



## Heart to Heart

September 13, 2019 (#374)

**REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DIOCESAN REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP COMMUNITY**, Diane Jones from St. Michael Parish, Waterloo and Elizabeth Meakes from St. Anne Parish, Kitchener, along with Erin Pease, Director of our Refugee Office, had the honour of spending an evening with The Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, Elizabeth Dowdeswell. In celebration of 40 years of success of Canada's private sponsorship program, sponsoring stakeholders from across the Province were invited to convene at the Lieutenant Governor's Suite at Queen's Park. A key reflection that underpinned the spirit of much of the evening was expressed in the words of young Malala Yousfzai: "*We realize the importance of our voices only when we are silenced.*" Thanks to all who are part of our sponsorship community!

**POPE FRANCIS** has declared October 2019 to be an Extraordinary Missionary Month. The theme of the month is BAPTIZED AND SENT. The Pontifical Mission Societies of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples are overseeing the various events of the special month. Information was sent to our Pastors during the summer providing suggestions and supportive material for marking the month in our Parishes. By reflecting on the missionary dimension of the Church during the month of October, may we become deeply aware of our vocation to proclaim the Gospel to the ends of the earth!

**THE 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DIOCESAN GATHERING CELEBRATION OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION** is hosted this year by the Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board and will be held at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King next Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. Events begin at 3:15 p.m. with a presentation by Dr. Anne Jamieson on *Joyful Discipleship*. The renowned BR Xpression will provide lively musical entertainment. Mass begins at 4:30 p.m. Priests are encouraged to concelebrate. Following Mass there will be a reception at the Nicholas Mancini Centre (behind the Chancery). The gathering draws representatives from our seven School Boards and is a time to celebrate the gift of Catholic Education in our Diocese! Come-all-ye!

**WALK-4-WAYSIDE** is an opportunity to support an organization doing life-saving work in our Diocese and beyond. Wayside House provides 23 residential and 37 supporting housing beds for men seeking treatment for addiction and mental health challenges. The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Walk-4-Wayside takes place on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. Check out the [poster](#) and "lean in"!

**REBECCA RATHBONE** returned to her position as the South-Western Ontario Animator for the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace. Shortly after her appointment she was assigned to work with Caritas in Rome. She was asked to strengthen the Caritas Youth Network during her time there, which she completed successfully. Thanks to Elena Luna who served once again as Animator in her stead. Development and Peace groups throughout the Diocese are preparing to launch the Fall program: For our COMMON HOME, promoting education and action about climate change and its effects in peoples' lives. Participate in workshops in your area!

**FOUR MEN HAVE BEEN INVITED TO THE PROPAEDEUTIC PERIOD** of the Permanent Diaconate Formation Program which will begin on September 28<sup>th</sup>: Camille Joseph Johnson, from St. John the Baptist Parish, Burlington; Michael Theodore Kuhl, from Blessed Sacrament Parish, Kitchener; Richard Michael Olson, from Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph; and Adam Walker, from St. Mary's Mission, Palmerston. A fifth man, Anthony Sanchez Calaycay, joins them from Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Welland, in St. Catharine Diocese. During this spiritual year, they will discern their suitability for the Diaconate and their capacity to respond generously to God's call in their lives. Their wives participate fully in the program and encourage and support the discernment of their husbands. We wish them well as they begin this blessed journey!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI