

Wednesday Weekly

December 23, 2014

1. Christmas Message from Bishop Jensen

Please share the attached Christmas message from Bishop Jensen with parishioners. Merry Christmas everyone!

2. January Month at a Glance

The January At a Glance newsletter for the Domano Renewal Centre is attached. Events can also be viewed on the Diocesan Calendar found on the Diocese website at:
<http://www.pgdiocese.bc.ca/news-events/diocesan-calendar/>

The Domano Renewal Centre staff have been busy preparing the 2015 brochure and it will be available in all parishes in early January. Make spiritual growth one of your new year's resolutions. The Domano Renewal Centre has many opportunities for reflection and instruction in 2015. Pick one that fits your schedule. If you have any questions or would like to register for a program, please contact them at drc@pgdiocese.bc.ca or by calling 250-964-4475 when they re-open January 5th, 2015.

3. Developing a Safe Parish & Community Policy Deadline

This is a reminder to all parishes that the deadline to submit the annual Screening Requirements Report (Form 5) to the Chancery is January 15, 2015. All current employees and volunteers of the parish must be listed on this report; a signed Pledge or a Criminal Record Check and a signed Pledge must be either on file in the Chancery for each person listed or attached to the form. Form 5 is found on the Developing a Safe Parish & Community Policy page of the Diocesan Website www.pgdiocese.bc.ca. Please refer to Form 4 to determine the level of risk for each ministry. If you have any questions please contact Mary-Anne Lewis Jamin at 250-964-4424 ext. 234. Thank you to those who have already submitted their reports.

4. 2014 Tax Receiptable Donations - Reminders

To be eligible for a 2014 donation receipt, donations must be received by the parish on or before December 31, 2014 but do not have to be deposited in the bank in December. Any cheques must be dated for 2014. Please separate any Appeal donations that were received in 2014 and send them as soon as possible to the Finance office labelled "2014 Donations". Thank you!

5. Monthly Day of Adoration – January 13th, 2015

Please put the following notice in parish bulletins in the Central Region:

Emmanuel Hermitage invites you to a Personal Date with Jesus on **January 13th** in the Domano Chapel (at the Domano Renewal Centre, 6500 Southridge Ave). Mass will be celebrated at 7:30 a.m. and the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. for a day of silent prayer and adoration. We will pray especially for the people and needs of our Diocese, the universal Church, and the world. In particular we will pray for the protection of all human life, for vocations, and for the intentions of those participating in the day. Please mark your calendar on the second Tuesday of each month for Personal Dates with Jesus days.

6. National Dementia Strategy (C-356)

Please put the following notice in parish bulletins commencing in January:

Archbishop Paul-André Durocher, president of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, is urging support for a national dementia strategy. Parliament will debate a private member's bill, C-356, An Act for a National Dementia Strategy early in 2015. This is timely given January is Alzheimer's Month in Canada. Alzheimer's and related dementia diseases already afflict 750,000 Canadians, with each patient often having three or four active caregivers; in another generation it is estimated 1.4 million Canadians will suffer from dementia, at a cost of \$293 billion for our healthcare system. C-356 calls for increasing funding for research, promoting earlier diagnosis and intervention, strengthening the integration of primary, home and community care, enhancing skills and training of the dementia workforce, and improving support for caregivers. Please contact your local Member of Parliament in the next few months to show your support. You can also contact the prime minister, writing Office of the Prime Minister, 80 Wellington St., Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A2 or email, at pm@pm.gc.ca, and the Health Minister at Honourable Rona Ambrose, Minister of Health, Ottawa, ON, K1a 0A6, or by email at Rona.Ambrose@parl.gc.ca. Letters are postage free. The online petition can be found at: ndp.ca/dementia

7. Pope John Paul II Day – April 2nd

Bill C-266, recognizing Saint John Paul II as a champion of human dignity and freedom, has now become Canadian law. The new Act designates April 2 annually as "Pope John Paul II Day". The bill was introduced by Conservative MP Wladyslaw Lizon. Lizon spoke of how John Paul II stood for religious tolerance, freedom and encouraged interreligious dialogue. "Pope John Paul II proved that nothing is impossible and stood up for populations who were oppressed by totalitarian regimes," Lizon said. The day will allow "all Canadians the opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the man who took a strong stand on human rights and opened the dialogue between other faiths to promote freedom of religion and speech across the globe. These are values that we as Canadians share." The complete English and French texts of the Act are provided at <http://www.parl.gc.ca/HousePublications/Publication.aspx?Language=E&Mode=1&DocId=6836563&File=244>

8. Annual Diocesan Appeal Update (see next page)



2014-2015 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Building Together in Faith

As of December 22nd, 2014

DIOCESAN GOAL - \$400,000

Parish	Households	Appeal Goal	Total Pledged	Total % of Goal	# of Pledges	Pledges Received
Annunciation, Prince Rupert	268	26,034	13,726	52.7%	52	10,736
Christ Our Saviour, Prince George	177	20,033	20,751	103.6%	60	16,768
Christ the King, Kitimat	558	44,475	30,890	69.5%	124	25,270
Resurrection, Fort St. John	381	38,531	21,355	55.4%	79	17,070
Holy Cross, Tumbler Ridge	24	3,778	1,375	36.4%	7	925
Immaculata, Burns Lake	78	14,751	8,887	60.2%	21	7,947
Immaculate Conception, Prince George	200	30,654	30,316	98.9%	98	24,035
Notre Dame, Dawson Creek	241	27,612	27,096	98.1%	123	22,171
Our Lady of Peace, Chetwynd	51	12,027	3,205	26.6%	10	3,205
Our Lady of Snows, Fort St. James	88	7,600	1,640	21.6%	10	1,015
Sacred Heart, Prince George	605	47,323	26,779	56.6%	125	21,945
Sacred Heart, Terrace	472	52,537	54,548	103.8%	182	44,083
St. Andrew's, Fraser Lake	72	13,128	13,868	105.6%	47	10,698
St. Anthony's, Houston	45	5,191	3,545	68.3%	19	3,525
St. Joseph's, Vanderhoof	82	11,374	15,905	139.8%	30	12,525
St. Joseph's, Smithers	150	21,666	19,235	88.8%	81	19,115
St. Mary's, Prince George	577	44,315	33,440	75.5%	115	30,393
St. Mary's, New Hazelton	31	5,088	3,680	72.3%	14	2,685
St. Patrick's, McBride	60	3,511	4,655	132.6%	19	4,535
St. Peter's, Mackenzie	44	10,372	6,200	59.8%	23	5,810
Unaffiliated Donors			1,926		5	1,926
Totals	4,204	400,000	343,022	85.8%	1,244	286,382

Parish Rebates - 4,101

Diocesan Appeal to Date

290,483