



THE CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS will hold its September 2020 Plenary Assembly by video conference. The decision was made the CCCB Permanent Council at its recent meeting and was communicated to the Bishops by the General Secretary, Monsignor Frank Leo. The decision was taken because of the fluid state of the pandemic crisis, and concern for the safety and well-being of staff and members. The structure of the video conference is being developed in the coming weeks and will include reflections and decisions on matters that affect the Church in Canada into the future. We pray for the good work of the Conference, and thank the CCCB personnel for their effective service!

THE ORDINATION OF FOUR PRIESTS for the service in the Diocese of Hamilton was postponed from May 2, 2020, due to the pandemic shutdown, to Saturday, August 15th. Deacon Paul Edmondstone, Deacon Pawel Stankiewicz, Deacon Hayden Starczala, and Deacon Francisco Sordo, will be ordained Priests during a Mass at the Cathedral Basilica, beginning at 11 a.m. Because of the current restrictions relative to numbers of people allowed to gather for church services, and the requirement of physical distancing, only a limited number of Priests and parishioners will be able to participate. The Deacons are determining immediate family numbers and will propose the names of Priests who they want to assure are present. Dangerous times require extraordinary means! We pray for the four men who are presenting themselves for priestly service!

THE PERMANENT DEACON FORMATION PROGRAM RESUMED at the Chancery Office this past weekend. Monsignor Murray Kroetsch was the facilitator on *Homily Preparation* and the *Sacraments of Healing*. COVID-19 restrictions were followed closely. The next and final session for the fourth year candidates will be on the weekend of July 17-18. Please pray for Joseph Gigliotti and Paul Mulligan, the two Permanent Deacon candidates from the Diocese of Hamilton who will be ordained at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King on August 14th, and for Thomas Dillon, the candidate from St. Catharines Diocese who will be ordained at St. Catherines Cathedral on August 15th.

THE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR APPOINTMENTS FOR PRIESTS in the Hamilton Diocese has been moved from the usual last Wednesday in June (this year, June 24th) to Wednesday, July 15th at noon. This allows for the current Pastors to organize and oversee the re-opening of the churches and parish offices, and it provides time for appropriate farewell messages. Profound thanks to Pastors who are completing their ministry in the Diocese, to Priests who have accepted new pastoral assignments, and to Priests coming into the Diocese to serve with us!

SOME STATISTICS FROM THE UNITED NATIONS REFUGEE AGENCY: One percent of the world's population is now forcibly displaced; 79.5 million people are forcibly displaced worldwide; 100 million people were forced to flee their homes in the past decade; forced displacement has almost doubled since 2010; eight out of every 10 refugees are in developing countries; five countries account for two-thirds of people displaced across borders – Syria, Venezuela, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Myanmar! Thanks to our Diocesan Refugee Office for providing this information! We pray for all seeking a safe place to live, work, and raise children, in peace!

THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE OF HEART TO HEART for the summer months. We will publish when necessary in July and August. The next foreseen publication date will be September 4th. Enjoy the summer weather and be safe!

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

Ex corde, +*Douglas*, OMI