



## **Christmas Carroll Eve Tree Lighting Ceremony**

December 13, 2008

This is a season of symbols of childhood, of peace and love, of joy and hope. This tree draws us together physically and spiritually as an age-old symbol of life, celebration, and human solidarity. If you Google “Christmas Trees” you will discover more than you ever wanted to know about trees, traditions, and customs. But, tonight, I invite you to look into the world of your heart, the memories that each of us carries of our own families and friends gathered around this symbol of Christian faith. This night we remember that the light of love is stronger than the gloom of hate and despair, that the light of hope is always more brilliant than the fog of cynicism, and that the light of faith is far more precious than darkness of disbelief. I am graced to bring this wonderful symbol of light to life here among the family of John Carroll.

Merry Christmas!