

# HOLY HAPPENINGS

**From the Desk of  
Rev. Diana Scheide**

The term 'Advent' comes from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning 'coming' or 'arrival'. The period of Advent spans the four Sunday's leading up to Christmas, beginning on the Sunday closest to 30 November, St Andrew's Day, and ending on Christmas Eve).

For Christians, Advent symbolizes the anticipation and preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, and the hope and anticipation of his Second Coming.

The practice of Advent dates back centuries and has evolved over time.

Advent has various origins, but its roots can be traced back to the 4th and 5th centuries, notably in Gaul (modern-day France), Spain and northern Italy, where churchgoers observed a preparatory period preceding Christmas, involving fasting, prayer and reflection. The focus of anticipation was not the anticipation of the birth of Jesus rather the focus was on the Second Coming of Christ.

In Tours, France, Bishop Perpetuus (461-490) established a 3 day fast each week leading to Christmas, starting from 11 November, St Martin's Day. This preparation became known as Advent, evolving into a 5 week 'St Martin's Lent' that included fasts and abstinence.

Advent thus first emerged as a season where Christians observed 40 days of fasting (much like with Lent), penance, and prayer in readiness for the Coming of Christ and the baptism of new Christians at Epiphany in January.

By the Middle Ages Advent became linked to Jesus' birth at Christmas. This marked a shift in emphasis from penitence to preparing for the

**December 2025**



## **Church of the Holy Nativity**

### **OFFICE HOURS**

*Mon. thru Fri.*

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

**Parish Office 781-335-2030**

**Office email:**

**[holynativity1915@gmail.com](mailto:holynativity1915@gmail.com)**

**Priest**

**The Reverend Diana Scheide**

**Cell-717-870-7874**

**email:**

**[RectorHolyNativity@gmail.com](mailto:RectorHolyNativity@gmail.com)**

**Ed Muller, Co-Warden**

**Dean Kistner, Co-Warden**

**Rebecca Cavanaugh, Treasurer**

**Rev. Elizabeth Good,**

**Assistant Treasurer**

**Maryann Gurney, Director of**

**Christian Education**

**Shirley Devore,**

**Assistant Teacher**

**Organist & Choirmaster**

**Marie-Elise Boyer-Brown**

**Michael McGlynn, Sexton**

**Deb Robie, Secretary**

**WEBSITE:**

**[www.holynativityweymouth.org](http://www.holynativityweymouth.org)**

**[https://www.facebook.com/  
groups/326275852157](https://www.facebook.com/groups/326275852157)**

Nativity, solidifying Advent's position as a distinct liturgical season.

In the 6th century, St Gregory the First played a role in shaping some common Advent practices, including the use of the Advent wreath. This wreath, usually crafted from evergreen foliage in a circular shape, symbolizes God's eternal nature, the cyclical liturgical year, and the hope of eternal life.

An Advent wreath has 4 candles around its perimeter, and traditionally uses purple to symbolize repentance, penance, and royalty. Each represents aspects of the Advent themes: hope, peace, joy (represented by a pink candle), and love. These themes are the focus of our reflection and prayers as we prepare for Christmas.

Another Advent tradition which began in Germany in the 1800s is the Advent Calendar which marks a countdown to Christmas originally a paper calendar. It is found in many forms including small gifts or chocolates.

Cadbury's produced the first chocolate Advent calendar in 1958 and began commercially producing them in 1971.

Today, Advent calendars have expanded into digital formats, activities, and interactive experiences, appealing to Christians and non-Christians alike while maintaining the essence of anticipation and reflection.

No matter how we celebrate and anticipate the coming of Christ keeping Hope, Peace, Love and Joy in our reflection will prepare our hearts and minds for the Love Incarnate that comes to us at Christmas.



As we enter this joyful season of Advent, we are excited to celebrate the hope, peace, joy, and love that December brings. This month, our lessons will focus on the story of Jesus' birth and the many ways we can share God's love with others during this special time of year.

On December 14th we will have our annual Christmas pageant. This year we will join together to celebrate the meaning behind our beloved Christmas decorations, from the Evergreen tree to the festive bows on Christmas presents!

As the year draws to a close, Shirley and I are grateful for the growth, laughter, and fellowship we've shared. May this holiday season fill your hearts with warmth and remind us all of God's faithful presence. We wish every family a blessed Christmas and a hope-filled New Year!



**Blue Christmas Service  
Saturday, December 20th at 7pm.**

*"You'll be doin' all right, with your Christmas of white..."*

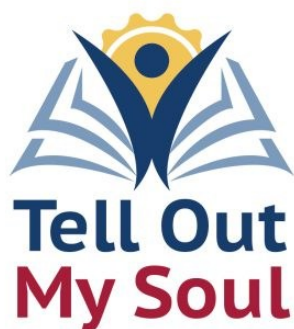
*But I'll have a blue, blue Christmas."*

We've all heard the Elvis Presley song, "I'll have a Blue Christmas without You." For many people, the Christmas holiday season does not bring with it the joy and happiness that is constantly advertised on television, in shopping malls, in catalogs or in greetings cards. It's at such times that we need to make the space and take the time to acknowledge our sadness and concerns

Holy Nativity will celebrate a Blue Christmas service Saturday, Dec.20th at 7pm .

