

Church of St. Sebastian
December 4, 2011—Second Sunday of Advent

Scheduled Masses For This Week

Saturday, December 3, Vigil: 2nd Sunday of Advent

5:00 pm Helen Kiely, sister of William Tracey

Sunday, December 4, Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 am For the People

11:00 am Mass

Monday, December 5, Advent Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Tuesday, December 6, Advent Weekday

7:00 am Joel D. Landry, 9th anniversary

-requested by his wife and family

**Wednesday, December 7, Saint Ambrose, bishop and
doctor of the church**

7:00 am Souls in Purgatory

**Thursday, December 8, The Immaculate Conception of
the Blessed Virgin Mary**

~~A Holy Day of Obligation~~

7:00 am Mass

5:30 pm Mass

Friday, December 9, Advent Weekday

7:00 am Special Intention

Next Weekend Masses

Saturday, December 10, Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Advent

5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, December 11, Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 am Mass

11:00 am For the People

This week Our Lady's Candle burns in observance of the 9th anniversary of the passing of Joel D. Landry, as requested by his wife and family.

WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT

November 26-27, 2011

# of Budget Envelopes Used This Week	75
Contributions-Budgets and Checks	\$2,870
Loose Contributions	\$ 534
Total Offertory	\$3,404

Please consider enrolling in Parish Giving, our electronic stewardship program for parish contributions. You can register online at www.Parishgiving.org or on our parish website at www.stsebastianri.org.

PASTOR'S CORNER

What great readings for this second Sunday of Advent! They summarize the entire season, if not our entire Christian journey. Handel puts Isaiah into music as the tenor opens his great oratorio, *The Messiah*. In the Gospel, John the Baptist invites us to prepare for the Lord's appearance. Finally, St. Peter reminds us that *one* day in the Lord's sight are as one thousand years elsewhere!

We will be offered the most wonderful gift ever at Christmas, the Lord of love. Not only by our Christ-like outreach to others, but also by our personal preparation and striving for genuine holiness. Isaiah foresees the valleys being filled in so as to make the roadway level, smooth, easier for the arrival/coming (*Adventus*) of the Lord. We should mirror this conscious, deliberate preparation. **"The Lord is coming to us... prepare to receive Him"**

The symbol of Advent/Christmas light is so powerful with the early nightfall. We notice the dark windows of our homes being illumined to announce that a festive season is dawning. Prepare your home and your heart, He is drawing near!

Amid the increasing busyness, try to stay focused. Read Chapter 40 of Isaiah in the Old Testament, or the beginning of Luke's Gospel in the New Testament. *Choose* to create a quiet, sacred space for yourself as we get deeper into this Advent Season. Trust me, you will find Him there waiting for YOU!

Happy Advent,
Msgr. Darcy



FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The Masses for this Holy Day of Obligation will be celebrated **Thursday, December 8th** at both 7:00 am and 5:30 pm.

Church of St. Sebastian

December 4, 2011— Second Sunday of Advent



ADVENT HAT AND MITTEN TREE

You are invited to decorate the trees in the vestibule with Hats and Mittens for women, men and children through January 3rd. All proceeds will be distributed to the homeless by Crossroads RI. Thanks for your generous spirit and kindness.

CAROLING AT AREA NURSING HOMES

Come share the spirit of Christmas by caroling for residents of local nursing homes on Sunday, December 18th. Singers of all ages are welcome! Refreshments will be served following the caroling. We will meet at St. Sebastian's at 1:10 PM. Please sign up in the Church vestibule. Call Susan Elliott at 831-1162 for more information.



PARISH ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Prepare your heart for Christmas by celebrating the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) at the **Parish Penance Service on Sunday, December 11th at 6:30 pm**. Five priests will be available for the Sacrament. Even if you have been away for some time, *'Do not be afraid!'* Return to the Lord and Communion at Christmas. It's a wonderful free gift offered us by the Lord.

COAT DRIVE: A SINCERE THANK YOU

125 coats were delivered to the State House the day after Thanksgiving. A sincere thanks to the Outreach Committee for coordinating this effort. Well done!

PARISH BOOK CLUB

The Parish Book Club will meet at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, December 14th in the Fr. Randall Meeting Room to discuss The Last Tycoon by F. Scott Fitzgerald. All are welcome.


COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEETING

The Community Outreach Committee will meet next Sunday, December 11th at 10:00 am in the church hall. Please join us!

MUSIC NOTES

Interested in singing with the choir for the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany season? Rehearsals of the season's music have begun. Please note that attending rehearsals is necessary to participate. Choir rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm. If you have any questions or would like more information, please speak with our parish organist Bill Cooper after Mass.

2011 HOLIDAY ORNAMENT



**ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH ORNAMENT
A 2011 LIMITED EDITION
CHRISTMAS GIFT**

A beautiful, gold plated, limited edition Christmas tree ornament has been struck off the Church. They are available after all the Masses for \$20 at the front doors of the Church (or at the rectory weekdays between 10-2).

What a perfect gift for family and friends who have moved away from the parish. Thank you to Dick Beaupre of *ChemArt* for this memento of our parish.

THE CHURCH OF ST. SEBASTIAN
PROVIDENCE, RI



THIS WEEK AT ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH			
Sun.	12/4	Coffee Hour	10:00 am
		Religious Education	10:00 am
		Religious Education	6:30 pm
Mon.	12/5	Religious Education	3:30 pm
Thurs.	12/8	Immaculate Conception Masses	7:00 am 5:30 pm



CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

Enclosed is a special envelope to be used towards floral decorations for the church this Christmas season. You are invited to provide a memorial gift for a relative or friend, who will be remembered during this holy season. Please place your completed donation envelope in the collection

