

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

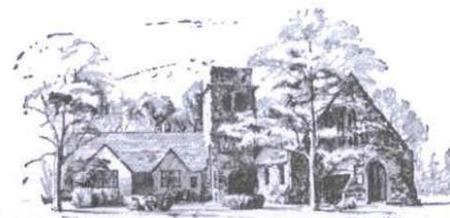
.....
to grow spiritually
..... foster community
..... serve others

the first church in
chestnut hill

December, 2025

[UNITARIAN]

26 SUFFOLK ROAD OFF HAMMOND STREET



Rev. Mark J. T. Caggiano, *Minister*
Kathryn Rosenbach, *Music Director*
Diego Garrido Barreto, *Ministerial Intern*

www.firstchurchchestnuthill.org



MUSIC DIRECTOR and CHOIR
Kathryn Rosenbach, 617-821-0385
Christina Grandy de Oliveira,
Soprano
Nicole Plummer, Mezzo Soprano
MinSun Im, Tenor
Guanghao Yu, Baritone

ADMINISTRATOR
Diego Garrido Barreto
26Suffolk@gmail.com

SEXTON
Dana Flynn, 617-680-0702

FOR THOSE IN NEED THIS MONTH

Please contact Rev. Mark at the church or via email
(mjtcaggiano@gmail.com) Church Telephone 617-566-6237



VERITAS, CARITAS, ET RISUS

A Midnight Clear

The evening grew to blackest blue
A chill upon the air
The stars out bright, the moon a
sight
Wood smoke now twining fair

The season ripe, the ever green,
A garlanded time of year
The harvest song now far along
And winter white so near

The hats and gloves and boots arrayed
Against the cold wind's flow
The hidden paths and buried walks
Now cleared of drifting snow

Four candles lit, four flames arise
Four weeks of wanting wait
The growing hour, the old surprise
On Advent's dawning date

To travel near or far to home
Or to a distant place

A nearby stroll, a sail unfurled
A journey on to face

The coming once again to us
Into our busy days
Reminders of an ancient gift
A light that showed new ways

Of love of stranger and
of God
Of one and all for one
Of gardens green and gardens lost
Of turning towards the sun

To hearth and home, a church of stone
To candles in the dark
To carry on with holy song
To which the angels hark

And then so silent, calm and bright
As if an infant slept
True present of God's presence nigh
A whispered promise kept



Messiah Sing

DEC 04
7:00 PM



26 SUFFOLK
ROAD

Free-Tickets Eventbrite
Chestnut Hill T Stop Easy Parking
First Church in Chestnut Hill

Christina Grandy de Oliveira - Soprano

Nicole Plummer - Mezzo soprano

MinSun Im - Tenor

Guanghao Yu - Baritone

Kathryn Rosenbach - Piano

BELOVEDNESS

Hola community, this is your ministerial intern and church admin, Diego Garrido. Thank you to those who came, last Thursday, to hear my preaching, for the annual Thanksgiving Service at The Church of the Redeemer. I want to share with you my experience last week at the American Academy of Religion.

I went to a conversation on Raimon Panikkar, one on Luther and I had the honor to meet one of the main scholars on Latin American Liberation Theology, Christopher D. Tirres. I got a verse translation of the Qur'an and another one of the Mahbharata. This once in a year experience was possible because Boston was the hosting city. Hopefully, next year AAR is not so far away and I can come and visit their exhibit hall. There is so much to wonder and explore!

Let me finish with a good book recommendation, one for those who want to understand family and people who have become atheist or agnostic: *Faithiest* by Chris Stedman. In this book he explores how, despite his own religious beliefs might have fallen away, his desire to change the world for the better remained. This book is his exploration on bridging common grounds to work together between atheists and religious. He hopes to make one world we can all agree on, a better one for all of us.

Chris Stedman was the Assistant Humanist Chaplain at Harvard University. He was emeritus managing director of State of Formation at the Journal of Inter-Religious Dialogue and the founder of a blog dedicated to explore atheist interfaith engagement. Hope you get a spark of curiosity and this helps you in your family conversations.

Con mucho gusto, Diego.

December 7

Sermon: Music Sunday
Scriptures: Isaiah 11:1-10, Mathew 3:1-12
Scripture Reader: David Cornish
Usher: Joe Hicks
Flowers: Given in loving memory of Barbara
Morss Marshall by Jennifer Morss
Drayton and her family.
Coffee Hour: CeeCee and David Cornish

December 14

Sermon: Salus Populi Americani
Scriptures: Isaiah 35:1-10, Luke 1:46b-55
Scripture Reader: Bert Dane
Usher: Bert Dane
Flowers: Poinsettia donation for First Church
Coffee Hour: Singh family

December 21

Sermon: Christmas Pageant
Scriptures: Isaiah 7: 10-16, Matthew 1:18-25
Scripture Reader: Lisle Baker
Usher: Lisle Baker
Flowers: Poinsettia donation for First Church
Coffee Hour: Sally and Lisle Baker

December 24

Sermon: Christmas eve
Scriptures: Isaiah 9: 2-7, Luke 2:1-20
Scripture Reader: (No reader)
Usher: David Brooks
Flowers: Poinsettia donation for First Church
Coffee Hour: Christmas eve

December 28

Sermon:
Scriptures: Isaiah 63:7-9, Matthew 2:13-23
Scripture Reader: Susan Welch
Usher: Mark Chadbourne
Flowers: Poinsettia donation for First Church
Coffee Hour: Pauline Ho Bynum

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION



Many thanks to all who have contributed to the Sixth Thanksgiving Phantom Fair. There's still time if you haven't already sent in your check to support our two local food pantries, The Brookline Food Pantry and the Centre Street Food Pantry in Newton.

