

ST. PAUL'S REPORTER

Deepening our relationship with God, in Christ, through prayer, worship and loving servanthood.

December, 2011

From the Rector...

We are a welcoming congregation witnessing God's justice, mercy, and reconciling love.

We seek a deeper communion with God, with each other and the rest of God's creation.

We reach beyond ourselves, both in our shared spiritual journeys and in our service to our neighbors, near and far.

We meet God together in our shared worship, prayer, study, service, and fellowship.

We love and serve the Christ we find in each other.

When I pray, so often what I need to do is to let go of my resistance to the work of God in me. The words sometimes start out cold and distant, but bit by bit, I relax and imagine myself being open to God's work in me, in us, looking for where Jesus is at work, now. I pray that my initial resistance will become energy that is transformed for good, for God, and I can join into Jesus' ministry more fully.

Will you hear the Advent prophet's call to us again and again "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." This path straightening work happens to us personally and communally.

Where is God trying to move but is blocked in you, in us? Where would you like a more direct experience of God acting? Make straight the pathways in you, in us.

This joining together of heaven and earth in a new way is the possibility of Advent. This past month we have had some very Advent, actions: Hearing Gabriel Bol Deng speak of the obstacles he faced as a child escaping violence in Sudan, was a powerful, prophetic call. Many of the mountains he is trying to move are moving—the building of a school that can educate girls and boys has required much faith and openness.

Joining in with the joyful work of our social/outreach events: in the Wine-Tasting gala and Holiday Fair resulted in making a pathway for us to raise over \$12,000 this fall for those in need. Thanks to Melinda Stoops and Judy Shaw who co-chaired the fair. It was a privilege to see Melinda's determination to support the Natick Service Council and other companions in ministry. Thanks to Corinne Daniels for her coordination of the Wine-Tasting Gala, along with Beth Brady and Linda Burgoon and Julia Collin-Davison's amazing food. These are path-straightening activities. Thank you. God is discovered more present because of your work.

Thanks to the new formation of the Friends of the Natick Housing Authority which is supported now in our parish by Mark St. Hillaire, Kristin Arnold, and Dick Perry among a whole team. That 30 youth participated in youth retreats this past weekend was also an amazing path-straightening activity—I sensed they all grew in the joy that comes when we connect more deeply to God and each other.

My heart goes out to those living in tents at this moment, in the Occupy movements around the world, protesting our imbalanced economic policies that support increasing disparity and block pathways for God. My heart goes out to those seeking deeper dignity in the Arab uprisings. My heart goes out to those children who are struggling to have decent food or shelter. My heart goes out to those in our parish who are

(Continued on page 2)

- KEEP IN TOUCH!
- OFFICE HOURS;
- MON—FRI
- 8AM TO 12:30PM
- EMAIL
- Info@stpaulsnatick.org
- PHONE

508-655-5880

www.stpaulsnatick.org

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struggling in any way.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight this Advent.

With Gratitude in Christ,

Jon+

Haiti Visit Jan 8-16, 2012

A small team from St. Paul's, Natick and St. Dunstan's, Dover will be joining together on a visit to Haiti. This trip will be a chance for us to reconnect with our sister parish and ask how our partnership can be strengthened. Going from St. Paul's include the Rev. Jon Strand, Rob Young and Tina Johnson. We look forward to meeting with Pere Jean Nesly at Holy Innocents, Port-de-Paix, and with the Sisters of St. Margaret in Port-au-Prince. We expect this visit will help us prepare for further visits.

Caroling at Leonard Morse Hospital, Thursday Dec 22nd at 4:30pm

Our children studying in the Voice for Life class will help lead Christmas caroling at Leonard Morse Hospital on Thursday, Dec. 22nd at 4:30pm. We will meet in the lobby. Please join us for an hour of singing in the halls and lifting the spirits of people struggling through illness at this time of year.

Green the Church, December 18, Advent 4 1pm

Hang wreaths and garlands with a small team to ready our church for our celebration of Christ's birth. Come one, come all!

