

*Opening wide our doors and hearts
in the name of Jesus Christ Our Lord and Savior*

Holy Eucharist
The First Sunday of Advent
December 1, 2024 9:00 AM

Join us in person for our service.

Or join us by going to our livestream on the St. Peter's Facebook page [here](#).

The worship leaflet can be found [here](#).

There will be a coffee hour after the mass, with breakfast served

This Sunday's Ministers

Ms. Lenita Richard and Ms. Janene Gorham, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Mr. Jake Mahon, *Crucifer*

Mr. Thomas Ainsworth, *Usher*

Ms. Judy Howes, *Altar Guild*

Ms. Anita Chandler, Ms. Patty Lamb, and Mr. Robert Simmons, *Coffee Hour Hosts*

Music Notes for this Sunday's service can be found at the end of Key Notes.

Dear Friends,

Advent begins on Sunday, December 1, and during the season we prepare ourselves anew for the coming of Jesus Christ in his birth even as we anticipate his return in glory. You will notice some changes in our liturgy for the season, and of course, Advent wreathes will be set up in the church and the undercroft.

Along with the Advent calendar I send out each year, I provide a daily email devotional message. This brief devotional is based on the scripture reading and suggested devotion for each day on the calendar.

Some of you have already subscribed to receive these , and this year, I am sending it out to our entire parish contact list. You are welcome to read the devotions each morning. I realize that many of us receive all too many emails each day, and if you prefer not to receive these devotions, you can simply unsubscribe by clicking the link at the bottom of the devotions page. And don't worry - that will not unsubscribe you from Key Notes.

See *The Word of the Week* below for more about Advent, and I look forward to entering this season of preparation, expectation, and hope with all of you.

Faithfully,
Fr. Tom



The Collect for Thanksgiving Day

From *The Book of Common Prayer*

Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A blessed and happy Thanksgiving to all!

A Conversation for Those Interested In Membership

Are you interested in becoming a member of St. Peter's? Would you like to learn more about the Episcopal Church and what it means to be an Episcopalian? The rector invites you to gather as we conclude Coffee Hour on Sunday December 8th. New members of the parish are received at the annual meeting in January. Come learn more of what it means to be a part of this growing community.

Looking Toward Leadership in 2025

At our annual meeting in January of 2025, we will elect church officers and vestry members, and delegates to our diocesan

convention. We have at least two open positions for the vestry, the governing board of the parish. The vestry meets once a month, and terms are for three years. We are also interested in cultivating future leadership for our officer positions: Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Clerk. The Nominations Committee is made up of Lorna Blackmer, Lenita Richard, Anita Chandler, and the rector. Speak to one of them to learn more.

Stewardship Update



Thank you to all who have returned pledge forms for our “Walk In Love” Campaign.

Treasurer Bob Simmons reports that 34 families or individuals have pledged \$51,414 so far. Last year, 35 pledges totaled \$46,520. We are grateful for the increase, and we know our totals for the coming year can still grow.

However much you plan to give in the coming year, please fill out a pledge form if you have not yet done so and return to church. Our vestry thanks you as we plan our budget for 2025.

Thank you also to our stewardship speakers, each of whom spoke during the campaign about how giving to God is important to their spiritual life and to the ministry of St. Peter’s: Emily and Garrett Keniston, Lenita and Rodney Richard, Kathleen McCormick, and Galen Weibley.

Coffee Hour Notes

What a privilege it is to gather after mass for coffee, tea, and wonderful refreshments every Sunday. Thank you to all those who offer to host. If you have never done it before, experienced hands are willing to guide you, and the offering of food can be

as easy as some crackers and cheese or some fruit. Please speak to Anita Chandler if you want to learn more.

For those who are hosting: please remember to set out the blue recycling buckets the encourage us all to recycle, and to put used coffee grounds in the green Garbage to Gardens bucket. Do you notice any kitchen supplies running out? If so, you can let Wayne Franklin know, or list what is needed on the white board in the kitchen.

And don't forget: we have our first Sunday of the month breakfast this week as part of coffee hour.

Elevator Etiquette

When using the elevator at church, please make sure that you have closed all doors as you leave it. The large outside doors and the metal sliding doors on both sides need to be closed before the elevator can be called to another level.

The elevator at church is a great asset and used by many. Please be thinking about the next person using it every time you step out from it. Thank you!

St. Elizabeth's Winter Coats and Boots Drive Continues

St. Elizabeth's Essentials Pantry will be accepting winter coats, boots, and gloves, mittens, and hats through the end of December. New or good quality used goods may be left in the basket in the undercroft for delivery to St. Elizabeth's. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

News From the Hope Squad

Janene Gorham is engaged with the ministry of the Hope Squad, and provides us with this update:

I volunteer about 2-3 Fridays per month. This is a non profit dedicated to providing warm food, clothing, personal care

items, and Harm Reduction Supplies to the homeless people of Portland.

A 'Squad' of 6-8 of us set up tables, food, clothing at the Homeless Service Center on Riverside St from 9-11, then move to Preble St where we set up all over again on the sidewalk. Most food items are provided by Preble St Food Hub, Wayside Food Bank, and some homebaked goods by volunteers.

The city of Portland also supplies certain personal care items, bandages, and all the Harm Reduction Kits which include Narcan, Fentanyl test strips, needle disposal boxes. Partners for World Health donates personal care items, dressings, plastic bags, and rain ponchos when available.

Social Service referrals are always available if someone would like more help. A large used ambulance has been purchased to transport all supplies. We are now funded through grants and generous donors, and much dedicated volunteer hours. It can be hard duty but it gets under one's skin and I look forward to Fridays. In addition all this, we try to give hope, to say "you matter, we see you, you are someone". As Fr Tom said in this past Sunday sermon, "the Kingdom of God is on the earth." There is something very sacred in the profane.

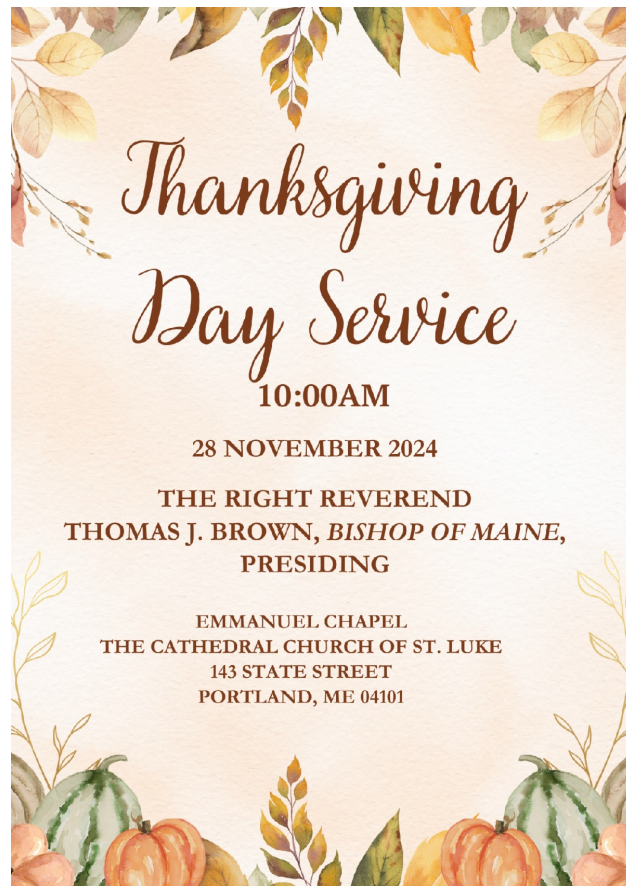
Word of the Week

A weekly note about the words Episcopalians use.

The word of the week is **Advent**.

Advent is the first season in the church's liturgical year, and always begins four Sundays before Christmas, and concludes with the celebration of the Eucharist on Christmas Eve. The name is derived from a Latin word for "coming" and a theme of the season is to prepare for Christ's coming - both at his birth and at his eventual return in glory. The liturgical color of the season is purple (with rose being used on the Third Sunday of Advent, "Rose Sunday." Since Advent marks the beginning of a new year, we will hear readings on Sundays from Year C of the Revised Common Lectionary, with the Gospel of Luke being the primary gospel text.

