
HOLY HAPPENINGS

November 2023

From the Desk of Rev. Diana

This Sunday we get to sing one of my favorite hymns. "I sing a song of the saints of God" Hymn 293. As a child I always wanted to be the shepherdess on the green. Those saints we sing about lived not only in ages past, there are hundreds of thousands still the song reminds us. November is traditionally a time of remembrance and a time of Thanksgiving. We begin the month with a three-day holiday called Allhallowtide. It is all Hallows Eve or Halloween (Oct 31), All Saints Day (Nov 1) and All Souls Day (Nov 2). In Celtic tradition there are many moments considered to be a "thin time," (Liminal space) which means that heaven and earth feel closer, and we might experience moments of connection to those who have gone before us in ways that we don't usually. November 1 is All Saints' Day, one of the principal feasts of the Episcopal Church, when the church remembers the saints, known and unknown. It is also one of the four holy days especially appropriate for baptisms. (The others are the First Sunday after Epiphany, the Easter Vigil, and Pentecost.) The origins of All Saints' Day aren't completely clear. A feast for all martyrs was observed as early as the fourth century on May 13. And Pope Gregory III dedicated a chapel in Rome to all saints on November 1, while Pope Gregory IV officially declared its general observance in 837. In medieval England this feast was known as All Hallows (hallow was an old English term for saint), and the day before was All Hallows' Eve, or Halloween. It is believed that the traditions we associate with Halloween originate with Celtic harvest fes-



Church of the Holy Nativity

OFFICE HOURS

Mon. thru Fri.

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/326275852157>

tivals, in particular the festival of Samhain, which celebrated the harvest and when the dead were said to return to their homes because the veil between the physical and spiritual worlds was thought to be thinnest at that time. Bonfires were lit to frighten away evil spirits.

Did you know that there is an Episcopal service for All Hallows' Eve that includes prayers and readings such as "The Witch of Endor," which it may surprise you to learn is a story from the Bible (1 Samuel 28: 3-25).

November 2 is the commemoration of All Faithful Departed, sometimes called All Souls' Day. It is a day when faithful Christians who have died are remembered. Henri Nowen writes: As we grow older we have more and more people to remember, people who have died before us. It is very important to remember those who have loved us and those we have loved. Remembering them means letting their spirits inspire us in our daily lives. They can become part of our spiritual communities and gently help us as we make decisions on our journeys. Parents, spouses, children, and friends can become true spiritual companions after they have died. Sometimes they can become even more intimate to us after death than when they were with us in life. Remembering the dead is choosing their ongoing companionship. The Saints that have gone before us and those that come after us surround us.

Continued on page 2

Warden's Report

Hard to believe we are almost halfway through the Fall season. A lot of activities are upcoming and ongoing. Our First Saturday supper continues November 4th with a nice pasta meal. Operation Christmas Child, the shoebox ministry of Samaritan's Purse culminates November 12th with a blessing of the shoeboxes before they are sent on their way around the globe. Thanks to all who have picked up a shoebox. Our beloved Holly Fair will be held on November 10th-11th and it has been wonderful to hear and see all the preparations going on so far. (I have enjoyed scraping the pans after my wife has made batch after batch of fudge.)

Another of our many outreach ministries here at Holy Nativity, the Weymouth Youth & Family Services gift drive kicks off on November 12th as well. Please see elsewhere in this newsletter for more detailed information.

It's been wonderful to welcome new members to our parish life partly due to the Welcome to Weymouth event on October 1st at the Weymouth Library the Pumpkin Give-A-Way on October 2nd at the high school and our first Saturday dinners.

One of our other outreach ministries is the First Sunday food drive where donations of food are collected and delivered to the Weymouth Food Pantry for distribution.

I came across this quote from Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who was a German Lutheran pastor, theologian and anti-Nazi dissident and executed in a concentration camp in 1945. He wrote this in prison, and it attests to our ministry with the Weymouth Food Pantry.

