



Heart to Heart

October 15, 2021 (#447)

THE OPENING OF THE SYNODAL PATH in preparation for the 2023 Synod took place last Sunday in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. The homily of Pope Francis set out his hopes and expectations for the Synod: *"Celebrating a Synod means walking on the same road, walking together. Let us look at Jesus. First, he encounters the rich man on the road; he then listens to his questions, and finally he helps him discern what he must do to inherit eternal life. Encounter, listen and discern. I would like to reflect on these three verbs that characterize the Synod."* Read the entire homily [here](#). The Diocesan celebration for the beginning of the Synodal Path will take place at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King on Sunday, at the 4:00 p.m. Mass. In the coming weeks the Diocesan Synod Committee will send to our Parishes, Catholic organizations, and other groups and institutions an outline of the process the Diocese will follow to encourage the broadest possible participation in the consultation leading up to the Synod. We pray for God's blessing on this important initiative of Pope Francis, and our Diocesan response.

THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CONGREGATION of the Sisters of the Precious Blood was decided at their 15th General Chapter. The composition of the new General Council is: Sr. Gisele Goguen, General Superior, Sr. Margaret Nadeau, First Assistant, Sr. Linda Thompson, Second Assistant, Sr. Maria Bich Nguyen, Third Assistant, and Sr. Annabella Vinzon, Fourth Assistant. Sister Theresia Elder will complete Sr. Gisele's term (September 2022) as Superior in Hamilton. May God bless the General Council in the service of the Community throughout Canada.

THE SECOND LECTURE in the 2021-2022 *Lectures in Catholic Experience* series, takes place on October 22, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. The lecture features Paul Bramadat, who is known internationally for his work on the relationship of religion and spirituality to diversity, health security, and civil society. Check the St. Jerome's University [website](#) for information.

THE ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED writes that 327 million brothers and sisters worldwide are touched by persecution to various degrees. They are organizing RED WEDNESDAY on November 18, 2021, and invite Parishes to participate according to their ability – a Mass, a Vigil, a Rosary – to pray for persecuted Christians. Please visit their [website](#) for more information. Our prayer is their strength!

THE ANNUAL BISHOP'S DINNER FOR COMMUNITY NEEDS, sponsored by the Wellington Catholic District School Board, will be a virtual event this year, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on October 21st. I am pleased to bring greetings! The highlight of the annual event are speeches by the Student Presidents from the High Schools, who eloquently express their gratitude for the gift of Catholic Education. The evening supports four or five community projects that inform and involve students from the Wellington Catholic Board!

SUPPORTERS OF THE CARMEL OF ST. JOSEPH in St. Agatha hold their annual fundraiser on Monday, October 25th. This year, Mass will be celebrated at St. Mary Parish, Kitchener, for the well-being of the Sisters. Following Mass, in lieu of the normal dinner, a box lunch will be provided from the kitchen in the hall below. The Carmelite Nuns have been faithfully supported by parishioners in the K-W area since their arrival over 50 years ago. Thank you to the supporters for the care you take of the Community!

I AM TRAVELLING TO EASTERN ONTARIO today for a gathering on Saturday with my family to remember my youngest sister, Jane. A year since her death has passed quickly – and we want to remember and pray for her. Please join us in prayer!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, *+ Douglas*, OMI