

St. John the Baptist Parish

First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2008

Mission Statement of St. John's Parish



Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit the community of St. John's Parish works to spread the Gospel message through a ministry of compassion, education, and stewardship. Our life as believers is centered in the Eucharist, which encourages and fosters a deep sense of identity in Christ Jesus and the mission the Lord Jesus calls us to embrace.

We welcome all who have come to worship in our parish community. If you are new to our parish, please introduce yourself to any of the priests or deacon. May we experience together the love of Jesus Christ.

Liturgical Celebrations

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. (Vigil Mass)

Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.,
11:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Weekdays: 8:00 a.m. Monday - Saturday

Holy Days and Holidays: as announced

Rev. Richard E. Cannon, Pastor

Rev. Mark D. Barr, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Thomas S. Foley, In Residence

Dn. Charles M. Bubello, Senior Deacon

Dn. Paul A. Lewis, Financial Administrator, 617-773-1021

Dn. James D. Boccabella, Transitional Deacon

Elaine Walsh, Administrative Assistant, 617-773-1021

Joanne Curry, Religious Education Director, K-9, 617-479-0125

Donna Niosi, Secretary of Religious Education, 617-479-0125

Paul Kelly, Music Director

Edward Philie, Director of Maintenance, 617-921-1026

St. Vincent de Paul Society, 617-472-4908

Sacrament of Matrimony: Congratulations! In order for the priest or deacon to spiritually work with the couple, arrangements must be made at least six months before the wedding date.

Infant Baptism: Celebrated third Sunday of the month at 1:00 p.m. Call a Parish Priest or Deacon at least one month in advance.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession): Lower chapel, Wednesdays, 8:30-9:30 a.m.; Saturdays, 2:30-3:30 p.m. or by appointment at the rectory.

Confirmation and Holy Orders: Call a Parish Priest or Deacon.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick: Before you enter the hospital for tests or surgery, we encourage you to celebrate the Anointing of the Sick at one of our Eucharistic celebrations. Priests are not available at the hospital as they once were to anoint patients. We strongly advise you to clearly inform the admissions staff at the hospital that you are Catholic and desire to be visited by one of the Catholic Pastoral Care Ministers.

Eucharistic Adoration in the Lower Church Chapel

- ◆ Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- ◆ 1st Monday: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- ◆ 1st Saturday: 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Mass  for the Intentions *for the Week*

Saturday, November 29

8:00 a.m. Parents of the Pham Family
Joseph Tuong Pham & Maria Xuyen Nguyen
4:00 p.m. 21st Anniversary John Kearns

Sunday, November 30

7:30 a.m. Mass for the People
9:00 a.m. 21st Anniversary Rick Miller, Matt Tobin,
Billy Marston & Tim Tobin
11:00 a.m. 9th Anniversary Joseph Curran
5:30 p.m. 1st Anniversary Doris Luongo

Monday, December 1

8:00 a.m.

Tuesday, December 2

8:00 a.m.

Wednesday, December 3

8:00 a.m. Memorial A. Teresa deBrito

Thursday, December 4

8:00 a.m.

Friday, December 5

8:00 a.m.

Saturday, December 6

8:00 a.m. 6th Month Anniversary Maria Luisa Rivera
4:00 p.m. 5th Anniversary Elmer Behenna

Sunday, December 7

7:30 a.m. Mass for the People
9:00 a.m. Memorial Alfonso & Mafalda DiCroce
11:00 a.m. Birthday Memorial Luigi Calisto
5:30 p.m. Memorial Joan Kennedy

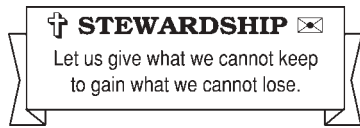
The Spirituality of Stewardship

*Receiving God's Gifts gratefully;
Nurturing God's Gifts responsibly;
Sharing God's Gifts in love and justice;
Returning God's Gifts generously.*

Sunday, November 22/23

The offering for the weekend of November 22/23 will be printed in next week's bulletin due to the Thanksgiving Day holiday and the early transmission to our publisher, Liturgical Press.

There will be one cause of support this weekend, November 29/30 and next weekend, December 6/7.

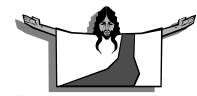


Thank you for your generosity!