To help stock the pantries for the holiday season, we are launching a drive for items that are not easily provided by the Greater Boston Food Bank, a major supplier for the pantries. Here are the items which are most needed:

Broths — chicken and vegetable / Cooking oils / Coffee and tea / Dried fruits / Chocolate / Nuts / Honey / Balsamic Vinaigrette / Dried herbs and spices / Baking supplies (flour, sugar, baking soda and powder, vanilla, chocolate chips, etc. / Shampoo, lotions, Vaseline, lip balms.



Let's fill the table in the parish hall with these items by Sunday, December 14! Bring your contributions to the church on Sunday and thank you!

ALTAR FLOWERS

Attention flower donors: please contact Dana Flynn (617-680-0702) to coordinate the delivery of your flower donation. He will meet the florist (or you) at the church on the Saturday prior to your date. If you prefer, we also have silk arrangements which can easily be placed on the altar.

If you would like to donate flowers, Please contact Diego at 26suffolk@gmail.com.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Rev. Mark hosts bible study at 1:00 PM on Wednesdays on Zoom. In November we are studying selections from the Book of Revelations. Contact Rev. Mark to be included on the Zoom invitation list at mjtcaggiano@gmail.com. All are welcome.

Attention: Treasurer, 26 Suffolk Road, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

VOLUNTEER SCRIPTURE READERS

If you would like to join the group of volunteer scripture readers, please contact Carol Lohe at ctroyen@mfa.org. This is a rewarding opportunity to be part of our Sunday services.

MOVIE NIGHTS

This is your chance to enjoy in *familia*, with your community, a curated selection of movies. Almost all genres and well-known directors will provoke your curiosity. We hope these spark your conversations and discussions for the rest of the week.

Dec 3 - Fantastic Mr. Fox

Dec 10 - Last Holiday

Dec 17 - A Muppets Family Christmas

DONATIONS

If you wish, you may make your donation via Zelle or mail a check to the church. Many thanks for your anticipated generosity.

SAVE THE DATES

Dec 3, 10, 17 - Movie Nights 6:00 p.m.

Dec 4 – Messiah Singing 7:00 PM

FCCH IN THE COMMUNITY

It's December, so please be on the lookout for a bright orange flyer, signaling the Sixth Phantom Thanksgiving Fair. At this time of year, we continue to raise money to support two local food pantries, The Brookline Food Pantry and The Centre Street Food Pantry in Newton. While the traditional in-person Fair is no longer feasible, the need to provide groceries to the food insecure in our community is greater than ever. Both pantries have seen an increase in the number of families seeking essential provisions for their families. Please consider making a donation by sending a check in the envelope provided in the orange flyer.

DECEMBER MUSIC

December 7

Preludes	3 Miniatures	Peeters
Anthem	Nativity Carol	Rutter
Hymn 105	Hail to the Lord's Anointed	
Response	Praise God, the Lord, Ye Sons of Men	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Wexford Carol	Traditional
Hymn 115	On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry	
Musical Sermon	Messiah choruses	
Hymn 110	O Come, O Come, Emmanuel	
Choral Response	Old Irish Blessing	Agay
Postlude	Invention #4 in d minor	Bach

December 14

Preludes	Prelude	Marcello
	Elevation	Vierne
	Sonnet	Wolford
Anthem	Ave Maria	Bach-Gounod
	Nicole Plummer, soloist	
Hymn 17	Praise Thou the Lord, O My Soul, Sing Praises	
Response	Be Glad, My Soul, Be Cheerful	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Ave Verum Corpus	Mozart
Hymn 131	Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming	
Hymn 114	Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates	
Choral Response	Twofold Amen	Traditional

December 21

Prelude	Andante	Bach
Anthem	Have You seen a Child? Menotti	
Hymn 135	O Jesu Sweet, O Jesu Mild	
Response	Savior of the Nations, Come	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Noel Nouvelet	French Carol
Hymn 129	It Came Upon the Midnight Clear	
Hymn 104	Comfort, Comfort Ye My People	
Choral Response	Threefold Amen	Traditional
Postlude	Canzona	Buxtehude

December 28

Prelude	Unto Us a Child is Born	Dandrieu
Anthem	Quem pastores laudavere	German Carol
Hymn 13	Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him	
Response	Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now	Bach
Offertory Anthem	The Angels and the Shepherds	Bohemian Carol
Hymn 120	Hark! The Herald Angels Sing	
Hymn 130	Joy to the World	
Choral Response	Threefold Amen	Traditional
Postlude	Gigue	Handel