We will come together in community to find God's love and comfort in our sadness and loneliness.





And Mary said,  
“My soul magnifies the Lord,  
And my spirit rejoices in God  
my Savior...”  
Luke 1:46-47

The six most important words in Church are “Thank you. Thank you. Thank you!” We can never say it enough, and even our words are insufficient to acknowledge the uncountable ways in which your prayers, your presence, your pledges, and your participation enrich our lives together and enable our mission. Yet, even so, we thank you for sharing your gift with us this year.

Throughout our campaign we heard stories about how Holy Nativity enriches our lives and brings us closer to God. Every story reflects the gratefulness we have for our common life together and the deep desire that we have to serve God and our community.

When Jesus ascended, he left us to carry on the work he started. That work begins by sharing how the Good News has changed your life, and how it can change the lives of our neighbors. Because of your gifts, this community will continue to engage in the life-affirming ministry of healing, teaching, nurturing, forming community, and showing others how they can join with us.

Thank you for all that you do, for all you have given, for the many ways your gifts will bless Holy Nativity and the people we serve.

Tell out my soul! The Greatness of the Lord!

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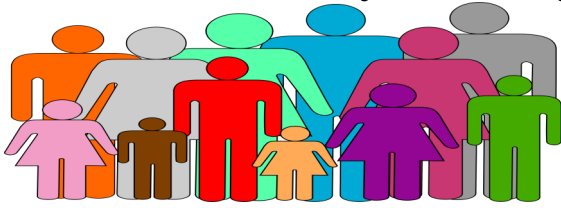
**Our Four Church Collaboration of  
Christ Church  
Church of Our Saviour  
Emmanuel  
Holy Nativity**

**We will Share an Advent Quiet Day,  
Saturday, December 6th 9-12  
at the Church of Our Saviour, Milton**

**We will meditate on The Magnificat and learn how  
we experience God in our lives and in the world.**

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## Activities at Holy Nativity



**The First Saturday dinner is  
December 6th at 4:30**

**A Ham dinner will be served  
Come join in the fellowship  
Free will offering is gladly accepted**

## First Food Sunday, Dec. 7th

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, Zatarra'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, Dec. 7th**



## Advent Anticipation and Expectation

Please join Fr. Brad in the Kimball Common Room Sundays in Advent (Nov 30, Dec 7, Dec 14, and Dec 21) from 11:45 to 12:30. We will explore Anticipation and Expectation using scripture passages to explore our own spiritual anticipations and expectations and their influence how we live and our faith.



## **Advent Fun at Holy Nativity**

### **Second Advent Dec. 7**

**Celebrate St Nicholas Day with a visit from  
Bishop Nicholas at the 10 am service.**

### **Third Advent Dec.14**

**Hear the story of Christmas as we present our  
Christmas Pageant**

### **Christmas Eve Services**

**2:00PM Christmas Eve Service**

**4:00PM Children's Service**

**7:00PM Candle Light Service**





**Tuesday Morning Eucharist and Luncheon**

Mid-week eucharist and luncheon continues weekly at 11:30.

This quiet service has become a favorite with many people, even if they are only able to attend occasionally, conversation is lively as old and new friends catch up from the week over lunch.



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

Anne and Ed, Arlene Boyd, Barbara, Bill Lucier, Brian, Bruce Wilmeth, Carol, Catherine Fleming, Cathy, Charles T., Charlie C., Cheryl, Chris, Christine, Corinne, Dave, Debbie Y., Deborah, Donna, Eddie R., Ed Walsh, Freddy, Ginny, Grace M., Herb, Jack Dembow, Jack L., Janice, Jenny, Jim Murphy, Joan Millet, John, Kathleen C. & family, Kathryn, Kathy and Ronan, Kathy B., Kendall Demore, Kevin, Laura Fiore, Liam, Linda, Linda Cardillo, Mallory J., Matt, M.E. Rich, Paige, Pam, Pam Walston, Paula, Priscilla, Rodger Lyle, Ruby Jean, Ruth Bates, Ryan, Skip Lewis, Sophia, Sylvia, Victor

**Billy's Caring Hands Needs You!**

We are looking for donations of new or gently used Hats and Gloves

**Next Vestry Meeting is Monday, December 8th**

## Weymouth Youth & Family Services Gift Drive 2025

The parish of Holy Nativity is again assisting the Weymouth Youth & Family Services (WY&FS) in providing Christmas gifts for needy families in Weymouth. Four families have been adopted this year, and we have received their wish lists from the WY&FS. The wish lists have been assembled and may be accessed at Myregistry.com.

