



## Heart to Heart

May 8, 2020 (#401)

**OUR SINCEREST SYMPATHY** to the Jesuit Community in Pickering and to the Jesuits who serve among us here in the Diocese of Hamilton! The COVID-19 virus has taken a huge toll in Rene Goupil House, the community's infirmity community. Sixteen residents and some staff have tested positive. Five Jesuits have died, others are in critical condition. The remaining residents are being monitored. Father Erik Oland, S.J., Provincial Superior of the Jesuits of Canada, has said, "*Now, the most important support you can give is by way of prayer; prayer for these men, prayer for those who care for them and prayer that these next weeks and months will see fewer and fewer illness and loss of life due to the virus.*" And so we pray – for the Jesuits and for all who have been touched by this virus!

**SISTER EUGENIA VARANESE** of the Sisters of St. John the Baptist died peacefully on April 29<sup>th</sup>. She was just shy of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday which would have been celebrated in August. At the time of her death she was the oldest Sister in the Diocese! A prayer service took place last weekend at PX Dermody Funeral Home lead by Father Don Wilhelm. She was buried in a family plot in Ottawa, beside her mother and brother. We offer our sympathy to Sr. Catherine Chilupe, Delegation Superior, and to her community!

**THE NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE** in Ottawa has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Campaign Life Coalition has announced that a week-long *Virtual NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE* on-line program will build up to the 23<sup>rd</sup> National March for Life on May 14<sup>th</sup>. It will include movies and interviews streamed on-line from May 10-12, on-line pro-life Masses and religious services on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, and a live-streamed *virtual* rally with special guests from Canada and around the world. All can be found online at [MarchForLife](https://www.marchforlife.org). It is an opportunity to support life from your own home!

**BISHOP RONALD FABBRO** of the Diocese of London announced this week that he had appointed new leadership for St. Peter's Seminary. Father Denis Grecco has been appointed Rector of the Seminary; Father Peter Keller is Vice-Rector; and Father Pio Beorchia is the new Spiritual Director for the Seminary. We applaud the new leaders and wish them well in their important duties. Bishop Fabbro also thanked Father Steve Wlusek for his years of service as Rector, and Father Murray Kuemper who is returning to his community at Madonna House after six years of service as Spiritual Director. We add our thanks to his!

**FATHER MURRAY MCDERMOTT, C.R.**, Provincial of the Kentucky-Ontario Province of the Congregation of the Resurrection, has announced that Father Joseph de Viveiros, C.R., has been elected Vicar-Provincial of the Province, to assist Father Tim Uniac, C.R., recently appointed Provincial. His three-year (renewable) term will begin on July 1, 2020. We pray for the new leadership team and for the entire Community. They have provided faithful service in the Diocese of Hamilton for many years!

**THE LIVE-STREAMED MASS FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK** takes place at 11 a.m. this morning from St. Patrick's Parish in Hamilton. It concludes the many activities of the special week! Thanks to Father Tony O'Dell, OMI, and Father Jarek Pachocki, OMI, and members of their IT team who helped to make this happen!

**THE EPISCOPAL BOARD** met on Wednesday morning in the Bishops' Board Room at the Chancery to discuss wide-ranging matters of concern for the Diocese. Monsignor Kroetsch provided information about the work of the special ACBO committee which is in the early stages of developing processes and procedures for the re-opening of our churches when it is safe to do so. Decisions will be communicated from the Bishop's Office.

Our Lady of Canada, Health of the Sick, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI