

HOLY HAPPENINGS

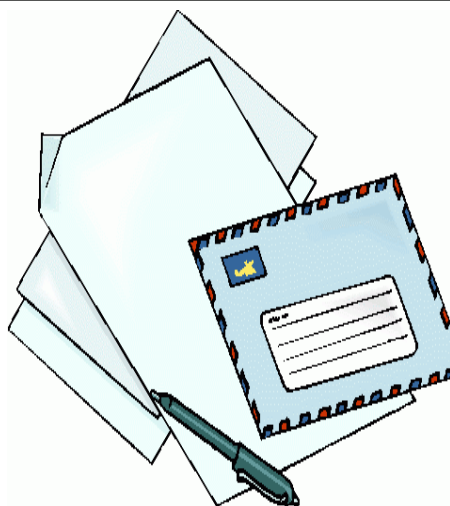
Volume 24 Issue 3

April 2016

THE LETTER

With all of its glory and pageantry, music and joy, Easter Sunday has passed yet our Easter season remains. With the celebration of our Lord's resurrection there is also the renewal of new life in our surroundings as trees blossom and flowers bloom. So much work goes into the preparation of our Lenten and Easter celebrations and on Easter morning it is so wonderful to see so many people pass through our doors. The celebration of Easter is a reminder that Jesus is alive and most certainly present among all of us at Holy Nativity. A good testament of the Gospel is found right here within all of you and all you do to make Holy Nativity such a wonderfully loving and spiritually fulfilling place.

Sometime ago a parishioner sent me a letter, the content of her expression in what she found here at Holy Nativity even astounded me. I began to realize that even as rector, in all of my business I too sometime fail to grasp the enormity of all we do in the name of our risen Lord Jesus Christ. In this most beautiful masterpiece of a letter she wrote;



CHURCH OF THE HOLY NATIVITY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday
Holy Eucharist - 8 & 10 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

NURSERY AVAILABLE
9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

OFFICE HOURS
Mon. thru Fri. - 9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Parish Office 781-335-2030
Rector 781-974-7392

E- Mail:
office@holynativityweymouth.org

WEBSITE:
www.holynativityweymouth.org

The Rev. Harold G. Birkenhead, Rector
The Rev. Brad Hultman, Asst. Priest
Casey Hannan, Organist & Choirmaster
Lizzi Campbell, Secretary
Bob Thomas, Sexton
Brian Smith, Warden
Steve Williams, Warden

How does one define our Church? Is it the beautiful building? Is it the beautiful grounds? Is it our priests? Or is it the wonderfully friendly, crazy, lovely, outspoken, interesting group of people who make up our parish? Sometimes Father Harry and Brad call us all nuts! Are they far from the truth? Or does the description hit the nail on the head? We are all nuts because sometime we do all the zany things a nut would do. We prepare and host our annual Holly Fair. We teach our children how to pray and sing in order to become 'Children of God as well as Children for God.' We rely on the choir to keep singing in check and to provide us with beautiful anthems. We teach each other about the Bible and understand our faith with Bible studies and Men's discussion Group. We knit together and have Christian conversation with the Knitwits. We beautify our chapel and altar with the care of our Altar Guild. We converse and provide companionship with the Women's Group. Our Acolytes lead us in our procession to begin our service. Lay readers read to us Holy Scripture that is so important to our Christian well-being.
(cont'd on pg. 4)

RUMMAGE SALE

Our annual Rummage Sale will be held Saturday, April 30th from 9 am to 1pm. It's a great time to clean your closets out.

We are looking for donations of clean clothes, linens, bedding and accessories.

Small knick knacks and kitchen accessories also sell well.

Donations can be dropped off and placed in the back hall.

There is a sign up sheet for anyone interested in helping. Setup will start Thursday April 28th at 9am. Contact Charlene with any questions at charbirk@aol.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the book drive for the Pediatric Ward at South Shore Hospital. Many people donated books, crayons, coloring books, and playing cards. We also had over \$200 in cash donations that was used to purchase books through Scholastic Books. The Sunday school children walked to South Shore Hospital on Palm Sunday and delivered approximately 150 books along with the other items collected. They were very happy for the donations!

We also collected food for the Weymouth Food Pantry and sent homemade cards to soldiers who are stationed overseas. Lent was a very busy time in the Sunday school classrooms!

There will be no Sunday school classes on April 17th for the start of April school vacation.

**MYSTICAL THEMES
IN HOLY SCRIPTURE**

Sunday April 10
PLANNING MEETING

There are teachings, parables and scripture lessons common to all religions, philosophies and cultures. These common elements are most prevalent in the wisdom teachings and mysticism.

This study during the season of Lent went so well, we will continue. The meeting Sunday, April 10 after Coffee Hour will be to plan the structure and topics going forward and the class meeting times and dates. You do not need to have attended the Lenten classes to participate. If you are interested, we would love to see you.

Any questions, please speak with Fr. Brad.

