



Heart to Heart

May 3, 2019 (#364)

A CHILD'S VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE CATHEDRAL will be launched on the Diocesan website on May 9, 2019. It is the work of teachers and students from the Waterloo Catholic District School Board and was created during a visit to the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King earlier this year. The Virtual Tour uses the latest technology and provides verbal explanations by the students to the various points of interest in the Cathedral. Father David Wynen, Rector of the Cathedral, Dr. Anne Jamieson, Director of the Catechetical Office, Monsignor Murray Kroetsch, and I were given a "sneak preview" earlier this week. It will be a popular visit!

THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY announced the appointment of Mr. Bruce Rodrigues as the 8th Chancellor of St. Jerome's University, effective July 1, 2019. A graduate of St. Jerome's, Mr. Rodrigues has had a rich and distinguished career in education; his deep understanding of education in Ontario ultimately grounded his appointment as Deputy Minister of Education for the Province of Ontario from 2016-2018. He will be installed at an Investiture Ceremony on September 8, 2019. We offer our sincere congratulations!

THE OFFICE FOR REFUGEES is preparing sponsorship applications for 2019! They are on track to sponsor more than 50 refugees. Additionally, the Office is responding to a government initiative to monitor the care and support being provided to sponsored newcomers. The Diocese has had one newcomer family monitored so far. We are happy and relieved that the Government has determined that the Diocese met all requirements!

ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTH SYSTEM HELD A SUCCESSFUL "SYSTEM DAY" at Liuna Station in Hamilton on Wednesday this week. Christine Elliot, Deputy Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Health and Long Term Care, addressed the huge gathering from the various partners of the St. Josephs Health System and Niagara Health. To the delight of those present, the Minister affirmed that "*St. Joseph's is already a leader in providing integrated care in the Province!*"

WELCOME TO BISHOP FRED COLLI FROM THUNDER BAY, who arrives next week to assist with the celebration of ten Confirmations throughout the Diocese. Archbishop Peter Hundt from St. John's, Newfoundland, arrives the following week to assist with four Confirmations. Their presence and ministry is a great service to the Diocese, for which I am very grateful!

THE SERRA CLUB OF HAMILTON HOSTED the 16th Annual Dinner celebrating the Priesthood and Consecrated Life. Father Franjo Sprajc offered reflections on behalf of the Priests who celebrated their 50th anniversaries: including himself, Father Bob Kiffman, Monsignor Raymond Modeski, Father Bob Stainsby, Monsignor Earl Talbot, Father Sutherland (Sudie) MacDonald, CR, and Father Eric Jensen, SJ. The four Deacons who will be soon ordained to the Priests also spoke about their journey to Ordination: Deacons Gregory Merkley, John Schnurr, Vivek Trindade, and Raphael Ma, CR. We congratulate them all and pray for them!

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS WHO ARE RECOVERING FROM SURGERY: Father David Lewis is now in respite care in Chartwell Clair Hills Residence following a time of recuperation at St. Mary's Hospital in Kitchener. Father Jim Petrie is recovering at the Oakville Hospital following diabetes-related surgery. Keep them in your prayers.

N.B. ALL PRIESTS ARE EXPECTED AT THE CONVOCATION DAY NEXT THURSDAY, MAY 9th at St. Anthony Daniel Parish in Kitchener. Please respond to Brianne Foote (vocations@hamiltondiocese.com) by 4:00 p.m. today to confirm your participation. Dinner will be served for those who wish following the program.

Our Lady of Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, +*Douglas*, OMI