



Dear Friends,
 On January 15 the cluster pastoral and finance councils met. The results of the survey have been computerized with the assistance of Saint Joseph's College. Anyone with questions on the data should advise the parish office and the information will be secured. There was discussion of the diocesan norms for the councils; by-laws are being drafted. Each council will undertake tasks necessary to organize the new parish. The proposal including the recommendation of a new name is to be presented to Bishop Malone in February 2010. The pastoral council will continue its review of the various ministries of the four churches and designate those that can be consolidated. It will consider the appropriate location for programs, the parish office(s) and the residence of the priest and the deacon as well as undertake the process to determine a new weekend and holy day schedule with one full time priest and a part time priest. The finance council is to continue its review of the financial condition of the parishes and develop a consolidated budget for the new parish. It will also develop a facilities plan and job descriptions for the business manager, financial support staff and custodial staff. It will advise the pastoral council on the financial implications of its work. As these tasks are undertaken wider consultation will take place. It should be a challenging year!

I will be on retreat from Monday to Friday of this week.

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

MASS INTENTIONS and MASS SCHEDULE

January 24	4:00 PM	Recovery of Helene Regan, by Richard Regan and family
January 25	8:30 AM	Daniel Cardillo, by his family
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners
January 26	7:30 AM	Patrick Conley, by Arthur Harrington
January 28	NO AM MASS	
January 29	7:30 AM	Communion Service

Next Weekend Masses

January 31	4:00 PM	Roland E. Foster, by Maureen & Jim McGowan
February 1	8:30 AM	Herbert Moore, by Nancy Miller
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners

Last Weekend's Offering: Thank you for your offerings of **\$4,411.00** for last weekend. Our weekly operating expense is \$6,318.00.

A contribution to the **Collection for the Church in Latin America** is a tangible way to express your solidarity with your brothers and sisters throughout Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. Donations to the Collection fund pastoral projects that bring people more fully into the life of the Catholic Church. For more information, please visit www.usccb.org/latinamerica. Please contribute generously in today's Collection.

White Mass – Sunday, February, 8th at 10:00 AM at the Basilica of Ss. Peter and Paul in Lewiston.

Invitations for members of the medical professions and pastoral care ministers can be found at the back of the church.

Lent – Today is Sign-Up Sunday for Disciples in Mission. For the six weeks of Lent, we invite you to join a small faith-sharing group, a teen group, and/or participate with your family. More brochures, along with sign-up cards, are in the pews at all the Masses today. For more information, please call Judy Dominick, our Small Group Coordinator at 781-2847. Please join us!

Brown Bag Sunday Thank You – Many thanks from Preble Street Resource Center for the 60 bags of groceries and \$40.00 in donations that were recently collected. Thanks to Andre, Matt, Susan, Phyllis, Chris and her 6 year olds sons Matt and Andy who helped me to deliver the groceries. **ANGELS don't descend from the heavens, they emerge from within us.** Thanks to all of you who are angels in the eyes of the homeless men, women and children who visit Preble Street Resource Center. We will collect groceries again in March.

- Nancy Castonia 829-5803

Parking Lot Hit and Run- Last weekend after the 4:00 PM Saturday Mass a parked car sustained damage from a hit and run. If you know anything about this please call the office at 781-4573. Please be courteous to others in the parking lot and take your time when leaving Mass.

Perspectives on Paul: An eight-week course on St. Paul will be held at Cheverus High School on Tuesday mornings from 7:00 – 7:45 a.m. **beginning January 27, 2009.** Jesuit Father John Predmore will lead the course using Paul: His Story by Jerome Murphy-O'Connor as the primary text. Please purchase the book (new: \$22.00, used: \$14.00) prior to the beginning of the course. Send an email to Fr. Predmore at Predmore@cheverus.org or leave a message at 207-774-6238 if you would like to attend the class.

Tax Information – If you would like a copy of your 2008 weekly offering to Holy Martyrs Parish for income tax purposes, please print your name, mailing address, phone number, envelope number on the tax sign-up sheet in the narthex. A copy of the amount of your contribution will be mailed to you in a timely fashion.

An Evening of Sacred Jazz – Portland City Jazz Presents “An Evening of Sacred Jazz” on Tuesday, January 27th at Sacred Heart Church, Main Street, Yarmouth. Tickets at the door: \$8.00 for students/seniors, \$10.00 for adults, \$25.00 for family. A benefit for Sacred Heart Parish.

