



**Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of St. John's**  
**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS 23 December 2018**

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**The Archdiocese of St. John's cordially invites you to a farewell Mass and Reception in honour of Archbishop Martin W. Currie on Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7:00 pm Basilica Cathedral of St. John the Baptist.**

**Everyone is welcome!**

**VOCATION GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**December 23, 2018 - Fourth Sunday of Advent** That the faithful response, "Behold, I come to do your will, O Lord," will be voiced by each person discerning a call to serve Christ as a priest, deacon, sister or brother, we pray to the Lord.

**December 25, 2018 - Christmas**

That like Mary who pondered the mystery of Jesus' birth, Catholic families will pray for and treasure vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life among their children, we pray to the Lord.

**December 30, 2018 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

For all Catholic families, that they will esteem the grace of each child's vocation and prayerfully encourage their children to consider being a priest, religious sister or brother, we pray to the Lord.

**January 1, 2019 - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

That Mary, the Mother of God and of Vocations will nurture, guide and protect all those called to the priesthood, diaconate and the consecrated life, we pray to the Lord.

**VOCATION BULLETIN REFLECTION**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent -- December 23, 2018**

"It is by God's will that we have been sanctified." How is God calling you to grow in holiness? If He may be inviting you to the priesthood, diaconate or consecrated life, call Father Jeff Kolonel at (709)745-8183 or Father Ray Earle (709)781-1696 or Father Philip Melvin at (709)754-1195 or email: [vocations@rcsj.org](mailto:vocations@rcsj.org)

**Christmas -- December 25, 2018**

"He gave power to become children of God." If you think you may be called to share the Father's love as a priest, deacon, religious sister or brother call Father Jeff Kolonel at (709)745-8183 or Father Ray Earle (709)781-1696 or Father Philip Melvin at (709)754-1195 or email: [vocations@rcsj.org](mailto:vocations@rcsj.org)

**Feast of the Holy Family -- Sunday, December 30, 2018**

“He gave power to become children of God.” If you think you may be called to share the Father’s love as a priest, deacon, sister or brother, call Father Jeff Kolonel at (709)745-8183 or Father Ray Earle (709)781-1696 or Father Philip Melvin at (709)754-1195 or email: [vocations@rcsj.org](mailto:vocations@rcsj.org)

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God -- January 1, 2019**

“God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts.” If the Spirit of Jesus is prompting you to love and serve Him as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life, call Father Jeff Kolonel at (709)745-8183 or Father Ray Earle (709)781-1696 or Father Philip Melvin at (709)754-1195 or email: [vocations@rcsj.org](mailto:vocations@rcsj.org)

**CURRENT EVENTS**

**1. AWAY IN A MANGER EXHIBIT DECEMBER 2-23, 2018  
BASILICA MUSEUM**

Once again, this year, the “**Away in a Manger**” exhibit will be open in the Basilica Museum throughout Advent (**December 2 through December 23**), Wednesday through Sunday. We will have over 150 Nativity sets from around the world on display. It is a great way to prepare your heart for Christmas, and to get in the spirit to welcome the Christ child. Hours will be:

- **Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**
- **Saturday and Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**
- **And by appointment**

As usual, we invite visitors, if they can, to bring a Christmas gift for a child, or a monetary contribution that will be added to the food hampers distributed through Emmaus House at Christmas. This is completely voluntary. Admission to the exhibit is free.

**2. The Irish Messenger of the Sacred Heart** is a little magazine that's read all over the world. It is a wonderful, inspirational Christmas gift, that keeps giving until next Christmas. If you would like to give someone this gift, or get it for yourself, please call 738-3236 for further information.

**3. Basilica Nativity Window Christmas Ornament and Stained Glass Book to help raise funds toward the Restoration of the Basilica Stained Windows!**

**Available for Christmas**, a Basilica Nativity Window Christmas Ornament, \$10, and Stained Glass Windows of the Basilica: An Illustrated Guide, by John FitzGerald (194 pp., \$25), to help raise funds for the restoration of the Basilica’s stained glass windows. Available by pre-order from the Basilica Parish (754-2170) and after all weekend masses at the Basilica.

**RELIGIOUS CELEBRATIONS AND EVENTS**

**1. FR. GREG HOGAN** – former Pastor of St. Thomas of Villanova Parish has a book “**Nativity**” (a collection of Christmas Poetry) available for sale at St. Thomas of Villanova Parish office. Price - \$19.95. **A great Christmas Gift.**

**2. THE ADVENT SEASON** is an invitation to watch and wait - but what are we waiting for? Is it the baby Jesus? Is it to welcome the return of the risen Jesus so that the whole universe can be judged or destroyed? Perhaps, as we become more aware of the universe story, we can await the Cosmic Christ who will sanctify and renew all of creation. We invite you to gather at Virginia Water Retreat Centre on **the fourth Sunday of Advent Dec23rd from 4-5pm**. Through contemplative listening we will probe evolution and incarnation, a made-flesh spirituality for today.

**3. Celebrate the Week of Prayer of Christian Unity** at the St. John's and Area Council of Church's worship service **3pm Sunday January 20** at St. James United Church (330 Elizabeth Ave). Rev. Faith March-MacCuish will be speaking on our theme, "Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue" (Deut. 16:20). Our offering this year will support L'Arche Avalon. May Christ bind us together in this visible act of corporate worship.

## COUNSELLING AND PASTORAL SERVICES

### 1. THE CENTRE FOR LIFE

The Centre offers free, confidential professional pregnancy and post-abortion counselling. Please email [counsellors@centreforlife.ca](mailto:counsellors@centreforlife.ca) or call (709) 579 – 3818. Linda Holden (709) 579 –1500 for more information.

## YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

### 1. **WORLD YOUTH DAY – PANAMA**

The next World Youth Day will be held in **January 2019 in Panama**. This pilgrimage is for young adults, aged 18-35 and the theme will be "I am the servant of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word?" (Lk 1:38). If you would like more information on this pilgrimage, please contact Sara at [sbroderick@rcsj.org](mailto:sbroderick@rcsj.org)

2. Mass is offered daily at MUN (M-F) at 12 noon in UC3016. All are welcome!

3. **Fr. John O'Brien, SJ** is coming to St. John's on **February 9-10, 2019**, to offer a retreat for young adults (18-40). If you are interested in helping Fr Joe Mroz call (709)737-8589. Volunteers are not limited by the age limits - all are welcome.

4. THE DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY (Roman Catholic Studies) is offered by the Archdiocese of St John's through Queen's College. Registrations are always being accepted, and you can apply by contacting Queen's College directly at [queens@mun.ca](mailto:queens@mun.ca). In this two-year program, participants are offered the opportunity to explore each of the areas of Roman Catholic Theology— foundations, Moral Theology, Scriptural Studies, Liturgy, Church History, Evangelization and Catechesis and Pastoral Studies and Ministry. For more information contact Anne Walsh at [amfwalsh@gmail.com](mailto:amfwalsh@gmail.com)