



All Saints'
Memorial Church
674 Westminster St., Providence RI

December 10, 2020 Parish messenger

Come and worship
Rejoice in fellowship
Love and serve the Lord!



Advent Wonder

Dear All Saints' Family,

When were you last greeted by wonder? Wonder: "that feeling of surprise mingled with admiration, caused by something beautiful, unexpected, unfamiliar, or inexplicable." We reflected on this question and others at Saturday's Advent Quiet Morning. We read the following passage from Luke's Gospel:

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you. But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be" (Luke 1:26-29).

Luke tells us that Mary was perplexed by the angel's words, "Greetings favored one, the Lord is with you." Mary pondered the meaning of this greeting. Surely, Mary did not understand the full meaning of what was happening at that moment. Did she feel wonder in the unexpected presence of God's messenger? Wonder at the astounding greeting and encounter with the Holy? Surely the angel's next words to Mary were even more perplexing—news that she was to bear a son, Jesus, who would be

called Son of God.

Mary was given a glimpse of the horizon. God's horizon. Only a glimpse. She waited in the midst of mystery and wonder.

As we continued to reflect on wonder, Barry and Becky played the carol "What Child is This?" (Callahan's *A Prelude on Greensleeves*). Here is the music recording from Saturday. Enter into Advent wonder, or be grasped by Advent wonder as you listen and ponder the question "What Child is This?"



*What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?*

Please join our Service of Holy Eucharist Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom for the Third Sunday in Advent.

Here is the Zoom link for this Sunday's Service:

Sunday 9:30 a.m. Service

Time: This is a recurring meeting

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85484006164?pwd=ZzAvZVFUM2pKekorMGVzMFFeclFiUT09>

Meeting ID: 854 8400 6164

Passcode: 674674

Here is the link to the service program:

http://www.allsaintsmemorial.org/uploads/1/1/7/4/117437355/service_bulletin_advent_3_december_13_2020.pdf

Advent Blessings,
Julie



Christmas Services 2020

All are invited to join our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services **via Zoom only**. Please be aware that each Christmas Service has a **unique Zoom link**. The Christmas Eve service will also be **live**

streamed via Facebook.

Christmas Eve Music (6:30 p.m.) and Festal Service of Holy Eucharist (7:00 p.m.) Zoom link:

Topic: Christmas Eve Music and Festal Service of Holy Eucharist

Time: Dec 24, 2020 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86056550612?pwd=eFE4Mm5McTZyVXVLUk10em12ZzVkZz09>

Meeting ID: 860 5655 0612

Passcode: 674674

Christmas Day Service (9:30 a.m.) Zoom link:*Topic: Christmas Day Service*

Time: Dec 25, 2020 9:30 a.m. Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86759063544?pwd=MzkoTHooSVQ1b1RNbkVPdDE1RohlQT09>

Meeting ID: 867 5906 3544

Passcode: 674674



Christmas Flowers

The church will be decorated for Christmas with poinsettias and other flowers. To give these flowers as memorials for loved ones who have died, or in thanksgiving for special persons or events in your life, please email asmcri@verizon.net or drop off a note in the mailbox by Sunday, December 20. Suggested donation for the flowers is \$25—\$35. Please make checks payable to "All Saints' Memorial Church."

Angel Tree 2020

In this time of COVID-19, we're not able to give Angel Tree gifts in the same way as years past. Still, we want to be as helpful as we can to families in need, so we are making adjustments.

We will be working with the several agencies we have worked with in the past to identify recipients for the Angel Tree gifts. Instead of responding to specific requests for families, this year we invite parishioners to drop off gifts for children, and gift cards for teens and adults. We will bring them to the agencies. As in previous years, gifts need to be wrapped and have a removable tag describing what is in the package.

Here are some guidelines:

What to get and how to label:

- If a toy or clothes: Label should name the toy or clothes, age range, and gender if appropriate (Ex: "Checkers game; age 5 and up"). This will allow agency workers to distribute appropriately.
- If a gift card: Label should name the store (We suggest Walmart, Target, or Price Rite) and the amount.

