Sponsored refugees from Syria and Iraq through the end of 2015 and into February of 2016. We are also eagerly awaiting an African family that we are praying will be cleared to travel in early 2016. That particular sponsorship has been in process for almost four years! This is very good news!! Please continue to pray for all refugees and help us welcome those that will be received as permanent residents to Prince Edward Island. We wish to express our most heartfelt gratitude for all of the support Islanders have provided to the Diocese over the last several months. Please continue to discern how you can help any and all vulnerable populations of refugees. Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and the happiest and most blessed New Year. - Susan Nye-Brothers, Refugee Sponsorship Coordinator

**The Catholic Centre** will be closed from December 24 to January 4.

The Annual General Retreat at Belcourt Centre in South Rustico will be held January 22-24, 2016, led by Fr. Danny Wilson. The theme will be "God's Mercy". To register please call 902-963-2877 or e-mail belcourtlodge@gmail.com

Marriage Survey: Would you like to help strengthen marriages in our Diocese? Please consider completing (before February 1, 2016) a 25-minute, anonymous, on-line marriage survey that will be used by doctoral student and clinical counsellor, Stephen Mawhinney, for research in his doctoral thesis. Type in the link, read the opening page and complete the survey, submitting your results at the end. www.surveymonkey.com/r/diocesemarriagesurvey

#### **Check out the Diocesan Website:**

dioceseofcharlottetown.com for several news items in our diocese including the recently held **Advent/Christmas Dinner for Retired Priests** (with photos), the Holy Door/Jubilee Year of Mercy, Resettling of Syrian Refugees and the 2016 Confirmation Schedule.

Join Seniors College for an exciting winter of great courses - Art courses are open in Charlottetown and Montague; Writing, History, Literature and Spanish 2 in Summerside and Charlottetown; and Beginning Computer in Montague. View courses and register on-line at seniorscollege.ca or call 902-894-2867. Classes begin the week of January 4th.

# **Community Notices**

**Al-Anon Group Meeting:** Tuesdays at 10 AM in the vestry of St. Augustine's Church. Call 902 -894-3503 for more information.

**80th Birthday Party:** The family of Alberta Gallant invite you to her 80th birthday party at the Star of the Sea Seniors Club, North Rustico on Dec. 27 from 1pm-4pm. Best Wishes Only.

Rustico Bay Club New Years Eve: New years eve tickets are still available. Must be picked up by Dec 27 May call Russell Ford 621-0103, Wanda Gallant 621-0023, Margaret Blacquire 963-2003.

**90th Birthday Celebration:** The family of Edna Sampson would like to invite you to help celebrate her 90th birthday on Saturday, January 2, 2016,immediately following the 4 pm Mass from 5 pm - 7pm. We will have open house at her home, 123 Churchill Ave, North Rustico. Best Wishes Only, please.

# www.jp2pastoralunit.com/bulletins.php



## The Saint John-Paul II Pastoral Unit

Stella Maris, St. Anne's & St. Augustine's Parishes, Prince Edward Island

# **The Holy Family № December 27, 2015**

# **Schedule December 28 to January 3**

Monday: No Mass Tuesday: No Mass Wednesday: No Mass

**Thursday:** 4pm Stella Maris **Friday:** 10:30 am St. Augustine's

**Saturday:** 4pm Stella Maris **Sunday:** 9am St. Anne's

10:30am St. Augustine's

Scheduled weekday Mass is cancelled for a funeral.

Chaplet of Divine Mercy for the Sick and Dying will be said following weekday Masses.

**Confessions:** Saturday at 10am in St. Augustine's Church. For additional times for confessions please call 902-963-2245.

**Baptisms: C**ontact Fr. Raj for Baptismal Preparation.

Father Raj Santiago: Office: 902-963-2245

Cell: 902-393-0572

# **Pastoral Associates:**

 Jacinta Doiron
 902-621-0638

 Janet Doiron
 902-963-3247

 Marion Murphy
 902-621-0725

 Carol Probert
 902-963-3089

PLEASE PRAY FOR: A person with MS, A depressed person, Brian, Evan, Wendy, Agatha Reddin, Alice Doucette, Allan Pound, Alyre Doucette, Alyre Pineau, Ann Blais, Anne Marie Ellis, Anne Peters, Annette Coffin, Annie Gallant, Ashley Cook, Bernadette Procter, Bobby Briehl, Brenda Gallant, Carol Ann Dickson, Cecilia Gallant, Cecily Gallant, Charlotte Kilorn, Chester Fall, Dale Doucette, Dane Simpson, Donna Stiles, Edna Pineau, Elaine Stewart, Emeric Walsh, Eric "Buck" Doucette, Frances Rose Wilson, Gabrielle Gallant, Georgina Blacquiere, Inez Pineau, Jean Gallant, Kaye Ford, Keisha Dunn, Kim Murphy, Kitty Gallant, Leo LeClair, Lisa MacDonald, Louis Reid, Louise Peters, Mary Gillis, Nancy Bicard, Nancy (Pius) Doucette, Nicky Garland, Parker O'Brien, Pat Gallant (John), Regis Peters, Richard Arsenault, Roger Gallant, Rose Hennessey, Scott Faust, Shirley Doucette, Sonny Gauthier, Stella (Gary) Gallant, Stephen Ellsworth, Stephen Sampson, Susie Smith, Tammy Wedge, Terry Doucette, Tim Gallant, Trisha Gallant, Vera Gallant, Victor Doiron, Wally Litouskey and all those in hospital.

