



## *Heart to Heart*

December 13, 2019 (#387)

**TO MARK THE RECENT CANONIZATION** of Saint John Henry Newman, Cardinal Thomas Collins gave a talk on the relevance of his life at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. He also presented a relic of the Saint to the *Newman Students' Centre* in Guelph! The presentation was preceded by Evening Prayer which was attended by students from Saint John Paul II Student Centre in Waterloo, students from McMaster Catholic Students Association (MACSA) in Hamilton, as well as students from Guelph, and interested parishioners. Celebrations will continue with a tribute night on January 17<sup>th</sup>, at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, featuring singing of Newman's hymns and opera as well as readings from his letters, essays, meditations and poetry.

**MONSIGNOR MURRAY KROETSCH**, Vicar General and Chancellor of the Diocese of Hamilton, read the Decree designating the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate as *the Diocesan Shrine to the Blessed Virgin Mary* last Monday evening. A large gathering of the faithful were present for the celebration which included a blessing of a statue of Our Lady, which will be used in processions and other devotions. The Basilica choir was in its usual good form and made the celebration of Mass a glorious experience! Thanks to Father Ian Duffy, Basilica Rector, for assuring that everything was well prepared!

**THE PERSONNEL OF THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES** of the Diocese of Hamilton gather tonight at Liuna Station for their annual Christmas Party. It is a time for the hardworking cemeterians to celebrate their successes and enjoy their camaraderie. It is also an important opportunity to thank them all for their dedicated service which benefits so many at difficult times in life! Enjoy the evening!

**THE FIRST ANNUAL CHANCERY CHILDREN'S PARTY** takes place tomorrow at McNally Hall in the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. Chancery personnel have registered 27 of their children for the event! Five babies were born to Chancery personnel so far this year, with one more on the way later in December or early 2020. It is sure that the Cathedral hall will be awash with energy and noise – especially as gifts are shared!

**THE ONE HEART ONE SOUL CAMPAIGN** concludes its *Second Wave* in the coming weeks, marking the half-way point of the campaign. The generous response so far has been overwhelming. Nearly \$15 million has been pledged, surpassing our goal to this point. Some Parish campaign projects are already underway. More than 70 Parishes will conduct their campaigns in 2020. Thanks to Pastors and parishioners for your generosity and enthusiasm! Thanks also to Francis Doyle and his Team for steady dedication and clear focus. Now on to Wave 3!

**THE HOSPITALER BROTHERS OF ST. JOHN OF GOD** and their Good Shepherd Ministries hold their annual *CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND* dinner at the Hamilton Convention Centre on Sunday afternoon. A turkey dinner with all the trimmings will be served to about 3,000 people by a host of volunteers! After dinner, gifts are given to the guests and children are treated to a visit from Santa!

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH IN NEW HAMBURG** celebrates the refurbishment and blessing of the Parish Organ at the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass this weekend! Congratulations on completing the project just in time for Christmas celebrations!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, +*Douglas*, OMI