"To allow the hungry man to remain hungry would be blasphemy against God and one's neighbor, for what is nearest to God is precisely the need of one's neighbor. It is for the love of Christ, which belongs as much to the hungry man as to myself, that I share my bread with him and that I share my dwelling with the homeless. "If the hungry man does not attain to faith, then the fault falls on those who refused him bread. To provide the hungry man with bread is to prepare the way for the coming of grace."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Ethics

Thanks to all of you who make Holy Nativity such a special place.

Peace & Blessings to all,
Ed Muller

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And as my favorite hymn reminds us: The world is bright with the joyous saints that love to do Jesus' will. You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea, in church or on trains or in shops or at tea. For the saints of God are folk just like me,
And I mean to be one too. How about you?

A Note from the Stewardship Committee

Autumn is upon us, once again, and with it, our annual stewardship drive! The harvest time is one of literal, and symbolic bounty, and therefor is a fitting time for us to reflect upon God's gifts to us, and how we may give back. Our beloved community here at Holy Nativity would not be possible without our mutual support. In the coming days, you will receive a letter explaining the details of this year's campaign, so please keep an eye on your mailbox! We hope you will take some time to prayerfully reflect on what The Church of the Holy Nativity means to you, and how you might help support our ongoing mission. It is important that we, the parish, provide for the needs of the church, so that Holy Nativity will be here, and continue to thrive, now, and for future generations, as it has for all of us.

Thank you, and God bless you all!

Your Stewardship Committee:

Carol Ruggiero
Heather Kasday
Paul MacPhee



**November 5th daylight savings time
ENDS....**

**Don't forget to turn your clocks back on
Saturday, November 4th!**

Sunday School News

For All Saints Sunday, the Sunday school will have a “Saints Scavenger Hunt”. We will hunt through the church for symbols of Saints!

Family Sunday – Friendsgiving

On Sunday, November 19th, we will celebrate “Bring A Friend to Church” or “Friendsgiving” at our 10:00 Family Service.

Please invite a friend to join you for church and coffee hour after the 10:00 service.

This might be a good time to reach out to a member of the congregation, that you haven’t seen for a while, and invite them to come and sit with you at church. Drop them a note and extend the invitation.

Please remember to bring any unwanted coats, hats, and mittens to the church. And if you have Kohls cash, don’t let it go to waste!

Mittens, Hats, Boots

We are looking for mittens, hats, shoes & boots for the people of **Billy's Caring Hands**.

As you pull out your cold weather clothes, please keep these people in mind for any unwanted shoes and warm clothing you may have.

All donations can be left in the church hall or in the Sunday school room.



PARMESAN SPINACH MUSHROOM PASTA SKILLET

INGREDIENTS LIST FOR THE PARMESAN SPINACH

MUSHROOM PASTA RECIPE

14 OZ (400G) FARFALLE PASTA

3 TABLESPOONS OLIVE OIL

3 CLOVES GARLIC, MINCED

14 OZ (400 G) MUSHROOMS, SLICED

10 OZ (300G) FRESH SPINACH

1/2 CUP (125ML) LOW-SODIUM VEGETABLE

BROTH (WE DON'T NECESSARILY NEED ALL OF IT)

FRESH CRACKED PEPPER, TO TASTE

1 TEASPOON ITALIAN SEASONING

1/2 CUP PARMESAN CHEESE, GRATED

1 TEASPOON RED CHILI PEPPER

FLAKES, OPTIONAL

DIRECTIONS

1. To make the parmesan spinach mushroom pasta skillet: Cook the pasta in salted water until al dente, according to the package instructions.
2. Heat 2 tablespoons of olive oil in a large skillet. Add the mushrooms and sauté for about 3 minutes until lightly browned.
3. Add the chopped garlic and cook for about 30 seconds longer. Then deglaze with a bit of vegetable broth. Reduce the heat and cook for about 1-2 minutes longer. Remove mushrooms to a plate and set aside.
4. In the same skillet, add the spinach and cook for 2 minutes until wilted. Adjust seasoning with salt and pepper.
5. Once the pasta is ready, pour off the cooking water. Push spinach on the side in the skillet and add mushroom back, then put drained pasta in the pan and toss to combine. Add parmesan, the last tablespoon of olive oil, and Italian seasoning, and give a quick stir. Serve the parmesan spinach mushroom pasta with red chili pepper flakes and more parmesan, if you like. Enjoy!



