



Dear Friends,

For me the joy of Easter is accentuated by my regard for all who helped us observe Holy Week and celebrate Easter. The many details involved in the Masses and services were addressed so very well in both of our churches. The Masses on Holy Thursday helped us to recognize the charity that should flow from Holy Communion; I am grateful to all those who participated in the washing of the feet. During the somber prayers of Good Friday the deep devotion of so many was very obvious. A highlight of the Easter Vigil was the joint effort of our music ministries; it was a tangible step towards our parish unity in 2010. Many thanks to all!

Father Joe Ford; email: jjford67@maine.rr.com

MASS INTENTIONS and MASS SCHEDULE

<u>April 18</u>	4:00 PM	John Saulds, by The Flower Committee
<u>April 19</u>	8:30 AM	Joan Burns, by Larry Burns
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners
<u>April 20</u>	7:30 AM	Loretta Dilworth, by Edward L. Dilworth, Jr.
<u>April 22</u>	7:30 AM	Jacqueline Bousquet, by Lisa Bousquet
<u>April 23</u>	7:30 AM	Communion Service

Next Weekend Masses

<u>April 25</u>	4:00 PM	Herk Mildrum, by Betty & family
<u>April 26</u>	8:30 AM	The Parishioners
	5:30 PM	John Clark, by Steve & Debbie Meahl

Last Weekend's Offering: Thank you for your offerings of **\$7,536.00** for last weekend. Our weekly operating expense is **\$6,318.00**. The second collection for retired priests totaled \$4,716.00. The Good Friday Collection for the Church in the Holy Land totaled \$1,212.00. Thank you for your gifts.

The Archdiocese of Anchorage has 11,500 registered Catholic families, 140,00 square miles, and only 30 active diocesan priests. Sadly, such shortages occur often in the United States mission dioceses. The Catholic Home Missions Appeal supports religious education and seminary training to bring increased pastoral care to our home mission parishes. **Please give generously in next week's Appeal.**

Operation Rice Bowl – Jesus Christ is risen! Our operation Rice Bowl journey has ended but working towards global solidarity doesn't have to. Let us continue to **pray** for all those who work for justice and for those who benefit from the programs of Catholic Relief Services, and continue to **learn** how to stay connected with our global family through Catholic Relief Services. Take some time to visit www.crs.org. Thank you for taking part in the Lenten journey with Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl.

First Eucharist Retreat – Sunday, April 26th from 1-3 PM.

Graduation Mass – Sunday, May 31, at 5:30 PM.

Vocations - "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, so I send you." Will you respond to God's call to be sent as priest, sister or brother who proclaims the truth and peace of Jesus Christ? Call Fr. Bob Vaillancourt@ 207-773-6471 or e-mail robert.vaillancourt@portlanddiocese.org or Sr. Rita Mae Bissonnette @ 207-773-6471 or e-mail ritamaebissonnette@portlanddiocese.org.

Maine Marriage Initiative: Bishop Malone has asked parishes to undertake the following.

1. An informational meeting on proposed legislation to change the definition of marriage will take place at Holy Martyrs on Tuesday, April 21, at 7:00 PM. Father Ford will lead the session.
2. Next weekend after all Masses there will be opportunities to sign a form expressing opposition to the legislation. In addition to a signature there will be a place to add your e-mail address should you desire more information or to work to defeat the legislation.

Veritas Portland - "Casual Tuesday" April 28, 7pm ~ All young adults ages 18-35 are invited for a regular evening of young adult fellowship, on the last Tuesday of each month. Come meet with old friends and make new ones. \$3 Dewey's has decent street parking, a great selection of beer, free popcorn and big tables for us to enjoy. Please note, no formal talk will be given, this is purely social. Come out and join us, you never know whom you might meet!

Baptismal Certificate - A reminder to all 2nd grade parents that if your child was not baptized at Holy Martyrs a baptismal certificate from the church of your child's baptism is needed. Rehearsal for First Eucharist will be held Thursday, April 30 at 5:00 PM for those families attending the 9:00 AM Mass and 6:30 for the families attending the 11:30 AM Mass.

Disciples In Mission includes a reflection day during the Easter season. All the participants in the small faith sharing groups, family groups, parish leaders, pastoral council and commission members and ALL interested parishioners are invited to come together. All will be asked to reflect on the outward dimension of evangelization. The reflection day will be held at **Sacred Heart Parish Hall on May 7th at 7:00pm**. We ask you to bring a finger snack to share. Drinks will be provided.

School of Leaders for the Cursillo - The next meeting of the School of Leaders for the Cursillo will be held at 1:30pm at Camp Mechuwana in Winthrop on April 26, 2009. For more info and directions call Joe Presti 377-3488.

