



Heart to Heart

February 18, 2022 (#461)

OUR OWN DR. MOIRA MCQUEEN has written a very informative book on the synodal experience in the Church. In *Walking Together-A Primer on the New Synodality*, Dr. McQueen explains the purpose and history of synods, the desire of the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council regarding synods, and the commitment of Popes since the Council to the synodal process. She reflects on the 20 synods since the Council, Pope Francis' approach to synods, and his plan for the 2023 Synod. Moira shares her own experience as a participant at a recent Synod. The book is available through Novalis. Once read, you will want to participate in the preparation process for the upcoming synod which is being encouraged throughout the Diocese.

CHARLES AND MARGARET JURAVINSKI donated a remarkable Valentine's Day gift of \$5.1M to the Hamilton Community to support new research projects at the Juravinski Research Institute (JRI) focused on child and youth health, integrated care and burn trauma. The JRI improves the health of Canadians by advancing groundbreaking health research at Hamilton Health Sciences, McMaster University and St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton. Just two days later, we learned of the death of Charles Juravinski. He and Margaret have been incredibly generous to many healthcare opportunities in Hamilton, including a major gift to the construction of *Margaret's Place at the Villa*, a beautiful hospice on the grounds of St. Joseph's Villa in Dundas. May they be blessed for their good works!

THE REFUGEE OFFICE OF THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON served a remarkable 4,761 refugees, sponsors, and community members in 2020 through phone calls, emails, and workshops, training sessions, etc. In 2021, they beat their 2020 numbers. Barb Dollak, Rita Balla and Erin Pease served a total of 4,784 refugees, sponsors and community members! Outstanding service in the midst of a pandemic! Lifesaving! Thank you!

THE CATHOLIC YOUTH ORGANIZATION (C.Y.O.) annual Celebrity Dinner – Children's Fundraiser will be celebrated virtually again this year. Beginning at 7:00 p.m. next February 24th, this main fundraiser of the year provides funding for their good works in the summer. If you haven't signed up for the evening's events, it is still not too late. Be a supporter – you will be glad you did!

THE TRAVELLING ICON OF ST. JOSEPH, sponsored by the Ontario State Board of the Knights of Columbus, is at St. Mark Parish in Kitchener for a two-week visit. Father Steve Murrin, Pastor, has arranged for devotional prayers and special Masses. Parishioners gather to pray for the intercession of St. Joseph for their families or other personal and communal intentions.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR ST. PETER'S SEMINARY meets four times each year. For the past two years, these meetings have been virtual! The Bishop of Hamilton, being a Director "*Ex Officio*", participates in the meetings. Monsignor Martin Vallely is also a Director, being appointed from among the Priests of the Diocese. Bishop Ronald Fabbro, Bishop of London, is the chairperson of the meeting and oversees the work of the Board. Father Richard Grecco, is the Rector of the Seminary. Father Jason Kuntz, from the Diocese of Hamilton, is a Professor of Moral Theology at the Seminary. We pray for the good formation of our seminarians at St. Peter's and the other seminaries where they are studying. And we pray for vocations to the Priesthood for the Diocese of Hamilton!

40 DAYS FOR LIFE is a peaceful campaign that seeks to draw attention to the abortion issue by undertaking three distinct actions during the 40 days of the campaign: encouraging prayer and fasting in support of life, constant quiet and respectful prayer vigils outside of places that provide abortion, and education for community/family/friends on the issue. In Hamilton Diocese the 40 Days for Life campaign will run throughout Lent (March 2nd – April 10th). Click on the [link](#) to find out more about the campaign in your area.

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, +*Douglas*, OMI