



Dear Friends,
 This weekend we are conducting the annual collection for the support of the Holy Father. This collection was initiated by Pope Pius IX. For centuries the popes were civil rulers as well as spiritual. Accordingly, popes had jurisdiction over certain lands. Most of the papal states of the nineteenth century were taken over and made part of the new nation of Italy. Today, papal territory includes Vatican City State and some buildings in Rome including the Pontifical North American College, a residence for seminarians from the United States. In 1929 a formal agreement was established recognizing the Holy See and its very limited territory as a sovereign state. Today, it is recognized as such by most nations including our own. The loss of the papal states and their revenues prompted Pius IX to mandate a world wide collection to support his ministry.

Accordingly, our gifts this weekend involve us in the ministry of the Holy Father and through him we are active around the world. The Holy See issues an annual financial report of its activities. You may have read that world economic conditions, particularly, the decline in the dollar's value, caused the first loss in many years. The Pope faces the same pressures that many of us face. Our gifts in the second collection will aid Pope Benedict to maintain his mission of unity and peace. Please be as generous as you can.

Fr. Joe Ford
 email: jjford67@maine.rr.com

Mass Intentions & Mass Schedule

<u>August 2</u>	4:00 PM	Joe and Mary Youngs, & Marie Youngs Vogel, by their family
<u>August 3</u>	8:30 AM	Frank Clark, by Dot Clark & Family
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners
<u>August 4</u>	7:30 AM	Mary Riley Donovan, by Mary T. & Jim Honan
<u>August 6</u>	7:30 AM	Intention of Faith & Works, by the Stewardship Committee
<u>August 7</u>	7:30 AM	Communion Service

Next Weekend Masses

<u>August 9</u>	4:00 PM	Esther Lowder, by Carol & Bob Cain
<u>August 10</u>	8:30 AM	The deceased family members of Carlita Brown, by Carlita Brown
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners

Last Weekend's Offering: Your contributions for July 26 & 27, 2008 amounted to **\$4,667.00**. **\$3,477** was in 126 envelopes and **\$1,190.00** was loose. Thank you for your gifts. **The second collection this weekend is for the Holy Father.**

Saint Patrick Fathers Mission – This year, the Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith has assigned the SAINT PATRICK FATHERS to speak at our parish. We will have a second collection the weekend of August 16 & 17 to support their work.

Offertory Envelopes – Offertory envelopes for the new fiscal year can be found in the Narthex. If our name isn't there and you would like envelopes, please sign-up on the sheet provided at the table. New envelopes will be available next weekend.

The Parish Council will NOT meet in August.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time – In this weekend's Gospel, Jesus feeds the five thousand with five loaves and two fish. The message of stewardship is that God's gifts, shared, will always be more than enough.

(From *Stewardship By The Book*, by Sharon Hueckel. Used with permission.)

It really is a wonder that Jesus puts up with us. "Trust God," He told us over and over. "God loves you, God will care for you, if you just have faith in Divine Providence. Just the tiniest bit of faith can move mountains." This very word "providence" comes from the word "provide." He showed us what HE meant with the miracle of the loaves and fishes. Do we take Him at His word? Do we really trust that God will provide for us, as Jesus did for the crowd who were hungry? Or do we listen but not hear, and instead put our trust in bank accounts, jobs, real estate, and all the other things that promise security but eventually are only dust. God is always willing to provide, but we must offer the opening through our faith and trust.

The Parish Golf Tournament will not take place this September.

Religious Education

Your help is needed to assist us plan for the Fall: This weekend please take the time to register your child/children for Fall Religious Education sessions. Remember: sessions for Pre-k 3,4 & 5yr olds during the 8:30 A.M. Mass (if the numbers warrant it); grades 1-5 will be Sunday mornings at 9:30-10:30A.M. or Monday afternoons from 4:15-5:15 P.M.; Jr. High and Youth Ministry Sunday evenings for one hour following the 5:30 P.M. Mass. This year's fee is \$50 for the first child, \$50 for the second child and \$25 for each child after that. This fee was instituted to offset a portion of the expense for books and materials as well as administration fees that account for almost a quarter of our annual parish budget. If you prefer a payment plan, please let Deacon Dennis or Father Ford know, and we will arrange it with you. Please note that no child will be excluded from attending class because of these costs. A \$10 discount per family will be given if a parent signs up to be an aide, catechist, or co-catechist.

