



Heart to Heart

February 12, 2021 (#425)

NEXT WEDNESDAY IS ASH WEDNESDAY! We pray that we will once again be able to open our parish churches (30% capacity) for Lent beginning on Ash Wednesday. The Diocesan Liturgy Office has forwarded to Pastors directions from the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments as to how to safely administer the ashes during this time of pandemic protocols. Once we receive the notice of lifting of the “stay-at-home” order, we will communicate directly with Parish Priests. We pray to the Lord!

ASH WEDNESDAY AT HOME is the title of a *family celebration* of a Liturgy of the Word for Ash Wednesday. Tips to help plan the celebration are provided as well as a brief outline of what the liturgy might look like. It also presents a Gospel passage and homily for a family reflection. Perfect for a safe *at home* celebration for the family!

THE CCCB PASTORAL OFFICES of the CCCB have prepared a video series called *Journey through Lent: Video Series for Lent 2021*. Bishop Gerard Bergie, Bishop of St. Catharines, and Archbishop Marcel Dampousse, Archbishop of Ottawa-Cornwall, will offer reflections on the Sunday readings which are available each Monday prior to the Sundays of Lent. The links for the series in English and in French are available on the [CCCB website](#). It is a safe way to reflect during the Lenten journey this year.

THE DIOCESAN OFFICE FOR FAMILY MINISTRY is offering sessions on “Diving Deeper into *Fratelli Tutti*” (Pope Francis’ most recent Encyclical). The sessions are offered twice on the Mondays of March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th at 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. AND 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. The sessions will look into the writings of the Pope and his statements conveying how we are created to be relational, to be in communion with God and one another. For more information check the [Diocesan website](#).

FATHER SCOTT LEWIS, S.J., RENOWNED JESUIT SCRIPTURE SCHOLAR, will present a series on *New Interpretations of the Holy Week Stories*, in light of recent theological trends and issues. Topics such as How to Read the Bible, difficult passages, violence, and the meaning of the Resurrection will be explored. When: Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m., February 23rd, March 2nd, and March 9th. Register [here](#). Another good Lenten exercise!

OUR DIOCESAN PARTNERSHIP with Dayton University Virtual Learning Community for Adult Faith Formation (VLCFF) has seen an increase in enrollment over the months of lockdown. Currently we have two cohorts of Diocesan Youth Ministry Leaders engaged in a two-year certificate program, as well as Priests, Deacons, Parish Catechists, and lay volunteers all exploring adult faith formation courses for personal interest. The next cycle of courses is set to begin on Sunday, February 21, 2021. All are welcome to participate. If you would like to learn more about Dayton and course availability, please contact Christina Mines in the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis.

ST. JEROME’S UNIVERSITY IS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS to fill vacancies on the Board of Governors commencing in the Fall 2021 for a three-year period. Familiarity with Catholic values and traditions is expected of all Board members. The Board benefits from members familiar with working in diverse and complex environments: finance and accounting, law, not-for-profit organizations, post-secondary education, and communications. Applications must be submitted to the Governance and Nominations Committee for consideration before March 2, 2021. More information about the University can be found at www.sju.ca

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, *+ Douglas*, OMI