggested actions and prayers. Parishes and schools are encouraged to order the resource materials and to find ways to inform parishioners about the horrors faced by so many who are forced to leave their homeland!

OUR OWN OFFICE OF REFUGEES has been busy through the summer months. 21 newcomers have been welcomed to Canada, from Iraq, Syria and Eritrea. Recent arrivals include a Syrian family of six sponsored by St. Pius X Parish, Brantford, through the BVOR program, and a wife and three children who were finally able to unite with their father after having been separated since 2012! The Sisters of St. Joseph are looking forward to welcoming an Ethiopian woman and her three children to Canada from Kenya on October 24th. Please keep this family's safe passage to Canada in your thoughts and prayers!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! The special collection taken up in June to assist with summer jobs for Catholic Organizations unable to access the Canada Summer Jobs Program raised \$230,000.00! It is a very generous response indeed! The Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) and their good works at Camp Marydale and Camp Brebeuf will be the major beneficiaries!

FATHER JASON KUNTZ ARRIVED IN ROME IN JULY to begin a two-year program of study in Moral Theology, in view of teaching at St. Peter's Seminary in London, Ontario. *"The house where I am staying for the summer is the Domus Romanae Sacerdotalis – a residence for Priests. Lots of interesting people here – most of the Priests work in the Curia. They have been exceptionally kind and welcoming. The food is excellent! It is hot outside but not unbearable. You just need to get used to always being sweaty! I was able to finish my registration at the university this week and Francesco, the secretary at the Canadian College assisted me to fill out the application for my permit to live here. I submitted it today!"* We wish you well, Father, and we will pray for you!

WELCOME TO BISHOP GERRY WIESNER, OMI, Bishop-Emeritus of Prince George Diocese, who is preaching a retreat to the School Sisters of Notre Dame this week! He will join me for dinner tonight and when the retreat is over tomorrow he will overnight at Ardree before heading to the United States to preach another retreat. We are blessed by his presence!

A MASS FOR GRANDPARENTS' DAY will be celebrated at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Waterdown, tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. The day will focus on the important role of Grandparents in the transmission of the faith to their grandchildren – a blessed ministry!

WITH THE START OF A NEW PASTORAL YEAR, meetings begin following the summer months! The Pastoral Offices meet next Monday morning. The Episcopal Board will meet on Tuesday morning, followed by the Diocesan Presbyteral Council in the afternoon, and the Council of Catholic Service Organizations later in the early evening! We pray for God's blessing on the Diocese in this 2018-2019 Pastoral Year.

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, +*Douglas*, OMI