

Christmas stamps

Early Renaissance paintings from the collection of the National Gallery of Canada were chosen to illustrate the three stamps in this year's Christmas series. Only the focal point of the paintings, mother and infant, appears on the stamps.

The illustration of the 12-cent stamp is taken from an early fifteenth-century painting, *The Madonna of the Flowering Pea*, by an anonymous master of the Cologne School. The 14-cent stamp is

based on the late fifteenth-century painting, *The Virgin and Child with Saint Anthony and Donor*, by Hans Memling of the Flemish School. Illustration for the 30-cent stamp is taken from the centre portion of a fourteenth-century triptych, *The Virgin and Child with Saints, the Annunciation, the Nativity and the Crucifixion*, by Jacopo Di Cione.



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Canada Weekly is published by the Information Services Division, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, K1A 0G2.

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Cette publication existe également en français sous le titre Hebdo Canada.

Algunos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el título Noticiario de Canadá.

The year in review — some events, agreements and visits in 1978

January 16 — Canada and European Atomic Energy Community sign nuclear co-operation pact

January 17-18 — visit to Canada by U.S. Vice-President Walter Mondale

January 24 — Soviet satellite falls from orbit, landing in Northwest Territories

January 24-29 — Minister of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson visits Japan and signs a nuclear co-operation agreement; proceeds to the People's Republic of China

February 3 — announcement of establishment of diplomatic relations with Angola

February 9 — Canada expels 11 Soviet spies

February 16 — announcement of opening of embassy in Kuwait

March 6-10 — President Roy Jenkins of the Commission of the European Communities visits

March 13-14 — Governor-General and Mrs. Léger pay official visit to Spain

March 19-23 — visit of ministerial delegation from Guinea

March 22 — Prime Minister Trudeau addresses the Economic Club of New York

March 31 — death of Dr. Charles Herbert Best, co-discoverer of insulin

April 15 — election of Claude Ryan, former editor of *Le Devoir*, to leadership of Quebec Liberal party

May 5 — Foreign Minister of Japan visits

May 26 — Prime Minister Trudeau gives his first speech at the United Nations General Assembly, during a Special Session on Disarmament

June 6-7 — official visit of Secretary-General of the Council of Europe Georg Kahn-Ackermann

June 7-18 — first official visit of Princess Margriet of the Netherlands. The princess was born in Ottawa on January 19, 1943

June 14-20 — Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson attends meeting of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development in Paris, then travels to Turkey and Cyprus

June 23 — arrival of Chinese parliamentarians (their first visit)

June 23-30 — Saudi Arabian Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani visits

July 7-15 — visit of Japanese parliamentarians

July 16-17 — Prime Minister attends Bonn Summit in Germany

July 26-August 6 — Queen Elizabeth visits Canada, attends Commonwealth Games; also in July — Canada establishes diplomatic relations with Solomon Islands

August 3 — opening of eleventh Commonwealth Games

August 24 — world record for 200-metre individual medley set by Graham Smith (six-time gold medal swimmer at the Commonwealth Games) at the World Aquatic Championship in West Berlin

September 4-8 — Defence Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany Dr. Hans Apel visits

September 19 — memorandum of understanding on satellite photography signed with the United States

October 10-11 — Australian Foreign Minister Andrew Peacock visits

October 16 — Secretary of State for External Affairs attends Namibian discussions in South Africa

October 31-November 2 — Turkish Foreign Minister Gunduz Okcun visits

November 1-2 — visit of Mali President Colonel Moussa Traore, Senegal President Léopold Sedar Senghor, and Mauritania representative Mohammed El Mocktar Ould Samel

November 6-12 — Prime Minister Begin of Israel visits

November 22 — Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement signed by Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance

November 25 — arrival in Montreal of the first Vietnamese refugees from the *Hai Hong*

November 28 — Canadian Michael Birch wins the first French-sponsored transatlantic solo sailboat race

December 1-9 — Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson visits London and Brussels

December 7 — Ed Schreyer named new Governor-General

December 7-8 — Prime Minister Trudeau visits London and Paris