

The Arimathean

Inside this issue:

Contribution Envelopes	2
Photo Directory	2
Knitters Needed	3
Greeters Needed	3
Infant Necessities	3
Wish List & Thanks	4
Prayer List	4
Bake Sale	5
Consumer Watch	5
Expiration Dates	6
December Dates	7
Project Manager	8
Culinary Corner	9
Glad Tidings!	10

Christingle is a custom that has its origins in the Moravian Church in the 18th century. The Word Christingle means Christ light. About 40 years ago Christingle was first celebrated in the Church of England where it quickly became a most beloved way of celebrating in the seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany as well as effective means of raising awareness of the needs of vulnerable infants and children and collecting money and goods for the organizations that serve them.

We will be celebrating Christingle at St. Joseph of Arimathea on the Second Sunday After Christmas, January 4, 2009 at the 10:30am service. Here's how it works. We are asking everyone to bring a new gift for an infant in need. Things like disposable diapers, formula, infant health kits, pacifiers etc; things needed to keep any infant safe and healthy. Our gifts will be placed near the crèche, right by the infant Jesus, who himself was a homeless infant. In return each person will receive a Christingle. Symbolizing Christ the Light of the world. Later on these gifts will be donated to the Coachman where they will be given to homeless infants and their families.



The Christingle consists of an orange to symbolize the world. Around it is a red band to symbolize the love of Christ. The four toothpicks with candies on them symbolize God's gifts. The foil on the top represents a compass pointing to every corner of the world and lastly the candle to signify the light of Christ shining over the whole world.

Wishing you a blessed Advent and a Holy Christmas,

Pastor Claire



Contribution Envelopes for 2009

If you currently use contribution envelopes and wish to continue for 2009, do nothing. The envelopes will be available the last week of December on the table by the window in the McNeely room. If you do not use envelopes and wish to start, please contact Gretta in the church office (914-592-7163). If you no longer need envelopes, also please call Gretta. Personally, I recommend e-pledging, where the money is automatically deducted from your bank account either once or twice a month at your discretion. If you'd like more information on e-pledging, please leave a message for me at the church office. Blessings, Donna Rosengren

*December 24, 25,
26 & January 1st*

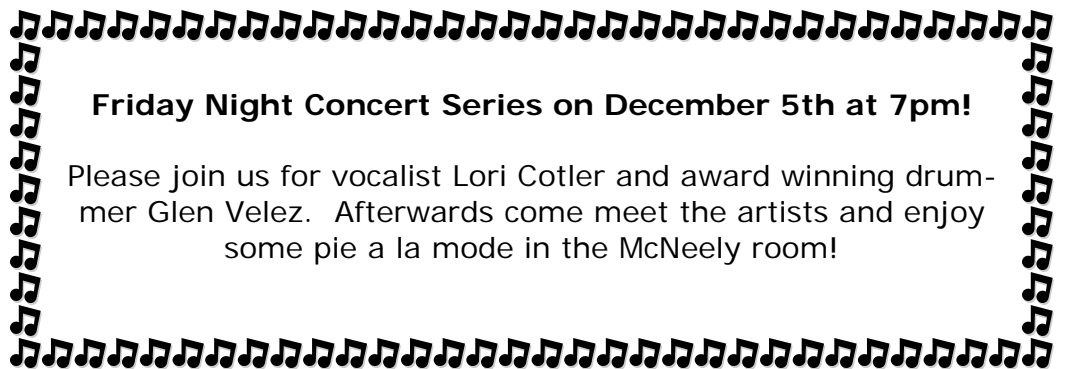
Church Office Closed

Photo-Directory for St. Josephs!

January 21, 2009 from 3pm until 9pm we are asking all St. Joseph of Arimathean members and their families, to have your picture taken - for free! We are scheduling Olan Mills Studios to come and create a Photo-Directory for St. Josephs! This will be a wonderful resource to include in our search for a new pastor. There is NO obligation to purchase anything. You will get a FREE 8x10

and only if YOU wish to purchase more prints - you have the opportunity, but no strings attached. The directory is free!! Please note, if you have any photographs you think should be included in the directory - photo's of people, the activities, artwork, stain-glass windows etc, please put them on a disk or bring them to Patty who will do her best to include them in the directory.

Please know, those who cannot come to the church can also have their photos included, simple ask someone to take a picture and send it to us - for those who cannot come to the church, but live locally, please call - we'll come to you! EVERYONE is welcome and encouraged to come - multi-generational shots would be wonderful!! Please save the date!!



Friday Night Concert Series on December 5th at 7pm!

Please join us for vocalist Lori Cotler and award winning drummer Glen Velez. Afterwards come meet the artists and enjoy some pie a la mode in the McNeely room!

Knitters Wanted

St. Joseph of Arimathea is looking for knitters to participate in the Christmas-at-Sea program. This program was started by the Seamen's Church Institute. Packages for men and women will be delivered during Christmas time. The patterns are easy. Please know there are certain size needles and colors of wool that are re-



quired. Contact Joan Cameron at: 914-478-5158 for more details and to let her know she need not knit alone! Additional information is available for

you to read from "The Knit Before Christmas" newsletter located in the McNeely room. You can also find this information on the website: www.seamenschurch.org We would like to send packages three to four times per year, not just at Christmas, so your help will always be appreciated.

Greeters Wanted!

They walk in, they do not know anyone or what to expect, yet they have come to St. Joseph to worship. Sometimes they are looking for a church home, sometimes a place to come into contact with God. What they

should also find is a friendly face, a warm handshake and a sincere greeting from a member of the congregation. A plan for greeting guests and developing a greeters ministry is here! Please be part of this warm

and friendly welcoming committee. Call Patty at: 194-592-7166 or email me at: patty-oung@optonline.net and help develop this plan so no one feels alone at St. Joes.

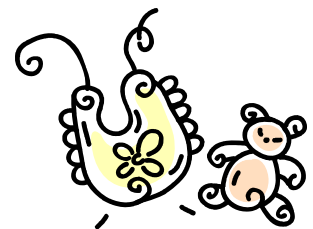
**Wednesday,
December 10 & 17**

Sandwich Brigade
9:30 a.m.

Infant Necessities Needed

• Infant Necessities Needed
January 4, 2008 is Christingle time! We ask that you bring donations for infants to one year olds. Disposable diapers, formula, health kits that could contain a baby thermometer

strip, baby bath, or all the little accessories needed to care for the health of a baby. Our goal is to provide for the thirty two babies living at the Coachman shelter.



Wish List

- Wish List!
Do you have a tall bookcase that is not being used? Pastor Claire is looking for a tall bookcase to give her books a home. Is there a coffee table tucked in your basement that is looking for a home?

We're trying to make the Cutler room user friendly with seating areas for small group discussions, a bright place to read a book, or simply stop by and visit for a while. Little side tables would also be welcomed too.

Many Thanks!

- Many Thanks!
Have you noticed the decorations and displays around the church? We hope you've enjoyed our seasonal decorating. Many thanks must go to our own Gretta Perrotta, she has bought pumpkins, silk leaves and happy

scarecrows to brighten both the McNeely and Cutler Rooms. Thank you Gretta for making the church festive! I also must thank Eunice Riblinger for starting the Christmas season decorating off to a beautiful start with her dona-

tion of a lovely angel! The response has been so positive asking for extra Christmas decorations. Many thanks for David Rosengren's carpenter skills, and Pastor Claire's holiday sparkle and new ideas!

**Monday,
December 15th**

Vestry Meeting
7:30 pm

Prayer List

Brenda Letford, (Billie-Ann Grant's friend), the Udogwu family, the Barnaby family, especially Zach, Alexander (Alla Borzova's father), Arianna Fujimoto Harris, Phyllis Shwedo, Jane Dunne & Carol Vanecek (friends of Mary-Carol Miller)

Merlene Chambers (Charles White's sister), Dottie Cunningham & Linda Dralle, (Barbara Brown's co-workers), Sheila White (Charles White's niece), Maggie Jensen, Elizabeth Graves, (friend of Jennifer Larrow), Grace Anderson-Smith (daughter of Althea Serrant) the Carpenter's Kids in Mbabala, Tanzania



Bake Sale—A Success!

The bake sale on Oct. 25th was a great success! Between the rental fee from Forgotten Felines, plus all the yummy baked goods, St. Joseph made \$725 ! So many people have to be thanked for their help, from manning the cash box, to baking, to giving tours of the chapel. Thank you so much to Rick

Ewen, Donna Rosengren, Matilda & John Scheib, Alexandra Benomar, Katie Saliba, Joan Cameron, Lucy Knight, The New Jerusalem Church - who donated baked goods and bought baked goods! Marion & Artie Hellthaler, and Jinny Cutler!
We hope to have an-

other sale in the spring - AND- you are the first to know, we are planning a Tag Sale in May!! So take time this winter to clean out your closets, attics, basements and garages - all proceeds to go to St. Joseph. More details to follow in future issues of the Arimathean.

Consumer Watch

If you missed seeing the article in the Journal News, then jot this information down today! The town of Bedford has designed a "tool kit" for its residents, hoping to curb heating costs this winter. The 48 page pamphlet or tool kit on energy savings was mailed to every one of the 6,527 households in Bedford. It includes everything from simple do-it-yourself fixes to how to hire a professional. Some of the basic suggestions include sealing air leaks in doors and covering hot water pipes with insulation. Other tips are more involved,

such as seeking out a certified contractor who can spot areas in a home that are not energy efficient. Many other towns have asked that Bedford share the information, which they have gladly done. Simply go to the "Green Page" of the towns web site: www.bedfordny.info The tool kit also includes a listing of certified contractors in the region who undertake energy efficiency fixes. Plus, information about government programs that will help pay for energy efficiency work on homes for low and

moderate income residents.

Here Are a Few Tips to Help Save Heat and Money:

- Use timers to turn lights off and on.
- Set thermostats to 68 degrees when you're home and 60 degrees when you are away.
- Replace furnace air filters.
- Get a certified contractor to provide an "energy audit of your home to find ways to make it more energy efficient.
- Seal attic and window air leaks.

Surprising Expiration Dates

Certain items in your house practically scream “toss me” when their prime has passed. That mysterious extra white layer on the Cheddar? A sure sign it needs to be put out of its misery. Chunky milk? Down the drain it goes. But what about that jar of olives or Maraschino cherries that has resided in your refrigerator since before the birth of your kindergarten? Or the innumerable non-edibles lurking deep within your cabinets and closets: stock-piled shampoo and toothpaste, seldom used silver polish? How do you know when their primes have passed?

With help from experts and product manufacturers. “Real Simple” magazine has compiled a guide to expiration dates. These dates are offered as a rough guidelines. The shelf lives of most products depend upon how you treat them. Edibles, unless otherwise indicated, should be stored in a cool, dry place. (With any food of course use common sense).

Household cleaners also do best in a dry place with a stable temperature. After the dates shown, beauty and cleaning products are probably still safe but may be less effective. I thought I would share what I have discovered about food, beauty and household products you may want to think twice about before using or throwing away. I will continue this information in the coming months.

Food:

Beer – unopened; 4 months

Brown Sugar – Indefinite shelf life, stored in a moisture proof container in a cool, dry place.

Chocolate (Hershey bar) – 1 year from production date

Coffee, canned ground – unopened: 2 years, opened: 1 month/refrigerated

Coffee, gourmet – beans: 3 weeks in a paper bag, longer in vacuum sealed bag (after this date the flavor may be affected, but product is still generally safe to consume). Ground: 1 week in sealed container

Coffee, instant – unopened: up to 2 years, opened: doesn't spoil, but taste is affected

Diet soda – (and soft drinks in plastic bottles) unopened: 3 months, from 'best by' date, opened: doesn't spoil, but taste is affected

Juice – bottled (apple or cranberry) unopened: 8 months from production date, opened: 7 to 10 days

Honey – Indefinite shelf life

Maraschino cherries – unopened: 3-4 years, opened: 2 weeks at room temperature, 6 months refrigerated

Look for more products and their expiration dates in the January edition of the Arimathean 2009!

(This information was gathered from the Yahoo website: <http://shine.yahoo.com/channel/home/surprising-expiration-dates-288662/>)

Dates in December

Woman’s Workshop – Tuesdays 10am The Woman's Workshop is not meeting on Tues. 12/23 or 12/30.

Sandwich Brigade Wed. 12/10, 17

Adult Ed. Every Sunday at 9:30am – reading material located in the McNeely room.

Sundaes on Friday Concert Series Dec.5th at 7pm

Music Workshop with Lori Cotler and Glen Velez Dec.6th 9am -5pm pre-registration required

Hearty Helpings Meat Program Pick Up on Sunday Dec.7th after the 10:30am service. Any questions please call Joan Cameron directly at: 914-478-5158

Children’s Christmas Party Dec.13th 11am

Search Committee Meeting Dec.14th at 11:45am

Coordinating Committee Meeting Dec.15th at 6pm

Vestry Meeting Dec. 15th at 7pm

Valhalla Dinner Dec.21st

Christmas Eve Service 12/24 at 4:30pm

Christmas Day Service 12/25 10:30am

Christingle January 4, 2009 at 10:30am

Reminder that the Church Office will be closed on 12/24,25,26 and 1/1

Annual Christmas Party!

Please join us on Saturday, December 13th at 11am to help celebrate Christmas time with some of the children from the Coachman Shelter. Once again we will welcome children from for an afternoon of food, fun, and

Santa Claus!! Bring your kids and grand-kids! We will need help with lunch, gift wrapping, crafts, etc.

This is always a wonderful event, and those of us who give the party come away blessed! Please let us know if you would like to participate or donate food for the party.



What is that Project Manager doing Now?

Greetings and Salutations! Merry Christmas! Can you believe it is Christmas time already?! You can feel the chill in the air – start to smell those cozy, familiar things that are rich in cinnamon and nutmeg. I have always loved the aromas, colors and décor of the season. Except when I start to see it in August when the first of the Christmas catalogs began to arrive – what is with that?! I have been keeping myself busy – I hope you've noticed the new plantings. Gretta found wonderful little Christmas trees we planted in the large pots by the sidewalks, as well as a few small boxwoods. Keep your fingers crossed, we planted the mums

by the light posts and bench in hopes they will bloom again next year. Small changes like this have made a big impact! Funny how simple things can do that isn't it? Our wonderful Sexton Zibby has begun to paint the interior walls, beginning right outside the Sunday school room and moving down the hallway. He will continue this project little by little until both the McNeely and Cutler rooms have a fresh coat of paint. So little by little, step by step everyone is working together to make St. Joseph so much more than just a building. But a cozy, welcoming place to come sit and relax. I am sorry I will not be able to enjoy the

Christmas Eve service with you. Our family is driving to Florida to visit my in-laws. We have never shared the Christmas holiday with them, and I must admit I was a little hesitant – not having our own tree or the 'usual' traditional things our family does. Perhaps that is another reason making the church festive was so important to me. It gives all of us a special place to enjoy and reflect. I'm looking forward to sharing the next year with all of you. Taking on the challenges, completing projects and moving forward. I hope you have a very Merry Christmas, thank you all for making me feel welcome and useful in the St. Joseph family.

**Sunday,
December 21st**

Valhalla Dinners

Christmas Prayer

I said a Christmas prayer for you,
on this glorious Christmas morn,
for a moment to reflect upon
the Savior who was born.
I asked that love and joy be yours
at the start of each new day.
To feel God all around you,
this is what I pray.

Culinary Corner

I just found this recipe from my childhood that I wanted to share with you! I always remember my mom making a simple Custard Pie. What I also remembered was, she used to make it – in of all places, her beloved Osterizer! Well, that Osterizer is long gone, with it's many buttons to 'whip' and 'blend', but recently I found the original cook book that came with it when mom first purchased the machine back in the 1960's.

Yep, we never throw anything away at our house, and for this particular cook book, I'm very glad! So this is a recipe I dedicate to the simple desserts, that reminds us of holidays in the past, of a smooth and creamy taste that was ready in a jiffy! Enjoy!

You will need:

4 eggs
2/3 cup sugar
½ teaspoon of salt
¼ teaspoon nutmeg
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 cups milk scalded
1 – 8 inch pie shell, unbaked.

Note: I used a deep dish Pet frozen pie crust, and instead of scalding the milk, I simply microwaved it for about 2 minutes. I also copied the directions below directly from the original recipe book, so if you don't have an OSTERIZER – use your blender – if you don't have a 'whip' button, use 'mix' instead!

Heat over to 350 degrees. Put the eggs, sugar, salt, nutmeg and vanilla into your OSTERIZER container, cover and process at WHIP until the sugar is dissolved and eggs lemon colored. Remove the feeder cap and slowly add the milk, continue to process until well blended. Pour into an unbaked pie shell. Bake for about 30 minutes, until a silver knife inserted in the custard comes out clean.



Happy Holidays!

December 5th
7 pm

Sundaes on Fridays
Music Series

JUST A SMILE:

While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my four year old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, "The tooth fairy will never believe this!"

ST. JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA

2172 Saw Mill River Road
White Plains, New York 10607

(December 2008)

“Change your thoughts,
and you change your world.”
~Norman V. Peale

Rick Ewen, Sr. Warden
Connie Barrett, Jr. Warden

Vestry: Ben Alexander, Joan Cameron, Catherine Gmoser, Lucy Knight,
Chris Larrow, Donna Rosengren, Althea Serrant, Sharon White, Richard Wisniewski
Donna Rosengren, Treasurer * Grady Jensen, Historian

The Arimathean, published monthly (except July/August) by St. Joseph of Arimathea Church
Catherine Gmoser, Layout

Glad Tidings!

- 12/6 DeSean Hooshing
Zach Marryshow
- 12/09 The Rev. Claire Lofgren
- 12/12 Mr. Christopher Larrow
- 12/14 Alexandra N. Haus
- 12/18 Megan Caley
- 12/21 Mrs. Mary-Carol Miller
- 12/22 Leo DiBenedetto
- 12/23 Mrs. Martine Sayers
- 12/25 Mrs. Billie-Ann Grant
Mrs. Tracey Tuttle Lunenburg
- 12/26 Mrs. Roberta (Bert) McHugh
Mrs. Stephanie Tuttle
- 12/28 Katherine Caley
- 12/30 Ms. Eunice Riblinger

