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**St. John is a Stewardship Parish**  
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**Nov 27, 2011**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

**Saturday, November 26, 2011**

4:00 – Mass for the People of St John's  
**Sunday, November 27, 2011**

8:00 – Mass for All Souls

10:00 – Richard Hildor Foss – 15<sup>th</sup> Anniv.

**Saturday, December 3, 2011**

4:00 -- Richard Venesky – 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**Sunday, December 4, 2011**

8:00 – Mass for the People

10:00 – Kathleen Climo – 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

**Bans of Marriage**  
**Daniel Dooley & Janice Cardinal**

**Important Dates**

12/1 – Ecumenical Service – St. John's – 6 pm  
followed by Lighting of the Lights on the Common

12/3 – Christmas on the Common

12/4 – TEEN MASS – 6 PM

12/7 – PPC Meeting – 7 PM in the Chapel

12/8 – *Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Holy Day of Obligation*

12/10 – Peer Ministry, Christmas Social – 4 PM  
Mass, Social to Follow.

12/18 – Parish Christmas Breakfast – 11 AM

***Please keep the following in your prayers:***

*Nelson Powers, Lana Thomas, Don Kitchell, Bill Browne, Russell L. Clifford Jr. & Ruth Russell, Jack, Sheila, Joseph McElhiney Mary Ellen Johnson, Robert Small, Madison Murray, Ian Hickey SPC, Nathan Gilbert BU3 and Rita LoCicero, Fedela Nuovo, Betty DePietro, Pam & Vince Adornato, Jane & Michael Sheehan, Patricia Polcaro.*

***\*Due to the ever growing number of names in our prayer list, we will be removing names after one month's time to make room for more people in need of our prayers. The complete list of names can be found on our website:***

**[www.stjohneb.org](http://www.stjohneb.org)**

Please extend **Congratulations** to Lauren Johnston, Courtney Powers, Caitlin Powers, Krystin Pendleton, and Chris Foote confirmation to 3rd. Please keep



for their up-coming be held on December them in your prayers!

***Our Shared Treasure***  
***November 20, 2011: \$5443***  
***Retired Religious Sisters Collection: \$1849***  
***GRAND ANNUAL COLLECTION: \$8972***  
***Thank you for your continued generosity.***

***SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS***

FLOWER ENVELOPES will be out next weekend. In order to be published for Christmas, all envelopes MUST be in by the last Sunday in Advent, Dec. 17. Any names received after than will be published at a later date.

SNOWBIRDS--Anyone going South for the winter, please let the Rectory know so we can stop delivery of your envelopes while you are away. Any changes must be made by the first of each month.

CELL PHONES – If you have recently given up your land line and use only your cell phone, please notify the Rectory so that we can update your file in the family registry.



**CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS DURING ADVENT**

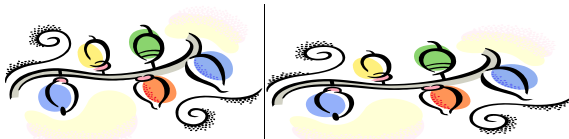
I have often thought that we celebrate Christmas best during Advent. That's probably because the preparation for Christmas takes much more time and effort than the celebration of Christmas Day (which seems to come and go so quickly).

Fr. Wally's suggestion of four talks during Advent may test that theory. Looking at the Nativity Narratives and other related stories during Advent can help us find the spiritual center of Christmas as we go through the Advent season. We will take time each Wednesday evening at 7 PM during Advent to look at the Scripture account of Jesus' birth, some light theology, and hopefully some sharing can lead us to a more fruitful celebration of this amazing truth of our faith: "The Word became flesh." God Bless, Fr. Skerry



## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> the children of our Parish will present The Nativity Story. Members of Karen Connell and Kevin Smith's 9<sup>th</sup> Gr. Confirmation class are directing the children in this wonderful presentation of the Christmas Story. In addition to the wonderful play, you are cordially invited to join Fr Wally in celebrating the Christmas season by joining in the decorating of the rectory Christmas Tree following the pageant from 1:45 – 3 pm. Bring an ornament that represents your family's style or traditions and enjoy some Christmas cheer and goodies.



## LIGHTING OF THE TREES

The annual lighting of the trees on the Town Common will take place on Thursday Dec. 1 at 6:30 pm. Prior to this special town event, there will be an ecumenical prayer service in St. John's Church at 6:00 pm. The pastors of all of the churches in town will be present for this very brief Advent service. Following the service there will be candle light procession to the common for the lighting of the trees. All are welcome.

## Grand Annual Collection

**We are very grateful for the generosity shown by 55 or our families to our Grand Annual Collection. To date, these families have contributed \$8972. If you have not yet had an opportunity to return your donation, please do so as soon as possible. The parish Finance Council has recommended a donation in the amount of \$250. The council realizes that some families may not be able to afford that donation while many others may be able to give more. We count on your generosity to reach our goal of \$46,000 Every gift is welcomed and sincerely appreciated. Donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Let's all do our part no matter how big or small our donation may be.**



Dear Friends,

I hope that your Thanksgiving Day was a memorable one. My parents and I went to my brother John's house in Woburn for dinner and we all had a wonderful time. The Mass of Thanksgiving on Wednesday evening was a beautiful celebration and I want to thank all those parishioners who brought food for the food pantry. You will be proud to know that our food pantry served a complete Thanksgiving dinner to 40 families for the East Bridgewater area. We are so blessed to have such an active St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. John's. Well, the Advent wreath is in the Church which means that the Advent/Christmas season is upon us. I would like to invite everyone to attend a special Advent service at St. John's on Thursday, Dec. 1 at 6:00 pm. The clergy of the town will participate in this special service of light and there will be a special musical program as well. At 6:30 we will process across the street to the town common for the lighting the trees. There will also be a special program of Christmas music on the common as well. All are invited to come and enjoy! On Saturday, Dec. 3 East Bridgewater will once again celebrate Christmas on the Common. The parade begins at 10:00 am and then a wonderful day of fun holiday activities begins. The Kiwanis Club sponsors this wonderful Christmas celebration and it serves as a fund raiser for their many charitable events. I urge everyone to come and enjoy this great holiday event and in doing so, you will be helping the needy of the town as well.

God, Bless,  
Fr. Wally



## St. John's Christmas Giving Tree

Is up.

Please help someone in need by taking a tag from the tree.

All donations should be returned no later than Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>.

Please remember to write the amount of the donation on the gift card.