

ST. JOHN'S PARISH WEEKLY

Sunday, November 30th, 2008

The First Sunday in Advent

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Today	Nov 30	9:00 am – Advent Study Group (in Guild Room, see announcement)
		9:45 am – Choir Rehearsal
		10:00 am – Christmas Tree Sale Resumes (at Loring-Greenough House)
		10:30 am – Holy Eucharist, with Sunday School & Nursery Care during the service and Coffee Hour afterwards
Monday	Dec 1	6:30 pm – Yoga (in Parish Hall)
		8:00 pm – AA Women's Step Group (in Guild Room)
Tuesday	Dec 2	10:30 am – Support Group for Mothers with Newborns (“J.P. Moms”)
Wednesday	Dec 3	6:30 pm – Holy Eucharist
Friday	Dec 5	11:00 am – Support Group for Lesbian & Gay Parents with Small Kids
Saturday	Dec 6	10:00 am – Christmas Tree Sale Continues
		9:00 am – Advent Study Group
Sunday	Dec 7	10:00 am – Christmas Tree Sale Continues
		9:45 am – Choir Rehearsal
		10:30 am – Holy Eucharist and Baptism of Mabel Adele Gallagher
		3:00 pm – “Las Posadas” Holiday Celebration (see announcement)
		7:00 pm – First “Night Song” at St. John's (see announcement)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The St. John's Annual Christmas Tree Sale began yesterday on the grounds of Loring Greenough House (12 South St in Jamaica Plain – directly across from the Centre Street Monument). Hours are Saturday and Sunday from 10:00AM until 6:00PM starting November 29th and continuing through December 21st (or while supplies last!). Volunteers Needed! We have the trees and we need help selling them The time commitment for a shift is generally 3-4 hours. No experience is necessary, there are tasks for all physical abilities, it's a great way to get to know fellow parishioners, and it really is FUN! Sign-up sheets will be posted at the back of the Church (it will be THE TALK of Coffee Hour for the next few weeks!). Can't stay for Coffee Hour – simply contact Andrew Schieffelin at 617-851-7387 or 617-524-6933 or <mailto:aschieffelin@brkl.com> Buy your Tree from SJC & Tell your Friends & Family too! We feature fragrant Balsam Fir trees from Nova Scotia in a variety of sizes and grades. Proceeds of the sale benefit St. John's Outreach Programs and Loring Greenough House – it's a great alternative to buying a tree from the large home improvement stores! In addition to being one of our largest fundraisers of the year, the Christmas Tree Sale makes us visible in the community. In fact, there have been a number of people over the years whose first introduction to St John's was through buying a tree. (OVER)