**When to drop off at All Saints': Deadline is Thursday,
December 17 by 2:00 p.m.**

- Church is open Tuesdays and Fridays, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- After church service on Sundays

- If you would prefer to have an Outreach Committee member pick the item(s) up from outside your home, contact Linda Johnson (belindajohnson667@gmail.com or 401-225-6839).

Ways to attach a removable tag:

- With string or ribbon
- Paper clip

If you personally know a family in need of help this Christmas and have suggestions about what gifts they might receive (can also be a gift card), contact Linda Johnson (see above).

Thank you for your generosity!

Wednesday Noonday Prayer and Bible Study

Here is the Zoom link for next Wednesday's Noon Prayer. Please use this same link for Bible and Lunch after prayers:

Wednesday Noon Service

Time: This is a recurring meeting

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84955593827?pwd=akNZeTlmSCtTb1BoUU9hcWQrZk5xZz09>

Meeting ID: 854 5559 3827

Passcode: 674674

Here is the link to the service program:

http://www.allsaintsmemorial.org/uploads/1/1/7/4/117437355/order_of_service_for_noonday_wednesday_december_16_2020.pdf

Next Wednesday, we will discuss Chapter 2 in the Book of Esther.

2021 Pledges and Annual Giving

Our deepest thanks and gratitude for those who have already pledged for next year!

If you haven't returned your 2021 pledge card yet, please do so by December 20, to allow for the preparation of envelopes and the annual budget.

Rejoicing in Hope Advent Book Discussion

Sunday, December 20th after our 9:30 a.m. Service

Let us ponder Advent hope together. I have ten copies of the book, *Rejoicing in Hope: An Advent Study for Adults* by James Harnish. Please let me know if you would like a copy. Or, you may prefer to purchase it on your own. I am reading it on my Kindle. Our book discussion will be Sunday, Dec. 20th via Zoom right after the service.



Giving Opportunity in 2020

Our church building is beautiful and historic. From time to time we need to attend to some rather large repairs. We recently had an estimate for badly needed masonry work. The contractor identified an "Immediate Maintenance Attention Option" (see photo) for \$12,400. Now this is much better than the longer-term option (\$216,480), to be sure. However, even the smaller amount is a more than we have in our Capital Fund (\$3,523).

With this masonry work in mind, here is some tax information that applies only for 2020 giving that may be helpful; All Saints' is considered a public charity.

- For those who no longer itemize, the CARES Act allows individual taxpayers to deduct donations to charity of up to \$300 on their 2020 federal tax return, even though they take the standard deduction. Married-filing-jointly taxpayers will get an above-the-line deduction of up to \$600.
- The CARES Act temporarily removes the adjusted gross income (AGI) limitations on charitable deductions for cash gifts to public charities in 2020. Now, a donor may claim a charitable income tax deduction up to 100% of AGI for cash gifts, meaning you would pay no federal income tax. Previously, the donor would have had to

limit deductions to 60% of AGI. The 100% limit is reduced dollar-for-dollar by other itemized charitable deductions. This means that a donor who deducts 30% of AGI in long-term appreciated asset gifts (stocks, mutual funds, real estate) will be able to also deduct up to 70% of AGI for cash gifts, for a total deduction of up to 100% of AGI. Donors should consult their tax or financial advisor about these issues.

Regardless of the size of your donation, All Saints' accepts donations of cash or via credit card and check. In addition, we are able to accept donations of appreciated stock or mutual funds. For that option, please contact Becky Silliman for more information (rsillima@bu.edu or 401-946-3562).

Help us fix this crack by Spring! Thank you.



Food Collection

Each week All Saints' collects food to be distributed monthly to food pantries in our area. We welcome donations of any pre-packaged, non-expired food.

- December: canned vegetables
- January: canned pasta
- February: peanut butter

Thank you for your generosity!

Upcoming Events

- **Dec 16:** Bible and Lunch via ZOOM, 12:30—1:15 PM.

