



...for the Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light...

Isaiah 60:19

THE HARBOR CHART

News from the Parish of Saint Mary and Saint Jude: December 2010/January 2011

Saint Mary's by-the-Sea and Parish Center, Northeast Harbor
Saint Jude's Episcopal Church, Seal Harbor
Town of Mount Desert, Maine

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

CRECHES & GINGERBREAD HOUSES

Come to the Parish Hall during the Northeast Harbor Christmas Festival on Friday, December 10th, 3 to 6PM at Saint Mary's Parish Hall to view crèches from around the world and Gingerbread Houses made by our Sunday school children. Donations go to the Campfire Coalition to keep our neighbors warm.

Do you have a crèche that you would be willing to loan to the parish for the weekend of December 11-13? We would love to include it in this display! If you are interested in contributing, please have your crèche at the church no later than Wednesday, December 8th. Those of you who live away are welcome to mail a set and we will see that it gets mailed back to you. All sets should have a card describing its origin, if possible, as well as the name of the owner. Thanks!

SAINT NICHOLAS – WHERE ARE YOU?

Is Saint Nicholas coming for a visit this year? Come to the House Church informal family service on Saturday, December 11 at 5PM to find out! We will hear about Nicholas and his legends and see if he appears among us! Bring an extra shoe to put in the entryway, just in case!!! He likes to fill shoes!!

CAROLING TO OUR NEIGHBORS!

On Monday, December 20th, join the Sunday School and friends for caroling in Northeast Harbor, beginning at 4PM. Meet in the Medical Center Parking lot and return to Saint Mary's Chapel for hot soup and bread. (Rain date is December 21)

HOUSE CHURCH:

CELEBRATE SAINT NICHOLAS DAY

The next gathering of House Church will take place on Saturday December 11th at 5PM in the Saint Mary's Parish House (upstairs), 5 Kimball Road. Parents, grandparents and children of all ages are most welcome. Plan to stay for a potluck supper afterward. Please call Heather Jones (244-9295) to let her know that you are coming and to sign up to bring food to share. Rumors are that Saint Nicholas will visit!

The January date is Saturday the 22nd at 5PM.

Please contact Beth Renault at 244-9089

CALENDAR

Wednesday, December 1

5PM: Contemplative
Study and Prayer
Somesville Meeting House
Parish Hall

Sunday, December 5

2nd Sunday in Advent
8AM: Holy Eucharist
10AM: Holy Eucharist
The Reverend Patricia
Rome Robertson

Wednesday, December 1

5PM: Contemplative
Study and Prayer
Somesville Meeting House
Parish Hall

Friday, December 10

3 - 6PM: Crèche and
Gingerbread House display
Parish Hall
5-7PM: NEH Christmas
Festival
7:30PM: Acadia Community
Theater
Miracle on 34th Street
Neighborhood House

Saturday, December 11

5PM: House Church and
Saint Nicholas Celebration
Parish Hall

(Continued on page two)

CALENDAR

*(Continued from page one)***Sunday, December 12***Third Sunday in Advent*

8AM: Holy Eucharist
 10AM: Holy Eucharist
 The Reverend Patricia
 Rome Robertson

Wednesday, December 15

5PM: Contemplative
 Study and Prayer
 Somesville Meeting
 House Parish Hall

Thursday, December 16

4:30PM: Greening of the
 Church, Potluck following

Sunday, December 19*Fourth Sunday in Advent*

8AM: Holy Eucharist
 The Reverend Patricia
 Rome Robertson
 10AM: Lessons & Carols
 Saint Saviour's
 Joint MDI Service

Wednesday, December 22

5PM: Contemplative
 Study and Prayer
 Somesville Meeting
 House Parish Hall

Friday, December 24*Christmas Eve*

4PM: Family Service and
 Holy Communion
 Saint Mary's Chapel
 10PM: Festival
 Christmas Eve
 Holy Eucharist
 Saint Saviour's

Sunday, December 26*First Sunday after Christmas*

10AM: Saint John's
 Southwest Harbor
 The Reverend Patricia
 Rome Robertson
 10:45AM: Sonagee Service

(Continued on page three)

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The news that we hear on most days is not very good: wars, disease, murders, recession, joblessness, foreclosures on homes, political infighting in our communities.

All of these are evidence of the despair and fear that runs rampant in our society and around the world. It is into the midst of such calamity that Christ comes. He doesn't come to fix it but rather urge us to transform our world through peace, justice, love, blessing.

In Advent we are urged to "wake up," to change the way we see things, to stand in a new place and see that life not only can be different, life is different if it is centered in the living God. When we look at our life and all of creation as marinated in the Holy One, we are able to see with hope-filled eyes and hearts. We are able to see abundance instead of scarcity, possibility instead of failure, joy instead of despair. And our life becomes different because we respond differently – transformation has begun.

The collaboration of the Episcopal Churches on Mount Desert Island is grounded in just that kind of seeing. Congregations on the island get pretty small in the winter. We thought that combining worship might enliven our sense of mission and ministry and encourage us in our various gifts.

The first miracle to come out of this is the gathering of blank Christmas cards for prisoners to share with family and friends. At the beginning of October, Mary Vekasi of Saint John's in Southwest Harbor invited us to participate. Her hope was that she could gather 1000 cards by October 31. She collected more than 5000!

Some are now being distributed to nursing homes and other places that could use the cards. A simple action – donating unused Christmas cards – is a concrete example of the abundance that flows from engaging in mission together!

As you gather with family and friends over the Christmas Festival holiday, may you know how much you all are in the prayers and thoughts of the people of this parish and the Episcopal Church here – not just a 1000 times but 5000 and more!

And if you are in the midst of mourning or concern about your life, illness, or economic worry, may you know that the one who was born in a stable in Bethlehem walks with us all in our lives, to encour-

age, uplift and transform what seems dark into light. Lift up your heads, you mighty gates! The King of glory comes. He comes to bless the earth and all therein.

With prayers of Blessing for you and yours,



The Reverend Patricia
 Rome Robertson

Patricia +

CALENDAR

*(Continued from page two)***Wednesday, December 29**No Contemplative
Study or Prayer**Sunday, January 2***Third Sunday after Christmas*
8AM: Holy Eucharist
10AM: Holy Eucharist
The Reverend Patricia
Rome Robertson**Wednesday, January 5**Noon: ECW Meeting
2PM: Finance Committee
5PM: Contemplative
Study and Prayer
Somesville Meeting House
Parish Hall**Thursday, January 6**5:30PM: The Festival of
the Epiphany
Church of Our Father
Joint MDI Episcopal service,
followed by a potluck**Sunday, January 9***First Sunday in Epiphany*
8AM: Holy Eucharist
10AM: Holy Eucharist
The Reverend Patricia
Rome Robertson**Wednesday, January 12**5PM: Contemplative
Study and Prayer
Somesville Meeting House
Parish Hall**Thursday, January 13**

3:45PM Vestry Meeting

Sunday, January 16*Second Sunday after Epiphany*
8AM: Holy Eucharistic
10AM: Holy Eucharist
Saint John's
Southwest Harbor
The Reverend Patricia
Rome Robertson*(Continued on page four)*

CHILDREN'S QUILTS

The ECW sold raffle tickets on two children's quilts which were created by Sylvia Smith of Seal Harbor.

The squares for the quilts were donated by Jo Stanley, David Stanley's widow.

Jackie Agnese and Jean Fernald sold tickets that brought over \$900 into the



Photograph Courtesy Jean Fernald

ECW account. The money will be used for our outreach program. Thanks to all who took part in this money raising event.

The lucky winner of these lovely children's quilts was Diana White from Charlotte, North Carolina and Somesville. Enjoy them, Diana!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Dear Friends,

This wonderful thank you note I received today from The Reverend Rob Benson is addressed to all of you. I will send the original to you at Saint Mary's.

We all should feel very proud of our accomplishment. To those of you on MDI, please keep the torch burning for this wonderful ministry. For those of you "from away," I hope you have found a group at your own church as I have here in Houston. But please keep making some shawls for MDI and the Sea Coast Mission – it means so much to us all. Thanks so much to all of you!!!!

Claudine



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

The Christmas services are glorious here as we gather our families in celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. As always, the sanctuary will be decorated with candles, greens, and poinsettias.

If you would like a poinsettia placed in the church in memory of or for thanksgiving for a loved one, please send in the names as you would like them printed in the Christmas Bulletin. A suggested donation of \$20 to Saint Mary's Flower Fund is appreciated by December 16th. A form can be found on-line. Thank you!

