



THE SOLEMN CROWNING OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph took place at the final Mass for the 2022 Marian Days, Saturday, October 1st. After Deacon Quinto Tami processed with the jeweled crown throughout the filled church, providing parishioners and visitors a “close-up” look, Father Ian Duffy, Basilica Rector, read the decree signed in 2019 by Pope Francis giving permission for the crowning. Once the crown was blessed, Deacon Tami carried it to the lift which raised him to the level of the statue of Our Lady where he carefully placed the crown on her head. The Basilica choir, in its finest form, sang a hymn of praise and thanksgiving and the Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary was celebrated! Sincere thanks to Father Duffy for such a joyful celebration honouring Our Lady Immaculate!

THE 21ST ANNUAL FEAST OF ST. JEROME was celebrated at the University last Saturday evening. President Peter Meehen welcomed guests who contribute generously to the advancement of its mission! A Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated in the Notre Dame Chapel, followed by a reception in the recently renovated library. *The Chancellor John R. Sweeney Award for Catholic Leadership*, usually presented during the festive dinner, was paused this year. Instead, President Meehen announced that the University was honouring Kay Sweeney, Chancellor Sweeney’s recently deceased wife, for her life-long support of her husband’s public service. To the delight of their children and guests, he announced that the prestigious award was renamed *The Chancellor John Sweeney and Kay Sweeney Award for Catholic Leadership*! Jesuit Father James Martin, guest speaker (on ZOOM), used Gospel examples to emphasize the importance of respect, compassion and sensitivity in the relationship between LGBT Catholics and the Church. His book, *Building a Bridge*, was a gift to all attendees. After a two-year hiatus, the community was grateful to be together again!

70 PRIESTS WHO SERVE IN THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON participated in a three-day forum entitled *Empowering the Shepherds*, held at Nottawasaga Conference Centre in Alliston, Ontario. Presenters from the Catholic Leadership Institute provided information and programs for the Priests to recognize and improve their own leadership abilities. Originally planned to take place two years ago, the program was postponed because of COVID restrictions. A follow-up three-day session takes place in a few weeks.

PARISHIONERS AT ST. JOSEPH PARISH, HAMILTON, bid farewell to Father Jim Link and the Priests and Brothers of the *Congregation of the Resurrection* at a celebration last evening at the Parish. Father Link announced his decision to retire earlier this year for personal reasons. Subsequently the Resurrectionist Superiors decided that, after 89 years of service to the Parish, they were unable to send a Pastor to replace him. The celebration provided an opportunity to express our gratitude for such a long and blessed service to the Parish, and to thank Father Link most especially. A plaque was blessed bearing the names of all the Resurrectionists who served at the Parish. Mass was followed by a reception in the parish hall where parishioners expressed their personal thanks to Father Link.

A WARM WELCOME TO FATHER TESFALDET TEKIE TSADA, Apostolic Visitor to the Eritrean Communities in North America. Appointed by Pope Francis in January this year, Father is visiting the Eritrean Community that worships at St. Joseph Parish, Kitchener. As part of his visitation, Father Tesfaldet visited the Chancery with Comboni Missionary, Father Mussie Keflezghi, who serves the Kitchener community. Father will preside at a Ge’ez Rite Eritrean Mass at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday. We welcome him and thank him for his official visit.

MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED at churches throughout the Diocese on Thanksgiving Day. The Mass at the Cathedral Basilica will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. Please check the bulletin or website for your parish to determine if and when Mass will be celebrated at a church near you. While every Mass is an occasion to “give thanks”, Thanksgiving Day is an opportunity to be grateful for the many blessings that we share as a community of faith, and as citizens of this beautiful land!

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, pray for us!

Ex corde, +*Douglas*, OMI