Hello St Paul's Community;

Please join your St Paul's brothers and sisters for

Christmas Eve dinner in Sherrill Hall.

This gathering is a warm, wonderful, and simple way to spend time before or after Christmas Eve services.

Dinner will begin with a short prayer after the 5 pm Christmas pageant (about 6:10 pm) and folks should plan to be on their way home by 7:15 pm.

St Paul's will provide plates, cups and utensils. We ask that people bring a dish to share.

Those with **last names ending A-M please bring a Lasagna.**

Those with **last names ending N-Z please bring a salad, vegetable or dessert.**

Please confirm your attendance by email at info@stpaulsnatick.org or signing up in Sherrill Hall

This event continues to grow in popularity, so space planning has become very important.

DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS

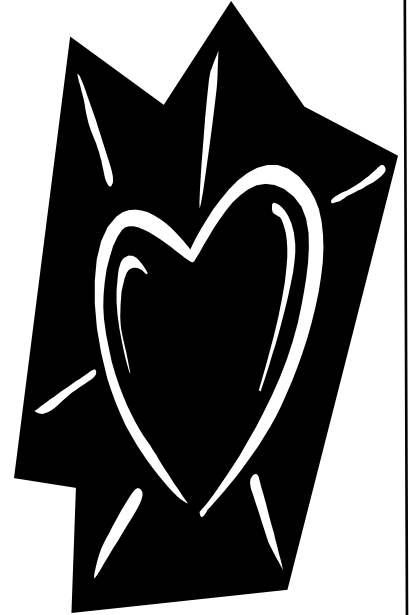
*The following is the list of parishioners with birthdays and anniversaries during December
Please share their joy by congratulating them in person, by telephone or card, and by praying for them on their special day.*

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Landon Dumar
Jacqueline Axford,
Mari Barrera,
Chad Connors,
Katie Lucenta
Carolyn Hasgill,
Kathy Spellman
Brice Zwicker,
Adrienne Taylor,
Joel Barrera,
Elena Babson
Paula Curtis,
Abby Craig,
Susan Barraclough
Ann Divinchi,
Charlotte Ludington,
Dennis Lucenta
Lindsey Blease,
Janice Krueger
Clara Berger,
Brendan Byrnes
Emily Brewster
Mysore Ravindra,
Elizabeth Meister,
Lisa Trever
Ellen O'Hare
Harry Brewster
Heather Yancey
Ruth Young
Carol Shedd
Andrew Keith
Chester Mahon
Anne Gilman
David Van Voorhis
Lisa Killam

ANNIVERSARIES:

Ellie & Derek Ball



*Watch over thy children,
O Lord,
as their days increase;
bless and guide them
wherever they may be. Strengthen them
where they stand;
comfort them
when discouraged or sorrowful; raise
them up
if they fall
and in their hearts
may your peace which
passes understanding
abide
all the days of their lives through Jesus
Christ our Lord.*



PARISH NOTES

GEMS/Women's Holiday Potluck Dinner

Friday December 16th 6:30pm at the Rectory 99 Walnut Street

All welcome for fun, food and a brief discussion with local author, Sharon Bially, author of Veronica's Nap, on the Advent theme of "STAYING AWAKE" as women and mothers. Bring a dish to share and a recycled gift for the gift exchange (no shopping allowed)

RSVP - Beth Strand



Dates for 2011 at The Miracle Kitchen, Framingham: A Local Outreach

The Miracle Kitchen, located in the Salvation Army building in Framingham, has been serving an evening meal to people for nearly 30 years. It is open 5 nights a week and currently serves 80-100 people each night. Volunteer groups provide the main dish, vegetable or salad, and dessert as well as servers.

St. Paul's volunteers are needed to provide the meal and servers at the Miracle Kitchen on the following dates in 2011 **December 14**



Prayer Shawl Group

Many of us have benefited from the beautiful prayer shawls that have been lovingly created by the Prayer Shawl Group at St. Paul's.