**Newsletter
Deadline**

The deadline for the **MAY 2016** Holy Happenings will be **Thursday, April 14**. Articles may be submitted via snail mail, dropped off in the bin on the office door or sent to email office@holynativityweymouth.org. Thank you.

**FOOD FIRST
SUNDAY**

Food First Sunday will be **Sunday, April 3**. The pantry would appreciate any paper products. Thank you.

**Coffee Hour Hosts
Needed**

Please sign up on the Coffee Hour sheet in the Asher-Stoddard Hall. If you have any questions, please call Ed Muller at 781-337-7165.

Home Communion

If you or a relative are unable to get to church to celebrate the Eucharist at any time during the year, please call the office at 781.335.2030 to schedule a Home Communion with Fr. Harry or Fr. Brad. The visit will be arranged at your convenience, days or evenings.

VESTRY

The next Vestry meeting will be **Wednesday, April 20, 2015** at 7:30 pm following a service of Compline at 7:00 pm.

**Tuesday Morning Eucharist
and Luncheon**

Did you miss Sunday's service? Are you hungry for the word of God? Would you enjoy relaxing during a Eucharist and then enjoy a light lunch and some great conversation? Then Holy Nativity offers you a wonderfully quiet but spiritual Eucharist followed by a light luncheon and conversation every Tuesday at 11:30 am. If you know someone who wishes to come along then remind them they don't have to be a church member or even an Episcopalian. Just come along and pray, be fed by the Lord and then enjoy a luncheon of fellowship and good cheer.

**AS A PARISH,
WE PRAY FOR:**

- ABBY C.
- ARLEEN & RICHARD BOYD
- ASHLEY & MIA EISSANTI
- ASHLEY SMITH
- BILL GARRITY
- BILL LUCIER
- BILLIE-JO ROGERS
- CAROL CONNOLLOY
- CECILY
- DANIELLE
- DIANE ORRICO
- EWEN MCDONALD
- FATHER STEVE
- GERI
- JACKIE SAMPSON
- JOHN GREENE
- JOHN HODSON, SR.
- JOHN HODSON, JR.
- JOSEPH MICHAEL
- KATHERINE
- KYLE & MEREDITH LEAHY
- LAURA
- LUCILLE OLSON
- MARILYN
- MYRTLE PERKINS
- NIC SORRENTINO
- PAIGE
- PHIL STEPHAN
- RAY THORNE
- RAYMOND GAGNON
- RICK
- RITA, PAUL & EVAN REDMOND
- ROCKY
- ROSE
- SOPHIA M.
- STEPHEN CONNOLLOY
- STEVE
- TERRI WILLIAMS
- THOM & MAUREEN SHORTT
- TIM
- VAL AND HER FAMILY

(cont'd from page 1)

We are under the faithful watch of the Prayer Group and our Healing Station for our needs or the needs of others. Our Wardens and Vestry keep our church community running with efficiency and quiet collection. They have a big job. The Craft Group gathers to produce crafts for sale and they provide more Christian conversation and connection between our members. And who can forget the Stewardship Committee that keeps us all wanting to give to our church for the smooth running of the entire parish. Home Communion/ Outreach really brings us out to the community at large. And the Nursery Attendants who provides us with good childcare so some of us can attend church knowing our little ones are safe. And then there are the biggest nuts of all – Father Harry and Father Brad. They are the lead nuts and we follow them, sometimes without question, but mostly with a question about our Christian and Episcopal faith and how we as nuts, fit into it

Holy Nativity is most certainly a wild mixture, the bunch of us. But a mixture that is loved appreciated and respected as we go through our journeys in our life with Jesus Christ.

So wrote the author of this letter and she is right. As I have always said, we are most certainly a group of nut flakes and fruits, but when God puts us all together we make up one healthy granola bar called The Church of the Holy Nativity.

Alleluia! Christ has risen and he has blessed us all. Fr, Harry.

PRAYER LIST – The parish of Holy Nativity and the Prayer Chain gladly remember anyone placed on the Prayer List. The original intent of the Prayer List had individuals on for only two to four weeks unless the office was informed. Understanding that there are chronic conditions and major life events, prayer recipients have been allowed to remain on for longer periods without any updates.

To allow individuals on the list the benefit of more focused prayers, The Church of the Holy Nativity asks members who have requested prayers for individuals to contact the office with an update. If there is no new information by the end of April, names will be removed in May.

Beginning in May, prayer recipients will be kept on the list for 6 months unless otherwise informed.

Please call 781.335.2030 or email office@holynativityweymouth.org.



HOLY HAPPENINGS

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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MAILED
April 4, 2016

Important Dates

April 9
Weymouth Garden Club

April 10
Mystical Themes planning meeting

April 14
Holy Happenings articles due

April 17
No Sunday School

April 20
Vestry

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

April 24
Book Sale

April 28
Rummage Sale set up

April 29
Rummage Sale set up

April 30
RUMMAGE SALE