

# HOLY HAPPENINGS

Volume 27 Issue 9

October 2019

## FROM THE DESK OF FR. HARRY

My Dear Parishioners,

Usually, by the time September arrives, the weather becomes a harbinger for the autumn, the produce from our Community Garden slowly shows signs of coming to its' end and it will be prepared to be vested for the cold winter. But as I write this article, many places are still using fans and even air conditioners since the temperatures remain in summer mode. Regardless of the lingering feeling of summer, our Parish is in the process of preparing for another busy liturgical season with programs, presentations, and celebrations.

I believe we can all admit it is exciting when our youngsters return invigorating our parish with the chit and chatter of new life. Sunday School begins and the procession of the children is a welcoming sight indeed. The choir returns all vested and preparing themselves for another wonderful season of music, although our congregation had the company of



### CHURCH OF THE HOLY NATIVITY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

*Holy Eucharist*  
*Sunday - 8 & 10 a.m.*  
*Most Tuesdays - 11:30*

**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  
Maryann Gurney, Director of Christian Ed

Deb Robie, Secretary  
Keith Green, Sexton  
Ron Russo, Warden  
Steve Williams, Warden

the dedicated choir during the summer. Acolytes return and the sanctuary begins to look different, full and well attended. Sadly, Homecoming Sunday did not produce many new volunteers except for two. With the transition of ministry looming in the foreground volunteers are needed now more than ever.

Every year Fr. Brad and I settle down over a cup of coffee and hash out programs we hope will stimulate your interest and perpetuate your heart and mind toward a greater understanding of your faith, your Church and your love for God. This year we've decided on an ongoing program beginning on the 13h of October entitled 'Silence in the Age of Noise' a program based on a book of the same title.

There is really so much to look forward to during this upcoming season and so many thanks to all who have participated in keeping our parish alive, vigorous and happy. I will, however, end with a closing thought and that is to please remember that all of our events and activities are means by which we seek to glorify God and

*Continued on page 2*



**June Sutcliffe**

**June Sutcliffe and Holy Nativity Church**

June Sutcliffe passed away on August 31, 2019 at the age of 87. Funeral services for June were private at her request and she was buried in Hillside Cemetery in Auburn with her mother.

June was a quiet, private woman. Few people knew that she was a nurse for 30 years. Here is a brief glimpse of June's ministry here at Holy Nativity Church.

June was a parishioner at Holy Nativity for many years. These last few years, when June was able to come to church, (usually the 10:00 service), she would take the Weymouth Ride, the van for elders. She was no longer able to drive herself. In past years, when June was driving, she would pick up parishioners who needed a ride, and drive them to church on Sunday mornings and perhaps drive them to other church events. June was kind hearted and always wanted to help others. She was also very efficient! In years past June would bustle around at church and could usually be found working in the kitchen. She loved to cook and would help with church dinners, the fair and coffee hours.

*Continued on page 4*

grow closer to Him and to one another. All our events and activities cannot happen without you so I look forward to being with you on this shared journey we are all experiencing in our praise and thanksgiving to God.

This letter comes to you with my prayers and blessings. ♦

Fr. Harry

**Family Movie Night**

There will be a family movie and dinner night on Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> in the Asher Stoddard Hall. The movie will be The Greatest Showman starring Hugh Jackman. Doors open at 4:30. The movie will start promptly at 5:00. Folding chairs will be set up, but bring a more comfortable chair if you'd like one. Kids can bring a blanket & pillow. Please plan to be here and settled in before 5:00 so there will be no noise and disruption during the movie. Hot dogs and beans will be served following the movie. Cost is \$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per family.



**Warden's Report**

**HELP WANTED  
Please Read**

**Romans 12:6-7**

"We all have different gifts, each of which came because of the grace God gave us....Anyone who has the gift of serving should serve. Anyone who has the gift of teaching should teach."

Instead of our usual overview of things and property updates we felt that it was time to push that aside this month to put the spotlight on the immediate and long range future here at Holy Nativity. To cut to the chase-WE NEED YOU, and we need you now.