Our next meeting will be on December 14 from 7:00 - 8:30 PM in Gale House
Please contact Gail Infrere.

Help provide a bed for needy children this Christmas.

We at St. Paul's have an opportunity to make a real difference this Christmas season by buying delicious holiday cakes that are made by Dancing Deer Baking Company and distributed through the Mass. Coalition for the Homeless. The choices are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Chocolate Espresso Cake | Maple Pumpkin Cranberry Cake |
| Deep Dark Gingerbread | Snickerdoodle Cookie Gift Box |
| Molasses Clove Cookie Gift Box | |



The price for the cakes is \$12.00 and for the cookie gift boxes is \$19.00. The cakes and cookies come artfully packaged and with a card letting the recipient know how proceeds from the cake or cookies are helping to purchase beds for needy children. Valerie Gaines and Shannon Giordano will be taking orders at coffee hour between the 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. services on December 4th and 11th. The pickup date for the cakes will be on Sunday, December 18th. Please take this opportunity to help a needy child.

Launching a new season of the St. Paul's Men's Group

The St. Paul's Mens Group is relaunching on December 6, 2011. The kick-off meeting will focus on shaping the group's goals around a core of community-building, sharing wisdom and insight across generations on a variety of topics, and getting to know each other better as people of Faith and Spirituality. The details and specific direction will be up to the participants. The goal of this first meeting is to set the direction we'll be heading for the next year.

Currently, we are planning to meet the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 PM and share dinner, have a round table check in, and then a structured discussion on a topic or presentation. Topics may include parenting, being a Christian in the workplace, or current events and their impact on our lives.

For more information contact Rob Young, Hamish Blackman, Mark St. Hilare, or John Till.

St. Paul's Women's Lenten Retreat - Save the Date!

Friday March 16th 7:30 pm through lunchtime Sunday March 18th

at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center

Led by Bethany House of Prayer- Rev. Susan Morrison and Rev. Cynthia Good

Details to follow. Registration begins in January. ALL WOMEN WELCOME



The Friends of the Natick Housing Authority was formed as a unified effort to help renovate the public housing units in Natick. It provides our parish an opportunity to provide additional mission work in our local community.

email: nhafriends@gmail.com- If you can help out.

Twitter: nhafriends

Facebook: The Friends of the Natick Housing Authority - Sign up and FRIEND US- LIKE US too!

Watch for announcements on future opportunities to help our neighbors provide clean and respectable housing in our community.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone on behalf of all of our volunteers for their help, love and prayers with this project. Merry Christmas!

Mark St. Hilare

Advent and Christmas at St. Paul's



December 4 Regular Sunday Schedule

December 11 Regular Sunday Schedule
Metrowest Interfaith Hospitality Network hosted by St. Paul's
1:15 PM Christmas Caroling at Leonard Morse Hospital

December 17 Pageant Rehearsals
9:00 am for the **5pm Service**
10:30 am for the **3pm Service.**
Costume pick up is this same day and time.

December 18 Regular Schedule
1 PM Greening of the Church
5:00 - 7:30 PM Youth Liturgy - Grades 6-12

December 24 Christmas Eve

3pm Pageant with Eucharist followed by holiday treats & hot chocolate
5pm Pageant with Eucharist and children's choir
Christmas Eve Dinner in Sherrill Hall following 5 PM pageant
9:00 pm Festival of Lessons and Carols Eucharist

December 25 **Christmas Day One service at 10 AM**

December 26 **One service 10 AM**

St Paul's Multi-Generational Christmas Eve Pageant

3pm _____ or 5pm _____ on Sat. Dec. 24, 2011

Choose one service. Same pageant, two separate casts.



NAME _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

All welcome to participate! Sign up by putting name next to role.

