

Encounters in Ecumenism

December 2006 /vol. 1 issue 4

'Tis the Season...

"Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love." – Hamilton Wright Mabi

May we fully enter into the spirit of the Christmas season. Together, let us make our hearts, homes and churches welcoming places and actively challenge ourselves to take the initiative to find more and better ways to provide for others.



Scripture to Ponder ...

"And she gave birth to her first born, a son, she wrapped him in swaddling clothes and placed him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn." (Luke 2:7)

Reflection:

Is there room within the "inn" of my life for Christ?

Did you know?

Inn from the Cold started out of a community concern for the growing number of homeless people during the bitterly cold winter of 1996-97. A number of downtown churches met together to decide what they could do to help. The *Inn from the Cold* program was developed by this compassionate group of volunteers, who modeled it after the "Room in the Inn" in Nashville, Tennessee.

On May 2, 1997, the first church opened its doors to provide shelter and hope to Calgary's homeless families and others in need. Since then, an ever-growing number of congregations have joined the program and today there are approximately 75 churches, synagogues and community spaces operating *Inns* on a rotating basis, 365 days a year.

Upcoming Events

Share ecumenical/interfaith activities happening in your parish.
Deadline: 5th of each month. E-mail Anna at ecumenism@rcdiocese-calgary.ab.ca or call 218-5521 with details.

Invitation to Serve:

Calgary Council of Churches meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, currently at Knox Presbyterian Church, 37th St. & Richmond Rd. SW from 4:00-6:00. The RC Diocese is under-represented on this body. If you are interested, contact Anna at 218-5521.

A Head's Up:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2007 falls from January 21-28. January's issue will be sent earlier in the month and will contain information about services around the diocese. **Please send your information as soon as possible.**

Merry Christmas!

Bishop Frederick Henry, Fr. John Murphy – Chair, Joel Christie, Linnea Dixon, Sr. Rose-Anne Engel, Heidi Grogan – Recording Secretary, Michael Heimbecker, Theresa Jamin, Mary Robertson, Carol Sebastian, Harry Ziel, Anna Tremblay – Director