We deal with so many items at any give time during the year it's time that we just focus on just one. We need people to step up into ministries to help keep this church strong and growing and especially now during a time of transition that will be taking place due to the announcement of Fr. Harry's retirement. There are many ministries available here and we are not asking you to take on numerous ministries/tasks but just one. Some only take an hour or two out of your month to accomplish while others are a bit more involved.

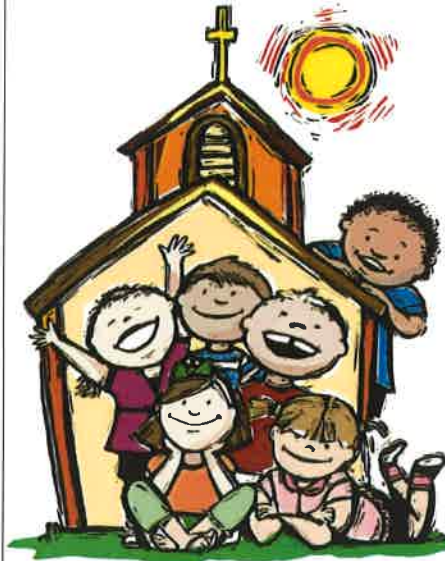
*Continued on page 3*

**Warden's report cont'd**

You have heard Fr. Harry preach over the past 2-3 months about the need for people to pray about and think about helping out. The same people have been doing the same things and are getting tired. In some cases declining health is a contributing factor along with the fact that we are all aging. Recently many of the readings and Gospels have also been themed with the idea of ministry in your life.

One specific area of need is with the Treasurer. Jim Kimball has been doing this for some 23 years. He does a great job but now it's time to find a replacement. There are no term limits for this position (which is crazy in itself) but there are term limits for Wardens, Vestry members and even Clergy. Jim would like to start to train someone who would eventually take over this position. For clarification purposes, what you see Jim do around the Church, (cooking dinners, heading up the Holy Fair, Ushering etc) are not part of being the Treasurer. These are things he does in addition to being Treasurer. We would need others to assume those duties as well. We are looking for someone with the skills

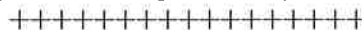
Continued on page. 4



**Sunday School**

There will be no Sunday School Columbus Day weekend Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>.

**We Can Change The World With Our Own Two Hands!**  
This is the theme for Sunday school this year. We will share stories on Sunday mornings about how even our smallest actions can make a change in ourselves, others or the world around us. I'm excited to share those stories with the children and the congregation throughout the year!



Dear Parish,

It is with mixed feelings that I am resigning as Director of Christian Education. My husband and I have a home in New Hampshire and for the past five years, we have spent many weekends apart as he was in New Hampshire while I have been enjoying my Sunday mornings with the kids in Sunday school. We now both have Mondays off and want to be able to spend time together in New Hampshire.

I will start the new Sunday school year, while a replacement is being found. I will certainly still be involved in activities here at Holy Nativity not only on Sunday mornings when I am home, but at other times as well. I have truly enjoyed leading the children of the church for the past five years and will continue to help nurture them in any way I can.

Thank you for all of your love and support.

Maryann Gurney



**The Barn Babies are Coming!**

Once again the Barn Babies will make an appearance on Sunday October 6 after the 10:00 service. Many of you had a chance to hold and pet these wonderful, cuddly animals last year. If you missed it, then you're in luck! Come see, hold and touch a bunny, kitten, puppy, chicken, pot-bellied pig or goat! So much fun for children and adults!

***Sutcliffe Cont'd from pg 2***

June was also very involved in helping with the fair and sewed many items for the Country table. As she aged, she became physically limited and in more recent years, her ministry was occasionally helping with coffee hour even as recent as this past spring.

June knew many people during her years here at Holy Nativity, and was a very good friend of Nancy Mermet and Myrtle Perkins. When Myrtle could no longer attend church, June would often go to visit her at home. As June aged, Nancy would often visit June at home as well.

In 1996, June was one of the first people to receive the Rector's Cross from Father Dan Harris in recognition of her ministry to others and the church. In 2004, Father Harry recognized June's faith and Christian service and presented her with The Rose Award.