Roles Available (All roles open to all genders)	Name/ Age
Angels (Open to all ages no limit to # of participants)	
Animals (Open to all ages no limit to # of participants, generally young children)	
Baby Jesus (infant/toddler)	
Gabriel (1 person, speaking multi lines)	
Innkeeper (2 people, speaking 1 line, also play shepherds)	
Joseph (1 person, speaking 2 lines)	
Mary (1 person, holds baby Jesus, speaking 1 line)	
Magi (aka Kings, 3 people all ages, sings a solo verse of We Three Kings while walking down the aisle)	
Narrator (2 people, speaking many lines)	
Page (3- 6 people all ages, walk with Magi carrying gifts)	
Prophets (3 people to speak a line from pews, no costume)	
Speaking Shepherd (2 people speaking 1-2 lines)	
Shepherds (Open to all ages no limit to # of participants)	

Rehearsal and costume pickup Sat Dec 17

9:00 am for 5 pm pageant -10:30 am for 3 pm pageant

Speaking roles assigned Friday December 9

Other roles: sign up anytime/no deadline

Speaking roles will be assigned by Debi in a fair way. Monique will work on all aspects of the music.

Return this page to the basket in Sherrill Hall or office

?’s contact **Debi Meyer**

St. Paul's Natick Social Networking

Many of us are connecting online – on Facebook, LinkedIn and most recently, Twitter. Here are a few simple steps to join these online groups to stay in touch during the week and to make connections with other St. Paul's members.

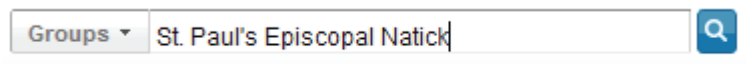
Facebook: For our Facebook fan page, go to the St. Paul's website (www.stpaulsnatick.org) and look for the Facebook 'like' button on the lower right hand corner of the home page. You will then be asked to log into your Facebook account, or to create an account if you don't have one yet.



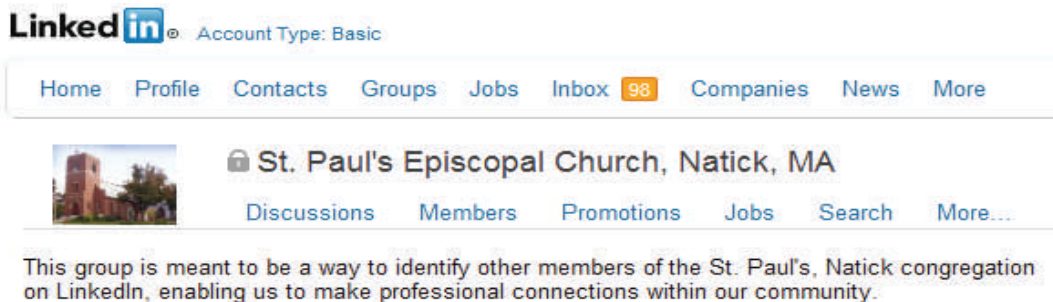
Twitter: Similarly, for Twitter, look for the 'follow' button on the same location on the home page. You will then be asked to either log into Twitter or to create a Twitter account to follow St. Paul's Natick



LinkedIn: Finally, for the career networking site Linked in, we have a group interested in staying in touch professionally. It's a good resource for finding new professional contacts. Log into your account at www.linkedin.com and search 'group's for St. Paul's Episcopal Natick:



You will find our group page and can request to 'join'.



Check us out online!

OUR HEART, OUR HOME, OUR TREASURE.

INVEST IN ST. PAUL'S IN 2012.



To date, 139 individuals and families have pledged their financial support of St. Paul's in 2012, totaling over \$314,000. Thank you!

If you plan to pledge to support our spiritual home in 2012, but have not yet done so, please **pledge as soon as possible**. In the past we've had as many as 170 individuals and families make pledges, and our goal for 2012 pledges is \$385,000. To get there we are asking everyone to prayerfully consider increasing their pledge by 10%. St. Paul's, like all Episcopal churches, is self-funding and self-sustaining – pledges make up 75-80% of our budget. Your 2012 pledge is meaningful to us!

