



This Month in the Diocese

An E-Publication of the Diocese of Antigonish

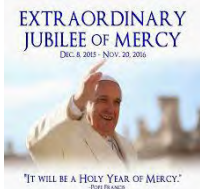
Issue 5

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“We’re moving!”

Pastoral Centre staff members are embracing with enthusiasm the hours of sorting and packing required for the move to new offices in Membertou in early 2016. From left, Millie Maclsaac (Business Office), Irene MacNeil (Emmaus Centre Bookstore/Resource Room), Elizabeth Wilson (Matrimonial Tribunal), Linda LeBlanc (Bookstore/Resource Room), Imelda Terry (Business Office), Debbie Aker (catechetical consultant), Cathy Farrow (Managing Director), and Darlene Stephenson (administration)



Jubilee of Mercy

The Year of Mercy began Dec. 8 and continues through Nov. 20, 2016. To see how we are observing this Extraordinary event, see **Page 2**.

Paying it Forward

Youth from the parishes of St. Margaret of Scotland, Grand Mira, and Sacred Heart, Marion Bridge, celebrated their recent confirmation with a donation to the church roof fund. For upcoming youth and community events, see **Page 4**.

Students in Song

St. FX students, from left, Clare Bekkers, Chiara Viale, Hannah Keller and Adam Beck lead the ministry of music during the recent Canadian Catholic Student Association Atlantic conference. For photos of this and other events, see **Page 3**.



“Merciful Like the Father”: Diocese invites observance and reflection to honour Extraordinary Jubilee

The Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy/ Jubilé extraordinaire de la Miséricorde began Dec. 8 on the Feast of Immaculate Conception, and will continue through Nov. 20, 2016, the Feast of Christ the King.

A Jubilee or Holy Year is the recognition of an important theme or event. The Year of Mercy was announced by Pope Francis this past March. The last Jubilee Year was 2000 to commemorate the new millennium.

The Year of Mercy is an opportunity to focus on the subject of mercy: what it is and how we demonstrate it as individuals and the Church. Each Holy Year includes an invitation for Roman Catholics to take part in a pilgrimage to Rome or designated site within each diocese. In the Diocese of Antigonish, our pilgrimage sites will be St. Ninian's Cathedral in Antigonish and St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Church in Sydney. Additional events and ideas will be shared throughout the year.

“We are all invited to take this opportunity to experience the mercy of God in a new and deeper way,” Bishop Brian Dunn said. The Bishop's letter on the Year of Mercy can be found on our website: <http://www.antigonishdiocese.com/2015-11-23%20Year%20of%20Mercy%20Notes.pdf>

The Jubilee of Mercy on-line: <http://www.im.va/content/gdm/en.html>
or en francais: <http://www.im.va/content/gdm/fr.html>



Youth Director Nolan Conrad and Managing Director Cathy Farrow, with celebrant Fr. Bedford Doucette, light the advent wreath in preparation for mass Dec. 8 at the pastoral centre chapel. This mass is one of several ways our diocese is observing the Extraordinary Year of Mercy now and in the coming months.



Photo Album:



Conference speaker David Dean of Atlantic School of Theology addresses participants at the Canadian Catholic Student Association Atlantic conference hosted in November by St. Francis Xavier University.



At left: Youth Director Nolan Conrad snaps a selfie with new Deacon John Scott at his ordination Nov. 18.

Deacon Scott is pictured below with Bishop Brian Dunn and Fr. Paul Murphy, pastor of Holy Redeemer Parish, Sydney.



We welcome your comments, photos, and story ideas!
Contact Jennifer Hatt, Communications Officer: jennifer@dioceseofantigonish.ca
Or visit our website: www.antigonishdiocese.com



Wishing you a Blessed Christmas season.



Vatican Christmas Stamp 2015

(<http://www.vaticanstate.va/content/vaticanstate/en/servizi/ufficio-filatelico-e-numismatico/emissioni-filateliche/ultime-emissioni/natale-2015.html>)

Youth ministry in our diocese: revitalized and ready!

Launch Party Jan. 16 for our new ministry and Steubenville registration

The Office of Youth Ministry for our Diocese was opened in August 2015. Since that time, Youth Director Nolan Conrad has been working on a number of events and activities to engage youth throughout our diocese. Now, it's time to celebrate and engage for the new calendar year.

Our Youth Ministry Launch Party will be held Jan. 16, 2016 at St. Joseph Church in Port Hawkesbury. All are welcome, especially families and youth signed up or interested in youth activities in our diocese. "There will be pizza, lots of pizza, workshops, music and more," Nolan says. "It will be a time where we can gather to get stoked for Youth Ministry in our diocese and Steubenville Atlantic."

Steubenville Atlantic (www.steubenville.ca) returns to Halifax, at Dalhousie University on Jul. 8-10, 2016. This is the 10th anniversary year for young people in Grades 8 -12; hundreds of youth from the Atlantic provinces are expected for the celebration. Further details are available from our Youth Director, Nolan Conrad, ph (902)-539-6188 ext 241, toll-free 1-800-656-5311 ext 241, or e-mail nolan@dioceseofantigonish.ca.

Construction is proceeding on St. Mary's The original building was destroyed by fire in November 2014. The parish remains grateful for prayers and support. Secure on-line donations to the rebuilding can be made through Canada Helps: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/st-marys-polish-parish/>. The parish's regular mailing address remains: *Wesley St., Whitney Pier, Nova Scotia, B1N 2M5*

Donors will be gratefully acknowledged on a plaque in the new church

Laudato Si: A Canadian Response is a documentary by Halifax filmmaker Kevin Moynihan that provides a Canadian perspective on Pope Francis' encyclical. Included is input from David Suzuki, Maude Barlow, and voices from Religious Men and Women in Canada such as Fr. Bill Ryan, sj and Sr. Maura McGrath, cnd. The film may be viewed on YouTube: https://youtu.be/Bti860_Tw5A