

**ST. JOSEPH PARISH**

**Rev. Daniel C. O'Connell, Pastor**

**Organist-Music Director: Joseph Cipoletta**

**Parish Secretary: Fran Ryan**

**Faith Formation: Pat Harris**

**Tel: 617-523-4342 Parish Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:am-3:00pm FAX: 617-523-8459**

**Sacrament of Penance: Sat 3:15pm**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, December 10**

4:00 PM Open Hearts Memorial Guild

**Sunday, December 11**

9:00 AM Pasquale & Pauline Aloise

11:30 AM Judy Paone

5:00 PM Parishioners

**Monday, December 12**

12:10PM Deceased members of the Moscaritolo Family

**Tuesday, December 13**

12:10PM In honor of St. Lucy

**Wednesday, December 14**

12:10 PM Thelmae & John J. Maloney

**Thursday, December 15**

12:10PM Deceased family and friends of Paul Ashton

**Friday, December 16**

12:10PM In Memory of the Marron Family

**Saturday, December 17**

4:00 PM Mary Harold

**Sunday, December 18**

9:00 AM Family Mass

11:30 AM Deceased members of the Moscaritolo Family

5:00 PM Parishioners

**ADVENT BLUE BOOKS**

In preparation for Christmas, once again we have the "Little Blue Books" to help us prepare spiritually. They are available at the church entrance and cost \$2.00 each. They invite us to give the Lord six minutes a day.

The Church encourages all Catholics to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation each Advent. In addition to our normal Saturday afternoon confession time, St. Joseph Parish and all the Catholic parishes and chapels of the Archdiocese will be open on **Wednesday, December 21, from 6:30-8:00pm**. Please take advantage of this opportunity to make a good Advent confession. Please also reach out to the Catholics you know that have been away from the regular practice of our faith and invite them to seize this chance to begin again. The Archdiocese's website for this initiative, [www.TheLightIsOnForYou.org](http://www.TheLightIsOnForYou.org), has great material to help everyone prepare to make a good confession.



**Parish Support**

**December 4—Offertory \$3,230**



**SANCTUARY LAMP - December  
In Memory of the Brian Family**

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, December 24**

**5:30pm** - Family Mass with Pageant

Midnight - Christmas Eve Mass

**Sunday, December 25**

9:00am Mass

11:30am Mass

**Due to Christmas falling on a Sunday this year** there will be no 4:00pm Mass on Saturday, December 24 or 5:00pm Mass on Sunday, December 25.

**BISHOP HENNESSEY**

**THANK YOU!**

A special thanks to Bishop Hennessey for his blessing last weekend as we start off our year of celebration of our Parish's 150th Anniversary. It should be a great year!

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND PLANTS**

If you wish to donate flowers in memory or honor of a loved one, please let us have your name and the name of your loved one before **Friday, December 16**. Your donation of \$10 will help beautify our church and allow us all to keep your beloved ones in our prayers. Envelopes are at the back of the Church. Your loved ones will be in our prayers throughout this Holy season. Thank you and God bless!

**TELEVISED SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY MASS!**

Featuring Cardinal Sean and priest from all around the Archdiocese, a televised Sunday Mass is broadcast live each Sunday morning from 7:00am to 7:30am on WLVI-TV, CW56. The Sunday TV Mass is produced by the CatholicTV® Network in collaboration with WVLI-TV. Too early for you? Tape it, Tivo it, or watch it online. In addition, **DAILY MASS DURING THE WEEK** is offered on the CatholicTV Network, Monday - Saturday at 9:30am and rebroadcast at 7:00pm. For more information consult the CatholicTV Network website at [www.CatholicTV.com](http://www.CatholicTV.com).

**REFLECTIONS FROM  
FATHER CHARLES SHEEHY**

We speak of coming to Mass or going to Mass, and we know what the words mean. We speak of "liturgy" and might wonder what the word really comes from, even when we know it refers to Mass or other religious worship.

The original word meant public work or service done in the name of, or on part of, the people. For Catholics and some other followers of Jesus Christ such as "orthodox" it means participation of the people in the work of God.

We may like to think of "liturgy" not so much as public work but rather as desiring to be one of many gathered together to give honor and glory to Jesus Christ.

We might not always succeed in being "Christ true", but we can make a sincere effort. At the same time we cannot live the life of a Carmelite Nun or Trappist Monk. They serve God in a very special way. People in the world are called to be followers of Jesus Christ as they know, love and serve others.

**SESQUICENTENNIAL QUESTION & ANSWER  
A New Question or Answer Each Week**

This week's question: Is there any record of Mass being celebrated in Boston in the period 1620-1778 in spite of the death penalty? The police were allowed to break into private houses if there was a suspicion of an illegal Mass.

**ADVENT GIVING TREE—Have you taken an envelope?** Again this year we will celebrate a 'giving tree' and we will do so for the people of Haiti as they continue to try to recover from the many losses they have faced. Envelopes will be on the tree and you are invited to take one from the tree and place it along with your donation into the collection receptacle next to the tree. Your gift of love will brighten a child's Christmas and bring Christ's promise of joy alive to His people.

**A SPECIAL HEARTFELT THANK YOU** to all who helped make our Christmas Poinsettia Festival such a great success. We could not have done it without you. We had a chance to decorate our homes and offices with Poinsettia plants, bring a smile to someone's face and support our parish at the same time. A special thanks to our organizers, table captains and myriad of volunteers for all their hard work and time spent to make our Christmas Poinsettia Festival fun for all. A job well done!



**RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION NEWS**

December Children's Events:

11<sup>th</sup>: *Waiting...An Advent Workshop*

ALL CHILDREN in the Parish, ages 3-15, 10:00-11:15AM, in the Parish Hall

18<sup>th</sup>: 8:45 @ the Kid's Corner, Vestibule of Church, MEETING for anyone wishing to be an ALTAR SERVER

Family Advent Mass, 9:00AM Would you like to help?

Religious Education Session, 10:00AM

24<sup>th</sup>: 5:30 PM Family Christmas Eve Mass with Pageant. All children welcome to be part of the pageant!

**TO PARTICIPATE at any event:** Contact Pat Harris, repatharis@verizon.net or 781-535-8655

"Please donate all your **can tabs** to support the Burn Camp at Shriners Hospital in Boston. You can deposit your **can tabs** in the container at the back of the church near the door. Thank you for your help with this Parish Project."

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent and two Purple candles and one Pink candle are lit today.

"Jesus, we are so happy you are coming. Help us prepare our hearts for you. Come, Lord Jesus, come! Amen."



**150(0) items:** Over 80 items have been given to the West End Food Bank. Thank You! They have a great need for dried or canned milk and oatmeal. Any fruits, vegetables, protein goods, or rice would be greatly appreciated. We will be collecting through Christmas weekend. Please, help us to feed the hungry!

**Cardinal O'Malley and Priests Begin Consultation Process on Pastoral Planning** - On December 5, Cardinal Seán O'Malley and the Archdiocesan Pastoral Planning Commission (APPC) met with priests of the Archdiocese of Boston and with those serving in archdiocesan parishes to begin the consultation process regarding the next phase of Pastoral Planning in the archdiocese. Further rounds of consultations with archdiocesan and parish leadership will be conducted over the next several months. After receiving input from the consultations, the APPC will then prepare a final recommendation to Cardinal Seán for his decision. We ask your prayers for this important process and invite you to review the planning materials at [www.2012Planning.org](http://www.2012Planning.org).