

Church of St. Sebastian
November 27, 2011—First Sunday of Advent

Scheduled Masses For This Week

Saturday, November 26, Vigil: First Sunday of Advent
 5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, November 27, First Sunday of Advent
 9:00 am Mass
 11:00 am For the people

Monday, November 28, Advent Weekday
 7:00 am Mass

Tuesday, November 29, Advent Weekday
 7:00 am Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, November 30, Saint Andrew, apostle
 7:00 am Mass

Thursday, December 1, Advent Weekday
 7:00 am Mass

First Friday, December 2, Advent Weekday
 7:00 am Mass
 5:30 pm Mass

Next Weekend Masses

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



PASTOR'S CORNER

“And so it begins...” After over ten years of preparation, the new Roman Missal goes into effect this weekend. It would helpful to note **And with your spirit**; the dialogue **before** the Holy, Holy, Holy; and the preparation for Communion. We’ll transition well even with some our mutual initial confusion!

The initial theme of the Advent Season is “Stay awake!” This first three weeks help us reflect on the Lord’s Second Coming at the end of time. There is then a shift to the immediate preparation for His birth at Christmas. This short but beautiful liturgical season reflects similar dimensions of the Christian life. Future and present realities ... all rest in Him. Some moments of quiet and prayer are so helpful to stay focused as the bustle begins to creep into our lives. The beginning of the Gospel of Luke and Isaiah Chapter 40 are perfect to help center our thoughts during this season. In the words of the prophet, “Comfort, give comfort to my people says the Lord!”

The Parish Advent Penance Service will be held on Sunday, December 11th at 6:30 pm. Priests will be assisting with the opportunity to prepare our spirits for the celebration of Christmas. If you have been away from Confession for some time, Do Not Be Afraid...the Lord is waiting for your return. Come home to a deeper faith experience at Christmas!

The Outreach Committee offers many possibilities to be mindful of others in the Advent Season. I hope that all of us can do something as part of our personal Christian outreach. They’re all in today’s bulletin.

Finally, through the kindness of our parishioner, Dick Beaupre of *ChemArt.*, the St. Sebastian Christmas Tree Ornament, 2011 will be available after Masses on the weekends. There are only 250 of this limited edition ornament offered at \$20 each. It will be a great gift for present and former parishioners to remind them of our East Side parish. Thank you, Dick, for your kindness and generosity to our parish.

A blessed Advent to all!
 Msgr. Darcy

WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT

November 19-20, 2011

# of Budget Envelopes Used This Week	71
Contributions-Budgets and Checks	\$3,186
Loose Contributions	\$ 631
Total Offertory	\$3,817
Campaign For Human Development	\$1,256

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.

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HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

EMBRACE-A-FAMILY PROGRAM

As the Christmas Season draws near, the Outreach Committee once again asks our parishioners to be generous in providing Christmas gifts to needy families, we are certainly aware of the difficult economic environment we are all facing. Our goal is to support several families and individuals from several organizations.

The sign up sheets are posted in the church vestibule. This request form provides you with more specific information in terms of sizes, colors and other preferences of those families or children we are helping. If you have participated in Embrace-A-Family before, we thank you for your help and hope you will consider taking a family again this year, even if you need to give fewer presents than in years past. If you are new to the program, it is a great opportunity to make Christmas a special day for a child (or adult) in need. Please sign up in the vestibule: for more information contact Harriet Kazarian at 527-4967. Gifts must be dropped off here at St. Sebastian's by December 18th to assure delivery in time for Christmas.

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. Sign up sheets are in the Church vestibule. Call Susan Elliott at 831-1162 for more information.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

Special envelopes are included in your budget packet as well as in the pews to assist with floral decorations for Christmas Season Decorations. You are invited to provide a memorial gift for a relative or friend, who will be remembered during this holy season. You can place them in the collection basket during Advent

AROUND THE PARISH

FIRST FRIDAY MASS- DECEMBER 3RD

The First Friday Masses are celebrated at 7 AM and 5:30 PM. Members of RI Chapter of the Order of Malta will be with us for the evening liturgy.

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.

ENTRANCE EXAM: LASALLE ACADEMY

The entrance exam for LaSalle Academy for September, 2012 will take place at the school on Saturday, December 3rd, 2011 at 8:00 AM.

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 .



THIS WEEK AT ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

Sun.	11/27	Coffee Hour	10:00 am
Mon.	11/28	Religious Education	3:30 pm
Friday	12/02	First Friday Services	7:00 am and 5:30 pm

You are invited to call the rectory with your Mass intentions for the new Church Year, which begins this Sunday, November 27th.