



All Saints' Memorial Church

674 Westminster St., Providence, RI

www.allsaintsmemorial.org

E-Messenger, December 21th, 2023

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

Dear All Saints' Family,

At our Wednesday Noonday Prayer/ Bible Discussion Wilmar shared some research on the long development of the celebration of Christ's

birth, Christmas, in the Eastern and Western Churches.

"Celebration of the Nativity can be traced to North Africa as early as 311 A.D.

Epiphany in the Western church was and is a celebration of God's revelation of Jesus through the Magi's visit. In the Eastern church January 6th became a celebration of the Nativity, the Adoration of the Magi (Epiphany) and a celebration of the Lord's baptism.



Russian Icon of St. Nicholas

Other Christmas traditions evolved over time from different European countries. The Dutch Sinterklaas tradition grew around St. Nicholas of Myra (December 6th) while Father Christmas came from English tradition. The Christmas tree tradition comes to us from Germany.

Las Posadas is a nine-day festival that is a re-enactment of Joseph and Mary's search for a place to stay in Bethlehem. It took nine days to

travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem in the first century. Often celebrated in Mexico and some parts of the United States, during Las Posadas people go house to house playing the part of pilgrims or innkeepers. One house has the creche, food, and drink etc...

Thanks, Wilmar for sharing your research.

This Sunday we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent *and* Christmas Eve. We will have our Sunday Service of Holy Eucharist at 9:30 am marking the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Our Christmas Eve Service will begin at 7:00 pm with Christmas Preludes starting at 6:30 pm. Our Christmas Day Service of Holy Eucharist on Monday is at 9:30 am. All are welcome.

Although Christmas is just days away, we are still in the third week of Advent. I share the Collect for Advent 3 with you - a strong prayer. Keep an eye out for how the Lord is present to you with great might, stirring up his power, and bestowing bountiful grace and mercy. I'd love to hear what you are noticing.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Advent grace and peace,
Julie

**All are warmly welcome to join our Service of Holy Eucharist
on Sunday, December 24, the Fourth Sunday of Advent,
9:30am**

Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85484006164?pwd=ZzAvZVFUM2pKekorMGVzMFFEclFiUTo9>

Service Program: You will find Sunday's program **here**.



Christmas Services

Christmas Eve Sunday, December 24th

Christmas Preludes 6:30pm

Christmas Festival Eucharist 7:00pm

Christmas Eve Zoom Link:

<http://https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85255203640?pwd=bXFtNG1xdXBXU28wQoFvb3NUVXdWQT09>

Christmas Day, Monday, December 25th

Christmas Service of Holy Eucharist 9:30am

Christmas Day Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86812987040?pwd=WHJxbWRyMHU5a3c2NHJKVW5menBuUT09>

First Sunday after Christmas December 31st

Lessons and Carols and Holy Eucharist, 9:30am

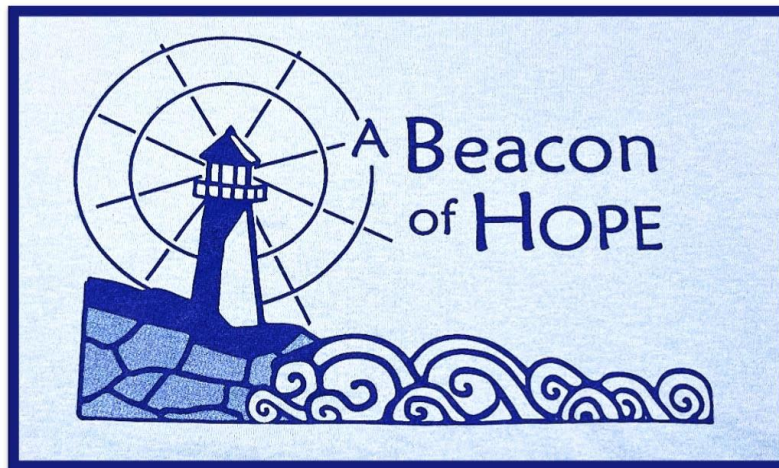
First Wednesday Healing Service with Holy Eucharist

January 3, 2024 at Noon in the Church

Here is the Zoom link if you wish to join us from home:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82955504419?pwd=SigTzVFbTR4>

KoZjTy9jNVdkRFhuQTo9



Outreach News

Thank you so much for your great generosity for the Angel Tree project!

Monthly Food Collection: This month we are collecting canned vegetables, although any non-perishable food items are most welcome.

Upcoming Events

December 24: Christmas Eve Service, 7:00 pm
Christmas Preludes. 6:30pm

December 25: Christmas Day Service, 9:30am

December 26: Parish Office closed

December 31: Service of Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist, 9:30 am

December 31: New Year's Eve Service at St. Luke's Pawtucket, 11:00 pm

Prayers

We pray for our fellow parishioners Derek, Gus, Marie, Trish, Victor, Rose, Susan, Gloria, Musa, Barry, Rosetta, Theo, and Gabby; for Dorothea Evans Gordon, Clarence Scott, Germaine, Naida Thomas, Merynn Flynn, Karen L., Stephen, Barbara K., Lusaynie Sirleaf, John Flinton, James, Rachael, Eva McBorrow, Jennifer, Carla, Sawyer L., Philletta Payne, Elizabeth Pacek, Frances Fisher Taite, Joyce, Yonghee, Nancy Pollard, and Kerry DeLaGarza.

We pray for those who work for peace in the armed forces especially Hannah Makuch.

We pray for those who celebrate birthdays this week especially Neb Amaechina

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SCRIPTURE READINGS AND MINISTRIES

December 24, 4 Advent 2023

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7: 1-11,16 Becky Silliman

Response: Canticle 15 Becky Silliman

Second Reading: Romans 16: 25-27 Cora Nagle

Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38

Prayers of the People: Musa Goll

Chalice: Tom Hobin

Altar Guild: April & Alex



Websites:

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

Contact information:

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Newsletter submissions:

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The Vestry:

Senior Warden

Musa Goll

Junior Warden

Chip Smith

Treasurer

Becky Silliman

Clerk

Pattie Marshall

Finance Chair

Dan Mechnig

Members

Rosetta Evans

Charlotte Burgess

Ryan Mott

Theo Muhlenburg

Gloria Perry

Kardi Draper

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