

## BEYOND THE PARISH

### Festival of Trees

Saint David's United Church presents *Festival of Trees* **Dec 11, 4-9 pm & 12, 9 am-4 pm**, at 7 Gondola Pt. Rd., Rothesay. Come out and see our spectacular tree display and silent auction, check out the bake sale and jewelry sale, children can decorate a gingerbread man and make some crafts, there will be prizes for the top voted trees and door prizes! Admission: \$5/adult, \$2/child, \$12/family.

### Saint John Men's Chorus Christmas Concert

The Saint John Men's Chorus will present their Annual Christmas Concert on **Tues, Dec 8** at Portland United Church at **7:30 p.m.** Tickets will be available at the door at a cost of \$15. Again this year the Salvation Army Auxiliary is pleased to partner with the Men's Chorus for an evening of beautiful music.

### Christmas Carol Service

The Faculty and Students of Rothesay Netherwood School extend a warm invitation to the local community to share in the Spirit of the Season by joining us at our 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Carol Service on **Sat, Dec 12** at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church on Gondola Point Road in Rothesay at **7:30pm**. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact the RNS School Office at 847-8224.

### Christmas Tea

The Anglican Parish of Kingston is having its Annual Christmas Tea on **Sat, Dec 12** from **11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** The Tea is being held in the Kingston Parish Hall. Cost is \$8 per person. Everyone is Welcome.

### The Festival of Lights

The Saint John Jewish Historical Museum and Shaarei Zedek Synagogue cordially invites all Saint John and area residents to join us as we celebrate Chanukah, "The Festival of Lights". The menorah lighting ceremony to mark the eighth day of Chanukah will be outside the entrance to the Saint John Jewish Historical Museum/ Shaarei Zedek Synagogue, 91 Leinster Street on Sunday, December 13, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. Following the candle lighting, join us inside for a programme which will include a presentation of the Chanukah story and songs by the children of the Congregation. Light refreshments, including traditional Chanukah treats, will also be served. Please come and bring your friends. For more information call 633-1833.

## NEWS FROM THE PEWS

... the ACW enjoyed another wonderful Christmas Bazaar on November 28. It is a great tradition that the parish and the community looks forward to, and seems to get the wheels of the season in motion. The ACW realized just over \$4400 from the bazaar. They gave away \$4200 at their meeting this past week to a long list of deserving causes: the Diocese of the Arctic, E. Fry Society, Coverdale Centre, Mission Aviation, KV Firefighters for Christmas families, Romero House, PWRDF, KV Food Basket, Inner City Youth, Safe Harbour, The Chandras' ministry and Caring of Colin. What a generous group of gals! ... four families gathered for supper, a discussion of Advent and the making of Advent wreaths, last Sunday evening. A word of thanks to members of Neighborhood #1 **Cassie Stanley, Pat Himmelman and Patricia Miller** for setting up the Crosby Room and attending to the kitchen. Thank you to **Daniella** for organizing the evening ... the **Chiming Cherubim** will be performing at Concord Hall on Thursday, December 10 at 10:30 a.m. ... we would like to send our greetings to **Jane McGregor** who is in SJRH. She is coming along and hopes to be home very soon ... *that's all the news from our pews this week! ALS.*

## PARISH NOTES AND EVENTS

### Echo - Advent Edition

The Advent edition of the Echo is available in the lobby today. Thank you to our editor, Heather White-Brittain, our publisher, Greg Fleet, the staff in the office, and Marge Seely and her faithful team of folders and stuffers. The Echo is filed by neighborhood, so if someone in your neighborhood is not here today, please consider picking up their copy and dropping it off on your way home.

### 2016 Offering Envelopes

Also on the lobby table today are the 2016 offering envelopes. If you use envelopes, please pick yours up today. If you would like to switch to our E-offering system, just give the office a call and Katherine or June will provide you with information and forms. Currently, we have 53 people on monthly e-offering and 19 people on weekly e-offering.

### December 13 – White Gift Sunday

Next Sunday we will be receiving toys to pass along to the KV Fire Fighters, who deliver Christmas baskets to deserving families in our community. Thank you for bringing a toy, or a game. There is no need to wrap the gifts. If you would prefer to make a financial donation, please mark your envelope *White Gift*.

