



Heart to Heart

July 29, 2011 (#35)

WE ARE SADDENED TO LEARN THAT BISHOP PAUL MARCHAND, Bishop of Timmins, Ontario, died suddenly after Sunday Mass, July 24th. He is being buried today. We pray for his repose.

ARCHBISHOP FRANCIS SPENCE (EMERITUS-KINGSTON) DIED ON WEDNESDAY. The funeral is set for Wednesday, August 3rd. May he receive the reward due a good and faithful servant.

ST. ANN'S CHURCH IN HAMILTON WAS FULL for the entire Novena to St. Ann and for the closing Mass at which I presided on Tuesday evening (26th)! The Novena took place during the hot, sauna-like, summer days – but priests, parishioners and visitors were undaunted! The new parish priest, Father Don Sanvido, was taking all his cues from his predecessor, Father Mike Isabelle. Father Eugene O'Reilly, CSsR, the Novena Director, shared his remarkable spirituality mixed with personal stories and good humour each evening. Those who participated expressed gratitude for the annual event. Well done indeed!

FATHER BILL FOOTE AND HIS WIFE MARGARET took Msgr. Murray Kroetsch and myself aboard their vessel, *Air Swift*, for a boating trip on Lake Erie earlier this week. Father Dan Hinsperger was somewhat astounded when, while he was enjoying a peaceful day at the cottage in Turkey Point, he was interrupted by two soaking wet prelates, who swam in to say hello!

THE BISHOP'S HOUSE HAS BEEN GIVEN A NAME! Following the venerable tradition of naming “grand” homes, I have named the Bishop's House **ARDREE**, a name which means “King's height”. The house is positioned on the high point of King Street, and is attached to the Cathedral of Christ the King – so the name seems fitting. The announcement of the new name was made at the summer barbeque for seminarians which took place at *Ardree* last Sunday.

THANKS AGAIN TO FATHER KEVIN CULL for organizing the second summer gathering of our seminarians. Six men will be entering the seminary in September, and a few others are discerning a possible vocation down the road. They are a remarkable group of young men!

THE EPISCOPAL BOARD met in Elora for three days of uninterrupted discussion about a variety of concerns. We received and approved the audited Financial Report of the various diocesan entities for 2010. The Diocesan Finance Committee will receive and review the reports during their meeting which takes place today.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SCHOOL SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME who are celebrating jubilees this year. I have a Mass at the Waterdown-based Motherhouse tomorrow with the Community. It provides an appropriate occasion to thank them for the powerful ministry they have offered in our Diocese!

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH IN FORMOSA CELEBRATES 150 YEARS this weekend. In addition to a special Sunday Morning Mass, Father Steve Lacroix, CSB, and an Anniversary Committee have organized a variety of events to mark the moment. I look forward to celebrating this joyful milestone with them.

ALL OF US CAN RESPOND TO THE TRAGEDY IN SOMALIA by directing funds through Development and Peace, as I have done in the name of our Diocese. You may contact 1-800-494-1401 or the Toronto Office at (416) 922-1592.

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde,

Douglas, OMI