The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to provide God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. This is done by preparing shoe boxes filled with gifts for these children. The Parish is once again participating in Operation Christmas Child by preparing shoe boxes to be distributed by Samaritan's Purse.

Shoe boxes are available for pickup at the church; each box has a peel on label inside with gift suggestions. The shoe boxes may be dropped off at the church any Sunday or M-F between 9am-12pm by November 12, 2023, or dropped at the Crossroads Worship Center after November 12, 2023. On November 12th we will have a blessing of the shoeboxes. Here is the schedule for boxes to be dropped off at the Crossroads Worship Center: 241 Broad Street Weymouth, MA 02188-

**Mon, Nov. 13: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
 Tue, Nov. 14: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
 Wed, Nov. 15: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
 Thu, Nov. 16: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
 Fri, Nov. 17: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
 Sat, Nov. 18: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
 Sun, Nov. 19: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
 Mon, Nov. 20: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

Please contact Ed Muller at edthedetective@comcast.com or by phone at 781-422-4135 with any questions. Thanks to all who participate in this outreach program of Holy Nativity.

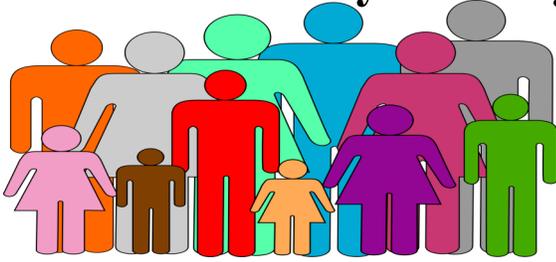
Weymouth Youth & Family Services Gift Drive 2023

The parish of Holy Nativity again is assisting the Weymouth Youth & Family Services (WY&FS) in providing Christmas gifts for needy families in Weymouth. This year we have adopted five families and received their wish lists from the WY&FS. The wish lists have been assembled and may be accessed at Myregistry.com after November 12th. For those who prefer not to shop, cash donations for gifts may be contributed through the registry or given to Ed Muller. If you can't shop online, please contact Ed for a copy of the wish lists. Gifts purchased from the registry may be delivered to Ed or the donor. Gifts sent to the donor should be brought to the church no later than December 17, 2023. A "Wrapping Party" is scheduled for Sunday, December 17th, after the 10am service.

Here is the information for the gift registry: Online Registry: Myregistry.com
 Wish List Name: Holy Nativity Church
 Password: HolyNativity2023

Thanks to all who can assist in this ministry and please contact Ed Muller with any questions or concerns at 781-422-4135 or via e-mail at: edthedetective@comcast.net

Activities at Holy Nativity



Saturday, November 4th at 4:30

**The First Saturday Dinner
in Asher-Stoddard Hall**

Pasta Dinner will be served!



**All are welcome
Free will donation**

This is a great opportunity to bring a friend to introduce to our Church family!

Please help!

We are confirming everyone's contact information, please fill out a **Church Directory Information Sheet**, found at the back of the church and in your bulletin.

We appreciate your cooperation with this.

Save the Date

Children's Concert

(and for all those who are young at heart!)

Saturday, December 2nd at 11am
Church of the Holy Nativity

Join Marie-Elise and Judy as they present Children's Music, Poetry and Readings

Free will offering in aid of HN's stair-lift project

First Food Sunday November 5th

Here's a list of items the Pantry needs most:

Non-Perishables:

- Jam and/or jelly
- Hearty soups (i.e. Progresso, Chunky)
- Ready to Eat (canned pasta, chili, hash)
- Jarred Pasta sauce
- Side dishes (seasoned rice, Knorr's, Zataran's etc.)
- Cereal
- Ground coffee and tea
- Condiments (dressing, bbq sauce, ketchup, mayonnaise etc)
- White tuna
- Crispy Onions (for green bean casserole)

Thank you for making sure our shelves are stocked. We are here to help, thanks to you.

