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Church: St Ann
243 Neponset Ave.
Dorchester, MA 02122

Bulletin No.: 500010

Date of Publication: Dec 7, 2008

No. of Pages: 5

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SAINT ANN PARISH

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CONVENT -MERCY HOUSE
Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy
241 Neponset Avenue
Phone: 617-288-1202
www.sisterfaustina.org

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Sunday: Vigil (Saturday Evening) 4:00 p.m.
8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., (Folk Group)
11:30 a.m. (Choir) 5:30 p.m. (Teen
Choir)
Daily: 9:00 a.m. Monday - Saturday
7:00 a.m. in convent Monday
Saturday
Holy Day: Vigil 5:30 p.m., Day 9:00 a.m. &
7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Sean M Connor, Pastor
Rev. Michael C. Harrington, In Residence
Rev. Hung Pham. In Residence

Mrs. Jean F. Hayward, Business Manager
Mr. Jack O'Connor, Parish Pastoral Council Vice
President

Mr. Bob Collins, Rel Ed Director/Youth Minister
Mrs. Carol Abel, Director of Music
Mrs. Terry Owens, Folk Group Director

SACRAMENTS

Confessions: Saturday 9:30 - 10:00 a.m.
(lower church) & 3:00 - 3:45 p.m.
(upper church)
Baptism: Third Sunday of the month at 2:00
p.m. Instructions on preceding
Sunday at 12:30 p.m.
Call the rectory to register.
Marriages: Arrange with one of the priests at
least six months in advance
**Anointing
of the Sick:** Call the rectory for Sacraments
and visits to the sick and
homebound

DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic Adoration: Saturdays 9:30am-3:30pm
Rosary: 8:30am Monday-Saturday lower church
Our Lady of Fatima: First Saturdays 8:00am
lower church
Divine Mercy Chaplet: M-F 2:30-3:30pm convent chapel
Sat. - 2:30-3:30pm lower church
Mass 3rd Friday at 6:00PM

PROGRAMS

Religious Education Classes: Sunday 10:30 am
Grades 1-6 and 6:30pm Grades 7- Confirmation
CYO Basketball, Mr. Michael Doyle
Color Guard, Ms. Eileen Cunningham 617-775-6644
St. Vincent DePaul Main Office 781-344-3100
St. Vincent DePaul Local Parish 617-825-6180

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

The Parish Community of Saint Ann's in Neponset is in the tradition of the Roman Catholic Church. We believe that this tradition is a sacred gift given to us in Baptism and the inheritance bequeathed to us by those who have gone before us through the ages. With our Archbishop and Pastor we are united with our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, in our commitment to- and we are indeed shaped as a people by- the Eucharistic Assembly especially on the Lord's Day. We are strongly committed to maintaining our parish school and religious education programs. We are equally committed to the spiritual needs of those who are grieving or who are ill or because of advanced age are unable to celebrate the Sunday Eucharist. Through the Liturgy we hope to inspire and motivate our parish family to respond to the physical needs of the less fortunate of Christ's brothers and sisters. We are a parish that is deeply committed to the family.

We are a parish with a long and rich history and take great pride in celebrating our Catholic traditions.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SAT	12/6	4:00	Norman G. Basius, Sr. 9th Anniv
SUN	12/7	8:00	Daniel & Anne Laffan, Mem
		9:30	Pro Populo: People of St. Ann
		11:30	Katrina Dagondon
		5:30	Carmel Ford, Mem
MON	12/8	9:00	Holy Day
TUE	12/9	9:00	Paul Laneau, Mem
WED	12/10	9:00	John Loyola Fitzgerald, Mem
THUR	12/11	9:00	Joseph Holloran, Mem
FRI	12/12	9:00	Joseph Holloran, Mem
SAT	12/13	9:00	Tadeusz Mamet, Me
		4:00	Nicola Mariano, 54th Anniv
SUN	12/14	8:00	Thomas Costello, Mem
		9:30	James F. Coyne Sr., Anniv James F. Coyne, Jr., Anniv Deceased of the Coyne Family
		11:30	Rita M. Strojwas, Month's Mind
		5:30	William McDermott, Month's Mind

