



Heart to Heart

December 16, 2011 (#52)

OUR SINCEREST SYMPATHY TO NICK AND TERESA CHERRI and family on the sudden death of their son-in-law, Tino Comini. We are all shaken by the news and pray for consolation and strength for his wife and children especially during these holy days!

TODAY IS THE CHANCERY STAFF “CHRISTMAS” MASS AND DINNER. We gather at the Cathedral first to pray in thanksgiving for the blessings of the year and asking for similar blessings in 2012! It is also an opportunity for me to express my gratitude to the personnel for their conscientious and professional service to the Diocese in countless ways. We are blessed to have such a team at the heart of the Diocese!

THE DIOCESAN FINANCE COMMITTEE MET YESTERDAY. Mr. Jim Long, Diocesan Comptroller, participated for the first time. The agenda was full! It is a time for full discussion of Diocesan policies and procedures regarding financial matters.

PRESIDENTS AND SOCIAL CONVENORS of the seven Catholic High Schools in the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board meet monthly to share information and ideas. I was an invited guest on Wednesday past and had a wonderful opportunity to get to know them a bit more. They are remarkable young people – leaders now and for the future. It is another example of the good work done in our schools to promote and nurture Catholic values!

THE TOWER LIGHT IS SHINING IN THE CATHEDRAL BELL TOWER, marking the completion of the repair that has been underway for some weeks now. The scaffolding is coming down and should be gone completely in time for the Christmas Masses. The elevator work continues, however. We look forward to having a new elevator in service sometime in the early Spring.

CONCERN FOR THE NEEDY AND VULNERABLE is on everyone’s mind at this time of the year. The annual Christmas Dinner sponsored by the Brothers of the Good Shepherd takes place this weekend at the Hamilton Convention Centre. I will be one of the “servers”! Over 3000 people are invited guests and they will enjoy a full course turkey dinner! Countless food baskets are distributed from our parishes at this time of year. Thanks to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Knights of the Columbus, and other groups for making such a difference in people’s lives. It is a sign of God’s Kingdom in our midst!

THE FAMILY MINISTRY OFFICE SENDS OUT A MONTHLY FAMILY TIP for parish bulletins. This month’s Family Tip is particularly helpful – in preparation for the celebration of Christmas. Thanks to Teresa Hartnett for making these tips available each month!

THANK YOU FOR CARDS AND GOOD WISHES FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON! They are deeply appreciated. I am hoping to have all my cards sent out before the end of next week. I count on the “twelve days of Christmas” rule!!!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde,

+ *Douglas*, OMI