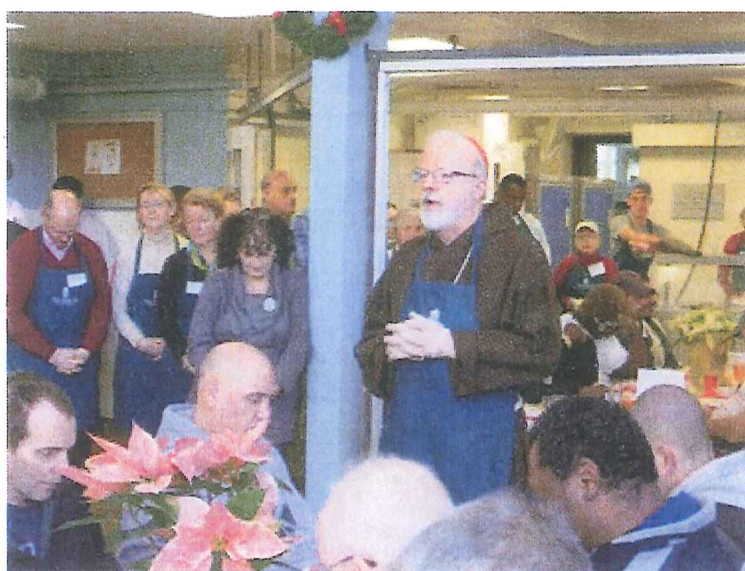
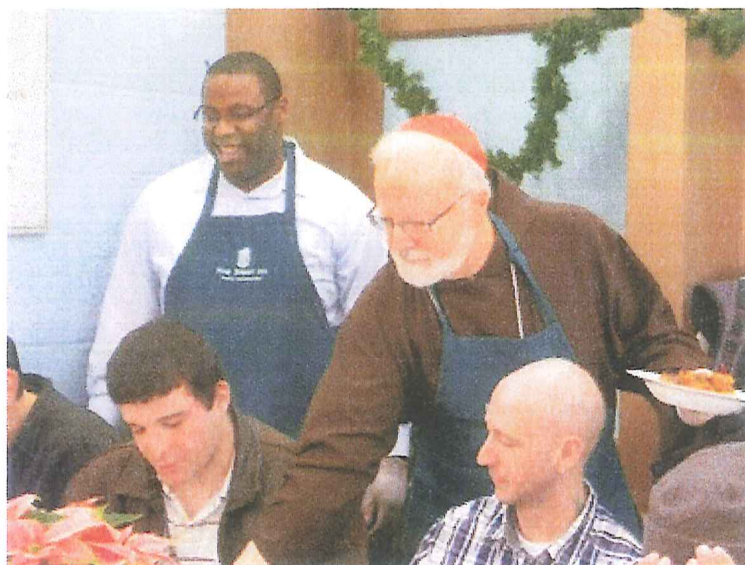


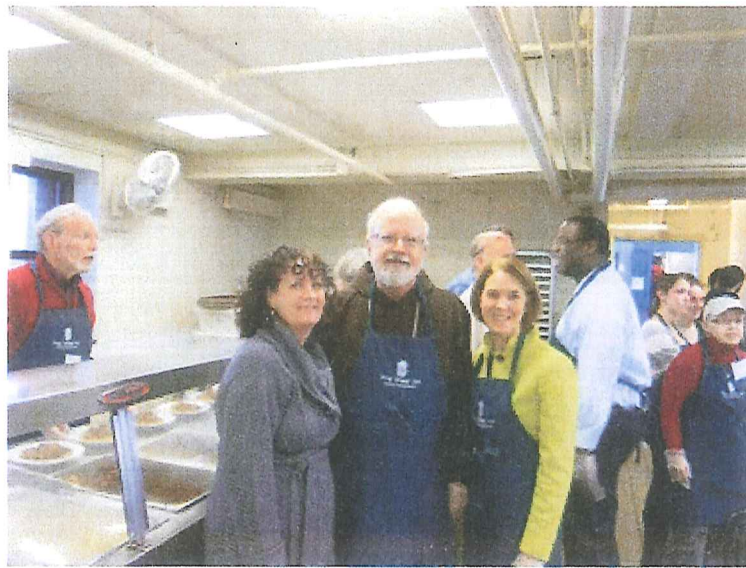
On Christmas Eve I visited Pine Street Inn as I do each year.



They have a special meal for the residents that day and it gives me a chance to visit and to serve them meals with the other volunteers.



I always like to thank all the volunteers that help all year round and I take this opportunity to encourage people to do more for the homeless remembering that at Christmas time the Holy Family had no room in the inn.



I was welcomed by Director Lyndia Downie, who is doing tremendous work at the Inn. During the visit I was accompanied by Lisa Alberghini from our Planning Office for Urban Affairs, Msgr. Frank Kelly and Father John Unni.



Also on Christmas day we had a prayer Service at St. Francis House. I gave a short reflection, sang some Christmas carols and gave a blessing to the volunteers.

The Boston Globe had a nice [story](#) on my visit, which included this photo of one of the residents who sang a beautiful, improvised song for me.



Karen LaFrazia, the executive director there does a wonderful job. During my visit I was also accompanied by Lisa Alberghini who is working both with Pine Street Inn and St. Francis House on getting permanent housing for homeless people.

On Christmas night I went to visit my family for a couple of days. I wish you all a very blessed Christmas season, and pray that you are able to enjoy the company of family and friends during this beautiful time of the year.