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

OFFERTORY

Collected, Nov 30th\$3,747.00

RENOVATION AND MAINTENANCE

Collected, Nov 30th\$1,906.50

GRAND ANNUAL

Collected To-Date.....\$20,308.00

*Thank you for your continued
support and sacrifice.*

LECTORS/EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

12/6	4:00	Diane Weir	Tom Weir Gerry Cardinal
12/7	8:00	Jane Breen	Mary Fitzpatrick
	9:30	Jim English	Evelyn Dunne Mary Reilly
	11:30	Dorothy Daley	Judy Burke Mary Browne

ALTAR SERVERS

12/6	4:00	B. Mannion	M. Mannion
		S. Mannion	T. Mannion
12/7	8:00	J. Murphy	S. Murphy
	9:30	A. Mannion	E. Mannion
		M. Mannion	S. Mannion
	11:30	A. Carle	J. Connolly
	5:30	K. Cotter	S. Skalinski
		V. Strojwas	

Mark 1:1-8

During Advent, we travel with the Lord; we stop and ask for his gifts of salvation. We ask for help to acknowledge the gift we share in, the gift that we celebrate. The beginning of St. Mark's gospel fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah. "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight..." Jesus, the Son of God brings about the kingdom in Himself and manifests salvation, the good news, the gospel.

We know as the Church's instruction on the Sacred Liturgy, the Promulgation of the Roman Missal, teaches us that Advent has a two fold character: a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered; and as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation. The Preface to the Mass, from the first Sunday in Advent through December 16, succinctly teaches us: *When he humbled himself to come among us as man, he fulfilled the plan you formed long ago and opened for us the way to salvation. Now, we watch for the day, hoping that the salvation promised us will be ours when Christ our Lord will come again in his glory.*

To approach the Word of God, the Sacred Scriptures, is only possible when Christ teaches us. In other words, the Word of God is Scripture and the Word of God is Jesus. God's written word and the Eternal Word (The Word made flesh) are not simply analogous. "All sacred Scripture is but one book, and this one book is Christ, because all divine Scripture speaks of Christ, and all divine Scripture is fulfilled in Christ." (CCC 134.)

Last week we heard the end of Mark's Gospel, the passion, today we move immediately to the beginning of the gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ. Advent is that time to take up the good news, to be renewed and transformed by God's saving Word and Grace. The straight paths called for and made possible by our Lord, clear away all sense of self-righteousness, pride, ego and ambition. All those things that clutter the mind and heart - and weary the soul. How good the Lord is to not leave us alone, but he immediately offers example and disciple. At the beginning, of Mark's Gospel, the gift of the prophet Saint John the Baptist is given. John calls Israel and us to repentance to conversion and to the waters of baptism.

Each year in Advent we are invited to move with the Lord and see salvation. Our Advent call to be humble does not simply end with a confession or an acknowledgment of temptation.

We seek the power of Jesus which overcomes and transforms all the fears and forces in our lives.

We pray to be like John, *the one who comes is mightier than I, the throng of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie*. Jesus comes to baptize you with the Holy Spirit. God's power and love.

We continue to pray that the Lord make us ready to receive the gift we celebrate during this Holy Season. May we as Saint Ann parish find new ways to serve Him and His Kingdom. May St. John the Baptist, St. Joseph and Our Lady pray for us and all God's people.

In His love, Fr. Sean

THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

As a reminder, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is *Monday December 8, and is a holy day of obligation*. There is no vigil Mass this year as the vigil falls on Sunday. Masses for the holy day will be on *Monday December 8, at 9:00AM and 7:00PM. Both Masses will be in upper church*. Pope John Paul II Catholic Academy will be joining us at the 9:00AM Mass.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL GIVING TREE

The great response to the Vincent De Paul request for Christmas gifts was outstanding and appreciated last weekend. The St. Vincent De Paul Society has placed *new* ornaments on the tree for those who were unable to take one last week. You are also free to purchase any item gift cards. We are blessed with a wonderful parish and society tradition through Saint Vincent de Paul to carry out this mission work. Please pray for and care for those in need. Please pray for the good people and families that carry our Saint Vincent's work.

A SPECIAL THANK TO ALL

Thank You to everyone who so generously donated food to those in need in our area on Thanksgiving Eve. Chris Donovan, our St. Ann Representative for St. Vincent De Paul, greatly appreciates your generosity and has taken the food to the St. Vincent Food Pantry in our area.