Holy Day of Obligation, Monday, December 8

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Monday, December 8, is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Mass schedule for the Holy Day will be Monday, December 8, at 8 a.m., 12:10 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Christ in the City



FOLLOWING JESUS

Deacon Paul Lewis is presenting a DVD lecture series on Tuesday mornings after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. This new series features Fr. George Rutler, pastor of Church of our Saviour in New York City. Fr. Rutler makes regular appearances on EWTN Catholic Network. The series is titled *Christ in the City* and presents Fr. Rutler's ever insightful thoughts on various themes that help us to find Christ in everyday life. All are invited to attend; there is no tuition and no examinations. Light refreshments and hospitality are also included.

Pray the Rosary

St. John the Baptist Parish has a Rosary Prayer Group in anticipation of the celebration of the Immaculate Conception of Mary on December 8. The Rosary Prayer Group is meeting on Thursday nights at 7:00 p.m. in the lower church to pray the rosary and discuss Marian devotion with Fr. Barr. If you have any questions, please contact Matt Olander at 617-388-5923 or via email at mrolander@comcast.net.



There will be an Advent Penance Service at St. John's on Tuesday, December 9 at 7 p.m.

Donations

For the week of November 30, the Bread and Wine are being donated in memory of Rick Miller, Matt Tobin, Billy Marston & Tim Tobin.



If you would like to make a memorial donation for the altar bread and/or the altar wine in memory of a loved one or for a special intention, please call the rectory at 617-773-1021. The donation for the altar bread or the altar wine is \$30 for one week (\$60 for both).

Your Prayers are Requested for:

Marie B. Tardiff and all our parishioners who have died recently and for all our deceased relatives and friends. Also, please remember all those who are ill and please pray for the intentions of all our parishioners.

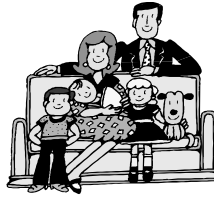


St. Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Giving Tree

If you or someone you know from St. John's Parish is in need of assistance with Christmas gifts for families with young children, please contact the St. Vincent de Paul Society at 617-472-4908. The Society's office hours are each Wednesday evening in the school from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Volunteers will be filling out information forms at that time. The last date to sign up for Christmas is December 3. A picture ID and proof of address must be shown at sign up. The Christmas Giving Tree is for families with children under the age of 18 and living at address shown.



Parish Pictorial Directory



There is only one more week to sign up for our new church family directory and free protrait. Don't miss out. To make this directory a success, we need you to sign up. We will be producing a new pictorial directory and need you in it to make it the best ever. You only visit the church **ONCE**. Allow approximately 30 - 45 minutes for photography and for instant viewing and selection of the portraits you may wish to purchase (no obligation). **Every participating family receives a FREE album ... and a complimentary 8 x 10 color wall portrait.** Photography will begin on Tuesday, December 9 - Saturday, December 13.

Our goal is 100% participation, so please be sure to sign-up for an appointment at the back of the church after Masses this weekend to make this a success.

Singles, couples and families with children are all encouraged to participate. We still need volunteers to act as greeters during portrait sittings. If you can volunteer an hour or two, please call Elaine Walsh, 617-773-1021.

Donations For St. Vincent de Paul

For those who are so generous to the important work of our St. Vincent de Paul Society, please send donations directly into the rectory or please put a yellow envelope directly into the regular parish collection, with the donation clearly marked for the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Sing Praise Family Liturgy Choir

If you are in grade 4-12 and are interested in singing once a month with the Family Choir at the 11:00 a.m. Mass, please join us at 10:15 a.m. for a brief rehearsal on the following days: Sunday, December 7 and Sunday, January 4.

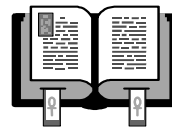
Looking for a Great Stocking Stuffer?

We still have copies of Saint John's Choir recording of "Voices of Praise" and Paul Kelly's Instrumental CD called "Instruments of Peace". CD's are available for purchase for \$10.00 each. Please see Paul Kelly after any Mass.

Pieta - Bishop John Dooher will gather with parents to remember and to honor all dearly loved children of any age who have died. Our 25th annual Lighting Service begins at 7 p.m. on December 3, in St. Theresa of Avila Church, 2078 Centre St., West Roxbury. It will be followed by a reception in the church hall. For information, call Barbara 1-508-384-6663 or Jo 1-508-668-3105 or Roberta 1-508-588-7868.

High School Youth Group - St. John's sponsors a coed, high school aged youth group, based on the Scouting program called Venturing. We blend religious activities with high adventure, outdoor programming, like caving, canoeing, hiking and wilderness camping. We also provide community service and work on developing leadership skills. Our next meeting is Sunday, December 14th from 12:30 p.m. until 2:00 p.m., in the lower church hall, following the 11:00 a.m. Mass. For information, contact Michael Leach, (781) 849-8251 or mrleach@beld.net. We also have a Facebook group.