### Christmas Memorial Flowers

Anyone who wishes to make a donation towards Christmas flowers in the church in memory of a loved one is asked to please call the church office at 847-1812.

## PARISH NOTES AND EVENTS Continued

### ACW Christmas Bazaar

The ACW held their annual Bazaar on November 28 and report that about \$4500 was realized. Nearly all of these funds will find their way out of the Parish to a long list of deserving organizations and ministries supported by our ACW. In particular, the \$370 that was collected at Santa's Café will go to the KV Food Basket. The ACW would like to thank everyone who assisted with the sale. It was certainly a parish effort. May God continue to bless the ACW and all they do for Christ and His church.

### Individual Giving Statistics

As we did not send out reports to parishioners this year showing previous year's and year to date giving, our Finance Committee has asked us to mention that individual reporting is available at the office upon request. If you would like a report of your giving for 2014 and year to date 2015, please call the office at 847-1812 or email at [stpaulsrothesay@nb.aibn.com](mailto:stpaulsrothesay@nb.aibn.com).

### Local Support for Syrian Refugees

Jim Stokes-Rees dropped by the office this week to bring to our attention a clothing drive that is going on in the Saint John area for Syrian Refugees. For full details about local financial, clothing and furniture drives please go to [ymcanewcomers.com](http://ymcanewcomers.com),

- click on Syrian refugee response on the first screen
- click on donate on the second screen,
- on the third screen click on the donation category for which you want information.

Details for the clothing drive that Jim mentioned can be found there.

For those who "don't do the internet", there is a paper copy of the information on the bulletin board in the lobby

### Christmas Giving Opportunities

**Hestia House** is the women's and families' emergency shelter in the Saint John area. They have a request for lounging style pyjamas and slippers for women and children, sizes small, medium & large, children's DVD's and children's VHS tapes. **Romero House** is looking for used, clean, warm winter clothing. Long winter coats, boots, gloves, scarves, socks, blankets, sleeping bags etc. are all appreciated. There are baskets in the parish lobby and we will be collecting items up until **Sunday, Dec 20**. Thank you for your support.

### Two items on the lobby table

**PWRDF Christmas Cards.** There are two new designs for 2015, and we have a few packages of cards from previous years. They are available for a donation to PWRDF.

**Advent Meditations & Prayers** by Henri Nouwen. Daily readings and prayers for the season of Advent. Please help yourself.

### Directories

The parish photo directories have arrived. They are very attractive. If you had your pictures taken, there is a directory for you, free of charge. Others have ordered directories and they are available. Drop by the office to pick up your copy. There a few extras for purchase for \$25.

### Sunday School Christmas Pageant

The Sunday School Christmas pageant will held be on **Sun, Dec 13**, during the 10am service. Pageant Rehearsals continue during Sunday School **today**, with a dress rehearsal on Saturday morning **Dec. 12 at 9:30 am** Please contact Daniella Haggerty for more information at 306 631-5402.



### Caring for Colin Appeal for the Ranson Family

Many of you will know the Rev. Paul Ranson and Kim Ranson. Paul is now in his third year as the Chaplain at RNS and Kim is an accountant in the city. Their two-year old son, Colin, has been diagnosed with a very rare condition known as *Pallister-Hall Syndrome*. The little fellow has many gelastic seizures every day and behavioral outbursts that he cannot control. Colin is scheduled to go to *Texas Children's Hospital* in Houston, next March for surgery that should cure these seizures. As you can imagine this is very expensive, around \$200,000. Fund-raising around the Diocese is taking place. Parishioners and friends of St. Paul's are invited to make a donation to the *Caring for Colin Fund*. You can make your donation through the parish or it may be sent to the Diocese. *Canada Revenue Agency* has ruled that these donations are not eligible for income tax receipts. Thank for rallying around this young family in their time of great need. We can report that over \$90,000 has been raised through various supporters in the Diocese and Province. There have been suppers, pie making ventures, concerts and appeals. So far we have received \$1470 here at St. Paul's, which includes a \$500 gift from the ACW. Let's all get behind this young family!

### Sundays in December at 10 a.m.

<b>Dec 13</b>	Advent 3	White Gift Sunday Sunday School Presentation <i>Finding the Perfect Gift</i>
<b>Dec 20</b>	Advent 4	The Service of Lessons & Carols
<b>Dec 27</b>	Christmas 1	Holy Baptism