Thanksgiving Day at the Cathedral



Advent and Christmas Plans at St. Peter's

Sun. Dec. 1: The First Sunday of Advent

Mass at 9:00 AM, followed by Coffee Hour with Breakfast

Sun. Dec. 8: The Second Sunday of Advent

Mass at 9:00 AM

Sun. Dec. 15: The Third Sunday of Advent: Gaudete "Rose" Sunday

Mass at 9:00 AM, with music including resident soloist, Mary Sullivan

Sun. Dec. 22: The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mass at 9:00 AM

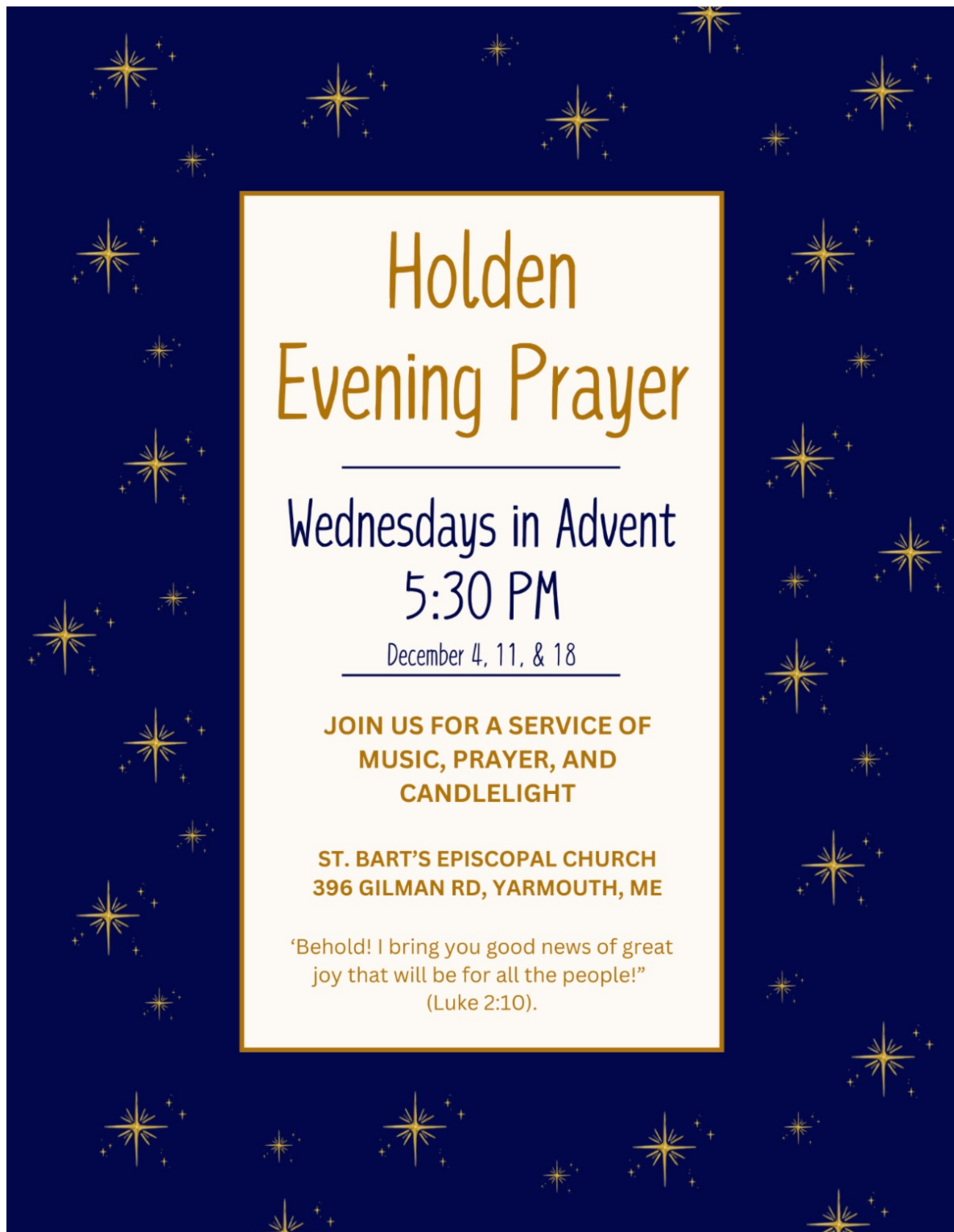
Tue., Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Solemn Mass at 7:00 PM with music including guest soloist, Michele Kennedy