The Weymouth Food Pantry receives over 1,400 visits per month from economically-distressed families in our community looking for help, and we are funded mostly by Weymouth residents and neighbors (#WeymouthProud).

Thank you for your help!

Please drop off your non-perishable items at church on Sunday, November 5th





The Holly Fair 2023
Friday, November 10, from 3pm-8pm
and Saturday November 11, from 9am-3pm

The Sign-Up Sheets have been posted in the parish hall!!

As you all know this is our biggest fundraiser every year!

Please consider donating one hour of your time during the Holly Fair!

You can also contribute by baking or donating to a table below!!!!

Remember, “many hands make light work” and your donations are greatly appreciated!!!

Table Chairs once again will be:

Donna Lucier, Bake Table

Linda Muller, Fudge Table

Patty Donovan & Paula Avitabile, Country Table

Lori Butler & Joyce MacPhee, Jewelry Table

Laura Kintz, Silent Auction

Pat, Sheila and Bob DeMore, Snack Bar and Dinner

Maryann Gurney, Instant Ticket Raffle

Ron Russo, Ticket Sales

Jim Kimball, Jay Asher & Joyce MacPhee, Advertising & Marketing

Thank you!

Jim Kimball 781-883-6735 & Joyce MacPhee 617-827-4139, Co-chairs
jdkimball@aol.com, joyce.macphee@hotmail.com





Holly Fair Help Needed

Holly Fair's Country Table is looking for crafty knitters and sewers. Hats and mittens are big sellers. We have beautiful Christmas material ready to sew into hanging panels and Advent Calendars. *All set to sew!* Easy to make **No Sew** fleece tie blankets also go fast!! Walmart, Target and JoAnn's carry assorted fleece. Kids love them! Great gifts for Christmas!

If your specialty is canning, such as sweet, dill, hot pepper, tomato, or zucchini, etc., whatever is your talent to share, The Country Table is looking for YOU!

Not a knitter, sewer or cook?? No worries!!! Maybe selling and greeting folks as they shop is your talent! Volunteers needed for Friday, 11/10 3-8pm and Saturday, 11/11 9-3pm. Sign up sheets in the Parish Hall for times convenient for you.

Please sent text or call Paula Avitabile at 617-750-9564 or Patty Donovan at 781-901-2240 for more information or any questions.

The Holly Fair is fast approaching, and the **Silent Auction** is seeking donations of items, gift cards, and gift baskets to be included in the lineup of auction items. In addition, we will happily accept cash donations to be used to purchase items for gift baskets. Cash donations can be given to Jim Kimball. Please contact Laura (Muller) Kintz with any questions or to donate items, at LauraRuth-Kintz@gmail.com. Thank you to the parish community for your assistance in making this year's Silent Auction a successful one!

The Holly Fair Fudge Table needs you! If you are able to make fudge for us or help at the fudge table this year, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Asher Stoddard Hall. You can also call or email me (Linda Muller) at 781-413-1066 or LAM215@comcast.net. If you've been looking for a table to work at during the Holly Fair the fudge table is an easy and fun place to be. We can use your help! All varieties of fudge are welcome – chocolate and chocolate walnut are perennial favorites, but the fair goers also love the specialty flavors contributed by parishioners. I need to have the fudge in time to carefully cut and package it before the fair, so please bring yours to the church kitchen refrigerator by November 7 if possible. The fudge freezes well, so you can actually make it early and get it to me any time in October. Many thanks to those who have contributed in the past and made the table so successful. It will be exciting to share the experience of the Holly Fair again!