To have a name added or removed from the prayer line please call the **Prayer Line Contacts**:

Marion Murphy 902-621-0725 Angela Gallant 902-963-3438 Rose Gallant 902-963-3516 Fr. Raj Santiago 902-963-2245

# From Pope Francis' Encyclical "Laudato Si" - "Our Common Home"

Pope Francis on the Environment: "Christians need an ecological conversion." It must be said that some committed and prayerful Christians, with the excuse of realism and pragmatism, tend to ridicule expressions of concern for he environment. Others are passive; they choose not to change their habits and thus become inconsistent. So what they all need is an "ecological conversion", whereby the effects of their encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in their relationship with the world around them. Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience. (217)



# Youth Ministries CDG—LDG—YDG

The youth would like to thank the **St. Augustine's choir** for supplying snacks at our last religion class.

# Kindergarten—grade 9 Religion Class Schedule

January 10, 2016
January 24, 2016
February 7, 2016
February 21, 2016
March 6, 2016
March 13, 2016
April 3, 2016
April 17, 2016

# "Mass as a Class" Schedule

January 31, 2016 February 28, 2016 April 24, 2016 **CDG Schedule** January 15, 2016 February 19, 2016 March 11, 2015 April 15, 2016 I'd like to take a moment to thank everyone for participating in Mass as a class last Sunday and the Christmas presentation afterwards. It was a special day for sure as it is always a joy to see so much support for the youth in our communities. May each of you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year! All the best, Louise

#### **Your 2015-2016 Confirmation Candidates**

May 27, 2016



Name: Olivia Johnston
Parents: Randy and Shannon

Johnston

Birthday: June 6, 2001

Interests: Dance, hanging with

friends and music

Future plans: going to college and

having a family

What she really likes: dance and

traveling

What she really don't likes: negative people

Special memory about Church: going to Sister Audrey's

religion classes

What she would like parishes to know about me:

getting to know people and being positive



Name: Taylor Gallant

Parents: Tim and Wendy Gallant Birthday: 24 January 2001 Interests: Video games and rep-

tiles.

Future Plans: Bluefield What he really likes: Pepsi What he really does NOT like:

Coke

Special memory about church: Ringing the bell.

What he would like the parishes to know about him:

Owns various pets including lizards, frogs, a tarantula and a snake. Plays Bass guitar.

### **Unit Notices**

**Bulletin Announcements:** Email bulletin notices to bulletins@jp2pastoralunit.com or call 902-886-2761 (please leave a message if we aren't home). Deadline for weekly bulletins is Thursday at 4pm.

**Hospital or Home Visits:** If you have a family member or friend in the hospital, at home or other care facility who would like to see a priest please call Fr. Raj.

**Scent Free:** Please avoid scented products in our churches. Some parishioners are strongly allergic to chemical fragrances.

Communion at Home: If you know of anyone who should be receiving communion at home because of inability to attend church, please contact one of the pastoral associates.

From the desk of Father Raj: Christmas rings out "joy to the world," yes, but how do I make this joy my own? This is an important question, for, even though God has declared joy to the whole world, there are still many among us who do not flow in this joy, many among us who do not know how to claim this joy and make it OUR own personally? Here is the secret of making this Joy our own: Look at the word JOY. we see that it is made up of three letters: first J, then O, and lastly Y. J stands for Jesus, O for Others, and Y for You. Joy therefore is: Jesus, Others, before You. To know joy in our lives we need to place Jesus first in everything. Secondly, we need to try to please others and do for other before trying to please ourselves. That is the recipe for joy. That is how we can convert the Christmas "joy to the world" into a personal "joy in my life" now and always. So from the bottom of my heart I wish each and every one a real JOY filled CHRISTMAS and a PROSPEROUS 2016.

A brief note: With the grace of God and good wishes and prayers of you all my brothers and sisters, I am feeling much better. Though the blisters keep spreading more with acupuncture treatment given by Lori Ann, and applying the solution, absolutely there is no pain or itching. I hope I will be ok in a few days. I sincerely thank all who are helping me during my illness with sincere prayers, medicines and many other stuffs. During this time experienced the love of God and you my lovely parishioners in a deeper level. Thank you So much, Father Raj

Our Prayer List: With the beginning of a new year, we will be clearing our prayer list on the front of the bulletin and starting anew. If you would like yourself or a family member to be left on or added to our prayer list please contact Marion Murphy 902-621-0725, Angela Gallant 902-963-3438, Rose Gallant 902-963-3516 or Father Raj 902-963-2245

# LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS & DONATIONS

St. Augustine's: Sunday \$1362.95
St. Anne's: Sunday December 13 \$610.00
Sunday December 20 \$841.00
Stella Maris: Sunday: \$750.00
Special Collection: \$100.00

Thank You for Your Donations to Our Parishes! Flease consider including your Parish in your will.

#### **Stella Maris Notices**

**2016 Envelopes:** New envelopes are available at the back of the Church. If you have not received a set of envelopes in the past and wish to receive them, please contact Norman (963-2416) or Peter (963-2460).

#### St. Anne's Notices

Ministries for December: Proclaimer: Lori Ann MacFarlane Youth Proclaimer: Joey Murphy Eucharistic Minister: Marion Murphy Backup Eucharistic Minister: Marina Doiron Ushers/Ministers of Hospitality: Dennis Doiron, Mike & Jacinta Doiron Offertory Families: Dec 27: Marina Doiron & Family

Sunday Envelopes 2016: The new envelopes for 2016 are now available on the table near the altar. Please pick your envelopes up and put your name and address on them for the first few weeks. Anyone presently not using envelopes but wishing to do so please see Kathy Doiron or just pick up a blank set of envelopes and put your name and address on them so we can register you to receive an income tax receipt next year.

#### **Diocese Notices**

Update on Refugee Sponsorship: The Diocese of Charlottetown is pleased to announce that through the Sponsorship Agreement Holder designation that we hold with the government of Canada along with the partnership of many hard working and eager constituent groups, we are expecting to receive approximately 100 Privately