You can submit your pledge in one of the following ways:

By filling out the green paper pledge card and mailing it to the church or putting it in the offering plate. These pledge cards can be found in your stewardship folder, in the back of the church, or in Sherrill Hall.

By submitting the electronic pledge card that can be found at www.stpaulsnatick.org and clicking on "pledge online" on the right side of our home page. This submits your pledge confidentially to the church and you will receive a confirmation e-mail.

Via e-mail, either to info@stpaulsnatick.org or kvanvoorhis@hotmail.com.

The vestry will be meeting on December 20th, and at that time they plan to finalize the 2012 budget, based on all the pledges received to date.

2011 PLEDGE UPDATE

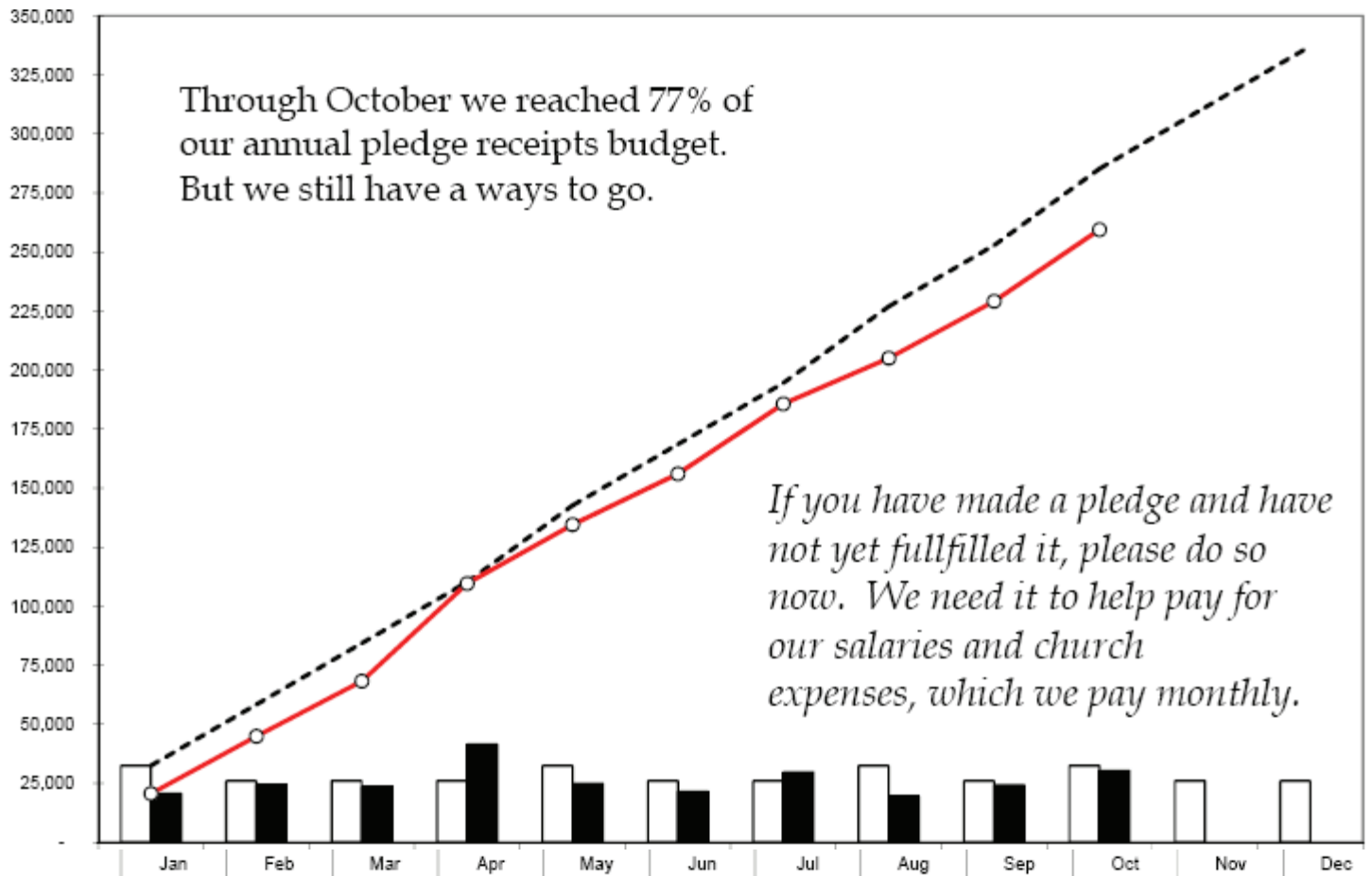
For those of you who have pledged in 2011, if you can, please fulfill your pledges as soon as possible. Frequently, final pledge payments trail into the first several months of the new year, which makes balancing the current-year budget very challenging. If you are not sure what the remaining balance is on your 2011 pledge, please ask – we'd be happy to look it up for you.