Extraordinary Form of the Mass



The extraordinary form of the Mass, perhaps better known as simply the "Old Latin Mass," will be offered every first and third Wednesday morning of the month in the lower chapel at 7:00 a.m. The old Mass is the oldest Eucharistic Liturgy that exists in Christendom. The basic form of the old Mass is dated to the time of Pope St. Gregory the Great. Many of the customs and prayers of this Mass date much earlier, with some reaching back to the Apostolic age.

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation Program meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the lower church hall. This program is for any adults who wish to become Catholic and adults who have not yet been confirmed and wish to receive their sacraments leading to entrance into full communion with the Church at the Easter Vigil. For more information, contact Fr. Barr 617-773-1021.



Christmas Festival of Lessons and Carols

St. John's Seminary Schola presents its annual Christmas Festival of Lessons and Carols on Saturday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m. and December 7 at 3:00 p.m. The concerts will take place in the seminary chapel, located at 127 Lake Street in Brighton. The performances are free and are open to the public. For more information, call (617) 254-2610.

1st Sunday of Advent



One of my favorite sayings is, "Be the kind of person your dog thinks you are!" Our family has a history of saving dogs from shelters and other certain fates; every single one of them has been the most loyal, friendly, and loving pet. Our latest, Oreo, was found in a barn on a freezing January morning. Only a pup and suffering from frostbite and injuries from other animals, she wasn't given much chance of survival. But twelve years later, she sits and waits by the front door every afternoon for her master to come home.

"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." Jesus' seemingly stern warning in today's Gospel reading from Mark is really some very prudent advice. Remember that this was not a sermon to a mass of people; Jesus was speaking privately to Peter, James, John, and Andrew and had just finished describing how humankind will recognize the beginning of the end of times. But his final words tell us not to wait until such signs are apparent; today, and every day, we are to live our lives in great expectation. Be the kind of person our heavenly Father thinks we are!

This is the first Sunday of the season of Advent. During this season, we remember God's first covenant, the centuries of time in which he promised a Messiah, a Savior for the world. And despite the centuries and passing of time, those who believed and waited never lost faith. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that in Advent we share the expectations of those who first waited, and renew our expectation for his second coming (CCC 524). Today and for the rest of our lives, let us live forever in a season of Advent, awaiting the coming of Jesus Christ.

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Bereavement Support Group will meet Wednesday, December 10 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Sacred Heart Convent, North Quincy. All who have experienced a loss are welcome to attend and to share in an atmosphere of confidentiality. The facilitators will be Rosemary Kubera and Anne Donovan.



**Calendar of St. John's
Upcoming Dates & Events**

Saturday, November 29

after 4 pm	Mass Sign-up for Parish	Back of
	Pictorial Portrait sittings	Upper Church
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Harvest Kid's Dance (grades 5 & 6)	Lower Church

Sunday, November 30

after all Masses	Sign-up for Parish Pictorial Portrait sittings	Back of Upper Church
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Monday, December 1

7-9 p.m.	First Monday Devotions	Lower Chapel
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Tuesday, December 2

9:00 a.m.	Christ in the City	Lower Church
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Wednesday, December 3

6:30 p.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Society	School
7:00 p.m.	Adult Faith Formation	Lower Church

Thursday, December 4

10 a.m.-3 p.m.	Friends of the Unborn Christmas Party	Lower Church
7:00 p.m.	Rosary Prayer Group with Fr. Barr	Lower Church

Friday, December 5

8:30-4:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction	Lower Chapel
6:00-7:30 p.m.	Brownie/Junior Troop	Lower Church

Saturday, December 6

after 4 p.m.	Mass Sign-up for Parish Pictorial Portrait sittings	Back of Upper Church
8:30 a.m.-10 a.m	First Saturday Devotions	Chapel
1:00-3:30 p.m.	Arise Meeting	Lower Church

Sunday, December 7

after all Masses	Sign-up for Parish Pictorial Pictorial Portrait sittings	Back of Upper Church
6:30-8:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class	Lower Church

Welcome to St. John's

We encourage all our parishioners who worship with us to register. Our registry is a vital source of information that we use when we need to contact parishioners. Please call the rectory, 617-773-1021, or return this form to the rectory by the collection basket, mail, or in person. Would you like to have the bulletin emailed to you?

If you would, please give us your email address: _____

Name: _____ Tel. # _____

Address: _____ City _____ ZIP _____

Check if address change: Moving out of parish Would you like envelopes? (Please circle) YES NO