GRAND ANNUAL

St. Ann's Grand Annual Collection is off to a very encouraging start. To date we have received **\$20,308.00** toward our goal of **\$30,000.00**. Reaching this goal is essential in order to repair and update the sound system in the church which is in need of some serious up-grading. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank those who have already given so generously to this very important Grand Annual Collection. We rely on the generosity of our parishioner to help keep St. Ann financially sound and to help keep St. Ann Parish strong and its church in good condition for the future. If you haven't given to the Grand Annual as yet please consider an offering now. Envelopes are available at the ushers' tables if you need one. Thank you.

As we travel through these days of Advent let us take the time to relax this Thursday evening with our family and friends at our parish church and enjoy the music of Christmas

EMMANUEL

*A Christmas Concert
With Martin Doman*

This Thursday, December 11th at 7:00PM please welcome Martin Doman who will be performing at our church for a Christmas Concert. A grace-filled event featuring jazz, a cappella, and traditional renditions of classic Christmas carols and contemporary songs. If you have enjoyed Martin's music at the Boston Catholic Men's and Women's conference, LIFT, or Steubenville East, then don't miss this great night of Catholic Christmas music. *Admission is free but an offering will be taken.*

CHRISTMAS GREETING'S FROM IRELAND

The Holy Trinity Abbey Choir from Adare Co. Limerick Ireland that visited us last July sent Fr. Sean and St. Ann Parish a lovely Christmas card, which can be found on the foyer bulletin board, and offered a Mass at Holy Trinity Abby, Adare for us on November 30th.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

*Christmas is a time for celebrating
and a time for remembering*

If you wish to donate a poinsettia in memory of a loved one, please bring it to the church on **Wednesday morning, December 24th**. Please clearly print the name in whose memory the flower is being donated. Envelopes for a money donation for a loved one to be remembered may be found on the ushers' table. Thank you.

"MOM'S FOR MARINES"

In Loving Memory of Marie (Finn) Conley please consider sending to her son Christopher's platoon, 4th Platoon A Company, some very needed supplies this Christmas. Here is a list of toiletries that his platoon could use: saving cream, soap, Q-tips, baby wipes, toothpaste, deodorant, razors (Gillette Fusion), candy and black boot socks. His address is:

L/CPL. Conley, Christopher
4th PLT.ACO 2nd AA BN.
Unit 73565
FPO-AE 09509-3565

Thank You from the Finn and Conley families.

LUCKY THOUSAND CLUB

Christmas Gift Certificates

**Can now be bought at the Rectory
come and share the excitement**

The Lucky Thousand Club can give.

Because the 2nd Monday of December is the 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the next drawing will be held on the third Monday, December 15th at 7:30PM in the Lower School Hall.

HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAM

Archbishop Williams will be administering the Catholic High School Entrance Exam on Saturday, **December 13th at 8:30AM**. Registration forms and information are on the website at www.awhs.org. If you have any questions, please call 781-843-3636.

SAINT JOSEPH RETREAT

St. Joseph Retreat Center
339 Jerusalem Road
Cohasset, MA 02025

Weekend Retreat December 12-14, "A Quiet Advent Weekend of Prayer"

Thursday, December 18, Morning of prayer, 9:00-11:45. "God's Word Waiting To Be Born In Us".

Saturday, December 27, Day of Prayer, 9:00-3:30, "Seeing Out of the Love That Holds You".

Sunday, December 28, Day of Prayer, "Chaos to Grace: For Women Who Celebrate Recovery".

December 29-January 1, 2009 Year End Retreat

For more information please call 781-383-6024/6029

**THIRD FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19TH
DIVINE MERCY**

The Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy warmly invite you to celebrate the Eucharist in honor of Divine Mercy on the Third Friday of the month— December 19th — here at St. Ann's Upper Church.

Program: Eucharistic Adoration at 6PM; Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 6:30PM; and Mass at 7PM with a homily on Divine Mercy. All are welcome! For more information, please call the Sisters at **617-288-1202** or email mercy@sisterfaustina.org.

ELIZABETH SETON ACADEMY

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, December 7, 2009

From 11:00Am to 1:00PM

2220 Dorchester Avenue

Come visit us and learn about our unique, college preparatory educational experience happening in a small, nurturing environment. For more information please call 617-296-1087 ex 18.

READINGS TO REFLECT UPON

Below please find the readings for next Sunday

Reading I Is 61:1-2a, 10-11

Responsorial Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54

Reading II 1 These 5:16-24

Gospel Jn 1:6-8, 19-28