Contact any of your stewardship team (below) if you have any questions, would like more information about stewardship, or need a green pledge card. Thank you for trusting us with your treasure, and for all you do for St. Paul's!

Susan Barraclough, Joanne Butler, Stephanie Galvani, Miriam Kimball, Peter Kimball, Karen Van Voorhis, and Frank White

Your 2012 Stewardship Committee

2011 Current Year Pledge Receipts



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2011 Budget	32,411	25,929	25,929	25,929	32,411	25,929
2011 Actual	20,563	24,276	23,359	41,369	24,893	21,531
2011 Budget YTD	32,411	58,340	84,270	110,199	142,610	168,539
2011 Actual YTD	20,563	44,839	68,198	109,567	134,460	155,991

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2011 Budget	25,929	32,411	25,929	32,411	25,929	25,929
2011 Actual	29,613	19,372	24,106	30,292		
2011 Budget YTD	194,468	226,879	252,809	285,220	311,149	337,078
2011 Actual YTD	185,603	204,975	229,081	259,373		

Advent and Christmas Music



During the seasons of Advent and Christmas we sing the hymns and carols connecting us through the ages and uniting us as a community in service and worship. Throughout Advent we sing the fifteenth century plainsong, *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel* in preparation for our Christmas celebration. We hear arrangements of this tune that composers have explored and written organ pieces and choral anthems for centuries. We join in the singing of “Come, thou long-expected Jesus”, “Prepare the way”, “Comfort, comfort ye my people”, “Light One Candle” and others as the light of the incarnation nears and brightens inside us.

At Christmas we sing an array of carols and hear children’s choirs as we enjoy the unfolding of the Christmas Story through the children’s participation in the pageant at 3:00 and 5:00 pm. At 9:00 pm we embrace the beautiful Episcopal tradition of Lessons and Carols sung by youth and adult choirs and congregation.

This year at the Lessons, Carols, and Poems service we sing the carols that are part of our past and present. We’ll hear arrangements of carols such as “Endris Night” and “Wondrous Tiding” by Stephen Paulus accompanied by celestial harp and oboe, “Where Riches is Everlasting” by Bob Chilcott with percussion and the beautiful “Magnum Mysterium” by Victoria ringing in the wondrous and glorious celebration of the birth of our Lord. We’ll sing “Once in Royal David’s City”, “The First Noel”, “Silent Night”, and “Away in a Manger” with string quartet, harp, oboe, and trumpet. May we enjoy and rejoice as we sing these hymns and carols that have created peace and love for many who have sung them before us and wish you a wonderful Advent and a Merry Christmas!

Hymns of the Month

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Light One Candle

As a way of learning and passing on the hymns of our liturgy we invite you to sing the hymns of the month at home with family. We are grateful for the choirs, the Sunday school teachers, and the youth leaders that welcome and teach us these hymns on Sunday and hope that a verse or line of a hymn may meet you where you are on your journey.