Sat. Dec. 28: Christmas Concert at 4:00 PM
A Ceremony of Carols and Other Seasonal Tunes, featuring Mary Sullivan and the Ladies of the Amethyst Project

Sun. Dec. 29: A Service of Lessons and Carols at the 9:00 AM Service

Advent Offerings at Other Episcopal Parishes



Holden
Evening Prayer

Wednesdays in Advent
5:30 PM

December 4, 11, & 18

**JOIN US FOR A SERVICE OF
MUSIC, PRAYER, AND
CANDLELIGHT**

**ST. BART'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
396 GILMAN RD, YARMOUTH, ME**

'Behold! I bring you good news of great
joy that will be for all the people!'
(Luke 2:10).

St. Peter's Calendar

Looking Ahead

St. Elizabeth's Volunteer Morning, Tue. Dec. 10th at 8:30 AM,
St. Luke's Cathedral

Advent Quiet Evening with Fr Martin Smith, Wed. Dec. 11th, 7:00
PM -8:30 PM

Merry Hearts Lunch, Thu. Dec. 19th at noon

Christmas Eve Service, Wed. Dec. 24th at 7:00 PM

Ladies of the Amethyst Project Concert, Sat. Dec. 28th, at 4:00 PM

Annual Meeting, Sunday January 19th after the 9:00 AM Mass

Compline Link

Join us for the Compline Prayer Service on Zoom on Wednesday,
December 4th.

[Here](#) is the service for Compline.

The Zoom link is [here](#).

Sunday Minister Rota for December

December 1

Ms. Lenita Richard and Ms. Janene Gorham, *Eucharistic
Ministers*

Mr. Jake Mahon, *Crucifer*

Mr. David Savage, *Vergers*

TBD, *Lector*

Mr. Thomas Ainsworth, *Usher*

Ms. Judy Howes, *Altar Guild*

Ms. Anita Chandler, Ms. Patty Lamb, and Mr. Robert
Simmons, *Coffee Hour Hosts*

December 8

Ms. Anne Whitman and Ms. Emily Keniston, *Eucharistic
Ministers*

Mr. Garrett Keniston, *Crucifer*

Mr. David Savage, *Vergers*

Mr. Wayne Franklin, *Lector*

Mr. Bob Simmons, *Usher*

Ms. Janene Gorham, *Altar Guil*

Ms. Judy Howes and Ms. Geri Rose, *Coffee Hour Hosts*

December 15

Mr. Thomas Ainsworth and Ms. Janene Gorham, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Mr. Steve Koskinen, *Crucifer*

Mr. David Savage, *Verger*

Mr. Steve Koskinen, *Lector*

Ms. Anita Chandler, *Usher*

Ms. Judy Howes, *Altar Guild*

TBD, *Coffee Hour Host*

December 22

Ms. Lenita Richard and TBD, *Eucharitic Ministers*

Mr. Fred Fowler, *Crucifer*

Mr. David Savage, *Verger*

Ms. Cindy Sherwood, *Usher*

Ms. Anne Whitman, *Altar Guild*

TBD, *Coffee Hour Host*

Christmas Eve Rota and December 29 (Lessons and Carols) are still being planned.

