

ST. JOHN'S PARISH WEEKLY
December 20th, 2009
Fourth Sunday of Advent

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Today	December 20	9:30 am – Choir Practice 10:30 am – Holy Eucharist and the Annual St. John's Christmas Pageant, with Child Care and Church School during the service and Coffee Hour afterwards 7:00 pm – Final Night Song of Advent (see announcement)
Monday	December 21	6:30 pm – Yoga (in the Parish Hall) 8:00 pm – AA Women's Step Group (in the Guild Room)
Tuesday	December 22	10:30 am – Support Group for Young Mothers with Newborns, a.k.a. "J.P. Moms" (in the Guild Room)
Thursday	December 24	4:00 pm – Children's Christmas Eve Service, with Holy Eucharist 7:00 pm – Christmas Carol Sing-Along with Peter Terry and Ken Brooks (see announcement below) 7:30 pm – Holy Eucharist and Festal Celebration of Christmas Eve
Friday	December 25	10:30 am – Holy Eucharist and Festal Celebration of Christmas Day
Sunday	December 27	9:30 am – Choir Practice 10:30 am – Holy Eucharist, with Child Care during the service and Coffee Hour afterwards 7:00 pm – Special Night Song: "Quiet Christmas Joy: Love Come Down" (see announcement)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We Welcome Visitors: If you are new to the community or just visiting the neighborhood, please join us after the service for refreshments and conversation. If you would like to get more information about St. John's or to be in touch with a priest, please fill out a visitor's card. Cards can be located in the seatbacks of most pews. For more information about the St. John's community and planned events, also visit our website: www.stjohns-jp.org.
- We Welcome Children: Child care and church school are provided downstairs. Visitors with children are encouraged to check out the classrooms and meet the teachers and caregivers. Children and caregivers come upstairs to join the service at the Peace so they can fully participate in the Eucharist. If you prefer to keep your children upstairs for the entire service, that's also great!
- Please come at 7:00 pm to join the Christmas Carol Sing-Along before the Christmas Eve Main Service at 7:30 pm.
- Alleluia: The Christmas Trees Sold Out Early!
- Save The Date: Sunday School Curriculum workshop with Amy Cook on January 14th from 6-8 pm in the Parish Hall. Come join a facilitated discussion with Amy who is the Christian Formation Specialist and Resource Center Manager from the Episcopal Diocese. She will focus on Sunday School mission & curriculum. We would like teachers, parents and potential Sunday School Committee members to please join us! Look forward to seeing you there!

- The Final Night Song of Advent is This Evening! Night Song will indulge all your senses during a contemplative hour that employs music and art, the soft light of candles and the sweet fragrance of incense. These elements are meant to take you to another place, to help you center your life, and to give you peace. The service is a traditional Compline (more or less as written in the Book of Common Prayer) and the music is a fusion of instrumental jazz, chant and Renaissance choral compositions. This evening's program includes:
 - "*Ecce Advenit*", by William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)
 - The Kyrie from "Plainsong Mass for a Mean", by John Sheppard (c. 1515-1558)
 - "*O Lord, in Thee is All My Trust*" and "*Te Lucis Ante Terminum*", by Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)
 - "*Ne Timeas Maria*", by Tomás Luis de Victoria (c. 1548-1611)

For more information about Night Song, go to either www.nightsong.org or www.stjohns-jp.org/currentEvents/nightSong.shtml.

- A Very Special Night Song, Entitled "Quite Christmas Joy: Love Come Down" will Occur Next Sunday. The program calls for "music on the merry organ, soprano solos, and violin, Christmas carols and the poetry of Irene Zimmerman".
- Thurifer Training for Night Song: Any parishioner interested in training as a thurifer to serve at Night Song should contact Daryl Bichel at 617.312.8328 or darylbichel@aol.com.
- REMINDER! If you have signed up to donate flowers for Sunday service, but have forgotten to pay, please give a check for \$30 (payable to St. John's and marked "flowers") to Georgia Buck ASAP. The new sign up chart will soon be posted at the back of the church for 2010 flower donations in honor of, in thanksgiving for or in memory of someone special.
- Please Help with Collection and Distribution of Angel Food Ministries Boxes. The food ministry at St. John's is really taking off. In the past three months, we have distributed over 300 boxes of food from AFM and we expect the number to keep on growing during the winter months. The next distribution of boxes will be Saturday, January 23rd.

