



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

December 23, 2021 Parish messenger

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

...I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people (Luke 2:10).

Dear All Saints' Family,

All are invited to join us to gather in praise and thanksgiving and celebrate Christmas together. We welcome you to our services in-person or via Zoom. Please see below for the times of each service, Zoom links, and service program links.

Masks are now required in the church and Rose Hall (anywhere inside the building). We also ask that you spread out to maintain social distancing

during the service.

A reminder about the Christmas Eve Service of Holy Eucharist and Christmas Day Service: If you wish to join via Zoom, each Service has a unique Zoom link.

Christmas Festival Service of Holy Eucharist, December 24, 6:30pm Christmas Preludes; 7pm Service

Christmas Eve Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87611180735?pwd=dmFhaXEwYoZtY3VmUFNFTW1CbEpwZz09>

Meeting ID: 876 1118 0735

Passcode: 674674

Christmas Eve Service Program Link:

http://www.allsaintsmemorial.org/uploads/1/1/7/4/117437355/service_bulletin_christmas_eve_december_24_2021.pdf

Christmas Morning Service of Holy Eucharist, Saturday, December 25, 9:30am.

Christmas Morning Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88116365566?pwd=RTVnVktjRXdEVkdJRmc3YjJPdHI3QT09>

Meeting ID: 881 1636 5566

Passcode: 674674

Christmas Morning Service Program Link:

http://www.allsaintsmemorial.org/uploads/1/1/7/4/117437355/service_bulletin_christmas_day_december_25_2021.pdf

Service of Lesson and Carols with Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 26th at 9:30 am.

Sunday Morning Lessons and Carols Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85484006164?pwd=ZzAvZVFUM2pKekorMGVzMFFeclFiUTo9>

Meeting ID: 854 8400 6164

Password: 674674

Lessons and Carols Service Program Link:

http://www.allsaintsmemorial.org/uploads/1/1/7/4/117437355/service_bulletin_christmas_i_december_26_2021.pdf

Our Services are also live streamed through our Facebook page.

*May the Christmas light fill your hearts and God's glory
resound forth through you.*

Christmas
Julie

Blessings,

Outreach Advent Activities

Many thanks for your generous participation in the Angel Tree Advent activity! Every single Angel card was taken by an angel parishioner. The gifts were distributed on Monday and greatly appreciated!

More thanks for the donations to the West Broadway Neighborhood Toy Drive (WBNA)! All Saints' Outreach made a donation of \$230 to this WBNA activity.

Every Perfect Gift-Pledge Cards



Every Perfect Gift  **My 2022 Promise**

In gratitude for Every Perfect Gift, I/we have received, I/we promise \$ _____ to All Saints' for 2022.

I/we would like monthly envelopes no envelopes.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

All Saints' Memorial Church
674 Westminster St., Providence, RI 02903

Thank you for submitting your pledge card for 2022! If you have not yet submitted your pledge card for 2022, we would be most grateful if you do so. Pledge cards are available at the church entrances and in Rose Hall.

Envelopes will be available for pick-up in the church on Sunday, December 26.

From the Office

Office updates:
~ The office is open Tuesday-Friday 9am-12pm.
~ The office will be closed on December 28
~ Our email has changed from asmcri@verizon.net to our new gmail address allsaintsprovidence@gmail.com. Please update your records.

Wednesday Noonday Prayer and Bible Study



We read Chapter 24 in the Book of Genesis for yesterday's discussion. Noonday Prayer and Bible Study are cancelled for next Wednesday. Of course you can pray the Noonday Office on your own. When we resume Noonday Prayer/Bible Study on January 5, all are welcome to participate in-person (Rose Hall) or via Zoom

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

Here is a reflection about Rebekah from the Genesis reading this week. It is offered by Rebecca Silliman. Thank you, Becky



Rebekeh at the Well

What's in a Name?

When I was born, the sixth of six children, my parents had exhausted all family names. Thus, my older sister, 16 1/2 years old at the time, was tasked with naming me. I never asked her why she named me Rebecca, but watching her name her twin daughters when I also was 16 1/2 gave me some ideas. You see, it was all about syllables. Each of one's full name should not have the same number of syllables. Her daughters were thus 3-1-2 and I was 3-1-3. I am grateful, because if that had not been her strategy, I might have ended up as Rebecca Rowena Silliman (3-3-3).

