



Heart to Heart

February 4, 2022 (#459)

CATHERINE HARTNETT AND TERESA HARTNETT have teamed up to author a book titled *Nighttime Devotional for Teen Girls*. The book is a series of 5-minute daily guided reflections about issues and concerns for girls from a spiritual perspective. A perfect book to give as a gift – or for a father or mother to share with a daughter. Congratulations to the mother/daughter duo on having the discipline, the humility and the courage to produce such an insightful self-reflective publication!

FATHER JIM PETRIE, PASTOR OF ST. BENEDICT PARISH, MILTON, was taken to the hospital last Sunday with diabetes-related concerns. He is being well cared for in the Oakville Hospital with fervent prayers being offered by his brother-priests, his many friends, and the parishioners. For now, Father Patrick Ohl has been appointed Administrator of the Parish. With the support of the Parish Secretary and Parish Bookkeeper, and the guidance of the Parish Finance Committee, we are confident that he can assure the ongoing good order of the Parish. Please pray for both Priests!

ROCCO GIZZARELLI HAS ANNOUNCED HIS RESIGNATION as Executive Director of the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton (CCASH) effective June 30th. He has worked at the agency for 36 years, the past 7 years as Executive Director. The CCASH Board has developed a plan to search for the agency's next Executive Director. He has also served as the Bishop's Delegate on the Safeguarding Committee of the Diocese. He will be stepping down from that responsibility as well. Our thanks and good wishes to Rocco as he begins a new chapter in his life – continuing his professional dedication to making a difference in the lives of others!

THE CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS, the Assembly of First Nations, the Metis National Council, and the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, announced rescheduled dates for the visit of the delegation to Rome to meet with Pope Francis. Originally planned for December 2021 and postponed because of COVID-19 concerns, the visit is now scheduled to take place at the end of March and early April of this year. The Holy Father is scheduled to meet with the individual Indigenous delegations during the week of March 28, 2022. A final audience with the whole delegation will take place on Friday, April 1, 2022. We pray that the event will be an experience of healing and reconciliation.

GIVEN THE POSITIVE IMPACT OF TINY HOMES for some experiencing homelessness in the Kitchener-Waterloo area, a similar initiative is now being proposed in Hamilton. The *Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters (HATS)* has presented a proposal to City Council that land at the shuttered Sir John A. MacDonald High School be dedicated to such a project. Both Anglican Bishop Susan Bell, other church leaders, and I have publically supported the initiative. This is an important effort to make the community one of hope, solidarity, and fraternity.

THE MINISTRY OF JESUS TO THE SICK is central to the life of the Church. Next Friday, February 11th. World Day of the Sick (Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes), highlights the healing ministry of the Church. It reminds us that care for the sick and suffering cannot be neglected. It is an integral part of our ministry. The day recognizes the great efforts of doctors, nurses, health care institutions and pastoral care givers to restore health to those afflicted with illness and disease. At the many institutions throughout our St. Joseph's Health System, prayer cards will be distributed to staff and patients alike by the Spiritual Care department – an opportunity to pray for the sick and suffering, and for their caregivers.

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, +*Douglas*, OMI