



Dear Friends,
On October 5 our cluster will begin a 'mission'. For the younger ones among us a mission in this sense is several days of special prayer by a parish. Morning Masses and four evening sessions are to assist us to grow spiritually. Father Paul Borowski and Father Richard Bennett, members of the Redemptorist Fathers, will be here for the weekend Masses on October 4 and 5; the evening sessions will begin at 7PM at Sacred Heart Church in Yarmouth. They will celebrate the morning Masses at three of our churches. The four days will have the following topics: God's unconditional love, our response to God's love, our return to God's love, and the arms of God's love. On Tuesday evening there will be a reconciliation service; the priests will also be available for this sacrament throughout the week. Every cluster in the diocese will be having a similar mission during the coming months. We will provide notice of the dates of missions in nearby clusters. Hopefully, thousands of people throughout Maine will participate uniting us more closely as God's people. Another expectation of the mission is to help the various communities of the cluster to recognize our bonds of faith as we strive to become a renewed parish. Please mark your calendars now for this opportunity for renewal in faith.

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

Mass Intentions & Mass Schedule

August 30	4:00 PM	Herman Becker-Fluegel, by John & Judith Goodrich
August 31	8:30 AM	Jack Jamison, by a friend
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners
September 1	7:30 AM	Mary Youngs, by Ellen Honan
September 3	7:30 AM	Intention of Faith & Works, by the Stewardship Committee
September 4	7:30 AM	Communion Service

Next Weekend Masses

September 6	4:00 PM	Normand Cormier, by Mary Dunphy
September 7	8:30 AM	Deceased family members of Carlita Brown, by Carlita Brown
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners

Last Weekend's Offering: Thank you for your offerings of **\$4,657.00** or last weekend. \$3,174.00 was in 117 envelopes and \$1,483.00 was loose. Our weekly operating expense is \$6,318.00.

Blue Mass – Law Enforcement, fire and EMS personnel from across the state will gather in Lewiston for a special commemorative Mass honoring their service to the people of Maine. The fourth annual Blue Mass will be held Sunday, **September 14 at 10:00 AM a the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul.** Bishop Richard J. Malone will bestow his blessings upon those who contribute to the public health and safety in the State of Maine. "This Mass is to thank those in our communities who serve us everyday and often in dangerous situations," said Bishop Malone. Members of these public safety agencies have been invited to attend the Mass in uniform, color guards will be on hand and vehicles representing the departments will be on display around the Basilica. Family members and the general public have been invited to attend this celebratory event. A reception will take place immediately following the Mass in the lower level of Saints Peter and Paul.

Red Mass – The Red Mass of Maine will be celebrated on **September 18th at 4:30 PM** at the Cathedral of Immaculate Conception by Bishop Richard J. Malone. Judges, lawyers, government officials and people of all faiths are invited to attend the Red Mass to invoke God's blessing and guidance in the administration of justice. Reception and dinner immediately following Mass at the Portland Country Club. Please RSVP by September 4th by contacting Heather Stevens at 792-1392 or email: hstevens@pierceatwood.com. Forms also available at the back of the church.

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – In this weekend's second reading, St. Paul exhorts the Romans to total stewardship. Brothers and sisters, he urges, "offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God." (From *Stewardship By The Book*, by Sharon Hueckel. Used with permission.)

"Sacrifice" is not a word in common use in our society. Delayed Gratification is one of the four American cardinal sins. Too many people regard "giving something up" as foolish. Indeed, it would be — if there were not something better in store. If we truly understand what sacrifice means, it becomes easier — not easy, but easier. "To sacrifice something is to make it holy by giving it away for love," according to Frederick Buechner. This is what God asks of all of us.

Questions of the Week

- Adults** – In what ways might I have allowed my faith to become a matter of routine and mental assent rather than a personal relationship?
- Children** – How has Jesus' love for me allowed me to do difficult things?

******* Religious Education *******

Registration for Fall Classes – The next registration weekend is **September 6 & 7, 2008.** Your help is needed to assist us plan for the Fall that, unfortunately, is fast approaching: Please take the time to register your child/children for Fall Religious Education sessions. In order to expedite the process, there will be printouts with names of all the children of the parish, in our database, for you to verify the information and update. To date, only 50+ children have been formerly registered for sessions. We especially need the names of second graders who will be preparing for the Sacraments. Thank you for helping us to plan for the upcoming year to effectively assist our children in their faith development by stopping by the tables on the weekend of September 6/7. You may also register by calling the religious education office at 781-2847. Please register ASAP to ensure the proper student teacher ratio. **Classes are scheduled to begin September 21, 2008.**

Sundays	during the 8:30 AM Mass	Pre-k, 3, 4, & 5 year olds (Min. 10 participants)
Sundays	9:30-10:30 AM	Grades 1 – 5
Mondays	4:15-5:15 PM	Grades 1 – 5
Sundays	6:30-7:30 PM	Jr. High and Youth Ministry

Veritas Portland's Young Adult Youth Ministry – invites all young adults 18-39 to a DVD presentation on "Exploring God's Purpose for Your Life" followed by faith sharing. **Thursday, September 11**, Sr. Elaine Lachance and Sr. Thelma Bouchard will host this evening at St. John Convent, 11 Aspen Avenue in South Portland. Social at 6:30 PM followed by the DVD and faith sharing at 7:00 PM.

