



†A benefit of my weekend travel between Gray and Falmouth is that I can listen to most Priest of Prairie Home Companion. A couple of weekends ago Garrison Keillor had a monologue on his sudden death. The idea came from the experience of a stroke which he had a few months ago. Garrison is at work when a man appears who is to drive him away. Garrison protests saying that he has work to do asking for just twenty-four more hours. The man is not persuaded. Garrison offers a number of other excuses but the man is insistent that he get into the car. After a short drive Garrison and other passengers are deposited for judgment. Garrison finds that a very rare mistake has been made, and the driver is very surprised that he has a return passenger. In the Transfiguration event offered on the Second Sunday of Lent we hear of Peter, James and John being allowed a glimpse into divinity. Lent is an opportunity to recognize the fragility of life and to order our lives around the divine life we received at baptism. We glimpse divinity in Word and Sacrament which prepare us for the one way passage to what God intends to be even more awesome than the Transfiguration. The scriptures don't say anything about round trip tickets.

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

Mass Intentions & Mass Schedule

February 27	4:00 PM	Judy Baer, by The Polkinghorn family
February 28	8:30 AM	The Parishioners
	5:30 PM	Bret Connors, by Steve & Debbie Meahl
March 1	7:30 AM	William McKee, by Lorraine McKee
March 3	7:30 AM	Frank Schatzle, by the O'Donnell's
March 4	7:30 AM	Communion Service

Next Weekend Masses

March 6	4:00 PM	Edward (Ed) Devine
March 7	8:30 AM	Joan Brennan
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners

Lenten Penitential Service – March 14th at 3:00 PM at Sacred Heart, Yarmouth.

Last Weekend's Offering: Thank you for your contributions of \$5,680.00 last weekend. To meet our budget for the fiscal year, the weekly collection should average \$6,000 per week. The second collection for Black & Indian Missions totaled \$2,164.00 and the Ash Wednesday collection for the church in Eastern Europe totaled \$951.00.

Stations of the Cross during Lent - will be prayed each Friday afternoon at 4:30PM. On March 12th we will use the children's version, and I will invite any children or youth to join me in walking the stations.
Deacon Dennis Popadak

Tax Information – If you would like a copy of your 2009 weekly offering to Holy Martyrs for income tax purposes, please sign up at the back of the church or call the office. A copy of the amount of your contribution will be mailed to you in a timely fashion.

Confirmation Retreat – For parents and candidates, Sunday, March 7th from 1:00-3:00 PM. Please note that the program starts promptly at 1:00 PM.

Music Director – Ms. Josephina (Jo-Jo) Kilroy is undertaking the ministry of arranging and directing the liturgical music at Holy Martyrs. She brings long experience from family and from other parish and school endeavors.

Bishop's Appeal: Thus far parishioners of Holy Martyrs have pledged over \$69,000 to the 2009 Appeal. These gifts will help to ensure that vital ministries will continue throughout our diocese. The Appeal is an opportunity for donors to be in solidarity with one another and with the thousands who benefit from the ministries and services funded by the Appeal. Pledge cards are in the envelopes in various areas of the church.

Liturgical Publications, Inc. There is an opportunity to secure space in the new publication. To place your ad, please contact Vern Deprey at 1-800-888-4574 ext. 3410 or vdeprey@4lpi.com.

Cumberland/Falmouth Food Pantries – We want to answer a few of the questions that have been asked.

1. The donations are to be brought to church. There is a designated table just outside the office door.
2. Deliveries are made to the pantries each Monday by Holy Martyrs volunteers.
3. Most needed items: peanut butter, jams/jelly, pancake mix, pancake syrup, ketchup, cereals, paper towels, toilet paper and detergent.

Thank you for your continued support.

Jack Mullin

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 contribute prepared hot or cold dishes (dishes may be donated 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 donate something this Wednesday, March 3, please call Deborah Nicklas @ 781-4362.

Vocations – “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” If in your listening to the Lord you are sensing the invitation to follow Christ as a priest, deacon, sister or brother, Call Fr. Bob Vaillancourt @ 207-773-6471 / robert.vaillancourt@portlanddiocese.org or Sr. Rita Mae Bissonnette @ 207-773-6471 / ritamae.bissonnette@portlanddiocese.org.

Operation Rice Bowl – Every Lent, millions of Catholics participate in Operation Rice Bowl, Catholic Relief Services' annual Lenten program, which began on Ash Wednesday. Catholic families, parishes and schools from more than 13,000 communities use symbolic cardboard "rice bowls" as the focal point of their prayer, fasting and learning—and to help people in poverty around the world. Participants in Operation Rice Bowl make a small sacrifice every week, putting the change they would have spent on food into symbolic rice bowls. That money goes to support CRS' mission to fight global hunger and poverty. Helping people in need through fasting and almsgiving is a big component of Operation Rice Bowl, but the program also encourages Catholics to help others through prayer and by learning about the factors that cause hunger. Last year, participants raised more than \$7 million for Operation Rice Bowl, 75 percent of which is used to fund projects in 40 countries. The remaining 25 percent stays in U.S. dioceses to support food pantries and soup kitchens.

