



Heart to Heart

June 30, 2022 (#478)

MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE RESURRECTION gathered at St. Agatha Church yesterday, for a Mass of Thanksgiving, the last act of the community following 165 years of dedicated ministry at the historic parish. Father Tim Uniac, Provincial Superior preached a moving homily, evoking the memory of many of the Pastors who served the Parish. He spoke of “Father Eugene Funcken, the first Resurrectionist in North America, the first to proclaim the mission and charism of the Congregation of the Resurrection – the first to call the members of the parish to join in the ministry of Resurrecting Society”! He reminded us of the ministry of Father Vern Brunning, Father Gene Tyson, Father Charlie Fedy, Father Dan Lobsinger, and Father George Nowak, concluding with reference to the words from St. Paul’s letter to Timothy: “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith”! After the Mass, the community processed to the front yard of the parish residence and planted a Tulip Poplar tree as a lasting reminder of the service of the community to the parish. The Dutch origins of the tree evokes the memory of Father Funcken, founding Father of the community. Father Mariusz Durbajlo, who had just assumed the responsibility as Pastor, was the last to water the tree, pouring the entire bowl of water over the roots to the delight and applause of all. We pray for the community, in gratitude for their ongoing ministry within the Diocese.

THE CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S AID SOCIETY OF HAMILTON (CCASH) honoured the 35 years of dedicated service of Rocco Gizzarelli, concluding with his 7-year service as Executive Director of the agency. Photos, speeches, gift-giving, words of gratitude, and emotionally-laden stories, were offered during the “virtual” gathering of staff, clients and friends of the agency! The evening concluded with Rocco’s own words of thanks and good wishes as CCASH moves forward facing new challenges and new opportunities! We offer our thanks to Rocco, for his dedicated service to this unique vocation!

A REMINDER ABOUT THE ANNUAL NOVENA TO ST. ANN (July 18-26). The nine-days of prayer to invoke the intercession of St. Ann, the mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the grandmother of Jesus, is hosted annually by St. Ann Parish, Hamilton. Mass begins each evening at 7:00 p.m., followed by veneration of the relic. Prayer requests can be submitted through the link on the parish [website](#). All are welcome.

THE CHANCERY STAFF GATHERS TODAY for the annual summer BBQ luncheon. The event marks the beginning of summer hours at the Chancery and the start of summer vacations. It provides an important opportunity to thank the Chancery personnel for their dedication to the Diocese and their commitment to the Church! Profound gratitude for your service!

THE CEMETERY STAFF GATHERS LATER TODAY for a BBQ dinner! The gathering provides Art Smith, Director of Catholic Cemeteries, the opportunity to honour Dominic Tersigni, who retires as District Cemeterian of Marymount Catholic Cemetery in Guelph. Dominic was also honoured two years ago when he received a Papal Honour from Pope Francis, crowning a long career of service to the Catholic community in Guelph and area, and to the Diocese! Our profound gratitude to all who serve at the Catholic Cemeteries!

TOMORROW IS CANADA DAY, when we celebrate Canada’s birthday. Catholics seek to be witnesses to Christ in Canada and the world, and to continue working to influence those in government to act from Christian principles and attitudes. We pray and work for justice and peace in Canada and throughout the world. This year, let us pray especially for the safety and well-being of Pope Francis as he prepares to visit the Indigenous peoples of our country!

THIS IS THE FINAL ISSUE OF HEART TO HEART for the summer months. There may be one or two issued published during the summer, especially in light of the proposed Papal visit. Have a blessed and safe summer!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI