

Heart to Heart

April 28, 2023 (#504)

THE ROBOTICS TEAM from Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Secondary School in Guelph, along with its alliance teammates, placed FIRST in the FIRST ROBOTICS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS in Houston, Texas, on April 22nd! The team, *FRC 2069 BeaverworX*, was one of about 600 teams competing in the event. Throughout the weekend, the team competed in a number of contests to eventually reach the Einstein Arena and the elimination tournament. In the end, the team set a new scoring record in the first match of a best of three competitions. Their second match was won by one point in the final seconds. The championship title was a thrilling victory for the team. CONGRATULATIONS! A great story as we move into Catholic Education Week in Ontario.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK IN ONTARIO begins this weekend and continues through next week. As has become the tradition, a Pastoral Letter has been published and can be read here. Check our Diocesan Website for a series of videos created by students in Primary, Secondary, and University levels of Catholic education in the Diocese. They are lively and convincing! We are truly blessed to have such a robust program of Catholic education our schools – something to celebrate during next week!

AN OPENING LITURGY AND PILGRIMAGE WALK will take place from Cathedral High School in Hamilton to kick-off *Catholic Education Week* for the Board and in the Diocese. The Mass draws young people from schools around the city and following the Mass the participants follow the Cross through the city, up the escarpment, gathering again at St. Anthony Daniel School for a celebratory event. The energy and enthusiasm of young people always lifts spirits reminding us all of the blessing of youth and goodness in our Catholic schools!

MONTEE A LA CATHEDRALE for the Grade 6 students of Mon Avenir Francophone Catholic School District takes place next Tuesday. The students will be given a tour of the Cathedral and participate in the celebration of Mass *en francais*! A worthy Catholic Education Week event!

THE EPISCOPAL COMMISSION FOR EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops is meeting next week at the Chancery Office of the Diocese. We welcome the Bishop members of the Commission, Marg Shea Lawrence, Director of the Office, and Brandon Tran, Assistant. The meeting provides opportunities for the Commission to meet with Anne Jamieson, Director of the Institute for Catholic Education, Christina Mines, Director of the Diocesan Office of Evangelization & Catechesis, and Bridget Ker, Coordinator of The Saint John's Bible, and others. It promises to be an interesting few days of meetings.

ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTH SYSTEM sponsors *SYSTEM DAY 2023* at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington on Monday. The day provides opportunities for updates on System initiatives and strategic planning. It is also a time for celebrating the achievements of the System over the past year.

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY, this Sunday, is Vocation Sunday in the Church. Be sure to watch the video presentation prepared by Father Raphael Ma, C.R. It places the Vocation to the Priesthood in its proper perspective. Spread it around! It can be seen here.

JOIN US FOR THE ORDINATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD *NEXT SATURDAY*, May 6th, at 11:00 a.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. It is always an uplifting experience, and an opportunity to pray with and for Father Carlos Diaz, Father John Ha, Father Paul Niesiobedzki, and Father Jonathan Reitzel.

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, + Douglas, OMI