This month one of the hymns we sing regularly is the Advent hymn, *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*. This hymn for many Episcopalians is synonymous with Advent and in a survey at the 1982 General Convention ranked as number one in usage. This hymn uses scripture passages from Isaiah 9:6 and other messianic texts from the Old Testament. Christ's redemptive and liberating rule is contained in this hymn from prophecy through Incarnation to present in an individual and communal way. *(continued on next page)*

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Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art:
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king,
born to reign in us for ever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Veni, Veni, Emmanuel has its origins in the "Great Antiphons" of the eighth century and was traditionally attached to the Magnificat at Vespers with one verse sung each day from December 17th through 23rd. The second word of each line in the Latin text yields an acrostic: read in inverse order from the first stanza spelling the Latin words ERO CRAS meaning "I shall be present tomorrow". If one antiphon is sung each day, the full text of the acrostic is revealed the day before Christmas Eve.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!

O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive
Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of
God appear. Refrain

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest
all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in
her ways to go. Refrain

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law, in cloud, and
majesty, and awe. Refrain

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O
Israel!

Light One Candle

Weekly we sing the verses of "Light One Candle" as
we light another candle on the Advent wreath
brightening our way to Christmas. We invite you to
sing this lovely song as you light your wreath at
home with family and friends.

Light one candle for hope One bright candle for
hope He brings hope to every heart He comes! He
comes!

Light one candle for love One bright candle for
love He brings love to every heart He comes! He
comes!

Light one candle for joy One bright candle for joy
He brings joy to every heart He comes! He comes!

Light one candle for peace One bright candle for
peace He brings peace to every heart He comes!

He comes!

Musically,

Monique



St. Paul's Choir Schedules

St. Paul's Children's Choir

December 4 8:00 - 8:45 am, 12:30 - 1:15 pm rehearsals
December 11 8:00 - 8:45 am, 12:30 - 1:15 pm rehearsals
December 18 8:00 - 8:45 am, 12:30 - 1;15 pm rehearsals
December 24 2:30 pm warm-up for 3:00 pm Christmas Eve Pageant
December 24 4:30 pm warm-up for 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Pageant
(choristers may attend either or both rehearsals on any given week)

St. Paul's Children's Choir RSCM *Voice for Life* training

December 1 3:45 - 5:00 pm Choral training session
December 8 3:45 - 5:00 pm Choral training session
December 15 3:45 - 5:00 pm Choral training session
December 22 3:45 - 4:30 pm Choral training session, 4:30 - 5:30 pm Caroling at nursing homes

St. Paul's Youth Choir and RSCM *Voice for Life* training

December 4 10:30 am rehearsal, 11:10 am sing at service
December 11 3:00 - 4:00 pm rehearsal
December 18 4:00 - 5:00 pm rehearsal
December 24 8:00 pm warm-up for 9:00 Christmas Eve Lessons and Carol Service

St. Paul's Adult Choir

December 1 7:30 - 9:30 pm rehearsal
December 4 8:30 am rehearsal, 9:30 am service
December 8 7:30 - 9:30 pm rehearsal
December 11 8:30 am rehearsal, 9:30 am service
December 15 7:30 - 9:30 pm rehearsal
December 18 8:30 am rehearsal, 9:30 am service
December 22 7:30 - 9:30 pm rehearsal
December 24 7:30 pm rehearsal, 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Lessons and Carol Service

St. Paul' Adult RSCM *Voice for Life* training

December 1 7:00 - 7:30 pm Choral training session
December 8 7:00 - 7:30 pm Choral training session
December 15 7:00 - 7:30 pm Choral training session

Christian Formation News

If you are new to St. Paul's or want more information about our church school or youth group offerings, please contact Amy Till at amy.till.spy@gmail.com.



Church School

Sunday morning church school classes are for children from 3 years through grade 5 and are held at 8:45 for families attending the 9:30 service or 10:45 for families attending the 11:10 service. Children of new families are welcome to join our classes at any time. Yellow registration forms can be found on the bulletin board in Sherrill Hall.