For those who prefer not to shop, cash donations for gifts may be contributed through the registry or given to Ed Muller. Checks should be made out to the Church of the Holy Nativity and earmarked for WY&FS. If you prefer not to shop online, don't hesitate to 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 by Sunday, Dec.21st, "Wrapping Parties" are scheduled for Saturday, Dec.13th and Saturday, Dec.20th, at 10 am.

Here is the information for the gift registry:

Online Registry: Myregistry.com

Wish List Name: Holy Nativity Church

Password: HolyNativity2025

Thanks to all who can assist in this ministry, and don't hesitate to get in touch with Ed Muller with any questions or concerns at 781-422-4135 or via e-mail at edthedetective@comcast.net

**Please support the local businesses who generously sponsored our fund-raising campaign.**



**George Washington Toma**  
**1353 Commercial St. East Weymouth, MA 02189**  
**5 Westgate Dr. Brockton, MA 02301**



**Main Office -195 Washington Street, Weymouth, MA 02188**



**Divas with a Twist Candlelight Holiday Concert**  
**By Divas with a Twist**

25 Columbian Street, Old South Union Congregational Church  
Dec 9th from 7:30pm to 8:45pm

**Overview**

They'll perform classic holiday songs with fresh new arrangements and harmonies! They'll perform classic holiday songs with fresh new arrangements and harmonies. Get in the holiday spirit with selections including a rocking arrangement of "Do you Hear the Drummer Boy" a beautiful Celtic rendition of "Lights of Christmas Morn",

"O Holy Night," "Run Run Rudolph" and more!

It's a fantastic night of music to celebrate the holiday season!

Please join Rev Diana for a fun time Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Let's get a group together and get in the holiday spirit.

Please reach out Rev Diana via email [rectorholynativity@gmail.com](mailto:rectorholynativity@gmail.com) or text 717-870-7874 if you would like to come. Tickets are \$30. If this is a hardship there are full and partial scholarships available.

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## Beef and Noodles



### Ingredients

- 3 Tbsp. flour
- 1 tsp. seasoned salt, divided
- 1 tsp. ground black pepper, divided
- 1 1/2 lb. beef stew meat (or chuck roast), cut into 1" pieces
- 2 Tbsp. butter
- 1 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1 yellow onion, chopped
- 12 oz. sliced mushrooms
- 4 garlic cloves, chopped
- 1 qt. beef stock
- 2 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 4 sprigs of thyme
- 1 12-oz. bag frozen egg noodles
- Sour cream and chopped parsley, for serving (optional)

One of the heartiest winter dinners we've come across is Ree Drummond's homemade chicken and noodles. Meltingly tender chicken and egg noodles, cooked together in a homemade chicken broth—it's the kind of one-pot meal that warms you throughout.

With this beef and noodles recipe, we've taken the same idea but made it even more savory (and a little bit easier!). If you love a beef stew and tender noodles, this recipe is for you!

### Directions

In a large bowl, combine the flour and 1/2 teaspoon each of seasoned salt and black pepper. Add the cubes of beef to the bowl and stir until well coated.

Heat a large Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Add the butter and olive oil, swirling to coat the bottom of the pan. Place the meat in a single layer and cook until golden brown, 4 to 5 minutes. Stir the beef and let brown on another side, 3 to 4 minutes. Remove the Dutch oven from the heat and transfer the beef to a plate.

Reduce the heat to medium and add the onion, mushrooms, garlic and remaining 1/2 teaspoon each of seasoned salt and black pepper. Cook for 7 minutes, stirring occasionally and scraping the browned bits from the bottom of the pot. Add the beef stock, Worcestershire sauce, seared beef, and thyme sprigs. Bring to a simmer, cover, then reduce heat to low. Cook for 1 hour and 15 minutes, with the stock just barely simmering.

Remove the lid and discard the thyme sprigs. Add the egg noodles and increase the heat to medium-high. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the mixture comes to a simmer. Reduce the heat to medium-low and continue to cook for 20 to 25 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the noodles are tender. Serve immediately, topped with a dollop of sour cream and a sprinkle of parsley.

**HOLY HAPPENINGS**

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

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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**Important Dates**

Every Tuesday: 11:30 am  
Holy Eucharist followed by lunch

First Saturday Dinner at 4:30  
Ham dinner is served! December, 6th

First Food Sunday, we collect  
non-perishable food donations  
every 1st Sunday of the month.

**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**

Vestry Meeting is Monday Dec. 8th  
at 7:00PM

Advent Schedule  
Second Advent Dec. 7 ~ 10 am service  
a visit from Bishop Nicholas  
Third Advent Dec.14 ~ Christmas Pageant

Christmas Eve Services  
2:00PM Christmas Eve Service  
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