

# Fellowship Post

a monthly Boston Deaf Catholic Community bulletin

December 2019

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## ADVENT RETREAT

Imagine ourselves going into a classroom and taking a test WITHOUT any preparation or studying? Or imagine ourselves being in the kitchen and making whatever we want WITHOUT any preparation or detailing? And, can we really imagine our own New England Patriots playing a football game WITHOUT any preparation or practicing?!! Then, that is why we have the season of Advent in our Christian tradition to prepare for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus and the return of Jesus at the Second Coming.

In order for us to be well prepared for Christmas, the Boston Deaf Apostolate will once again offer Advent Retreat on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to 2:00pm at the Pastoral Center in Braintree. Fr. Shawn Carey will lead the retreat to guide your Advent journey. There will be a time for reflection, group discussion, prayer, fellowship lunch, and a Daily Mass (not count as a Sunday Mass). Then after the retreat, you can go Christmas shopping across the street at the South Shore Mall! What a nice way to start with a retreat before getting busy shopping!

For head count, please email Fr. Shawn at [frshawn@bostondeafcatholic.org](mailto:frshawn@bostondeafcatholic.org) to let him know that you will plan to attend and how many in your party will also attend. Looking forward to spending time in prayer and reflection with you in this Advent season.

## SIGNING SANTA IS COMING TO TOWN!

On December 15, the ICDA Chapter 5 Boston Catholic Deaf Fellowship will host a Signing Santa Party following 11am ASL Mass at Sacred Heart Parish on 1317 Centre Street in Newton. There will be potluck, games, storytelling, candies, and, the best of all, SANTA! The party is located at the MacKenzie Center next to the rectory. Please bring a side dish to share with the community. Don't forget to bring the whole family and your Christmas spirit!

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

### Christmas Eve

**Tuesday, December 24, 2019**

**4:00pm** – ASL Mass with English voice interpretation, St. Clare Church, 1244 Liberty Street, Braintree

**7:00pm** – ASL Mass with English voice interpretation, Sacred Heart Church, 1317 Centre Street, Newton

**11:00pm** – Mass celebrated in English and ASL with interpretation, St. Francis Church, 856 Washington Street, Braintree

### Christmas Day

**Wednesday, December 25, 2019**

**9:00am** – ASL Mass with English voice interpretation, St. Francis Church, 856 Washington Street, Braintree

**1:00pm** – ASL Mass, New England Homes for the Deaf, 154 Water Street, Danvers

## SENIOR DEAF Ministry Events

### CELEBRATE THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

**December 3 at 9:30am-1:30pm**

Please bring a \$10 wrapped Yankee Swap gift and dessert.

Lunch is \$5.00 at door.

MacKenzie Center, Newton

### CATHOLIC SPOTLIGHT

**December 17 at 9:30am-1:30pm**

Pastoral Center in Braintree

Please contact Betty at [Betty.whittaker@bostondeafcatholic.org](mailto:Betty.whittaker@bostondeafcatholic.org) or VP at 617-440-7679 for more information.



**DECEMBER 8, 2019**

### Rosary Prayer

Please show up at the downstairs chapel no later than **10:15 a.m.**

### Confession

Following 11am ASL Mass

## ASL Mass\* Schedule

Please check into [bostondeafcatholic.org](http://bostondeafcatholic.org) for any possible calendar changes.

### SACRED HEART PARISH

**1321 Centre Street, NEWTON**

December 1, Sunday, 11am

December 8, Sunday, 11am

December 15, Sunday, 11am

December 22, Sunday, 11am

December 29, Sunday, 11am

January 5, Sunday, 11am

### SAINT CLARE

**1244 Liberty Street, BRAINTREE**

December 2, Monday, 9am

December 9, Monday, 9am

December 16, Monday, 9am

December 23, Monday, 9am

December 30, Monday, 9am

### SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

**856 Washington Street, BRAINTREE**

December 3, Tuesday, 7am

December 10, Tuesday, 7am

December 17, Tuesday, 7am

December 24, Tuesday, 7am

December 31, Tuesday, 7am

### NEW ENGLAND HOMES FOR THE DEAF

**154 Water Street, DANVERS**

December 4, Wednesday, 2:30pm

December 11, Wednesday, 2:30pm

December 18, Wednesday, 2:30pm

December 25, Wednesday, 1pm

January 1, Wednesday, 2:30pm

\*MASS is officiated by Fr. Shawn Carey in ASL with VOICE INTERPRETED unless specified otherwise.



