

## Liturgical Ministers List

**Saturday  
Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>**      **5:00 p.m.**    Readers:      Rosemary O'Keefe & Ros Hurley  
Eucharistic Ministers:      Art Whelan; Betty Quigley; Kevin Quigley;  
Fred Carroll; Irene Delahunty  
Presentation of Gifts:      Shirley Murphy & Carol Clarke  
Ushers:      George Jackman; Christopher  
Delaney; Bill Hammond; Peter  
Power; Keith Pitts

**Christmas Eve  
Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>**      **8:00 p.m.**    Readers:      Christine Tulk & Amanda Curnew  
Eucharistic Ministers:      Karen Seward; Connie Cole; Judy  
Burt; Sarah Burt; Riv Fitzgerald  
Presentation of Gifts:      Lydia Brazil Family  
Ushers:      Tom Cole; Rick Whelan; Alex  
Newell; Kevin Delahunty; Charlie  
O'Brien; Ray Kennedy

**Christmas Eve  
Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>**      **11:00 p.m.**    Readers:      Bonita Power & Christine Quinlan  
Eucharistic Ministers:      Brenda Sweeney; Carol Clarke;  
Helen Pitts; Loretta Byrne; Cecilia  
Kent  
Presentation of Gifts:      Irene & Kevin Delahunty  
Ushers:      Leo Byrne; Fred Carroll; Jim  
Pendergast; George Hickey; Cyril  
Jackman; Brian Tulk

**Christmas Day  
Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>**      **10:30 a.m.**    Readers:      Rosanne Grant & Gary Gosine  
Eucharistic Ministers:      Geraldine Fitzgerald; Shirley  
Murphy; Pat Murphy; Patricia King;  
Keith Kent  
Presentation of Gifts:      Harriett & Colin Taylor  
Ushers:      Ray Whalen; Sid Maddigan; Art  
Whelan, Charlie O'Brien

## Liturgical Ministers List

**Saturday  
Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>**      **5:00 p.m.**    Readers:      Kevin George & Ashley Curnew  
Eucharistic Ministers:      Rosemary O'Keefe; Ros Hurley;  
Mary Power; Betty Quigley; Fred  
Carroll  
Presentation of Gifts:      Millie & George Jackman  
Ushers:      George Jackman; Christopher  
Delaney; Bill Hammond; Peter  
Power; Keith Pitts

**New Year's Eve  
Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>**      **5:00 p.m.**    Readers:      Teresita McCarthy & Des  
McCarthy  
Eucharistic Ministers:      Bonnie Spracklin; Tom Spracklin;  
Sid Maddigan; Joey Kent; Beverly  
Rees  
Presentation of Gifts:      Patricia & Michael King  
Ushers:      Leo Byrne; Fred Carroll; Jim  
Pendergast; George Hickey; Cyril  
Jackman; Brian Tulk

**New Year's Day  
January 1<sup>st</sup>**      **10:30 a.m.**    Readers:      Valerie Gorman & Geraldine  
Fitzgerald  
Eucharistic Ministers:      Sister Phyllis Corbett; Christine  
Quinlan; Karen Seward; Riv  
Fitzgerald; John Kent  
Presentation of Gifts:      Tom Cole Family  
Ushers:      Tom Cole; Rick Whelan; Alex  
Newell; Kevin Delahunty; Charlie  
O'Brien; Ray Kennedy

**\*\*\*Please Note that this is a two week Liturgical Ministers List\*\*\*  
Please keep for your reference\*\*\***

The celebration of Christmas presents a problem for many modern Christians. How does the commemoration of an event from the past affect our life today? St. Bernard in a homily which we find in the Liturgy of the Hours for Advent helps us to see a way forward. He situates the Christmas event in the wider context of the three comings of Christ. The first is his birth in Bethlehem where he shared our human condition. The third is his coming among us in glory at the end of time. Between these two comings, he says, there is a second, the coming of Christ into our hearts today.

Using St. Bernard as our guide we can say that the celebration of Christmas reaches back into the past to remember the event of Bethlehem. This is what we depict on our cards, celebrate in our hymns and portray in the cribs that grace our houses and churches. But if Christmas is to be more than a remembrance of the past it has to have a present connection. The Lord tells us that this is possible when he says “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him”.

The celebration of Christmas invites us to recognize that while Christ’s birth was a singular event of grace for humanity it invites an encounter today, a connection with each generation, a challenge to encounter “the face of Christ” and be directed by His Spirit.

As I have said in past Christmas messages “What good is it to sing ‘Peace on Earth’ if we are not concerned about the peace of our world and relationships? What does it mean to proclaim Christ’s birth in a manger if the poor and hungry are neglected? Why admire the persistence of the wise men if we ourselves are not searching for God?”

As you celebrate Christ’s birth, may you experience Him more fully and follow Him more eagerly.

With best wishes to you and your families, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

+Brendan M. O’Brien  
Archbishop of St. John’s

**“A PEOPLE WHO WALKED IN DARKNESS  
HAVE SEEN A GREAT LIGHT”**

Seven hundred years before the first Christmas Isaiah gives that prophesy which reverberates over and over again with every Christmas we celebrate. Our daily Scripture readings for Advent spelled out for us how dark the world was before Christ came as a newborn helpless child...and yet He came as the Light of the world.

Christ, our light is so accessible to us; but there is still so much darkness in our television, newspapers and radio reports. Perhaps, even in our own families, there is gloom, confusion, hesitancy and fear.

It is 2006 years since Christ came as light of the world, and we still allow ourselves to walk in darkness. As pagans celebrate December 25 as the Winter Solstice, they will search every possible means to cope with the shortest day and longest night of the year.

Christians, who search to know Christ, have His special light in their hearts. We welcome Jesus as the one who set aside His power and glory to take on our weaknesses. He came to dispel the darkness and be the source of “pure light” which our world needs so desperately.

There is no darkness that Christ cannot penetrate. There is no sorrow that Christ cannot turn into joy. So we do have every reason to celebrate. The angels sang “GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST”. The shepherds rejoiced and fell on their knees to give joyful thanks. The wise men traveled miles and miles to lay their most treasured gifts at the feet of the newborn king. Now, it is our turn, to catch that air of joy and gratitude. May you and your family catch the fullness of the Lord’s peace and joy! Like the angels, shepherds and wise kings, it is our turn to carry the Christmas blessings well into 2007.

Many thanks to all our staff, associations and ministries who serve all year round as our ministers of harmony, light and peace.

God Bless all  
Father Jim and  
Parish Leadership Team