



Heart to Heart

March 9, 2012 (#64)

FATHER KYRAN KENNEDY HAS RESIGNED AS CATHOLIC TRUSTEE FOR WARD 6 on the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board. The resignation was accepted by the Board at their March 6th meeting. He has served Ward 6 on the Board for a remarkable 44 years! Prior to accepting his resignation, Mr. Pat Daly, Board Chair, gave a stirring testimony to the contribution of Father Kennedy to Catholic Education in Hamilton and throughout the Province. I offer my own thanks to Father Kennedy for his exemplary leadership wherever he was asked to serve!

I EXTEND SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS TO FATHER WALTER SCHNARR, C.R., another remarkable senior priest, who celebrates his 75th Anniversary of Ordination this coming week. *Ad plurimos annos!!*

THEOLOGY-ON-TAP WAS SOLD OUT LAST EVENING at the Sláinte Irish Pub in downtown Hamilton. Father Con O'Mahony, Episcopal Vicar (Catholic Education), was the guest speaker at this inaugural effort to evangelize in a new way! The Hamilton and Halton Catholic School Boards co-sponsored the event with the Diocese. Congratulations to Father Con and to David Dayler who was the "prime mover" for the event!

THE STUDENTS AT ST. PHILIP NERI AND ST. AUGUSTINE'S SEMINARIES in Toronto are in good form. Father Kevin Cull and I spent most of the day on Wednesday visiting our men there, providing opportunity for several personal meetings. Our seminarians are studious, hard-working, and happy! And one of them is a star hockey player!!! We will be visiting the seminarians at St. Peter's in London next Friday afternoon.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE IS UNDERWAY IN OAKVILLE! I will be celebrating Mass for participants at St. James' Parish in Oakville tonight. I am pleased to have an opportunity to encourage them in this initiative of prayer, fasting and silent vigil supporting pro-life efforts. Thanks also to Teresa Hartnett for being such a stalwart support for these initiatives in our Family Life Office.

I AM HOMILIST AT A HOLY HOUR AT ST. PETER'S SEMINARY IN LONDON on Saturday evening, and I preach a retreat at King's College in London all day Sunday. Both events will provide an opportunity to get to know all of the seminarians at St. Peter's and to meet some of the students at King's College. I am looking forward to the Lenten event!

THE CCCB EXECUTIVE AND PERMANENT COUNCIL MEET NEXT WEEK. That means I will be in Ottawa and away from the office until next Thursday afternoon. Next week is also March Break for the School Boards, and some of our Chancery Staff will also be on vacation. Things should be back to normal by the 19th!

NEXT THURSDAY EVENING AT THE CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE KING I have been invited by Monsignor Edward House, to lead an evening Lenten reflection. Parishioners at the Cathedral are also viewing the 'Catholicism' DVD's prepared by Father Robert Barron of Chicago. They will be ready and well-prepared for the celebration of Easter!

THE RELICS OF ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA WILL BE VENERATED at St. Raphael's Parish in Burlington on Wednesday, March 14th. The exact times for public prayer and private devotion can be obtained from the parish office.

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde invicem, + *Douglas*, OMI