**“SAINT” OF THE MONTH Part 1**

The Boston Deaf Catholic Community had a visitor during October 31 to November 5, 2019. We had the privilege to interview the guest. Thank you, Dana, for the opportunity!

**What is your name and where are you from?**

Dana Laffersova is from Lipniky, Slovakia. It is on the east side of Slovakia.

**Where did you go to school/deaf school?**

During the Communism era, Dana attended a hard of hearing (HOH) elementary school in Levoca. When Communism ended November 17, 1989, mainstream for the deaf started. She studied clothing industry for five years during high school (1992-1997) in Kremnica. In 2006, Dana

went on to study for three years at Presov University and in 2009, she received her Bachelor degree in Catholic Theology.

**How did you learn your Catholic faith?**

Dana started practicing religion after age ten. Before then, during the Communist Era, Dana saw a girl reading religious materials. She was curious and asked her to teach about God. There was a strong communist woman who was a staff at the school. She witnessed the teaching, took the religious materials and told the girl to stop teaching. The staff also informed Dana’s father. He was glad however Dana’s mother thought different. She believes people of little faith will get sick often. Dana decided to deepen her religion but her mother didn’t know Slovakia Sign Language (SSL) to educate Dana. A Lutheran gave Dana a graphic book about Jesus. She felt inspired after reading it. In 1986, she received her First Communion when she was ten years old. Her life changed during high school when she converted to Catholicism at 18 years of age. She wanted Eucharist as often as she can and she read the Bible daily. **Part 2 in the January 2020 edition.**

**DON’T FORGET THE GIFTS ON DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>**

Sacred Heart Parish is now conducting their annual Christmas Gift Giving Drive. The parish is collecting necessities for the homeless and low-income families, as well as the New England Home for the Deaf and Walden School. Cards listing the specific needs are available at the back of the Main Chapel. Please bring the unwrapped gifts to a table at the MacKenzie Center during their Advent Party on Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup>.

**FUTURE ARTICLES**

We are looking for articles for future issues of Fellowship Post. Contact Cheryl at [crjohnston5@gmail.com](mailto:crjohnston5@gmail.com) if you want to contribute. Thank you.

**SAVE THE DATES!**

**‘Reflection’ Day Retreat**  
Saturday December 14, 2019  
At Braintree Pastoral Center

**ICDA General Meeting**  
Sunday February 9, 2020

**Christmas Party And Signing Santa**  
Sunday December 15, 2019

**Vermont Winter Retreat**  
March 6, 7 & 8, 2020

**Epiphany Potluck**  
Sunday January 5, 2020

**St. Patrick’s Brunch**  
Sunday March 15, 2020

**Super Bowl ‘Salsa’ Competition**  
Sunday February 2, 2020

**ICDA General Meeting**  
Sunday May 17, 2020

**Contact Information**



**The Office of the Deaf Apostolate**  
Archdiocese of Boston  
66 Brooks Road  
Braintree, MA

Fr. Shawn Carey, Office of the Deaf Apostolate Director  
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It’s important to take God’s love personally, though it may be an easy thing to do. Sure, God loves the world, but he does love each one of us individually.

-Tim Tebow

**CHURCH DUTIES**

**At Sacred Heart, Newton**

**December 1**

Set-up: Dale Noll  
Lector: Rick Johnston  
Eucharistic Ministers:  
Cheryl Johnston  
Fran Noll

**December 8**

Set-up: Susan Almeida  
Lector: Kyle Murphy  
Eucharistic Ministers:  
Anna Murphy  
Dale Noll

**December 15**

Set-up: Marcelle Gomez  
Lector: Betsy Ireland  
Eucharistic Ministers:  
Rick Johnston  
Cheryl Johnston

**December 22**

Set-up: Dale Noll  
Lector: Rod Mac Innes  
Eucharistic Ministers:  
Fran Noll  
Rick Johnston

**December 29**

Set-up: Marcelle Gomez  
Lector: Rachael Weber  
Eucharistic Ministers:  
Anna Murphy  
Kyle Murphy

**January 5**

Set-up: Dale Noll  
Lector: Cheryl Johnston  
Eucharistic Ministers:  
Rick Johnston  
Fran Noll

Contact Fran Noll at  
[fnoll28@aol.com](mailto:fnoll28@aol.com)  
regarding Church Duties.