A new year and a new chapter is opening at Holy Martyrs

The Knights of Columbus invite you to learn what this world wide charitable organization is all about. Thanks to Father Ford, Holy Martyrs will be one of the most successful Councils in Maine with your help and support. **This Sunday** members of the Knights will be present at Holy Martyrs to answer any questions that you have regarding The Knights of Columbus. I remember, when I first heard about the Knights of Columbus, I had many questions like what kind of organization is it? And how did they become a worldwide advocate for the poor in need? Also, other questions as, where, and how long ago it began? Who was responsible for its origin? Why and what was the reason for its inception? How have the Knights of Columbus developed into the 1.7 million membership strong that it is today? All members of Holy Martyrs will be welcomed to join and become a member within this wonderful Catholic organization. I encourage you go Google “The Knights of Columbus” and read about the history and the goodness of the Knights. If you wish, you are welcomed to call me on my cell phone at 207-838-6207. My name is Denis Dancoes. Thank you for your time. God bless you.

Want to Share in Jesus' Healing Ministry? If you are compassionate, non-judgmental, hospitable, and comfortable reaching out to those experiencing broken relationships or major losses like divorce, God may be calling you to minister to the divorced in our Church. Catholic Charities Maine Family Life Institute will host a 2 day training program for this spring for new Divorce and Beyond group facilitators. To explore if this might be a ministry for you, please contact Bill Wood at 1-800-CARE-002, ext. 2672, or e-mail bwood@ccmaine.org.

World Wide Marriage Encounter in Maine – Invest in your Marriage and reap the benefits...

You'll get more from spending just 44 hours together on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend than you would from a 10 day romantic cruise. Sign up now to join us for the weekend of March 20-22 in Lewiston or April 24-26 in Presque Isle. The weekend is designed as a private experience between husband and wife that develops deeper communication, restores hopes and dreams, renews passion, affirms the uniqueness of each couple and inspires good marriages to grow into even better marriages. The registration fee is \$50.00 and a freewill donation will be accepted at the end of the weekend. For more information or to register contact Dave & Ellie at 207-933-4237 or go to www.wwmeNewEngland.org.

Holy Martyrs Weekly Calendar

Sunday January 25	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM Religious Education Classes Resume Readings Begin at #955 68: Jon 3:1-5,10; Ps 25; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20
Monday January 26	Mass at 7:30 AM Religious Education Classes Resume 520: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 96; 317: Mk 3:22-30 see 520: Lk 10:1-9
Tuesday January 27	Contemplative Prayer Group 9:30-11:00 AM 318: Heb 10:1-10; Ps 40; Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday January 28	NO AM MASS 319: Heb 10:11-18; Ps 110; Mk 4:1-20; see 522: Wis 7:7-10,15-16; Mt 23:8-12 Opus Dei Men 5-7 PM
Thursday January 29	Communion Service 7:30 AM 320: Heb 10:19-25; Ps 24; Mk 4:21-25
Friday January 30	321: Heb 10:32-39; Ps 37; Mk 4:26-34
Saturday January 31	Mass at 4:00 PM 322: Heb 11:1-2,8-19; (Ps) Lk 1:69-75; Mk 4:35-41 see 523: Phil 4:4-9; Mt 18:1-5
Sunday February 1	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM Readings Begin at #958 71: Dt 18:15-20; Ps 95; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28 Religious Education

Vocations - "Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men." Are you considering a vocation as to the priesthood or consecrated life? 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

Connected Catholics - General Meeting: Sunday, February 8, 2009 at Holy Martyrs Parish Hall.

2:00PM: Business Meeting

2:30PM: Program: Scott Glocke, Doctor of Chiropractic Medicine: "How to get Healthy in An Unhealthy World".

Social hour-Pot Luck to follow.

FMI: Call Mary Jane @ 318-6032

Women Gathered Together in Prayer

What: Women's monthly spiritual program: to listen, question, reflect, pray and share.

Theme: "Who Is the God to Whom I Pray?"

When: February 11, from 10:30 to 2:30 P.M.,

Where: Marie Joseph Spiritual Center, 10 Evans Road (Rt 9/208) Biddeford Pool.

Participants are asked to bring their Bible and a bag lunch.

The suggested fee is \$10.00. FMI and to register: Call (207)284-5671.

Community Crossroads Church in Gray – Free Chili Dinner every Tuesday from 6:00-7:00 PM. This is not a fundraiser and there will be no preaching. Route 100, Gray.

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:

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.