Rebecca Rowena Randall was the full name of Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm, reminiscent of Sir Walter Scott's Ivanhoe. How I hated to be called Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm, the first time by the principal when my mother enrolled me in kindergarten. Until recently, I generalized that dislike to the children's book by that name. I am sorry that I didn't read it when I was younger, as I might have learned some things sooner, just as Rebecca did: "No talent is wholly wasted unless its owner chooses to hide it in a napkin. Remember your own gifts, Rebecca; they may not be praised of men, but they may cheer, console, inspire, perhaps when and where you least expect. The brimming glass that overflows its own rim moistens the earth about it." I love the image of the brimming glass feeding the

earth. Rebecca was an inquisitive, generous, and kind child, albeit sometimes making life challenging for the maiden aunts with whom she lived.

She shared some characteristics with the Biblical Rebekah, particularly kindness and generosity. I first met the Block Island Rebecca, when I moved to Rhode Island nearly 50 years ago. She and her fountain were installed in 1896 by the Women's Christian Temperance Movement. The idea of this and similar fountains across the country was to offer water as a healthier alternative to beer. As I have reflected on the story of Rebekah (which in Hebrew means "to secure" or "to tie"), the connection of Rebekah to the Temperance Movement is more than puzzling.

As we read in Genesis, after drawing water from the town well, Rebekah offered it to a thirsty stranger and his camels. She gave generously without hesitation, and also offered overnight accommodations to them. The stranger was Abraham's servant, sent to find a wife from among his kinsmen for his beloved son Isaac. Rebekah and all of the characters in the story believed that God was acting through them. But they were not pawns. Rebekah's brother and mother were respectful of her and deferred to her to make the final decision to go to become Isaac's wife. Thus, instead of a story about sobriety, it is a story of kindness, generosity, respect, and faith.

When Rebekah left her home, her family blessed her; when she met Isaac, she covered her face with a veil. Both of these two actions are reflected in today's traditional Jewish marriage ceremony: the **bedeken** (veiling of the bride) and the reciting of the blessing of Rebekah's family, "Our sister, may you come to be thousands of myriads, and may your offspring inherit the gates of its foes".

The ancients believed that a name makes us what we are, but our names also reflect who we are.

~Becky Silliman



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. Thank you for your generosity!

- December: Canned Vegetables
- January: Canned Pasta

Upcoming Events

December 24: Christmas Eve

~ **Christmas Preludes, 6:30pm**

~ **Service of Holy Eucharist, 7:00pm**

December 25: Christmas Morning Celebration of Holy Eucharist, 9:30am

December 26: Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist, 9:30am

December 28: Office closed

December 29: No choir rehearsal

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

PRAYERS

We pray for our fellow parishioners Derek, Gus, Marie, Trish, Victor, Rose, Marisa, Susan, and Pam. We also pray for Dorothea Evans Gordon, Mary Tryforos, Margaret Barney, Michael Blake, Clarence Scott, Germaine, Naida Thomas, Merynn Flynn, Teresa Clinton, Karen L., Stephen, Barbara K., Rena, David, Frank, and Lusaynie Sirleaf.

We pray for all who work for peace and members of our armed forces.

We pray for those who celebrate birthdays this week.

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SCRIPTURE READINGS

December 24, 2021

Christmas Eve

First Reading: Isaiah 62:6-12 Ed Boyer

Response: Psalm 97 Chimmie Amaechina

Second Reading: Titus 3:4-7 Anne Tait

Gospel: Luke 2:8-20

Prayers: Marybeth Hanavan

Publishing information:

The next regular edition of the e-messenger will be emailed on Thursday, December 30rd. Please submit any articles or info you may have to revjulhan@gmail.com.



Websites:

All Saints' Memorial Church

Diocese of RI · The Episcopal Church

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Providence, RI 02903**

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

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401-751-1747

Newsletter submissions:

allsaintsprovidence@gmail.com

The Vestry:

Senior Warden

Finance Chair

Robert Wells

Musa Goll

Junior Warden

Dan Mechnig

Treasurer

Becky Silliman

Clerk

Anne Tait

Members

Rosetta Evans

Agnes Fox

Pattie Marshall

Theo Muhlenburg

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