Cheverus High School Prospective Parent Information Night – Wednesday, March 3rd, 2010 6:00-8:00 PM Dress is casual, light refreshments will be available. FMI: Please contact Kate Luke-Jenkins, 207-774-6238 ext. 35, or e-mail Kate: Luke-Jenkins@cheverus.org.

Catherine McAuley Open House - Catherine McAuley High School, Maine's only college-preparatory school for young women, will be hosting its annual Spring Open House for prospective students and their families on Wednesday March 10, 2010 at 6pm. Young women of all faiths are invited to our campus at 631 Stevens Avenue, Portland, for a program that will feature faculty presentations as well as a student panel. After the formal presentation, guided tours will be offered and information on financial aid and scholarship programs will be available. Come find out about the McAuley advantage.

Holy Martyrs Weekly Calendar

The second Sunday of Lent February 28	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM Religious Education Classes Continue 9:30-10:30 AM Grades 7 & 8 Monthly Class 6:20-8:00 PM 27 Gn 15:5-12,17-18; Ps 27; Phil 3:17-4:1 or 3:20-4:1; Lk 9:28b-36	Readings Begin at #908
Monday March 1	Mass at 7:30 AM Religious Education Classes Continue 4:15-5:15 PM	Contemplative Prayer Group 9:30-11:00 AM DIM Groups 230: Dn 9:4b-10l Ps 79; Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday March 2	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM	Contemplative Prayer Group 9:30-11:00 AM 231: Is 1:10,16-20; Ps 50; Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday March 3	Mass at 7:30 AM	232: Jer 18;18-20; Ps 31; Mt 20;17-28 DIM Groups
Thursday March 4	Communion Service at 7:30 AM	DIM Group Catholic Charities Divorce Group 6:00-8:00 PM (Classroom) 233: Jer 17:5010; Ps 1; Lk 16:19-31
Friday March 5	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM	Ps 105: 16-21; Mt 21:33-43,45-46 Stations of the Cross 4:30 PM
Saturday March 6	Mass at 4:00 PM	235: Mi 7:14-15,18-20; Ps 103; Lk 15:1-3,11-32
The third Sunday of Lent March 7	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM	1:00-3:00 PM Confirmation Retreat Grade 2 Parents & Children 5:00 PM CCME 30: Ex 3;1-8a,13-15; Ps 103; 1 Cor 10:1-6,10-12; Lk 13:1-9

Supporting People with Mental Illness - Please come to "Welcomed and Valued: Supporting People with Mental Illness in Parish Life" on **Sunday, March 7th, 2 p.m.** at Sacred Heart in Yarmouth. This informative 75 minute presentation will feature a DVD, local speaker and an opportunity for questions and discussion on Mental Illness. This program is sponsored by Catholic Charities Maine Parish Social Ministry, "Loving God and Neighbor", psm@ccmaine.org, 1-800-CARE-002, ext. 2672.

Divorce & Beyond - Two Portland-area groups are starting soon! **Thursday, March 4th (6:30 to 8:30 p.m.), Holy Martyrs in Falmouth** & Tuesday, March 16th (6:30 to 8:30 p.m.) St. Bartholomew in Cape Elizabeth. For more info & to register, call Catholic Charities at 871-7464 or E-mail: psm@ccmaine.org. Pre-registration is required. For the comfort and confidentiality of our members, no walk-ins, please. Fee is \$25.00.

17th Annual Bishop Proulx Award - "Volunteers don't get paid . . . because they're priceless!" Honor that special volunteer in your parish with a nomination for this year's Bishop Proulx Award. The Bishop Proulx Award was established to recognize a Maine parishioner whose contributions reflect the mission of Catholic Charities Maine and foster the social teachings of Jesus Christ. Each nominee receives a special letter of congratulations. The winner will be honored at an award ceremony attended by Bishop Malone. The deadline for nominations is **March 5, 2010**. If you would like a nomination form, please contact Catholic Charities Maine Parish Social Ministry at 1-800-CARE-002, ext. 2672, (Portland Area 871-7464, ext. 2672). Our e-mail is psm@ccmaine.org.

Pathways to Prayer For Young Adults (ages 18-35) with Sr. Linda Mae Plourde, p.m., and a Team of Presenters March 6, 2010. There is a longing in our hearts to grow in God's love and grace. Prayer is the avenue for such growth and the means to remain united to God. In this one day retreat, various pathways to prayer will be presented to the participants who want to develop, deepen and nurture their relationship with God. FMI and to register, call Marie Joseph Spiritual Center, 207-284-5671.

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

Communion Service:

Confession:

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: office@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:
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.