The next registration weekend will be August 9 & 10. There will be printouts with names of all the children of the parish for you to verify the information and update our data base. Or you can call the Faith Formation office at 781-2847. Thank you for helping us to plan for the upcoming year to effectively assist our children in their faith development.

Music Notes - We are looking for adult cantors who would like to help us celebrate at the weekend Masses. Please contact the new organist Diane Beaton by phone at 781-9869 or via email at sbeaton@maine.rr.com if you are interested in helping in the music ministry.

Brown Bag Thank You – Many thanks from Preble Street Resource Center for the 35 bags of groceries that were recently collected. The reusable cloth bags have made it so easy to carry the groceries. Thanks to Chris and her sons Matt and Andy, Jack and Rick who helped to deliver the groceries. **"Taking the first footstep with a good thought, the second with a good word, and the third with a good deed, I entered Paradise."** Zoroaster. Thanks to all for the good deeds that have helped to feed the homeless among us. We will collect groceries in September.

Friendship House is a residence in South Portland for formerly homeless men recovering from substance abuse. The first Wednesday of each month, members of our parish donate prepared hot or cold dishes (these may be frozen) and grocery items such as fresh produce, paper products or toiletries, which I then take to the men at FH. If you would like to contribute something this Wednesday, please call Deborah Nicklas @ 781-4362.

Cluster Raffle – We are pleased to report that we have received over 1,000 surveys. Listed below are the remaining winning raffle numbers to be claimed for the \$50.00 Irving gas card. If you have a winning ticket, please call Holy Martyrs at 781-4573 to arrange a time to pick up your gas card.

1212037 3858817 3859457 3859090 6831944

Holy Martyrs Weekly Calender

Sunday August 3	Mass at 8:30 AM Mass at 5:30 PM	Readings Begin at # 999 112: Is 55:1-3; Ps 145; Rom 8:35,37-39; Mt 14:13-21
Monday August 4	Mass at 7:30 AM	407: Jer 28:1-17; Ps 119; Mt 24:22-36; see 612: Ez 3:17-21; Mt 9:35-10:1
Tuesday August 5	Mass at St. Gregory's 8:00 AM	408: Jer 30: 1-2,12-15,18-22; Ps 102; Mt 14:22-36 or 15:1-2,10-14
Wednesday August 6	Mass at 7:30 AM	614 Dn 7:9-10,13-14; Ps 97; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:109 Friendship House
Thursday August 7	Communion Service at 7:30 AM	410: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51; Mt 16:13-23
Friday August 8	Mass at St. Gregory's 8:00 AM	411: Na 2:1,3;3:1-3,6-7; (Ps) Dt 32; Mt 16:24-28 see 617: 1 Cor 2:1-10a; Lk 9:57-62
Saturday August 9	Mass at 4:00 PM	412: Hb 1:12-2:4; Ps 9:8-13; Mt 17:14-20
Sunday August 10	Mass at 8:30 AM Mass at 5:30 PM	115: 1 Kgs 19:9a,11-13a; Ps 85; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

Save the Date! 2nd Annual Harvest Ball – To benefit Harvest Magazine – Join Bishop Richard J. Malone as he hosts the Harvest Ball at the Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland on **Friday, October 17, 2008**. Dance to the music of The Tony Boffa Band and get i on the fun of our silent auction. Social hour begins at 7PM and dinner will be served at 8PM with dancing to follow. Ticket price is \$60.00 per person or \$100 per couple for this black tie optional event. Organize a group for a table of 8 for \$400! Registration and payment are required before th event. Please call Christine Pitteroff at 207-773-6471 to register, make dinner selections and arrange payment. FMI: visit the website at www.portlanddiocese.org. Don't miss out on all the fun!

Good Cause Thrift Shop is now located at:

Congress Square Plaza
16 Forest Avenue, Portland
772-4903

Business Hours: Mon-Fri 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM & Sat. 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Office Hours for August 4 – August 22, 2008

Monday & Friday 10:30-5:00
Tuesday – Thursday 9:30-4:00

For Our Deaf Community Members: The Parish Inclusion Ministry of Catholic Charities Maine Family Life Institute would like to make parishioners aware that Interpreters are available at the 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass at St. Anthony of Padua in Westbrook.

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:

Office Hours for August 4 – August 22, 2008

Monday & Friday 10:30-5:00
Tuesday – Thursday 9:30-4:00

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.

