



# *The Anglican Church of* **St John The Divine**

## **Special Offerings – 2016**

### **January - Refugees**

St. John's plans to sponsor three sets of refugees this year.

- an LGBT Syrian. We hope this application will be relatively speedy, and that this person might be among the 25,000 Syrians due to arrive by the end of February.
- Najat and her husband and their three young children are Palestinians trapped in Syria. They have been on our prayer list for some years and are in Jaramana camp just outside Damascus.
- A mother-son reunion. Our Afghan newcomer has a son living with her ex-husband in Iran. Our parish is going to try and bring the son to Canada. This will not be easy or quick; he might not get here until 2019.

### **February – Emergency Food Services and Alliance Club**

The special blue envelope for February is for [Emergency Food Services](#) and [Alliance Club](#). This provides money for running our food bank and for providing supper and breakfast to the young street people use our [Out of the Rain Night Shelter](#).

### **March - PWRDF**

The special blue envelope for March is for the [Primate's World Relief and Development Fund](#). This is a national organization that serves populations throughout Canada and the world with a special focus on providing disaster relief. PWRDF is the Canadian Anglican response for emergency relief, refugees, development and justice. It's making a difference in the world.

### **April – Sisterhood of St. John the Divine**

The special blue envelope for April is for the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine. The Sisterhood is a contemporary expression of the religious life for women within the Anglican Church of Canada. In our diocese, the Sisters provide a house of prayer, hospitality and worship at St. John's House, 3937 St. Peter's Road, Victoria: email [bchouse@ssjd.ca](mailto:bchouse@ssjd.ca) or call 250-920-7787. You can learn more about the Sisterhood at their website <http://www.ssjd.ca>.

### **May – Victoria-Taiama Project**

The special blue envelope for May is for [Victoria-Taiama](#) Project. Our project is restoring the opportunity for education to the children of Taiama, Sierra Leone.



# *The Anglican Church of* **St John The Divine**

## **June - PEERS**

The special blue envelope for June is for [PEERS Victoria Resource Society](#). [Peers](#) is an innovative, multi-service grassroots agency that was established by, with, and for sex workers in 1995. Through direct service delivery and community partnerships, Peers provides an array of outreach and drop in harm reduction and support services alongside education and employment training for current and former sex workers, in Victoria and on Vancouver Island.

## **July – Threshold Housing Society**

The special blue envelope for July is for [Threshold Housing Society](#). Threshold Housing Society is committed to creating a safe and stable home environment for our community’s vulnerable youth by offering acceptance, transitional housing, life skills, and opportunities to realize their potential and ultimately — hope for the future.

## **August - Refugees**

The special blue envelope for August is a second month for Refugees. As mentioned above, St. John’s plans to sponsor three sets of refugees this year.

## **September – Emergency Food Services**

The special blue envelope for September is for Emergency Food Services.

## **October – Out of the Rain Night Shelter**

The special blue envelope for October is for the [Out of the Rain Night Shelter](#). Our shelter is held on Monday nights through the winter. Other nights are looked after by other people.

## **November – Victoria Native Friendship Centre**

The special blue envelope for November is for the [Native Friendship Centre](#). As a small contribution to our part in reconciling with people of the first nations of the land where we live, we dedicate the November blue envelope to the the [Native Friendship Centre](#).

## **December – Rector’s Discretionary Fund**

The special blue envelope for December is for Rector’s Discretionary Fund. Sometimes called “the rector’s discrete fund”, this money is used by the rector to help people quietly and without embarrassment. It allows him to act quickly in emergencies. It gives him the ability to access funds that are not already dedicated to other purposes.