Please consider assisting us any way that you can:

- ✓ We have had some interest in donating food for those in need. From time to time there are inquires from those unable to pay for a box. Please consider making a donation.
- ✓ We are looking for additional volunteers to take special orders once a month on a Wednesday evening at the church. We have these hours for taking orders in person for people who are not able to place orders online or who are using food stamps.
- ✓ We now want to spread the word about Angel Food to the greater community. Let us know if you have ideas about how to get the word out or contacts for media coverage.

To follow up, see Rob Watters or send an email to AFM@stjohns-jp.org. Thanks!

- You Can Now Place Orders for AFM January Boxes. The deadline for orders is Wednesday, January 13th. You can either order on-line at www.angelfoodministries.org or in person when volunteers will be in the Parish Hall to help you: Wednesday, January 6th, 6-7:30 pm; Sunday, January 10th, 11:30 am-12:30 pm; and Wednesday, January 13th, 6-7:30 pm. The menu options for January include the "Signature Box" (enough food to feed a family of four for a week), the "Senior/Convenience Box", the "5 Lb. Allergen-Free Box" (now at an even lower price), a brand new "6 Lb. Seafood Box", a "7 Lb. Assorted Meat Grill Box", a "5 Lb. Assorted Meat & Chicken Combo Box", a "10 Lb. Battered Chicken Wing Box", a "7 Lb. Premium Meat Box", and a "Premium Fresh Fruit & Veggie Box". On-line ordered requires use of a credit or debit card. In-person orders can be paid with cash, checks, EBT cards and food stamps.

- The New Coffee Hour Rota Has Been Published. If you are not on the current Rota, but would like to help share in this important part of St. John's fellowship, please contact Dick at (617) 817-7149 or by email at di.claire@verizon.net.
- Our Stewardship Campaign Continues: If you have not turned in a pledge to support St. John's in 2010, please do so. Thanks!

NOTES OF THANKS

- Thanks to Ed & Maggie Stedman and Nicole Valtz & Geoffrey Parsons for providing Coffee Hour refreshments for our enjoyment.
- Thank you to everyone who helped with sales of Christmas trees in the rain, snow, sun and cold! Our full allotment of 400 trees was sold out thanks to Shannon McCarthy, Dan Codiga, Brian McMichael, Linda Kernohan, Jess Haines, Hope Haff, Liz Hill, Maddie Hernstrom, Linda McMahan (wife, Kristine and their boys, Gabe & Louie), Carlos Alvarez, Pat Race, Dawn Tesorero, Ed Stedman, Jim Ellis, Ken Brooks, Georgia Buck, Natasha Callender-Wilsey, John Travers, Chris Ashley, Carole Belgrade, Dick & Claire Laton-Taylor, Tom Ward, Natasha Seaman (and Helen), Chuck Pratt, Kelly Emmett, Mark Richardson, Natasha & Jenna Callender-Wilsey, Liz Paulson and Brian Gallagher (and anyone we forgot).
- Thanks to Andrew Schieffelin for once again doing an amazing job heading this fundraiser!

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Prayers of thanksgiving for Fr. Paul Bresnahan, friend of John Travers, who has had a successful operation and is at home recuperating.
- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Charles Glidden and his bereaved wife Beatrice.
- Prayers are requested for John Goodman, a friend of Natasha and Jenna Callender-Wilsey, who was recently diagnosed with a rare form of cancer.
- Please pray for Erskine Callender, Natasha's father, who has early stage kidney disease.
- Please pray for Joanne Haskell Katz, friend of John Travers.
- Please pray for Bill Dykes, a friend of Dick and Claire Laton-Taylor, who was recently diagnosed with an advanced form of cancer.
- Please pray for Joanne, friend of Lee Haller, whose breast cancer has recurred and who is facing more surgery and chemotherapy. Prayers also for her husband Ariel and son Daniel.
- Please pray for Carol Lyon, friend of Rebecca Young and Liz Paulson, while she is hospitalized.
- Prayers are requested for Helen Percy, who is battling throat cancer.
- Please pray for Sister Carolyn Darr of the Sisters of St. Margaret, our partner in the Night Song ministry, who is recovering from back surgery.
- Please pray for Linda Campbell, Rodney Campbell's mother.
- Please pray for Jeanne Howland, Erin Cote-Hartford's aunt and godmother, who is being treated for breast cancer.
- Please pray for James Howard and his family, uncle of Rebecca Young, who is at home with hospice.
- Prayers are requested for Jae Saul, friend of Dawn Tesorero and Pat Race, who is suffering from a rare blood disease.
- 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.
- Continued prayers for Lloyd Dickson who continues his treatment for cancer.