



Heart to Heart

November 30, 2012 (#97)

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT marks the beginning of another liturgical year. It is a time to *prepare* for the coming of the Lord – his second coming, when he will “judge the living and the dead” as we profess in the Creed. As well, it is a time of preparation for the celebration of his coming as a child in Bethlehem – the sublime celebration of Christmas.

IT IS A HOLY CROSS PARISH, GEORGETOWN WEEKEND AHEAD! Tonight the Catholic Women’s League in Georgetown celebrates its 60th Anniversary with a Mass followed by a reception. We can only imagine the good works accomplished over those many years. Tomorrow morning, I will meet with the Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils, and conclude the weekend by celebrating the three Sunday Masses. Given the youthful energy and enthusiasm of the Parish, it should be a full and joyful weekend!

THE PRIESTS’ ADVENT DAY OF PRAYER takes place on Tuesday and Wednesday next week. On Tuesday, the day begins at 9:30 a.m. at the Cathedral. On Wednesday, it begins at 10:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Waterloo. Priests, who have not already done so, are reminded to notify the Parishes (or Planning Committee) of their intention to attend. It is a simple courtesy for those who are preparing the luncheon. The day provides time for quiet prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, a timely reflection by Father Roger Formosi, and the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. See you there!

WELCOME BACK TO SARAH LINTOTT, who returns to the reception desk following a year away on maternity leave. Sarah and Anne Lamanes will share the work at the reception desk, so we will have the benefit of both cheery voices greeting those who call us! Dominy Williams, our Archivist and Librarian returns from maternity leave mid-December. It will be good to have everyone back in the house!

THE WORK OF RENOVATING THE OLD CHANCERY into a building for our archives and library is well underway. Currently, the front entrance is being redone to accommodate wheelchair accessibility. The inside of the building has been cleared out, allowing for the work of a complete refit. We expect that the work will be completed in March 2013.

CONFIRMATIONS ARE WINDING UP FOR THE AUTUMN SEASON. Bishop Ustryzcki will celebrate at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Stoney Creek tonight and twice tomorrow. Bishop Tonnos will celebrate twice at St. Gregory Parish in Cambridge tomorrow and Monsignor Kroetsch celebrates at Our Lady of the Assumption tonight in Stoney Creek. Next Thursday evening I will celebrate at St. Mary of the Purification Parish in Mount Forest, and next Saturday at St. Louis Parish in Waterloo. My profound thanks to Bishop Tonnos and Bishop Ustryzcki, and to the Vicars for their availability and dedication.

FATHER WALTER SCHNARR, C.R., IS THE OLDEST PRIEST LIVING IN THE DIOCESE! Currently 100 years old, he will celebrate his 101st birthday in two weeks, on December 14th. We offer our congratulations and good wishes!!! Earlier in the year we had reported that Monsignor Joseph Sach was the oldest Priest in the Diocese. In fact, he is the oldest “Diocesan” Priest in the Diocese, at the wonderful age of 93!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI