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# HOLY HAPPENINGS

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November 2020

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**From  
the Rev. Laurie Rofinot,  
our Interim Priest**

When I was young I learned the children's hymn, "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God," (in our current Hymnal 1982 #293 - composed by Lesbia Scott in 1929), one of those particularly English songs that includes among the saints doctors, soldiers, queens and shepherdesses on the green. I sang with gusto, "You can meet them in school or in lanes or at sea, in church or in trains or in shops or at tea," even though I had never been on a train, never had tea and biscuits, never met a queen or a shepherdess. As the Episcopal Church USA developed a new hymnal in the 1970s, I remember people making fun of the hymn as too old-fashioned and silly to sing anymore. The hymn committee left it out, only to be met with ferocious support for putting it back in, from many for whom it was their FAVORITE hymn! So back in it went. I confess that it is one of my favorites too, because the central themes are these:

- "They loved the Lord so dear, so dear, and his love made them strong; and they followed the right for Jesus'

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**CHURCH OF THE HOLY  
NATIVITY**

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICE**

*Sunday Morning Prayer  
Sunday 10 a.m.*

**OFFICE HOURS**

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

Parish Office 781-335-2030  
Interim Priest 617-776-5604

E- Mail:  
office@holynativityweymouth.org

WEBSITE:  
www.holynativityweymouth.org

The Rev. Laurie Rofinot, Interim

Organist & Choirmaster  
Marie-Elise Boyer

Ed Muller, Warden  
Ron Russo, Warden  
Jim Kimball, Treasurer

Maryann Gurney, Director of Christian Ed

Michael McGlynn, Sexton  
Deb Robie, Secretary

## WARDENS REPORT

Peace be with you.

We have recently received a questionnaire from the Search Committee. The results were not as we expected. Only 34 questionnaires were returned. Please make every effort to fill them out and return them to the church office. We cannot stress enough how important your input is to this overall process. If you have misplaced the questionnaire, please contact Steve Williams at 781-982-4994.

Now that fall is here, the clocks will have to be turned back this Sunday, November 1st and we once again have to begin preparing for the winter months to come. To be sure, this year will be different than in the past. As you may already know, the Holly Fair has been cancelled this year. We do, however, have a couple of events taking place in the church hall. Yoga classes have begun once again. Anyone interested in attending is asked to please contact Kathy Midi 781-424-0803. Also, Marie-Elise our new organist and choir director, will soon begin music lessons. Those who are interested should contact the church office.

Paul McPhee and Carol Ruggiero of the Stewardship Committee, will soon be contacting us. More information will be forthcoming on that subject. At last week's outdoor service, Ed Muller provided us with the shoe boxes for the Sa-

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<b>INCOME</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Budget 2020</b>
PLATE OFFERING	30.00	1,198.00	10,000.00
PLEDGE	7,142.00	80,352.00	100,000.00
OUTREACH	440.00	23,230.00	32,000.00
SPECIAL DAYS & OFFERING	-	762.00	4,000.00
SPECIAL EVENTS	-	372.00	1,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,612.00</b>	<b>105,914.00</b>	<b>147,500.00</b>
MUSIC FUND	-	97.00	
INT. & DIV. INCOME	38.63	1,219.80	
SPECIAL PURPOSE	4,025.00	20,474.00	
<b>totals</b>	<b>11,675.63</b>	<b>127,704.80</b>	
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Budget 2020</b>
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	-	-	200.00
CLERGY PENSION POOL	-	1,371.55	4,129.63
DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT	-	-	13,323.00
ELECTRICITY	636.07	4,563.62	6,000.00
EQUITY ACCOUNT	-	-	809.00
GAS	138.22	5,623.77	7,000.00
GEN. PARISH	-	692.72	800.00
GENERAL INSURANCE	-	6,616.75	9,000.00
GENERAL MAINT.	-	1,364.03	750.00
HEALTH INSURANCE	-	251.50	3,563.50
HOUSING ALLOWANCE	500.00	500.00	1,500.00
MAINT. CONTRACTS	-	-	-
MUSIC SUP: SUB ORGANIST	225.00	1,425.00	500.00
MUSIC SUPPLIES	-	208.00	250.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES	58.38	724.50	4,000.00
OUTREACH	-	-	200.00
PRINTING & BULLETINS	149.59	1,346.31	2,000.00
SALARY: CLERGY	3,330.66	3,330.66	13,822.67
SALARY: ASSIST. CLERGY	-	1,500.00	1,500.00
SALARY: DIR. OF MUSIC	-	3,000.00	12,000.00
SALARY: SECRETARY	850.00	7,650.00	10,200.00
SALARY: SEXTON	624.00	5,616.00	7,488.00
SALARY: DIR. OF CHRISTIAN ED	222.23	3,555.68	4,000.00
SEARCH COMMITTEE	-	750.00	2,000.00
SPECIAL EVENT EXP.	-	-	-
STEWARDSHIP	-	398.13	400.00
STOKES LOAN	207.65	1,868.85	2,491.80
TAXES	518.40	6,192.36	2,000.00
(less withheld taxes)	(286.66)	(4,004.45)	
TEL. TV & INTERNET	200.02	1,776.81	2,500.00
TRASH	158.00	1,072.00	1,380.00
TRAVEL	-	2,500.00	3,000.00
WATER	264.75	1,110.37	1,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,796.31</b>	<b>61,004.16</b>	<b>118,307.60</b>
SPECIAL OFF. UTOW		-	
SPECIAL PURPOSE	4,959.53	19,636.33	
<b>totals</b>	<b>12,755.84</b>	<b>80,640.49</b>	

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maritan Drive. We hope you will be able to participate in this year's drive. Please refer any questions regarding this outreach program to Ed 781-337-7165.

Special thanks to our Regathering Committee not only for providing us with outdoor services, but also working with the Dioceses to getting us on track. They have been instrumental in getting our parish in the conditions necessary that will eventually lead to successful indoor services.

We have been blessed to have such dedicated parishioners that have been tirelessly working to keep our parish on target; the Search Committee, Regathering Committee, the Technology Committee, the Vestry, our Rector, our Treasurer, our Sunday School Teachers, and their Staff.

Please keep the parishioners that participate in these ministries in your prayers as they tirelessly work for you.

Ron Russo and Ed Muller, Wardens

### A note from the Treasurer

I want to continue to thank you for your efforts in keeping up your pledges! I know this has not been a good year for many of you, but again, thank you!

As you all know by now, we have had to cancel the fair because of the COVID pandemic! This has always been a successful fund raiser for us that allows us to pay our assessment and other small maintenance projects needed for the upkeep of our church! I would like to ask you to think about the money you may have spent for or at the fair, and make a separate donation to the church in that amount if you are able to at this time! Please keep this donation separate from you pledge, your statements will reflect this other amount as well!

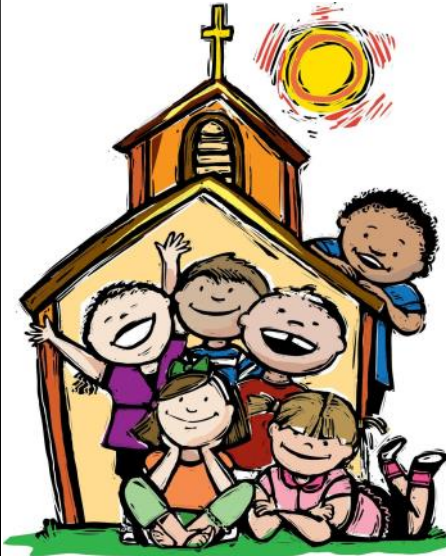
Peace, Jim!

**Church of the Holy Nativity  
Regathering Committee**

In September the vestry appointed a Regathering Committee (RG) to prepare for holding outdoor services, and when safe, indoor ones. In order to hold services outside the RG (using Diocese guidelines) instituted a tracking method to record attendance (Evenbrite), mapped the grass to allow for social distancing, placed hand sanitizers at entry and exit points, and guided parishioners to and from their places. We have been fortunate that the weather has been dry allowing us to hold several Sunday services.

Behind the scenes there was, and continues to be, a beehive of activity working towards safely readying the church for indoor services. The Diocese appointed the committee a Regathering Shepherd whose role is to guide the church on meeting the required steps to open. Once approved, the vestry will consider if and when to hold indoor services and how many pre-registered attendees will be allowed to attend per service.

Regathering Committee  
co-chairs,  
Heather Kasday  
Judy Leamy



**Sunday School**

Attendance for Sunday school was strong during the month of October. We have about 12 kids most Sundays.

We've done some exciting things on Zoom such as playing a Fall Guessing game and a favorite game we would play in the classroom called "What's In The Bag?".

Some of the kids celebrated National Make A Difference Day by visiting with relatives they hadn't seen for a while, buying groceries for grandparents, and collecting items for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.

For the Blessing of The Pets Day some kids came to the church to "Chalk the Walk". They used chalk to draw various, colorful animals on the sidewalk outside the church.

In November we will play an All Saints Bingo game on Zoom and send Thanksgiving cards to Veterans who are at the VA hospital with Rocky Ruggiero.

**Book Club News**

We finished reading *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein. When we met to discuss the book, we shared some heart warming stories about our pets as well as some funny stories about ourselves.

The book we are currently reading is "Cane River", a 2001 family saga by *Lalita Tademy*. It is a blend of fact and fiction about four generations of the author's slave-born female ancestors and their lives from the 1830s to the 1930s. ~ Maryann Gurney



**Wednesday  
November, 25th  
Thanksgiving Eve  
Zoom Service at  
7:00PM**

**Daylight Saving  
Time ends on Sunday,  
November 1, 2020, at  
2:00 A.M.**

On Saturday night, set your clocks back one hour (i.e., gaining one hour) to "fall back."

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sake the whole of their good lives long.”

- They also “lived not only in ages past, there are hundreds of thousands still; the world is bright with the joyous saints who love to do Jesus’ will,”

- AND “For the Saints of God are folk just like me, and I mean to be one too!”

How inspiring is THAT? We are all called to be Saints of God. It’s not complicated and we don’t have to be famous or even heroic, just love God and live good lives for Jesus’ sake, in the here and now, right where we are planted. And in fact we can all probably name people in our lives who first showed us the way. Brother Luke Ditewig, one of the SSJE monks at the monastery in Cambridge, wrote recently:

“Who are saints in your family of faith? Who washed your feet, showed you God’s love? Going back further, who formed them? Whether or not you know their names or stories, give thanks for your spiritual ancestors today. They surround us in the great cloud of witnesses and keep pointing us to Jesus” (*SSJE’s daily email meditation, “Brother, Give Us a Word”, November 2, 2019*).

This Sunday is All Saints’ Day, and at Holy Nativity during our Church on the Lawn (God willing and the weather



**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 in the parish office; each box has a peel on label inside with gift suggestions. For those who have already picked up boxes there is a link in this article to gift suggestions. The shoe boxes may be dropped off at the church M-F between 9am-12pm before November 15, 2020 or dropped at the Crossroads Worship Center after November 15, 2020. Here is the schedule for boxes to be dropped off at the Crossroads Worship Center:  
241 Broad Street Weymouth, MA  
02188-3524**

**Mon, Nov. 16: 4:00 - 6:00 PM  
Tue, Nov. 17: 4:00 - 6:00 PM  
Wed, Nov. 18: 4:00 - 6:00 PM  
Thu, Nov. 19: 4:00 - 6:00 PM  
Fri, Nov. 20: 4:00 - 6:00 PM  
Sat, Nov. 21: 9:00 - 11:00 AM  
Sun, Nov. 22: 9:00 - 11:00 AM  
Mon, Nov. 23: 9:00 - 11:00 AM**

**Please contact Ed Muller: at [edthedecive@comcast.com](mailto:edthedecive@comcast.com) or Maryann Gurney: [1019Gurney@comcast.net](mailto:1019Gurney@comcast.net) with any questions. Thanks to all who can participate in this outreach program of Holy Nativity.**

**Continued**

cooperates) as well as at Church on Zoom, we will be singing, “I Sing a Song of the Saints of God,” and “For All the Saints” and “When the Saints Go Marching In.” I hope you can join us for the celebration!

Many blessings, Rev. Laurie

### Tips for Zoom Service attendees

1. Mute your microphone. To help keep background noise to a minimum, make sure you mute your microphone when you are not speaking.
2. Be mindful of background noise. ...
3. Position your camera properly.... Everyone on the Zoom service can see you!
4. Limit distractions. ...
5. Avoid multi-tasking. ....
6. Be sure to eat before hand....
7. Please do not Zoom and drive....
8. Don’t put a private message in a Zoom chat...
9. Be on time.....
10. Mute cellphone.....

**Remember Departed Loved Ones  
This Sunday, All Saints' Day**

In church this Sunday we will be remembering all the saints, including those dear to us personally who have passed away and gone before us in death. Everyone is invited to submit the names of family members, friends and loved ones who have died (it doesn't have to be in the last year) and whom you would like remembered and prayed for during our Intercessions Time at worship. To be included, please call the church office at 781-335-2030, or Email our Parish Secretary, Deb Robie, [ofifce@holynativityweymouth.org](mailto:ofifce@holynativityweymouth.org)

**“The Creation”**

*written by James Weldon Johnson.  
He was born in 1871 in Jacksonville, Florida and died in 1938.  
He worked for the civil rights movement and was a poet, politician & lawyer.*

And God stepped out on space  
And he looked around and said:  
I'm lonely—  
I'll make me a world.

Then God walked around,  
And God looked around  
On all that he had made.  
He looked at his sun,  
And he looked at his moon,  
And he looked at his little stars;  
He looked on his world  
With all its living things,  
And God said: I'm lonely still.

Then God sat down -  
On the side of a hill where he  
could think.  
By a deep wide river he sat down;  
With his head in his hands,  
God thought and thought,  
Till he thought: *I'll make me a  
man!*  
Submitted by ~ Dianna Blakeley-  
Smith



**As a Parish,  
We pray for:**

Anne, Carly, Carol, Claire S., Corinne, Denise, Dennis Clifford, Dick Murray, Dot, Ed, Eleanor, Eliza and Family, Ernie, Ewen & Pat MacDonald, Frank, George & family, Hazel Brunelle, Helen Holbrook, Helen, Steven M Haley, Craswell Haley, James Schofield, John Murphy, John, Joan, Billie Greene & family, Judy Ridge, Julie, Katie, Kate McCarthy, Kathleen, Kelly M., Liz, Liz C., Marcia, Matt, Maureen, Maureen Doyle, Merieme, Myrtle Perkins, Nancy Mermet, Nate, Paige, Pat and her family, Phyllis Collari, Ray Clark, Rick, Roberta, Rocky, Ruth K., Shirley, Sophia, Tim, and Tommy L.

**Newsletter  
Deadline**

The deadline for November Holy Happenings will be **Thurs. Nov. 18th** Articles may be submitted via snail mail, dropped off in the bin on the office door or sent by email to the church office. [ofifce@holynativityweymouth.org](mailto:ofifce@holynativityweymouth.org)

**Weymouth Youth &  
Family Services**

Holy Nativity will once again assist the Weymouth Youth & Family Services in providing Christmas gifts to those in need in Weymouth. This year has been particularly challenging for many, so we expect more than usual the need for assistance. As in past years we anticipate receiving the names of families who are in need towards the end of November. Once these names are received, we will have a better understanding as to what is needed. Due to the pandemic there will be changes as to the way this outreach program takes place. The leadership is working to assure that this endeavor will occur in a safe and healthy manner.

Please contact Ed Muller at [edthedetective@comcast.com](mailto:edthedetective@comcast.com) with any questions and as always, all assistance with this outreach is appreciated.



# HOLY HAPPENINGS

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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MAILED  
October 29, 2020

## **Important Dates**

**November 11th  
Office Closed  
Veterans Day**

**November 18th  
Holy Happenings  
articles due**

## **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**

**November, 25th  
Thanksgiving Eve  
Zoom Service at  
7:00PM**

**November 26th and  
27th Office will be  
closed for Thanks-  
giving**

