



Heart to Heart

December 14, 2012 (#99)

MONSIGNOR ALEKSANDER MIERZWINSKI, FORMER PASTOR of the Polish Congregation of St. Gabriel Parish, Burlington, died this week in Poland. He had been suffering from cancer and returned to Poland to die in his beloved homeland. He came to Canada in 1986, moved to Burlington in 1992, and served the Polish community at St. Gabriel's Parish for 17 years. He participated in the 50th Anniversary celebrations of the Parish earlier this fall, his final farewell to the Parish. May he rest in peace!

FATHER ALEKSANDER MAZUR, SAC, current Pastor of St. Gabriel Parish, became a Canadian citizen on December 11th. Good for him! Good for the Pallotines. Good for Canada!

THE STAFF OF THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES OF THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON celebrates the season tonight with a festive dinner at The Grand Olympia. The annual event is always joyous and relaxing – an opportunity to express our gratitude for the fine service they provide for the Diocese!

FATHER BILL TRUSZ HOSTS A RADIO SHOW ON AM 530 IN TORONTO every Tuesday afternoon for an hour, beginning at 1 p.m. The program, called *The Little Way*, features guests who share information and stories about their life and faith. During this week's show, Father Trusz and I spoke about some of our experiences serving communities in Canada's Northland. In the New Year, we will speak about *The Year of Faith*, and how we are celebrating it in the Diocese of Hamilton.

CHRISTINA RONZIO, RECENTLY APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF LITURGY, is being married today in a ceremony in Cleveland, Ohio. Staff at the Chancery Office celebrated the event with Christina at a special gathering earlier this week. We will meet Eric at our Christmas celebration next Friday. We pray that they may enjoy a long and happy life together!

STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENTS AND SOCIAL CONVENORS for the Catholic High Schools in the Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board meet monthly to share ideas and plans and to develop as young Catholic leaders. I met with them at St. Jean de Brebeuf High School this past week. I am always impressed by the quality of these young leaders and their commitment to Catholic education and to the development of vision and values in our schools!

THE FAITH WE LIVE IS THE YEAR OF FAITH THEME WE ARE PROMOTING during December and January. You are invited to share the good things you do, or see being done, in your communities of faith. We hope to publish as many of your events as possible on our special website page. Visit our website (www.hamiltondiocese.com) and check out *The Faith We Live* page.

NATALIE CROSBY WILL BE VISITING OVER THE CHRISTMAS SEASON. She will arrive next Wednesday and will leave shortly after the New Year. It will be good to have her with me for these holy days – it helps make the time special. We expect to spend at least one day visiting my brother and his family in Courtice (near Oshawa).

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + *Douglas*, OMI