Upcoming Classes:

December 4 - Regular classes
December 11 - Regular classes
December 18 - Regular classes

St. Paul's Youth Groups (SPY)

On the weekend of November 18-20, twenty-nine youth and five adults from St. Paul's went on retreat! 14 high school teens attended the Happening retreat in Gardiner, Maine, and 14 middle school youth and 1 high school leader went to the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in New Hampshire. Word has it that both retreats were fun and meaningful. How wonderful that so many of our young people made the trip!

These retreat experiences have a cumulative effect over time, and really help form our young people as they become adults. The middle school retreat had a "God as my GPS" theme and taught that we can all "recalculate" our paths when needed. The High School Happening retreat, offered by the Diocese of Maine, is led by-teens-for-teens with adults acting as mentors. Once a teen has attended a Happening retreat, they are able to serve as leaders during the retreat next year if they choose. This leadership experience has been very valuable for some of our former SPY members who are now in college, and will likely be a good fit for some of our youth in future years.

Diocesan leadership opportunities are available through the Diocese of Massachusetts as well, and have provided great experiences for former and current SPY participants, including Chloe Abu-Jaber who is now helping as an adult leader with SPY. We are blessed to have 5 students currently involved with leadership at the Dioceses of Massachusetts! Claire Fields is a member of the Diocesan Youth Council (DYC), which is a group of 10-12 grade students who meet monthly to plan diocesan youth events and further their own faith and leadership skills. The DYC strives to make the church a nurturing environment for the spiritual growth of young people in Christian community. Thank you, Claire, for your work on the middle school retreat, and for leading and serving in our greater Christian community!

Four students, Clara Berger, Chloe Kolbet, Megan Lightcap, and Elizabeth Strand, have joined the Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) at the Diocese of Massachusetts. YLA is a year-long leadership training program offered to teens in grades 9-10, where participants learn about leadership in a Christian context. The training starts with a week of YLA summer camp, and continues throughout the year with YLA meetings and a special home-parish project that each student chooses herself and completes with a mentor's support. At the end of the year, participants have the opportunity to go on the YLA mission trip. Thank you Clara, Chloe, Megan, and Elizabeth for your commitment and servant leadership!

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

For more information about leadership training offered from the Diocese of Massachusetts, please see www.diomassyouth.org/diocesanyouthprograms.htm.

~ In Gratitude ~

Many thanks to Chloe Abu-Jaber, Solange Carpenter, and Maria Joy for giving us the weekend of November 18-20, and serving as adult staff at the high school happening retreat. Thanks also to Jon Strand, Kate Leavey, Renee Graham, and Linda Burgoon for helping with transportation.

Thanks to Marc Allen, Matt Daniels, and Gail Inferrere for taking time away from family to chaperone the middle school retreat. Thanks also to Mari Barrera and Courtney Edman for helping with transportation.

St. Paul's Youth (SPY) Upcoming Meetings

December 4 - All groups will meet as follows

Grades 6&7 - 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Gather in Sherrill Hall.

Grades 8-12 - 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in Sherrill Hall.

December 11 – SPY will be off-site due to IHN. Stay tuned to email for more information.

December 18– All groups meet at their regular times and places for SPY Christmas Parties!

Christmas Outreach

This Christmas the Service Council's greatest need is for teen gift cards—e.g., to movie theatres, to local stores that sell electronics, clothing or music, and to the Natick Mall. If you can help out by picking up a gift card when you are out, please buy gift cards for \$25, or in \$25 increments. Sunday Dec 12 and 19 there will be a gift-wrapped box at the back of the church to deposit cards. Thanks for your support of this ministry. *Questions?* Mary Erickson.



Christmas Music and Flower Offering



In Memory of:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

By: _____ *#* _____

Christmas Music & Flower Offering Envelopes



Included in The Reporter is a Christmas Music & Flower Offering envelope.

Please use this as an opportunity to remember a loved one or to give thanks for someone or something special .

This is a helpful way for us to focus on our continued connection with all the saints who worship with us each time we gather.

Please have these in to the Church Office by December 21, 2011.



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