

# ST. JOHN'S PARISH WEEKLY

Sunday, December 7th, 2008

The Second Sunday in Advent

## *THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S*

Today	Dec 7	9:00 am – Advent Study Group (in Guild Room, see announcement) 9:45 am – Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am – Christmas Tree Sale (at the Loring-Greenough House) 10:30 am – Holy Eucharist and Baptism of Mabel Adele Gallagher, with Sunday School & Nursery Care during the service and Coffee Hour afterwards 3:00 pm – “Las Posadas” Holiday Celebration (see announcement) 7:00 pm – First “Night Song” at St. John’s (see announcement)
Monday	Dec 8	6:30 pm – Yoga (in Parish Hall) 8:00 pm – AA Women’s Step Group (in Guild Room)
Tuesday	Dec 9	10:30 am – Support Group for Mothers with Newborns (“J.P. Moms”)
Wednesday	Dec 10	6:30 pm – Holy Eucharist with Music 7:30 pm – Vestry Meeting (in Guild Room)
Friday	Dec 12	11:00 am – Support Group for Lesbian & Gay Parents with Small Kids
Saturday	Dec 13	10:00 am – Christmas Tree Sale Continues
Sunday	Dec 14	9:00 am – Advent Study Group 10:00 am – Christmas Tree Sale 9:45 am – Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am – Holy Eucharist, with Sunday School & Nursery Care 7:00 pm – Night Song

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- In-gathering of Pledge Cards for 2009 is today! Everyone in the parish should have received a mailing with letters from the Rector and the Senior Warden, the Treasurer’s careful explanation of our finances, and a Pledge Card. If you did not receive these materials by mail, do not despair: Extra copies are available at the back of the church. Please give prayerful consideration to what you can pledge to St. John’s 2009 budget. There will be an initial in-gathering of Pledge Cards in today’s Offertory. If you are not ready to make a pledge today, please try to do so next Sunday. Thanks!
- During Advent, There is Holy Eucharist on Wednesday Evenings. Please join us December 3rd, 10th, and/or 17th, for an intimate service of Holy Eucharist with music at 6.30 p.m. in the sanctuary.
- 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 (OVER)

- 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 Guild Room at 9.00 a.m. on the Sundays of Advent. All are welcome at any or all sessions.
- Advent Meditations: In this season of Advent, Anne will be posting meditations each day until Christmas on the St. John's website. 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](http://www.stjohns-jp.org)) to get to the Advent Meditations Calendar.
- “Be an Angel”: Again this year, St. John’s is working with the Massachusetts Department of Social Services (DSS) to provide Christmas presents for children in DSS care. We have been given to responsibility and joy to find gifts for 25 children, ranging in age from 8 months to 17 years. Last Sunday, members of the St. John’s community signed up for 17 children. Eight still need some one to buy them presents. Please look over the information sheets at the back of the church or contact Dawn Tesorero: (508) 222-9337 or [dawn\\_tess@hotmail.com](mailto:dawn_tess@hotmail.com).
- The St. John’s Annual Christmas Tree Sale continues on the grounds of the Loring-Greenough House, 12 South St in Jamaica Plain – directly across from the Centre Street Monument. Hours are Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. through December 21st (or while supplies last!).
- We need Volunteers to Sell Christmas Trees. The trees are here and we need help selling them. The time commitment for a shift is generally 3-4 hours. No experience is necessary and 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 are 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 e-mail him at [aschieffelin@brkl.com](mailto:aschieffelin@brkl.com).
- Please buy your Tree from St. John’s & Tell Friends & Family about the Sale 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 and also the 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 St. John’s more visible in the Jamaica Plain community: There have been a number of people over the years whose first introduction to St John’s was through buying a tree.
- St. John’s is a Proud Sponsor of “Las Posadas” Downtown today at 3 p.m. 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 (SEIU). For more information, talk to Tom Ward or contact Jennifer Chow at 617-246-3509.
- The first “Night Song” Service is This Evening! St. John’s has a new Sunday service at 7 p.m. In a joint ministry with the Sisters of the Society of St. Margaret, an hour of jazz, chant and Renaissance music together with Compline starts today. The program will feature jazz pianist Ben Schwendener with Bob Rainey on saxophone, as well as a male quartet singing “Rorate Caeli” by Francisco Guerrero, “Ne Timeas Maria” by Tomás Luis de Victoria, and “Purge Me, O Lord” by Thomas Tallis. Please tell the music lovers you know about our new service and make plans to come to Night Song.

- A Special 4 p.m. Service Has Been Added on Christmas Eve. This is meant to help families with small children who find it hard to get to the later evening service. It might be a great time for friends and neighbors to worship at St. John's for the first time.
- 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.
- 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.
- Coffee Hour Rota: Please let Evan Smith know at [evanmcsmith@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto: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.

#### NOTE OF THANKS

- Thanks to this week's coffee hour team of Peg Huff, Anne Wetherilt, and Andrew Schieffelin.

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please pray for George Miller, Matthew Cadwell's stepfather who suffered a seizure, cardiac arrest and is currently in a medically induced coma.
- Please pray for Walt Borja, brother of Ivan Borja. Along with his Illinois Air National Guard unit, Walt was deployed last week to an undisclosed location in the Middle East and leaves behind his wife, Kim, and their three small children.
- Please pray for Christopher Cianflone, brother of Caitlin Cianflone. He is about to be deployed to Iraq with his unit.
- 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.
- Please pray for Carol Ann McCullough's continued progress as she recovers from knee replacement surgery.
- Prayers are requested for Martha Waldorf who is undergoing intensive treatment and receiving 24 hour care. (Over)

- 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 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. (OVER)
- 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.