Wednesday evenings 7PM, ~ Hour of Power Praise the Lord with music, worship and Eucharistic Adoration! Veritas, Portland's Young Adult Ministry invites community members of **all ages** to this weekly event at St. Peter's Church, 72 Federal St in Portland. Please note that the first week of each month we are 'On The Road'. On Wednesday, September 3rd we will be at St. Joseph's College in Standish, Me. To offer your musical talents or for event information contact Becky at hourofpowerportland@gmail.com or call Chris @ 653-1429. This event is open to ALL AGES.

Please do not braid the ribbon markers for the hymnals. The ribbons are there to help parishioners mark the various hymns, readings, and responses. Thank you for respecting and prolonging the life of the materials.

Thank you for thinking of Holy Martyrs – however, we are **NOT** accepting any donations for the nursery, classrooms, music room, or kitchen. We are currently in the process of cleaning these rooms and weeding out all unused items that have accumulated over the years. Please take your unwanted items to Goodwill or another charity of your choice.

Early Warning!! Maine Marathon/Relay/Maine Half Marathon – Sunday, October 5th !

The race will impact access to all the churches along the route during the morning. We are fortunate at Holy Martyrs to be able to come to church from Johnson Road. If you need to use Route 88, parishioner passes to be placed on the dashboard will be available in the NARTHEX at the end of September.

Cluster Mission: Plans are being made for the mission which will take place from **October 5-9**. Try to reserve those evenings for this opportunity for spiritual growth. Please see Fr. Ford's letter for more detail.
Cluster Survey: With many hours of work by dedicated folks the data of the surveys has been entered and is now being processed. It is to be reviewed by the cluster council and will be available to all in a few weeks. Many thanks to Tom Gruber and those who gave of time and talent. The response rate was 30% well beyond most surveys. The rate demonstrates the interest and support of the members of our four churches.

Holy Martyrs Weekly Calender

Sunday August 31	Mass at 8:30 AM Mass at 5:30 PM	Readings Begin at #1011 124: Jer 20:7-9' Ps 63; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27
Monday September 1	Mass at 7:30 AM Office Closed	431: 1 Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119; Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday September 2	Mass at St. Gregory's 8:00 AM	432: 1 Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145; Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday September 3	Mass at 7:30 AM	433: 1 Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33; Lk 4:38-44 see 635: 2 Cor 4:1-2,5-7; Lk 22:24-30
Thursday September 4	Communion Service at 7:30 AM	434: 1 Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24: 1bc-2,3-4ab,5-6; Lk 5:1-11
Friday September 5	Mass at St. Gregory's 8:00 AM	435: 1 Cor 4:1-5; Ps 37; Lk 5:33-39
Saturday September 6	Mass at 4:00 PM	436: 1 Cor 4:6b-15; Ps 145; Lk 6:1-5
Sunday September 7	Mass at 8:30 AM Mass at 5:30 PM	127: Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95:1-2,6-9; Rom 13:8-18; Mt 18:15-20

Connected Catholics, a social group for singles, opens its year with a pot luck supper and movie.
 General Meeting: **Sunday, September 7, 2008**, Holy Martyrs Parish Hall. 4:00 PM - Social Hour & Pot Luck Supper, 4:45 PM - Business Meeting, 5:15 PM - Playing is "Amazing Grace", an inspiring film to begin the coming year. Popcorn is encouraged! FMI Mary Edwards 829-4054.

Falmouth Food Pantry – Come support the Falmouth Food Pantry At O'Naturals in Falmouth, Tuesday, September 23. 10% of their sales from 4:00-8:00 PM will go directly to the Falmouth Food Pantry. The Falmouth Food Pantry is open the first and third Monday mornings from 8-10 AM, and the second Thursday evening from 5-7 PM. The pantry is open to residents of Cumberland County who meet the federal TEFAP guidelines. Located next to Town Hall, we are currently serving approximately 65 families. Given the state of the economy, we expect the numbers to increase. Food is donated through food drives and from the Food Rescue program in Cumberland County. For tax deductible contributions make checks out to: Falmouth Food Pantry and mail to: Blanchette, 279 Middle Road, Falmouth, ME 04105.

Development Director – The Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland, Maine is currently looking for a Director of Development to lead and coordinate all the Development activities for the Diocese. This newly created position will have overall responsibilities in the design, management, and accountability for the various development activities of the Diocese, including Catholic Charities Maine. The candidate will have an academic background commensurate with this senior level position along with 5-7 years of experience in a comparable position. She/he will be a practicing Catholic who is well versed in Catholic tradition and programs. Please respond by attaching resume to email and forward it to: jobs@dimihr.com or mail to: Drake Inglesi Milardo Inc., 50 Portland Pier, Portland, Maine 04101.

MASSSES: *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: *Monday – Friday 8:30-3:00*

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.

