



Heart to Heart

February 7, 2020 (#390)

THE COUNCIL OF PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON meets next Tuesday, February 11th, in the Bishops' Board Room at the Chancery. This was to have been the first meeting under the leadership of Father Tim Hingston. His unexpected death makes it necessary for the Council to elect a new Chair! The Council of Priests meets four times during the Pastoral Year to discuss matters of interest and concern to the Priests of the Diocese, and to provide counsel to the Bishop. We pray for the blessing of the Holy Spirit at this meeting – and all meetings!

THE ENTIRE PERSONNEL IN OUR DIOCESAN PASTORAL OFFICES meet almost monthly throughout the year. It gives opportunity for each person to share the priorities and concerns of their ministry and it helps the others to provide thoughts and ideas for collaboration and development. It assures that no office is isolated and that everyone is part of the Pastoral Team! The first meeting of 2020 takes place next Wednesday morning. Pray for our Pastoral Office personnel!

SECOND-YEAR PERMANENT DIACONATE CANDIDATES were installed as Lectors last Saturday at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. Bishop Gerard Bergie, Bishop of St. Catharines, presided at the Mass and the installation. Congratulations to Clifford Dawson, Ewart Harris, Paul Klaassen, and Shawn Meaney, Candidates for the Diocese of Hamilton, and to David Scott, Candidate for the Diocese of St. Catharines. May your ministry be blessed! We keep all Permanent Deacon Candidates and their wives in our prayers.

ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY is seeking nominations or expressions of interest for the Board of Governors for the University. These volunteers will advise, govern, oversee policy and direction, and assist with the leadership and promotion of St. Jerome's University in alignment with their mission and values. The University is a public Roman Catholic university federated with the University of Waterloo. Interested? Send a letter of introduction to Katrina Kaczala (BOGRecruitment@sju.ca) at St. Jerome's before February 24th.

THE HIGGINS LECTURE ON RELIGION AND THE MEDIA takes place NEXT Friday, February 14th, at St. Jerome's University. The renowned Michael Enright, Host of CBC Sunday Edition, will speak on *The God Beat: Writing about Religion in the 21st Century*. It promises to be an interesting presentation!

JOHN WOODS HAS BEEN APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF ST. JOSEPH'S VILLA, and will begin his new duties on Monday, February 10th. He joined St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton in 1998 as Director of Strategic Planning and has held several leadership positions, including, most recently, Interim President for St. Mary's General Hospital in Kitchener. We wish him well in his new responsibilities – and we thank Carolyn Gosse who served as President since 2018.

FEBRUARY 11th IS THE MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES and World Day of the Sick. The ministry of Jesus to the sick is central to the life of the Church. The special day highlights the healing ministry of the Church. It reminds us that service to the sick and suffering cannot be neglected. It recognizes the great efforts of doctors, nurses, health care institutions and pastoral care givers to restore health to those afflicted with illness and disease. This year's message of Pope Francis for Word Day of the Sick is available [here](#).

Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us!

Ex corde, +*Douglas*, OMI