



Heart to Heart

December 14, 2018 (#348)

“ONE BLESSED NIGHT” were the final words of the Christmas Canata, *The Birth of Christ*, which was presented to a sold out audience at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King last Friday evening. The story was told of that “Blessed Night” two thousand years ago, and in the telling, the evening itself was blessed once again! A special honour – Father Tom Rosica, CSB, CEO of the Salt & Light Media Foundation, presented the *St. Gianna Molla “Lover of Life” Award* to the Diocese of Hamilton, and to Gillian and David Kantor, parents of six children from St. Matthew Parish in Oakville. A brilliant and historic evening!

BISHOP PETER HUNDT was named Archbishop of St. John’s, Newfoundland on December 11, 2018. He replaced Archbishop Martin Currie whose resignation upon reaching the age of 75 was accepted prior to the new Archbishop’s appointment. Bishop Hundt has served the Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador since 2011. We pray for him as he takes up his new responsibilities sometime early in the New Year!

ARCHBISHOP GUIRE POULARD, Archbishop Emeritus of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, died on December 9th, following a lengthy illness. His funeral and burial will take place at the Cathedral in Port-au-Prince on December 22nd. Under his administration, the Diocese of Hamilton developed a close relationship with the Archdiocese, providing support for the formation of Priests in their seminary. The son of a farmer, Archbishop Poulard loved to plant mango trees which provided both food and shade for the people of Haiti! May he receive the reward promised to good and faithful servants!

ST. JOSEPH’S VILLA IN DUNDAS was recognized with a Platinum Award in the *Hamilton Spectator Reader’s Choice Awards*, finishing first place in the Nursing and Long-term Care category! Congratulations to all the staff for their dedication and the fantastic work they do to care for seniors in the community!

THE DINNER FOR THE STAFF OF THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES OF THE DIOCESE takes place tonight at Liuna Station. It provides an opportunity for the personnel to celebrate the coming of the Christmas season and for us to offer our thanks for the hard work done to welcome the deceased loved ones of our parishioners, to provide consoling care for grieving families, and to make our cemeteries beautiful! Enjoy the evening – enjoy the season!

THE GOOD SHEPHERD MINISTRIES will provide their Annual *Christmas Wonderland* to about 3000 people who will gather at the Hamilton Convention Centre on Sunday afternoon. Lots of food, toys, and other gifts for those who come! It is a pre-Christmas tradition in Hamilton, and demonstrates how important the season is – for all!

THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF CHRIST THE KING celebrates the 85th Anniversary of its Blessing on Wednesday, December 19th, at a Mass at noon. It was a grand celebration presided by Bishop John McNally, with Prime Minister R.B. Bennett sitting in the front pew – a proud day for the Diocese of Hamilton! We offer thanks to God for the blessing of such an impressive Cathedral!

ON THE SAME DAY we pray for the repose of the soul of Bishop James Carberry, the third Bishop of Hamilton, who died on December 19, 1887 - 131 years ago! May he rest in peace!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, *+ Douglas*, OMI