- **Dec 20:** Rejoicing in Hope Advent Book Discussion—immediately after our 9:30 AM Service.
- **Dec 23:** Bible and Lunch via ZOOM, 12:30—1:15 PM.
- **Dec 24:** Christmas Eve preludes from 6:30—7:00 p.m.; Festal Eucharist will be at 7 p.m. Service will be via Zoom, and streamed via Facebook.
- **Dec 25:** Christmas Day Service 9:30 a.m. via Zoom; office will be closed.
- **Jan 1:** Office will be closed for New Year's Day.
- **Jan 13:** Vestry meeting, 6 p.m. via Zoom.
- **Jan 31:** Annual meeting, immediately following service.

Keeping up with Your Pledge in These Times

While we are limited in the number of worshippers we can have in church, we ask that you keep up with your pledge as you are able.

There are three ways for you to do so.

- Give online - it is easy and secure. Here is how:
 1. Go to our website—allsaintsmemorial.org—our home page.

2. Below the "Coronavirus Update" section on the home page, click on the Donate button.
 3. You can either sign in to ChurchTrac or give as a guest.
- Make out a check and send it by mail to the church:
All Saints' Memorial Church
674 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903
 - Place your sealed offering envelope with check or cash in the mailbox outside the office door. To open the mailbox, tug on the knob on the front side, and pull the door down. Deposit mail through the slot that is revealed. Please close the mailbox door when you are finished.

If you have questions, please email me (rsillima@bu.edu) or call me (946-3562).

-Thank you,
Becky

PRAYERS

Those for whom prayers have been asked:

We pray for our fellow parishioners Derek, Alice, Gus, Ernie,

Ruby, Marie, Trish, and Virginia. We also pray for Dorothea Evans Gordon, Eric and Irene T., Mary Tryforos, Joan, Maribeth Sneddon, Margaret Barney, Carolyn, Michael Blake, Clarence Scott, Germaine, Naida Thomas, and Merynn Flynn.

Celebrating a birthday this week: Florence Smith Goll, Marywood Gray, Sarah Wilson, and Pattie Marshall.

We pray for all who work for peace and members of our armed forces, especially Matthew Degree.

We pray for all healthcare workers, first responders, and those who are in public spaces such as pharmacies, grocery stores, and other vital services in these times.

Share All Saints' With Friends



SCRIPTURE READINGS

December 13, 2020

Third Sunday in Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11, Marybeth Hanavan

Response: Canticle 15, Eric Hirsch

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, Wilmar Jennings

Prayers: Monika Kraemer

Gospel: John 1:6-8,19-28

December 20, 2020

Fourth Sunday in Advent

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-11,16, Anne Tait

Response: Psalm 89:1-4,19-26, Lyndsey Wells

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27, Bob Wells

Prayers: Dan Mechnig

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Publishing information:

The next regular edition of the e-messenger will be emailed on Thursday, Dec 17.

The deadline to submit information and articles for this edition is Tuesday, December 15. Please submit any articles or info you may have to ReeRee at asmcri@verizon.net.



Websites:

**All Saints' Memorial Church
Diocese of RI · The Episcopal Church**

Contact information:

**All Saints' Memorial Church (Episcopal)
674 Westminster St
Providence, RI 02903**

Parish phone: 401-751-1747*

online office hours: 10 a.m.—2 p.m., Tuesday-Friday

*please use asmcri@verizon.net for urgent questions

The Rev. Dr. Julianne Hanavan, Priest-in-Charge

revjulhan@gmail.com

Dr. Barry Turley, Director of Music
401-751-1747

Newsletter submissions:
asmcri@verizon.net

The Vestry:

Senior Warden

Monika Kraemer

Junior Warden

Dan Mechnig

Treasurer

Becky Silliman

Clerk

Anne Tait

Finance Chair

Robert Wells

Members

Maryann Darbeh

April Donahower

Agnes Fox

Musa Goll

Charles Smith

Elizabeth Toby

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