



Heart to Heart

March 11, 2022 (#464)

FORWARD TOGETHER IN CHRIST. As the COVID restrictions on our Parishes and liturgical life are being lifted, it is necessary for the Diocese to determine the best path forward for our lives as Disciples of Christ. To help determine this, the Diocese is embarking on a process we are calling **“Forward Together in Christ”**. Through this process, the voices of our clergy and laity, will help determine our best way *Forward Together in Christ*. Consultations with Deacons and Lay Parish Pastoral Ministers are already underway. Meetings with the Priests will occur over the next few weeks in each of the Deaneries. Pope Francis has made it clear that we are not returning to the “normal” of February 2020, but that this is a time of grace to determine our “new normal” as the People of God moving *Forward Together in Christ*!

THE DAY OF PRAYER FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE in the Diocese of Hamilton is this Sunday (Second Sunday of Lent). The sexual integrity of every individual is inviolable. The perpetration of sexual abuse by Church representatives – clergy or laypersons, employees or volunteers – is especially abhorrent, since it violates not only the person but also the sacred trust that is ours. Pastors have been provided with resources for inclusion in prayers during Sunday Mass. May all those who have experienced sexual abuse also experience the healing balm of Christ’s love.

CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS throughout the Province of Ontario are preparing for the upcoming municipal and school board elections. In just over three months, nominations for these elections will open and campaigns for mayor, city councillors, and school board trustees will begin. Catholics are encouraged to verify that the electoral list of Catholic separate school supporters is up to date and that their ratepayer support for Catholic schools is registered. Visit voterlookup.ca to check the accuracy of your voter information. Your local Catholic District School Board office can assist if you experience any difficulty.

THE DIOCESAN SPEAKER SERIES for the *Year Amoris Laetitia Family* continues on March 22nd. Internationally renowned speakers Dr. Greg and Lisa Popcak will present on *3 Keys to Creating Your Catholic HOM (Household on a Mission)*. Their presentation promises to assist families relate more lovingly, connect more meaningfully, and care for each other and the world more deeply. Founders of The Peyton Institute for Domestic Church Life, the couple has authored more than 20 popular books, hosted a daily call-in show titled More2Life, and served on the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishop’s National Advisory Board for Marriage and Family Ministry. The Zoom session is free of charge. Register here: [Speaker Series – Amoris Laetitia](#)

THE CANADIAN PHYSICIANS FOR LIFE invite doctors, lawyers and medical and law students to join the CPL Bioethics Symposium on Conscience in Culture and in the Profession, June 23rd-26th, in Ottawa. More information at <https://www.physiciansforlife.ca/> Register by April 1, 2022. Scholarships cover hotel, food and travel. Register early!

PRIESTS PLEASE NOTE: INVITATIONS TO THE CHRISM MASS AND DINNER are in the mail. Please assist in assuring that there is a seat for you **by completing the RSVP and returning it to the Chancery** as soon as possible. This will be our first opportunity to celebrate our fraternity in over two years – help us make it the special occasion it should be.

THE DESTRUCTIVE WAR IN UKRAINE continues to capture the attention of the world. Pope Francis recently sent two Cardinals to represent him in Ukraine and neighbouring countries. Cardinal Konrad Krajewski, Papal Almoner, and Cardinal Michael Czerny, Interim Prefect for the Dicastery for Integral Human Development, have travelled to Ukraine and are meeting with Ukrainian refugees in neighbouring countries, offering the reassuring care and concern of Pope Francis and the entire Catholic community.

Saint Michael the Archangel, (Patron of Kyiv), pray for us!

Ex corde, +*Douglas*, OMI