Friendship House Thank You - Many thanks from me and the men at Friendship House for the many donations I took to them early in April. There were 5 ample main dishes, vegetable dishes, a salad, and a selection of fresh produce. One resident who has been at FH for 6 months told me that he was moving to an apartment in South Portland to live on his own, having successfully overcome his addiction. He will keep up with the people at Friendship House, which has provided a healthy family atmosphere. This is the kind of thing all of you who contribute to FH are helping to make happen. Thank you again.
Deborah Nicklas

Spring Rummage Sale – Saturday, May 9th, from 8:30-11:00 AM. Volunteers are needed on Thursday and Friday morning to help set up and on Saturday to sell. Please call Mary T. Honan at 781-2705 if you can help. **Please do not drop items off until after April 30th.**

The 2009 Annual Spring Habitat Walk will take place this year on **Saturday May 9th** Please consider joining with members of our neighboring churches to walk in support of the Habitat mission. Additionally, volunteers are needed to help greet and register walkers or to lend a hand with the breakfast held that same morning. If your own home is warm, safe and secure then you already know the value in providing the same for another family. This annual walk helps to raise the funds needed to make this a reality in our community. A pancake breakfast at The Episcopal Church of St. Mary on Rte 88, will be followed by a 4 mile stroll, bike or run that will help to make this year's event a success in every way. Bring your high school team or your grandchildren but most importantly bring your willingness to make a difference in someone's life. Visit www.Firstgiving.com/holymartyrs or contact Moira Lachance (781-2346) for more information or to volunteer.

Holy Martyrs Weekly Calender

Coffee & Donut Sunday April 19	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM Religious Education	Baptism Preparation Class 9:30-10:30 AM Readings Begin at #923 <i>44: Acts 4:32-35; Ps 118; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31</i>
Patriot's Day Monday April 20	Mass at 7:30 AM NO Religious Education	<i>Office Closed</i> <i>267: Acts 4:32-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8</i>
Tuesday April 21	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM Finance Council 6:00 PM	Contemplative Prayer Group 9:30-11:00 AM Maine Marriage Initiative Meeting 7:00 PM <i>68: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93; Jn 3:7b-15</i>
Wednesday April 22	Mass at 7:30 AM	Opus Dei Men 5-7 PM <i>269: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34; Jn 3:16-21</i>
Thursday April 23	Communion Service at 7:30 AM	FBTS 10:00 AM, Sedgewood 10:45; Oceanview 2:30 <i>270: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34; Jn 3:31-36</i>
Friday April 24	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM	<i>271: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27; Jn 6:1-15</i>
Saturday April 25	Mass at 4:00 PM	<i>555:1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89; Mk 16:15-20</i>
Sunday April 26	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM NO Religious Education	Readings Begin at # 924 First Eucharist Retreat 1:00-3:00 PM <i>47: Acts 3:13-15,17-19; Ps 4:2,4,7-9; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:24:35-48</i>

Come to "Building a New Identity as a Single Person", sponsored by Catholic Charities Maine Family Life **Project Rachel** - For the grief that follows an abortion -- Rachel's Vineyard, sponsored by Project Rachel, is the Church's way of offering hope and of saying: "Welcome home." Find comfort and peace at the next Rachel's Vineyard Weekend, **April 24-26**. For an understanding ear and to register, call 871-7464, Ext. 2670; toll-free at 1-800-CARE-002; or e-mail: familylifeinstitute@ccmaine.org. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

From Bishop Malone

NEW DATE AND LOCATION SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL PUBLIC HEARING

IMPORTANT PUBLIC HEARING REMINDER: The Judiciary Committee Public Hearing on the proposed same sex marriage bill, LD 1020, is on **Wednesday, April 22, 9:00 AM at the Augusta Civic Center**. We know that the people who support this bill will be there in full force. We must do the same! We urge everyone who can be there to join in this fight against redefining traditional marriage. Our legislators must be told that a "No Vote" on same sex marriage is what is best for Maine and for society.

*Together, we can make a difference and keep marriage
just as God intended, between one man and one woman.*

MASSES:
Saturday Mass: 4:00 PM
Sunday Masses: 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM
Daily Mass: Mon. & Wed. at 7:30 AM
Communion Service: Thurs. at 7:30 AM
Confession: Sat. 3:15-3:45 & by appointment

OFFICE HOURS: 8:30-3:00 PM, Monday – Friday

PARISH OF THE HOLY MARTYRS OF NORTH AMERICA

266 Foreside Road, Falmouth, Maine 04105
www.holymartyrs.org

PARISH DIRECTORY:

Parish Office: 781-4573
 Religious Education: 781-2847
 Fax: 781-3961
 Email: rectory@holymartyrs.org

ADMINISTRATION:

Administrator: Rev. J. Joseph Ford
 Catechetical Leaders: Deacon Dennis Popadak
 Judy Dominick

PARISH STAFF:

Christian Initiation: Judy Dominick
 Youth Ministry: Scott Ross
 Music Ministry: Diane Beaton
 Parish Secretary: Debra J. Coppinger

BULLETIN DEADLINE:

Notices for the bulletin must be at the rectory office by 12:30 PM on Tuesdays.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Welcome! We invite you to join in our parish community. Please register by contacting the rectory office

DEPARTING PARISHIONERS: Please inform the rectory office when you move from the parish.

HOMEBOUND & HOSPITALIZED: Please contact the rectory office to arrange for a visit.

BAPTISMS: By appointment – please contact the rectory.

MARRIAGES: Couples should contact the rectory at least six months in advance.