*Dear Claudine,
November, 2010*

What a wonderful Prayer Shawl Ministry! Everyone who has received one has been touched and blessed by it. Thank you all for your heart and prayerful work that you've put into it. I think it's a wonderful and natural connection to extend your ministry to the islands via the Sunbeam and the Sea Coast mission.

Thank you all again for this precious gift.

Blessings, Rob Benson"

(Rob is not only the Pastor of the Maine Sea Coast Mission but also the Pastor to the outer islands.).

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CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER/BOOK STUDY

CALENDAR

(Continued from page three)

Monday, January 17

Martin Luther King Day
Office closed

Wednesday, January 19

5PM: Contemplative
Study and Prayer
Somesville Meeting
House Parish Hall

Saturday, January 22

5PM: House Church
Parish Hall

Sunday, January 23

*Third Sunday after
Epiphany*

9:30AM: Holy Eucharist
The Reverend Patricia
Rome Robertson
Annual Meeting following

Wednesday, January 26

5PM: Contemplative
Study and Prayer
Somesville Meeting
House Parish Hall

Sunday, January 30

*Fourth Sunday after
Epiphany*

8AM: Holy Eucharistic
10AM: Holy Eucharist
The Reverend Patricia
Rome Robertson

Every Saturday

9AM: AA in Saint Mary's
Parish Hall

Contemplative Prayer and Book Study will begin December 1st, 5 to 6:15PM at the Somesville Meeting House, Parish Hall.

Beginning on Wednesday, December 1st, Contemplative Prayer will move from our current location at Saint Mary's Chapel in Northeast Harbor to the Parish Hall of the Somesville Meeting House in Somesville.

In addition to prayer, we will be learning about the contemplative perspective and life through reading interesting authors. Conversation will begin at 5PM and Contemplative Prayer (chanting, silence and prayer) will begin at 5:45PM. Those who show up for the first meeting will pick our readings!

This study/prayer group is open to anyone interested, so bring your friends. Led by The Reverend Patricia Rome Robertson, Rector, Parish of Saint Mary and Saint Jude in Northeast and Seal Harbors. *All faiths are welcome.*

SPECIAL ADVENT/CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Lessons and Carols at 10AM on December 19th at Saint Saviour's Church in Bar Harbor – this is a joint Episcopal Worship event.

Christmas Eve Family service – 4PM in Saint Mary's Chapel.

Festival Christmas Eve at 10:00PM at Saint Saviour's in Bar Harbor.

Come, let us adore him!!

JANUARY 6 – THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Join the other Episcopalians on MDI and come to an Epiphany celebration at Church of Our Father on Thursday, January 6th. Worship begins at 6PM, followed by a gathering to get a sense of where folks are with our collaboration effort.



ANGEL TREE

Once again this year we will be asking Parishioners to participate in the Angel Tree. The Angel Tree reaches out to those in need over the holidays to lighten the financial burden they will face in order to provide Christmas gifts for their children.

We have been working closely with Wanda Fernald at the Mount Desert Elementary School to organize this project. She has been instrumental in gathering the Christmas wish lists of needy children while respecting the privacy of their families. We are very thankful for her time and effort on this project

On December 1st we will place a tree in the back of Saint Mary's Chapel. Tags will hang from the tree indicating which gifts the children need or hope to receive. Some tags will indicate a particular gift and others will have a monetary value for a particular gift. This gives everyone the option to purchase a gift written on the tag to drop it off at the church, or to send a check to Saint Mary's allowing the Angel

Tree committee to make the purchase. Please pick up a tag at your earliest convenience.

For our friends from away who are unable to stop by Saint Mary's, please feel free to make a donation of any amount and we will see that it fulfills the needs of one or more of our children.



We ask that all gifts or contributions be in by December 15th. This will give the Committee time to purchase and distribute the items to the families well before

Christmas.

Please remember that without the generosity and kindness of people like you, the Angel Tree would not be possible.

Thank you in advance for extending your love and Christmas spirit to those who could use a little help during this holiday season. Merry Christmas!

Janet Stratton, Sheila Smallidge, and Martha Bucklin, Angel Tree Committee



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FROM THE EDITOR

Sydney Roberts Rockefeller encourages news and articles from all parishioners and friends by the 15th of each month.

Please send them to the church or to <sydr@downeast.net> or call her at (207) 276 5650

Unless noted, all the photographs are taken by the Editor

To save postage and trees, please sign up to receive The Harbor Chart by email at ssmaryjude@roadrunner.com

LECTIONARY

can be found on our website www.maryjude.org in the worship section.

CALENDAR

items may be found on our website www.maryjude.org

Our parish continues to lose many special people. Every effort will be made to celebrate their lives here; help from family and friends would be very appreciated. Photographs and anecdotes are especially welcome.

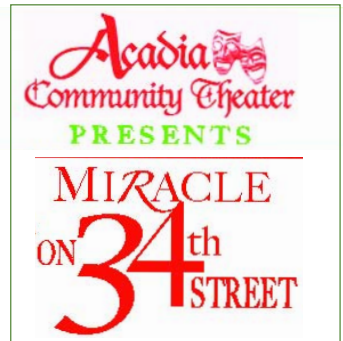
For updates on Haiti please contact Karin Draper <haiti-mainechair@ymail.com> & <http://www.worldwidevillage.org/leogane-community-health-initiative>.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

On Friday, December 10th, 5PM marks the start of the Festival on Main Street, Northeast Harbor. Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive at the Northeast Pole, decorations abound, the Bonfire is lighted, and cheer fills the air.

Delicious home-made soups are on sale at the museum to help the groups helping with Food and Fuel, and donations at Saint Mary's Chapel during the exhibit of creches and gingerbread houses will also help with Food and Fuel.

The Festival tree was chopped down at Sheila Smallidge's by Mount Desert Tree. Miracle on 34th Street is at the Neighborhood House after the Festival at 7:30PM. Come join in the fun!



MUSIC *(Continued from page five)*

gation to enjoy the carols.'

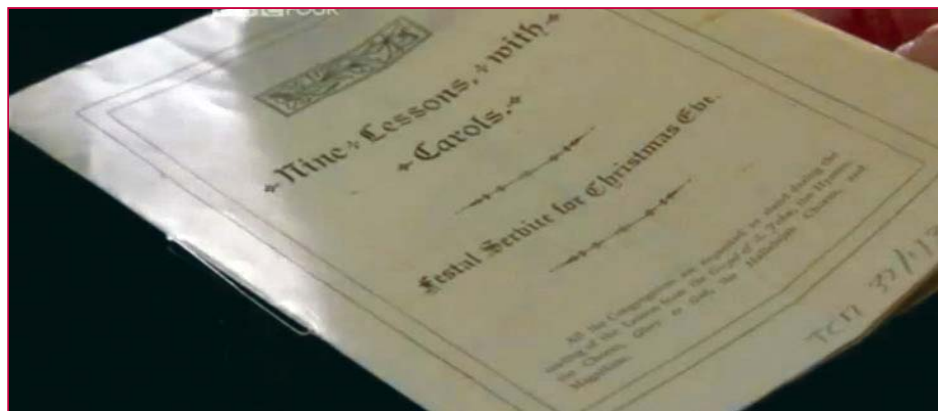
If you are reading this on-line or have a computer nearby, use this link to see an interesting video about the first service of lessons and carols:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oA2ywukrVog>

I am always eager to hear different interpretations of familiar music. Here are three performance versions of Wesley's hymn, sung to the familiar music of Felix Mendelssohn:

- South African Youth Choir: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LrIDQ8Wdw14&feature=related>
- Mormon Tabernacle Choir (with seemingly more singers than the entire winter population of MDI!): http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eAYVJ_yqXxA
- King's College, Cambridge (to my perhaps biased ears, still the gold standard): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iWlgDARDPzo&NR=1>

If you are still in Maine, please join us at Saint Saviour's on December 19th for the MDI version of the Service of Lessons & Carols! PDV



Photograph Courtesy Peter Kaux

The bulletin for the first-ever Service of Lessons and Carols, held in Truro, 1880.

NEW FAMILY



Beth Howie and Joe Renault formed a new family with four children at their wedding in September: Daniel Howie, Evelyn Howie, Beth Ellen Renault, Joe Renault, Brady Renault, and Will Renault. Congratulations to all of you!

