



## *Heart to Heart*

September 16, 2011 (#39)

**THE FOLLOWING FOUR NEW DEANS HAVE BEEN APPOINTED** for the Diocese of Hamilton: Brant – Father David Wilhelm; Bruce-Grey – Father David Weise; Hamilton – Father James Petrie; Waterloo – Father William Foote. I thank them for accepting the responsibility and extend my gratitude to the outgoing Deans – Monsignor Murray Kroetsch, Father Don Wilhelm, Father Martin Vallely, and Father Earl Talbot – for their dedicated service. The new appointments are effective immediately. Father Ken Miskiewicz and Father Ray Modeski continue their mandates.

**I WILL BE IN WALKERTON MUCH OF THE DAY TODAY** celebrating a Faith Formation day with the teachers and administration of the Bruce-Grey Catholic School Board. The early morning Mass occasioned a late afternoon drive to Walkerton yesterday – good for the soul! I plan to stop in Mildmay for a visit on the way home!

**THE 12 NEW OPERATING ROOMS AT ST. JOSEPH’S HOSPITAL** will accommodate over 17,000 surgeries (mostly same-day) per year. They are “state-of-the-art” in every way! I was pleased and privileged to bless the new facility and to meet many of the doctors, nurses and technical staff who will be working in the facility. Not only will it serve to heal the body, but I expect it will also serve to heal the soul!

**EVERY CHILD DESERVES TO LIVE IN A SAFE AND NURTURING HOME!** Providing such a loving environment for a child is acting in a Christ-like manner! I encourage Pastors to invite parishioners to support the Catholic Children’s Aid Society of Hamilton by promoting Foster and Adoption Awareness Information sessions in your bulletins throughout the year and to speak about adoption as a way of building families, and fostering as a way of providing “Care Beyond Belief” to children in need. It could mean the world to them! I have been deeply moved by the great work done by CCAS!

**MARILENA BARTH IS THE NEW ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY** of the Council of Catholic Service Organizations of Hamilton. The group had its first meeting of the new pastoral year at the Chancery on Tuesday evening. Marilena replaces Allan Calvert who recently retired. Marilena has great skills and is very enthusiastic about her new role.

**SISTER RITA KITTEL WILL BE 100 ON OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup>!** Born in St. Agatha, Sister Rita entered the SSND’s in 1927. During her 63 years of active ministry, 41 years were in education (teacher/principal/librarian) in our Diocese. At age 70 she took up pastoral ministry in the North. She returned to Waterloo four years later to teach English as a second language. She has lived at the Motherhouse since 2002. Greetings may be sent to 1921 Snake Road, Waterdown, L0R 2H0. Hers is a life lived fully! We wish her God’s continued blessings!

**THE ANNUAL VOCATIONS’ MASS WILL BE HELD AT HOLY CROSS PARISH,** Georgetown, at 11 a.m. on Sunday. Thanks to Father Dave Wynec for welcoming us. The Diocese is blessed with 15 seminarians, the fruit of prayer and the able ministry of Father Kevin Cull. Most young men say that a key element in their discernment is the encouragement of a Priest or Sister. The Globe and Mail reported recently that the number one “career” where people were happiest was “clergy”! We have every reason to encourage young men to consider serving our Diocese!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde,

+ *Douglas*, OMI