



Heart to Heart

April 17, 2020 (#398)

THE ANGELUS BELLS of the Cathedral Basilica ring at 9 a.m., 12 o'clock noon, 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. every day in support of the health care providers who put themselves at risk in service of those who have tested positive for the corona virus. The bells remind all who hear them to pray in gratitude for their courage, generosity and safety during this pandemic. Even if you do not hear the bells, remember to pray in thanksgiving for those who are caring for the sick and elderly these days!

IN A RECENT LETTER FROM MONSIGNOR FRANK LEO, CCCB General Secretary, I was informed that the Permanent Council of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has appointed me to be the English Sector episcopal representative on the Board of the Catholic Organization for Life and Family (COLF). It is a two-year appointment that begins on July 1, 2020, and it is renewable once. I look forward to serving COLF and the CCCB in this way!

MONSIGNOR PIERRE-PHILIPPE JEAN-PIERRE was incardinated into the Diocese of Hamilton on April 9, 2020, (Holy Thursday). He has already served in the Diocese for 17 years and with the support of Archbishop Max Mesidor of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, he will continue to serve here for the duration. We welcome him as a member of the Presbyterate of the Diocese!

CONGRATULATIONS TO SEMINARIAN KEVIN UPENDRAN who was accepted as a *Candidate for Diaconate and Priesthood* at a Mass at St. Ann Parish, Ancaster, where he is completing his Pastoral Internship year. The early morning Mass was live-streamed and was followed by many parishioners and others. Often celebrated as part of the liturgical year at the seminaries, the ceremony is another step toward ordination as a Deacon and a Priest. We pray for him.

WHILE CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK 2020 is scheduled to begin on May 4th, it is unlikely that there will be many special events to mark the annual celebration. There will be, however, a special video in which the theme of the week, *Igniting Hope*, is explained. The video is being prepared by Anne Jamieson, Director of the Office for Catechesis, and Larica Perera, from our Communications Office. Not only will the video feature my message, it will also include many clips of school events taken before the schools were closed. Even though the schools are closed, we still pray for the young people who are blessed with Catholic Education in the Province of Ontario!

FATHER JOHN CONNOR, LC, was elected General Director of the Legionaries of Christ in February. Recently, Father Shawn Aaron, LC, was appointed Territorial Director, succeeding Father Connor. The territorial head office is in Georgia, USA. We thank Father Connor for his many visits to the community here in Canada, we congratulate him on his election, and we pray for God's blessing on the service of Father Aaron!

FROM INFORMATION TO TRANSFORMATION, the Catholic leadership formation program sponsored by the *Partners in Catholic Education* in the Diocese of Hamilton has postponed the beginning of the third cohort. It is now foreseen to begin in late August or early September. The popular two-year formation program draws together budding leaders in the Catholic education and service sectors in the Diocese. The start may be delayed, but the enthusiasm of the twenty prospective participants is undimmed!

WE HAVE NOT BEEN UNTOUCHED BY THE PANDEMIC! At least two Priests serving in the Diocese have tested positive for the virus. One has successfully recovered; the second is currently at home in isolation. We pray for all who are ill and all who care for them!

Our Lady, Health of the sick, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI