

January 10, 2019: Bidding Fr. Warren farewell & looking forward

Dear Parishioners and Friends of the Church of the Advent,

We would like to thank the many people whose efforts made Fr Warren's last Sunday with us such a memorable day. It was a moving day of thanks and tribute for our pastor of two decades. Let us keep him in our prayers as he moves to Marblehead and begins this new stage in his life. While the sadness of his departure is immediate and acute, our lasting memory should be of the joy with which he lead us, and the vitality of the Parish family he leaves behind.

As the Advent has now entered this transition period, we wanted to provide a brief update on a few items.

First, our interim, the Rev'd Truman Welch, will take up his duties on Monday, January 28, and will preach on his first Sunday, February 3, when we will observe Candlemas. We are excited to welcome Fr. Welch among us. Don't be surprised to see him around the Hill and at the Advent on occasion toward the end of the month as he gets settled in back in Boston. We are also pleased that the Rev'd Canon Alistair Macdonald-Radcliff will serve as Interim Assisting Priest through Candlemas. Fr. Macdonald-Radcliff is well-known to the Parish, having often assisted here during times of vacation and pilgrimage by other priests. We are thankful that he has a few weeks to spend with us as we await the arrival of Fr. Welch.

Second, we look forward to seeing everyone at the Annual Meeting, which will commence at 10:15am on Sunday, January 27—between the two Masses. The list of nominees for Vestry and other Parish offices will be available in this Sunday's bulletin. The Vestry will next meet this coming Thursday, January 17. The agenda includes consideration and approval of the budget for 2019, which will then be presented to the Parish in the Annual Report and at the Annual Meeting.

Third, our transition committees continue their work. The Search Committee is in the process of reviewing the substantial number of responses to the Parish Questionnaire; and planning the content of the Parish Profile. The Administration Committee is planning a series of reports and recommendations to the Vestry. There will be more detailed reports from both of these Committees in the Annual Report and at the Annual Meeting.

Fourth, we would like to introduce and welcome our new Parish Administrator, Jim Singletary. Jim previously served as administrator of churches in Salem and in Seattle. We are very lucky to have found an experienced pair of hands to take over from JimWood. Congratulations to Jim Wood on his retirement and thanks to him for more than two decades of service to our Parish! And welcome Jim Singletary! You will all have the chance to meet "new Jim" in person around the office, or at the Annual Meeting.

May God continue to bless the Church of the Advent.

Very truly yours,

C. Thomas Brown & Paul J. Roberts, Wardens.