

# FRIDAY FACTS

Archdiocese of Ottawa, Pastoral Office

December 21, 2017

## FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

**Archbishop's Christmas Message:** Archbishop Prendergast's Christmas Message is now available [here](http://www.CatholicOttawa.ca) on our website ([www.CatholicOttawa.ca](http://www.CatholicOttawa.ca)).

**Two Holy Days of Obligation, Sunday and Christmas:** The celebration of the Fourth Sunday of Advent this year is Saturday evening Vigil Mass, Dec. 23 and Sunday morning, Dec. 24. Christmas is on Monday, Dec. 25, and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Christmas Eve Mass is celebrated on Sunday evening this year and does fulfill the Christmas Holy Day of Obligation. However, Christmas Eve does not also count as a Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass. The Christmas Mass schedule in parishes of the Archdiocese is available [here](#).



*"Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience...above all, clothe yourselves with love!"*  
(Colossians 3.12,14)

**Solemnity of Mary, Holy Day of Obligation:** Monday, January 1, 2018, is the feast of Mary the Mother of God and is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Solemnity of Mary Mass schedule in parishes of the Archdiocese is available [here](#).

**Homelands' Mass:** At Notre Dame Cathedral, **Sun., Jan. 14, 2:30 p.m.** Flags will be in the Cathedral balconies as a visible sign of your participation. Traditional dishes to share at the Reception in the Cathedral Hall following the Mass should be brought to the hall before 2:15 p.m. Those in national dress are to be in the hall before 2:00 p.m. Please confirm group attendance and the name of the person responsible to Deacon Gilles Ouellette ([gouellette@archottawa.ca](mailto:gouellette@archottawa.ca)) before Jan. 5. All welcome!

**Friday Facts:** Please note that there will be no Friday Facts on December 29. Website submissions form for the Friday Facts: (<https://www.catholicottawa.ca/submit-an-event-for-the-friday-facts>). Deadline to submit: **Tuesday noon.**

## CARE FOR CREATION

**Recycling in our Parishes – A Step Towards Ecological Conversion:** The recently released [Environmental Performance Review – Canada 2017](#) states that Canada's recycling remains well below that of other developed countries with more than two-thirds of produced waste sent to landfill. Our Catholic community, including our parishes, can demonstrate moral leadership through recycling. Please contact John Dorner (613-738-5025, ext. 251; [jdorner@archottawa.ca](mailto:jdorner@archottawa.ca)) should you wish assistance in setting up or improving your parish recycling.

## FAMILY, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

**Journey of Hope – A Program for Separated and Divorced Catholics:** Six week sessions for women (Tuesdays, Mar. 20 – Apr. 24, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.) and men (Thursdays, Mar. 22 – May 3, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.). Cost: \$25. At Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Parish Hall, 20 Grant St. Register by Mar. 16: [www.journeyofhopeottawa.com](http://www.journeyofhopeottawa.com); Mary Jane Manley (613-294-1308).

## VOCATIONS

**Prayer for Vocations: Feast of the Holy Family – Dec. 31.** That Catholic mothers and fathers will help their children grow strong in their faith, filled with the wisdom of God and encourage openness to vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life.  
**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God – Jan. 1.** That, through our Blessed Mother's intercession, all those called to holiness as priests, deacons and in the consecrated life, will find joy and fulfillment in their vocations.  
**Epiphany – Jan. 7.** That our young people will be open to their unique vocation through prayer and will adore Christ the King by their faithfulness to His call.

## FROM THE CCCB

**Death of the Most Reverend Alphonsus Penney, Archbishop Emeritus of St. John's:** (CCCB – Ottawa)... The Most Reverend Alphonsus L. Penney, Archbishop Emeritus of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, died on 12 December 2017 in St. John's at the age of 93. [Read more...](#)

**Life and family suggestions for homilies and prayers of the faithful during January 2018:** The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops continues to post homily ideas and prayers of the faithful to help link the Sunday liturgy with the national pastoral initiative for life and family. The suggestions for homilies and prayers can be easily adapted for family prayer, as well as for personal prayer or for use with other groups or organizations. "[Documents and activities proposed by the CCCB](#)".

**Suggestions for Prayers of Faithful – 2018 World Day of Migrants and Refugees:** Celebrated on **14 January 2018**. The Catholic Refugee Sponsors' Council has prepared suggestions for prayers of the faithful to help dioceses, eparchies and parishes celebrate the World Day. The theme of Pope Francis' Message is "*Welcoming, protecting, promoting and integrating migrants and refugees*". [Link to the prayers of the faithful \(PDF\)](#); [Link to the 2018 Message of Pope Francis](#).

**Appointment of new Bishop for Mackenzie-Fort Smith:** His Holiness Pope Francis has named Father Jon Hansen, C.Ss.R., Bishop of the Diocese of Mackenzie-Fort Smith. At the time of his appointment, he was pastor of Our Lady of Victory parish in Inuvik, Northwest Territories. Bishop-elect Hansen succeeds the Most Reverend Mark A. Hagemoen who was appointed Bishop of Saskatoon on 12 September 2017. [Read more...](#)

## PRO-LIFE

**Is someone contemplating euthanasia or assisted suicide? Available Prevention Resources:** Helpline: 1-855-675-8749; [Compassionate Community Care](#) (CCC) is a national service for people who are seeking advice, help & support regarding euthanasia & assisted suicide prevention, and/or end-of-life treatment concerns. Resources available. [Euthanasia Prevention Coalition](#).

## SCHOOLS

**Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario Kindergarten Registration:** Kindergarten Registration Week for the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario will take place Jan. 15-19, 2018. Our mission is to educate the heart, mind, body and soul of our diverse learners, to nurture and support them through an education rooted in Catholic values! Registration info and listing of Registration Open House events at [www.cdsbeo.on.ca](http://www.cdsbeo.on.ca).

**Academia Stella Maris Workshops - Winter Semester:** Registrations now open for Academia Stella Maris Winter Semester Workshops starting **Jan. 9**: Theology, Latin II, Excellence in Writing, French II, Logical Fallacies, Greek I, Socratic Literary Analysis (White Fang), Bible Study and Intro to Moral Philosophy. Info & registration: [www.academiastellamaris.ca](http://www.academiastellamaris.ca); 343-883-6600.

## WIDER COMMUNITY INTEREST

**University of Ottawa Choir – Recruitment:** The University of Ottawa Choir is recruiting new members from Jan. 10 – Apr. 8 in preparation for its Spring Concert at St. Joseph Church. Openings in all sections with a special invitation to tenors. If you have singing experience and love choral music in the classical vein, contact [info@uottawachoir.ca](mailto:info@uottawachoir.ca). Info: <http://uottawachoir.ca>. Auditions: [auditions@uottawachoir.ca](mailto:auditions@uottawachoir.ca).