New to the Holly Fair this year

A tombola is a form of raffle in which prizes are pre-assigned to winning tickets. Typically, numbered raffle tickets are used, with prizes allocated to all those ending in a particular digit (traditionally a five or a zero). We are looking for lots of candy, cookies, snacks, bath/shower products, plants, alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks (cans or bottles), small toys, dried, canned or boxed food, toys and small gifts.

Starting this Sunday, October 1st there will be a collection box in the Asher Stoddard Hall labelled Tombola and any donations are gratefully received. For more information, please see Judy Leamy, email her at usleamys@gmail.com or call her 617-633-5787

Scratch Tickets Wanted!

There will be a Scratch Ticket Board at the Holly Fair again this year. If you could donate some scratch tickets for this board, that would be greatly appreciated! Or, if you want to donate money for scratch tickets, Maryann Gurney will purchase them for you. Maybe this will be the year we have a big winner! I need your tickets before the end of October so I have time to incorporate them into the Scratch Ticket board.



Tuesday Morning Eucharist and Luncheon

Mid-week eucharist and luncheon will continue weekly at 11:30. This quiet service has become a favorite with many people, even if they are only able to attend occasionally.

The conversation is lively as old and new friends catch up from the week over lunch.



November 19th Friendsgiving Celebration

Please join us in a Celebration of Thanksgiving with all our friends. We will have a special family service with familiar hymns and an opportunity to give thanks to God for all our blessings and friendships. Is there someone you remember from the “good old days”. We would like to invite them to join us and rekindle old friendships. Please leave the name and address if you know it of people we can invite in the basket at the back of the church or email the office. We will do our best to get an invitation out in the mail ASAP. We will also have a special coffee hour and we ask you to bring a favorite Thanksgiving treat to share. It can be an appetizer or a dessert. Get ready for Friendsgiving: What are you grateful for?

Next Vestry Meeting

The next Vestry meeting will be
Tuesday, December 5th
NO MEETING IN NOVEMBER

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the **December** Holy Happenings will be
Thursday, November 23rd
Articles may be submitted via snail mail, dropped off in the bin on the office door or sent by email to the church office:
office@holynativityweymouth.org



As a Parish, We pray for:

Anne and Ed
Bill Lucier
Brian
Carolyn Butterfield
Cathy
Chris
Corinne
Debbie Y.
Deborah
Ed Walsh
Freddy
Ginny
Herb
Janet Lawson
Jim Murphy
Joan D.
Joe Kimball
Judith Fenton
Kendall Demore
Laurie Hasty
Linda
Linda Cardillo
Linda Chadbourne
Mallory J.
Marilyn & Matt J.
Matt
Paige
Pam Walston
Patty Sewell
Peggy Cinotto
Robert Vinton
Shannon
Sophia
Terri Crowley
Tom Grono
William Terry, Jr.

HOLY HAPPENINGS

Church of the Holy Nativity
8 Nevin Road
South Weymouth, MA 02190

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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MAILED

Important Dates

**Saturday, November 4th-
Free Dinner Saturday
Pasta Dinner**

**Sunday, Nov. 5th Adult Fo-
rum**

**Sunday, Nov. 5th All Saint's
Day**

**Sunday, November 5th
First food Sunday**

**Holly Fair
Friday, Nov. 10th 3-8
Sat., Nov. 11th 9-3**

Mission Statement

The family of the Church of the Holy Nativity is called to be a caring community, committed to spiritual development; encouraging growth in each member's personal relationship with God, through Christ; by providing educational opportunities for youth and adults as well as Christian Formation for all, going forth to share God's message of love and forgiveness.



Important Dates

**Sunday, Nov. 5th. Tickets
are on sale for the Holly
Fair Turkey Dinner
Nov. 11th at 6:30 tickets
can be purchased
(\$10.00 Adults / \$7.00
Children) after Sunday
10:00 service**

**Sunday, Nov. 19th
Friendsgiving**

**Thurs., November 23rd
Holy Happenings Dead-
line**

Looking ahead:

**Saturday, Dec. 2nd
at 11am A Children's
Concert at The Church of
the Holy Nativity**