

ADVENT 2025

GIVING TREE

Each year, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul assists 30 to 40 local families at the holidays through our Thanksgiving meals and Giving Tree gift program. Unwrapped gifts, with the SVDP identifying tag, may be left in the parish center office by noon ON or before Sunday, December 14 for distribution to the families that evening.

ADVENT INVITATION FROM ARCHBISHOP HENNING

As our spiritual father and shepherd, Archbishop Henning has asked us to draw once again from the spiritual treasures and practices of the Church which have long brought people closer to Christ: penitential acts. Though we rightly think of Advent as preparation for Christmas, it is also a time of penitential preparation for Christ's Second Coming. The Archbishop offers a reminder to receive the Sacrament of Confession before Christmas. There are ample times here at St. Paul's and throughout the Archdiocese. Also, for most of the Church's history, Catholics have honored Friday, the day of Our Lord's crucifixion, as a special day of penitence. That practice fell off despite the support it still received from Vatican II, Pope St. Paul VI, and the United States Catholic Bishops. But recent experience has shown that many in the Church are finding great fruitfulness in it once again. Archbishop Henning is reminding us of this practice and is inviting all Catholics in Boston to join Christ in His own sacrificial act of love as we take on, each Friday, some penance such as: abstaining from some food or activity, doing some work of charity, or spending time in prayer. Penitential acts not only dispose our hearts to seek sustenance in Christ, but also to reach out in charity to others. He is also asking the priests of Boston to support our parishioners' efforts by voluntarily abstaining from meat themselves on Fridays throughout the year. Let's pray for and support one another in a renewal of this distinctly Catholic practice.

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays: 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Additional Confession:

Monday, Dec. 22 6:30pm -8:00pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Fridays: 11:00am - 12:00pm

IMAGE AND POETRY: THE SACRAMENTAL IMAGINATION

Harvard Catholic Forum

Saturday, December 6

10:30am - 12:30pm

DiGiovanni Hall

Paul Mariani, Boston College



ADVENT HOMELESS AND COMMUNITY LUNCHES

The Advent Homeless Community Meals will take place on Wednesday, December 3, 10 and 17 in the lower church following the 12:10pm Mass. Volunteers are needed to bring home cooked dishes, juice, fruit, desserts, and sandwiches. Help is also needed to set up, serve, visit with our guests, and clean up. Donations of warm gloves, socks, hats, and scarves are also welcome. For info or to volunteer, call Carol at 617.666.2855 or Mercedes at 617.492.7047.

Over



CHRISTMAS

Christmas Offerings



CLEANING AND DECORATING THE CHURCH

Join us on Saturday, December 20 at 9:30am, following the 9:00am Mass, as we clean and decorate the Church for Christmas! It is always an enjoyable time together, and if you could be there for a few minutes or an hour, that would be great. All ages are welcome.

CONCERT TICKETS ON SALE! CHRISTMAS IN HARVARD SQUARE

Sundays, December 7 and 14, 3:00pm
Tickets for the Choir School's annual Christmas concert series may be purchased at saintpaulschoirschool.us

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

It has long been the custom at St. Paul's to make a donation towards flowers that grace our beautiful church during the Christmas season. Christmas flower envelopes are available in the vestibule. Donations should be made payable to St. Paul Parish, indicating that the check is for flowers.

ST. PAUL'S GIFT SHOP

Check out the parish gift shop for Christmas gift ideas!

Monday - Friday 9:30am to 4:30pm

Sunday 10:00am to 1:00pm

*Closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day,
New Year's Eve and New Year's Day*



Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

3:00pm Lessons and Carols

5:00pm Christmas Eve Mass (with Parish Choir)

7:30pm Christmas Eve Mass (with Boys Choir and Schola)

CHRISTMAS DAY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

9:00am Mass (with Parish Choir)

11:00am Mass (with Boys Choir and Schola)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

5:00pm Vigil Mass

NEW YEAR'S DAY

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1

11:00am Mass (Cantor and Organ)

Over

www.stpaulsharvardsquare.org

