



## Heart to Heart

March 18, 2022 (#465)

**JESUIT FATHER ERIC JENSEN**, who ministers at Loyola House in Guelph, has authored one of his signature ‘small books’ about the Sacrament of Reconciliation. *From Forgiveness to Healing, Preparing Our Hearts for the Sacrament of Reconciliation*, published by Novalis, may be a ‘small book’ but it has a big message! It may be read in one sitting, as a reflective retreat over time, or both. It is a cover-to-cover experience of grace. Well worth the read. The book will be provided to Priests at this year’s Chrism Mass dinner.

**MARCH 25<sup>th</sup>, SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**, is the *Patronal Feast of the Diocese of Hamilton*. From the outset, founding Bishop John Farrell dedicated the Diocese to the patronage of Mary under her title *Our Lady of the Annunciation*. To celebrate the Solemnity, all are invited to join Bishop Wayne Lobsinger and me in person, as we pray for the intercession of our Blessed Mother, in bringing peace to the world, most especially in the Ukraine. In union with our Holy Father, Pope Francis, we will pray the Rosary beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, followed by a prayer of *Consecration of Russia and the Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary*, followed by a celebration of the Patronal Mass for peace. If you are unable to join us in person, you may participate by joining the livestreamed event through the [Cathedral’s YouTube channel](#). Please note: Priests who wish to concelebrate are asked to bring their own alb and white stole. Seating will be reserved for Priests in the pews on the East side of the Cathedral Basilica.

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** are sponsoring a *Novena prayer to the Immaculate Heart of Mary* which began on the evening of March 17<sup>th</sup>. The Novena prayer, which continues through March 25<sup>th</sup>, is available [here](#). Additionally, March 29<sup>th</sup> is Founder’s Day for the Knights – honouring Blessed Michael McGivney. All are welcome to the celebration of a Mass beginning at 7:30 p.m. at St. Patrick Parish, Hamilton. Following Mass is a Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer Hour. All are welcome. For those unable to attend in person, the event will be livestreamed via the Parish website.

**FATHER JIM PETRIE** sent a recorded message from his hospital bed to parishioners of St. Benedict Parish, Milton. It is a powerful Lenten reflection for them and for us all. Father Jim has given us permission to publish the recorded message on the online version of *Heart to Heart*. You can access it [here](#). Please continue to pray for Father Jim who is still under the close care and attention of his doctors.

**THE VISIT OF THE DELEGATION** of Indigenous leaders and Bishops to the Vatican to meet with Pope Francis and other Vatican officials begins on March 28<sup>th</sup> and continues through April 1<sup>st</sup>. In preparation for the visit, Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle, a Catholic coalition of Indigenous members, Bishops and clergy, Institutes of Consecrated Life, and representatives of Catholic organizations, has developed two resources: a prayer card and a document entitled *Sacred Fire and Prayer Wave for Healing and Reconciliation*. The resources can be found on the Circle’s [website](#) Join the prayer wave and accompany the delegation on this historic walk toward healing and reconciliation!

**OUR SEMINARIANS** will soon complete this year’s program of studies and exams. The Seminary personnel will provide their evaluations of the seminarians and their recommendations moving forward. This can be a stressful time of year for our seminarians. Pray for them; and pray for those men who are choosing to enter the seminary this year!

**WELCOME TO TWO PRIESTS** who have been waiting throughout the pandemic shutdown to join us in serving Parishes in the Diocese of Hamilton. Father Valentine Onwunjiogu arrived last week and is currently serving *All Souls Parish in Hamilton*. Father Alberto Ferreira arrived last night, and will serve Portuguese Parishes in Kitchener and Cambridge (both *Our Lady of Fatima*). A warm welcome to both Priests!

Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us!

Ex corde, +*Douglas*, OMI