Weekly Prayer List

Prayers For Parishioners, Families, and Friends

Ann Marie Cady

Allison Schroth

Francisco Andreu

Diane Dalton

Dino Rice

Robert Stillings

Fred Fowler

Mary Ann Hoy

Barbara Vessey

Cindy Sherwood

Galen Weibley

Fred Madore

Peter Haskell, *friend of Allison Schroth*

Martha Gagliardi, *friend of Fr. Tom*

Tommy Valente, *friend of Don and Ann Marie Cady*
Jane Reiha, *friend of Judy Howes*
Stephen and Rebecca Seraniche, *friends of Dino Rice*
Marge Devine, *family member of Allison Schroth*
Jimmy Devine, *family member of Allison Schroth*
Fuji Sprott, *friend of Dino Rice*
David Turner, *cousin of Craig Mousin*
Tammy, *friend of Craig Mousin*
Beth, *friend of Lee Walters*
Pam, *friend of Anita Chandler*
The Kutasi Family, *friends of Allison Schroth*
Glenn, *spouse of Caroline Loupe*
Janet Blessing, *neighbor of Jane Noone*
Kelly Marie Bell, *friend of Allison Schroth*
Earle, *friend of Cindy Sherwood*
Grace, *family member of Jessie Vega*
Kay Gross, *friend of Jane Noone*
Lisa Gorham, *daughter of John & Janene Gorham*
Gerald and Anita Talbot, *friends of Anita Chandler*
Janine W., *friend of Anita Chandler*
John Manchester, *friend of Fr. Tom*
James Ford, *former parisioner, friend of Lenita Richard*

Please remember in your prayers the family of **Brenda Pappalardo**, for whom we have been praying. A friend of Judy Howes, she has died. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

If you wish to add or return persons to the prayer list, please contact our Prayer Ministry Coordinators:

Allison Schroth, at: 207-807-1315
ASchroth@maine.rr.com

or

Emma Bond at: 207-619-3662
emma.e.bond@gmail.com

A Prayer for Those We Love

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

From *The Book of Common Prayer*

NOTES ON THIS WEEK'S MUSIC

Bach's short setting of *Savior of the Nations, Come* is among his most poetic compositions. Indeed, its haunting overtones of

mystery and expectation have led many organists to make playing it at the beginning of Advent an annual ritual. The original Lutheran chorale of 1524 features a text adapted by Martin Luther which itself dates from the 12th century. The song was the predominant hymn for the First Sunday of Advent for centuries.

Our opening hymn--"Hark, A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding"--dates from the 5th century. The text is based on Romans 13:11 and Luke 21:25. The changes in the adjective modifying "voice" in the first line reflect the development of the English language. Originally, the word was "awful"...meaning, "inspiring awe." Once this was no longer appropriate, the word was changed to "herald"...suggesting "one who brings advance notice." Except "herald" came to have so many secular associations that it seemed inappropriate for a hymn text. Finally, in the mid-19th century, the great English translator, Edward Caswell, suggested "thrilling," and this adjective has stuck!

During Advent, it's customary in the Anglican Communion to substitute a seasonally appropriate alternative to the "Gloria." This year, we'll be introducing the latest of Fr. Tom's beautiful Advent poems, set to the tune *Deus tuorum militum*. The tune comes from a collection of hymns published in France in 1753 called *Grenoble Antiphoner*. It was adapted by the great English composer Ralph Vaughan-Williams for *The English Hymnal* of 1906. The present harmonization was composed in 1908 by Basil Harwood, organist of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, and conductor of the renowned (and still thriving) Oxford Bach Choir.

Our closing hymn--"The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns"--was ostensibly translated by the Scottish scholar John Brownlee (1857-1925) from the Greek, but no original has been found. It's possible that it was a John Brownlee original, although the thoughts of the hymn certainly reflect the early Greek emphasis on light and salvation. The last stanza ends with a translation of the famous second-coming phrase, "Maranatha"--"Even so, Lord Jesus, quickly come!"

The Couperin family were a musical dynasty of professional composers and performers. They were the most prolific family in French musical history, active during the Baroque era (Seventeenth—Eighteenth Centuries). Louis Couperin (1626-1661) and his nephew, François Couperin *le grand*, are the best known members of the family. Originally a fiery--and overtly suggestive--

Spanish dance, by the 17th century, the chaconne had evolved into a stately instrumental movement in 3/4 time organized around an oft-repeated harmonic progression. In the organ literature, the *Chaconne in G minor* is one of the most popular examples of the form. ~HT

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