



Heart to Heart

October 4, 2019 (#377)

POPE FRANCIS AND FOUR REFUGEES unveiled a thought provoking statue at last Sunday's Mass for migrants and refugees at St. Peter's Square in Vatican City. *ANGELS UNAWARES* was sculpted by Timothy Schmalz, a well-known artist from St. Jacob's, Ontario. It depicts "different states of mind and emotion in a migrant's journey," said Mr. Schmalz. Pope Francis explained further, "I wanted this artistic work here in St. Peter's Square to remind everyone of the evangelical challenge of hospitality." "When I was a stranger, you welcomed me!"

THE EXTRAORDINARY MISSION MONTH was inaugurated on October 1, 2019, by Pope Francis, the Feast of St. Therese of Lisieux, Patroness of Missions. At the celebration of Vespers, held in St. Peter's Basilica, missionaries from eight missionary institutes – including Comboni and Saverian Missionaries, Missionaries of the Consolata, PIME and Missionaries of the Immaculate – were given a crucifix as they set out for their new missions. We pray for all missionaries, men and women who have left their homelands and travelled to "the ends of earth" to proclaim the Gospel! A resource called *Belong* has been created for Catholic communities to use during this month. An overview of the program can be accessed [here](#).

OUR MULTICULTURAL MASS TAKES PLACE THIS SUNDAY AT 4 P.M. at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King! The annual Mass is a colourful celebration of cultural richness and spiritual depth. Music and prayers will be offered in many languages. Following the Mass, a reception will be held in McNally Hall (downstairs), where the celebration will continue. All are welcome! The Mass is sponsored by the Diocesan Office for Refugees who have the important mission of welcoming refugees to Canada by assisting Parish groups and other sponsors who "welcome the stranger". Worthy of celebration!

THE ASSEMBLY OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF ONTARIO (ACBO) hold their Fall plenary in Toronto next week. The meeting is an occasion for collegiality among the Bishops, providing time for prayer, for discussion, discernment and decision-making, and for more relaxed conversation over meals. Pray for the Bishops; pray that the gifts of the Holy Spirit guide us!

PRIESTS SERVING IN THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON are reminded of the Convocation to be held at the Basilica of Our Lady in Guelph on October 22, beginning at 1:30 p.m. A special Mass, when we will pray in gratitude for Priests celebrating Jubilees, will be celebrated at 4:30 p.m., followed by a celebratory dinner at 6 p.m. All Priests are expected at this event. The annual Priests' Seminar will not be held this year – the Convocation and subsequent celebrations will replace it.

FOUR SISTERS OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD in Hamilton have been elected as Councillors to assist Sister Gisele Goguen who was recently reappointed Superior by Superior General Sister Eileen Mary Walsh and the General Council. Sister Louise Raymond is 1st Councillor, Sister Theresia Elder is 2nd Councillor, Sister Jeaneth Villegas is 3rd Councillor and Treasurer, and Sister Elizabeth Farley is the Infirmary Liaison. We pray for them and are grateful for their collaborative service!

I AM HEADING TO OTTAWA TODAY to celebrate my Mother's 90th birthday! The entire family – over 50 of us now – is gathering on Saturday to enjoy a festive meal with Mom. She has slowed down considerably, but still enjoys relatively good health, proudly refusing to use a cane or walker! Add her to your personal prayers this weekend, that she will continue to be blessed with good health and much happiness!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, *+Douglas*, OMI