We were blessed to have known June and blessed to have had her as a member of our church. She will be missed by her family here at Holy Nativity. ♦

**ADULT STUDY****"Silence in the Age of Noise"**

Will begin on Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> and will be held from 11:30 to 12:15 in the Common Room. If you have not picked up your book, please do. The books are on the bench in Fr. Harry's Office. Also, please read the book prior to the start of the class. This course is designed to help us examine and adopt practices: inner calm, peace and patience in a busy life. Any questions speak to Fr. Harry or Fr. Brad

***Warden's report cont'd from page 3***

necessary to handle the duties of being Treasurer here only.

There is also a specific need for Sunday School Director. Maryann Gurney has done a tremendous job but would also like to have some family time on the weekend and turn over this ministry to someone else. Again, the education of our young people is established and we need to have someone step up to keep it going. It is so important to our future. This ministry could be divided between two people. Maryann will still be involved with the church but in other ways.

We are also looking for Vestry members, Wardens, Stewardship help, Ushers, Lay Readers, Holly Fair leaders and volunteers, Choir members, Altar Guild, Coffee Hour hosts, Garden Angels among others. It literally does take a village here and with many hands wonderful things will continue to happen. Holy Nativity will need to stay strong and in order to grow into the future. We all love this place but we need help. Please pray on this and contact either Fr. Harry, Steve Williams or Ron Russo or Jim Kimball, if you or someone you know wants to help out in any way. This is crucially important for our future.

This spiritual home belongs to all of us and it means so much to all of us as well, we look forward to hearing from you and how you might want to help. We also recently distributed the 2019 Wardens Walk Around Report. If you need a copy please contact Deb in the office or pick up a copy on Sundays in the Asher -Stoddard Hall. ♦

Peace to you and Good Bless,

Steve Williams & Ron Russo  
Co-Wardens

**Holly Fair 2019****Holly Fair Scratch Ticket Board**

We need your contributions for the Holly Fair Scratch ticket Board! Last year's Scratch Ticket Board had over 100 tickets! Who knows what winning tickets could be on this year's board! During the month of October we need parishioners to donate one or two scratch tickets. Any denomination will do! All of the tickets will then be attached to a board and the board will be raffled off at the Holly Fair. If you would like to donate a scratch ticket, or if you have any questions, please see Maryann Gurney or speak with Deb in the church office.



**Coffee Hour Hosts Needed**

Please consider hosting a Sunday coffee hours. Coffee supplies are provided. All you need to bring is some light refreshments to share. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Asher-Stoddard Hall.



**Food First Sundays**

Food First Sunday is October 6th.

The Weymouth Food Pantry would appreciate donations of brown rice and whole wheat pasta.

Thank you for your continued generosity to the Weymouth Food Pantry.

**Newsletter Deadline**

The deadline for November Holy Happenings will be Thursday, October 17th Articles may be submitted via snail mail, dropped off in the bin on the office door or sent by email to the church office.



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

- Anders Eriksson, Anne Carley Carol, Corinne Denise, Dennis Clifford Dot, Eleanor, Ellie, Frank, Georgie Whittaker, George & family, Hazel Brunelle Helen Holbrook, Helen, John Murphy, Joan, John & Billie Greene & family, John Anderson John Brown, Katie, Kate McCarthy, Liz, Marcia, Marilyn Jane-way, Matt, Maureen, Meriam Myrtle Perkins Nancy Mermet, Nate, Paige, Pat & her family Ray Clark, Ray Thorne, Rick, Rocky, Scott, Shirley, Sophia, Tim Meehan and Tim

**Home Communion**

If you or a loved one is 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.



**Tuesday Morning Eucharist and Luncheon**

Mid-week eucharist and luncheon will start again on :

Tuesday, Oct.1st-11:30.

This quiet service has become a favorite with many people, even if they are only able to attend occasionally.

The conversation is sure to be lively as old and new friends catch up after the summer.

**Vestry**

Next Vestry meeting is Wednesday, October 16th, at 7:30 in the Asher Stoddard Hall, following a service of compline at 7pm in the Sanctuary.

