



Heart to Heart

June 22, 2012 (#79)

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH IN HAMILTON WILL BE THE FOCUS OF MY ATTENTION this weekend. I will be at all of their Masses and meeting parishioners afterwards. This will provide an opportunity to congratulate Father Paul Boucher on his 50th anniversary of ordination. He is still going strong!

FATHER STEPHEN CSISZAR WILL CELEBRATE HIS 50th ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION at a Mass celebrated at St. Anne's Parish in Kitchener on Sunday afternoon. The Mass will be followed by a banquet for family and friends. Congratulations, on such an achievement, Father!

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27th IS MOVING DAY IN THE DIOCESE for those Priests who have received new pastoral appointments. The coming weeks over the summer will provide time to settle into their new assignments and to establish pastoral plans for the coming year. We pray for the Priests who have received new appointments – may they be “Good Shepherds” to those entrusted to their care!

SEMINARIAN ALLEN VARLAKI WILL BE ORDAINED TO THE DIACONATE TONIGHT at a ceremony at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Waterloo. He has been assigned to St. Matthew's Parish in Oakville for the summer months and will return to St. Peter's Seminary for his final year of formation in the Fall. We wish him well as he takes on this ministry of service in the Church and we pray for God's blessing on his good works.

THE PRIESTS SANG AT THE MEMORIAL MASS FOR MONSIGNOR VINCENT KERR held at the parish church in Ballymena, Ireland, on Tuesday, June 19. Monsignor Murray Kroetsch and Father Tony O'Dell, OMI, were also present for the celebration. Monsignor's family have expressed their gratitude to the Diocese in many ways for the care given to Monsignor Kerr over the years, but most especially over the ten weeks of his final illness.

HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY IN HAMILTON IS THE VENUE FOR MASS tomorrow morning, beginning at 11:00 a.m. It is a time to remember and pray for loved ones who have died and who “await the Resurrection of the dead” at the cemetery.

DOCTORS HAVE DIAGNOSED THAT I HAVE A PALSIED THIRD OPTIC NERVE in my right eye. I awoke with double vision two weeks ago, which steadily got worse over the ensuing days. The eye has closed completely. I am told that my vision should return to normal over the coming three months. Until then, no need to wink back!

FATHER STANLEY MAKACINAS, O. CARM., Director of the Mount Carmel Retreat and Conference Centre in Niagara Falls has written to inform us that Father Larry Dolan, OFM, will lead a Twelve-Step Recovery Retreat for Priests and Religious Brothers from July 9-13 at the Centre. Priests in the program may wish to consider participating in this special retreat. Sounds like an excellent opportunity for spiritual growth.

THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE, THE HONORABLE PETER MACKAY, was at St. Dominic Catholic Elementary School in Oakville last Friday to unveil two plaques dedicated to the memory of Trooper Marc Diab and Colonel Geoff Parker. It is a wonderful way for the students to support the Armed Forces, especially those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, and their families.

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde,

+ *Douglas*, OMI