- Advent Meditations: In this season of Advent, Anne will be posting meditations each day until Christmas on the St. John's web site for all to ponder. They will be posted by Saturday night for entire week that follows, just in case you want to read ahead :-). Please use the link under Light Reading on the left hand side of the home page (www.stjohns-jp.org) to get to the Advent Meditations Calendar.
- Christmas Poinsettias - Please consider a donation to cover the cost of decorating the sanctuary for Christmas. A donation of \$20 or more is wonderful, but any amount is greatly appreciated. Checks or cash can be given to Georgia Buck.
- Advent Study Group: "Waiting" will be the theme of an Advent Study Group led by Steve Domienik, Marie Campbell, and Anne Fowler. What does it mean to wait as an individual? As a community? What is spiritual waiting? What does it mean to wait for the Birth of Christ? We will explore these questions using the Gospels assigned for Advent (Year B in the Revised Common Lectionary.) Please join us in the Guildroom at 9.00 a.m. on the Sundays of Advent. All are welcome at any or all sessions.
- Wednesday Evening Holy Eucharists. Please join us on the Wednesdays of Advent, December 3, 10, and 17, for an intimate service of Holy Eucharist with music at 6.30 p.m. in the sanctuary.
- St. John's is a sponsor of "Las Posadas" downtown on Sunday, December 7th. This is the second annual holiday parade and fiesta that commemorates the "immigrant journey" of Mary and Joseph. It will start from the Park Street "T" Station on Boston Common at 3 p.m., go on to St. Paul's Cathedral, and end with fellowship, music and food at the offices of Local 615 of the Service Employees International Union. For more information, talk to Tom Ward or contact Jennifer Chow at 617-246-3509.
- The first "Night Song" will also be December 7th. St. John's will host a new Sunday service at 7 p.m. in a joint ministry with the Sisters of the Society of St. Margaret. It starts the Second Sunday in Advent and will be an hour of meditative jazz, chant and Renaissance music together with the office of Compline. The December 7th program will feature jazz pianist Ben Schwendener on piano with Bob Rainey on saxophone, as well as a quarter of men singing "Rorate Caeli" by Francisco Guerrero, "Ne Timeas Maria" by Tomás Luis de Victoria, and "Purge Me, O Lord" by Thomas Tallis.
- Cookbook Sale!!!! During November and December the famous St. John's Cookbook, JAMAICA PLAIN AND FANCY will be on sale at the table in the entry of the church for \$10 for holiday gifts and cooking with new Recipes. Please give the money to Andrew Schieffelin (marked Cookbook in the bottom left if you're giving a check) or to Alicia Faxon if Andrew isn't around. There are many family recipes and some from Jamaica Plain restaurants so it's a real treasure!
- Sunday School & Nursery Care: All children ages 4 to 12 are invited to attend classes taught downstairs by our dedicated teaching staff. There is also child care for infants and children up to 3 years of age. But just as Jesus welcomed the little ones, children of any age are welcome to sit with their parents in the sanctuary throughout worship services.
- Memorial for Perry Williams: St. John's has gotten 100 copies of *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*, an African American hymnal, in loving memory of The Very Rev'd. Perry Williams. We are still taking contributions to help defray their cost. Hymnals are \$18.00 apiece. Please send checks, payable to St John's and with "Perry Williams Memorial" in the memo line, and to Andrew Schieffelin, 24 Alveston St., Jamaica Plain, 02130.
- 2008 Altar Flowers: A sign-up sheet is posted at the back of the church. Donations of \$30 for flowers can be in honor or memory of loved ones and will be acknowledged in the bulletin. Give Georgia Buck a check marked "flowers" before your selected date.

- Coffee Hour Rota: Please let Evan Smith know at evanmcsmith@comcast.net or 617-477-9231 if you switch coffee hour dates with someone so he can acknowledge the correct individuals in the bulletin.
- Yoga meets every Monday, 6:30-7:45 p.m. in the parish hall. All are welcome! Contact Suzanne Wolk at 617-327-7083 or grindstone2@verizon.net for more information.
- An ounce of prevention: Don't leave anything valuable where it can be seen in your parked car outside the church.

NOTES OF THANKS

- Thanks to this week's coffee hour team of Claire and Dick Laton-Taylor, Shannon McCarthy, and Mary Jo Kane

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Prayers are requested for Betty Rivers, grandmother of Lori Deane, as she faces surgery for removal of scar tissue on her intestines after being admitted to the hospital on Thanksgiving Day.
- Please pray for Timothy O'Brien, friend of the Fowler family who is suffering from the effects of a brain aneurism.
- Prayers are requested for Martha Waldorf who is undergoing intensive treatment and receiving 24 hour care.
- Please sustain your prayers for Ann Davis Goodrum and David Goodrum as David continues a renewed course of treatment for the colon cancer found in his lungs..
- Please pray for Matteo Torres Singer, who is suffering from a rare brain affliction. Matteo is the son of our former associate priest The Rev'd. Michele Torres and her partner Emily. Matteo.
- Continued prayers are requested for Lloyd Dixon who is being treated for cancer.
- Please pray for Dana Tesorero, his wife, and their young daughters. Dana, brother of Dawn Tesorero, is in Iraq for his second tour of duty as an Air Reservist and serves as an Air Base firefighter.
- Please pray for Christopher Cianflone, brother of Caitlin Cianflone. He is about to be deployed to Iraq with his unit.
- Please pray for Walt Borja, brother of Ivan Borja. Along with his Illinois National Guard unit, Walt is about to be deployed to an undisclosed location in the Middle East.