**GARDEN-A-THON**

Saturday, October 5th from 9.30am-11.30am *weather permitting.*

We need volunteers to weed the Community garden and prepare it for the winter weather. Please bring your garden gloves! Sign-up sheet in hall the Asher-Stoddard Hall

Any questions please contact Judy Leamy 617-633-5787

## October 2019 Service Schedule

	6	13	20	27
	<b>Bless Animals</b>	<b>Columbus Day</b>		
<b>8:00 AM</b>				
Lay Reader	Terri Williams	Diana Blakeley-Smith	Steve Williams	Terri Asher
Usher	Steve Williams	Jim Kimball	George Ward	Jay Asher
Healing Station	Patty Donovan	Joan Millet	Judy Ward	Diana Blakey-Smith
<b>10:00 AM</b>				
Lay Readers	Ed Muller	Bruce Blakeley-Smith	Ed Muller	Judy Leamy
Lessons	Judy Leamy	Donna Lucier	Casey Morris	Nancy Munise
Prayers of the People	Bill Butler	Ron Russo	Paul McPhee	Maude Pond
Ushers	Christine Bates	Barbara Collins	Rebecca Reilly	Keith Green
Acolytes	Sarah Butler	Andrew Hule	Danny McPhee	Jerry Fabian
	Carolyn Butler	Faith Gagnon	Billy McPhee	
Healing Station	Linda Muller	Nancy Mermet	Nancy Munise	Ed Muller
Nursery	Kathryn McGlynn	OPEN	Kathryn McGlynn	Kathryn McGlynn
Altar Guild	Christina Butler	Mary Russo	Terry Asher	Patty Donovan
	Sandra Robertson	Etta Peterson	Susan Walsh	Janis Swift
			Kathy Midi	

Holy Nativity, Christian Holidays

Oct 2019 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
		11:30am - Eucharist 6:30pm - Self	10am - Yoga @ 6pm - Book Study 7:30pm - AA @	4:30pm - Yoga	Feast of St Francis 7:30pm - AA	9:30am - Garden-A-
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Food First - school Pentecost 17 8am - Eucharist 9:45am - Sunday 10am - Eucharist 11:30am - Blessing	7pm - Al-Anon @	Clericus @ St	10am - Yoga @ 6pm - Book Study 7:30pm - AA @	Dean Meeting 4:30pm - Yoga	7:30pm - AA	8:30am - Weymouth 4:30pm - Family
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Pentecost 18 8am - Eucharist 9:45am - Sunday 10am - Eucharist 11:30am - Adult	Columbus Day - 7pm - Al-Anon @	11:30am - Eucharist	10am - Yoga @ 6pm - Book Study 7pm - Compline 7:30pm - AA @ 7:30pm - Vestry	Nov HH articles due 4:30pm - Yoga	7:30pm - AA	10am - Knit Witts
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Pentecost 19 8am - Eucharist 9:45am - Sunday 10am - Eucharist 11:30am - Adult	7pm - Al-Anon @	11:30am - Eucharist 6:30pm - Alter Guild	10am - Yoga @ 6pm - Book Study 7:30pm - AA @	4:30pm - Yoga	Publish Nov HH 7:30pm - AA	
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
Book Sale Pentecost 20 8am - Eucharist 9:45am - Sunday 10am - Eucharist 10:30am - Choral 11:30am - Adult	7pm - Al-Anon @	11:30am - Eucharist	10am - Yoga @ 6pm - Book Study 7:30pm - AA @	Halloween 4:30pm - Yoga		

# HOLY HAPPENINGS

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Inside This Issue*

- \* Letter from the Rector* *Page 1*
- \* Warden's Report* *Page 2*
- \* Prayer List* *Page 5*

MAILED  
September 27, 2019

### **Important Dates**

**October 14th**  
**Columbus Day**  
**Office Closed**

**October 1st**  
**Eucharist Luncheon**

**October 5th**  
**Garden-A-Thon**

**October 6th**  
**Blessing of Animals &**  
**Barn babies**

### **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**

**October 12th**  
**Family Movie Night**

**October 13th**  
**Adult Study**

**October 17th**  
**Holy Happenings**  
**articles due**