



Dear Friends,  
Lent begins on February 6. Elsewhere in the bulletin the times for the blessing and imposition of ashes are noted. This is the earliest by one day that Lent and Easter can take place. It will be a hundred years before Easter again falls on March 23. At any rate now is the time for deciding the practices for Lent. Obviously, I hope many will find the time to join with us who will be doing Disciples in Mission which offers opportunity for prayer and reflection. On Ash Wednesday we will hear again that the season is one for prayer, alms giving and fasting.

We all should have a habit of daily prayer; Lent is a good time to enhance that practice. It is in the family that one learns the means and habit of prayer; perhaps this Lent will be a time for new efforts in that area. Fundamental to the Christian life is alms giving; the sharing of our money with others. There are several special collections during Lent that provide opportunities to assist worthy endeavors. Lent is a good time to examine the practice of tithing. The scriptures invite us to give away ten percent of our money; it is recommended that we give 5% to the parish and 5% to other charities. The changes in the schedules of our Masses has occasioned a reduction in income. Lent may be a good time to review the amount of our offering. Thirdly, Lent is a time for fasting. We deny ourselves food or other things to focus our attention on the spiritual life. May our decisions on these practices bring us to the joy that is Easter.

Father Joe Ford  
email: [jjford67@maine.rr.com](mailto:jjford67@maine.rr.com)

#### MASS INTENTIONS

<u>January 26</u>	4:00 PM	Jean Auclair, by Ed & ReRe Manganello
<u>January 27</u>	8:30 AM	Mary Hall, by Brendan & MJ Murphy
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners
<u>January 28</u>	7:30 AM	Andrew Peff, by The Piper Family
<u>January 30</u>	7:30 AM	Janice O'Donnell, by The Family
<u>January 31</u>	7:30 AM	Communion Service

#### Next Weekend Masses

<u>February 2</u>	4:00 PM	James McBrady, by His Family
<u>February 3</u>	8:30 AM	Peter Grady, by Brendan Murphy
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners

**Last Weekend's Offering:** Your contributions for January 19 & 20, 2008 totaled **\$5,424.32**. **\$3,910.00** was in 153 envelopes and **\$1,514.32** was loose. Thank you for your gifts.

The second collection this weekend is for the **Church in Latin America**. The proceeds from the annual Collection for the Church in Latin America are distributed to dioceses, parishes, religious congregations, seminaries, and other Catholic institutions throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

#### Ash Wednesday Masses – February 6<sup>th</sup>

<u>Holy Martyrs</u>	7:30 AM Mass with blessing of ashes 5:30 PM Liturgy of the Word and imposition of ashes
<u>St. Gregory</u>	8:00 AM Liturgy of the Word and imposition of ashes 6:30 PM Mass with blessing of ashes



**International Eucharistic Congress** – A diocesan pilgrimage to Quebec City will take place from June 19 to June 22. All are invited to join Bishop Malone. Deadline for reservations is February 25<sup>th</sup>. For more information consult the website [www.portlanddiocese.net](http://www.portlanddiocese.net) or call 773-6471 ext. 7802.

**Ministers of Eucharist** – We have need of these ministers particularly at the 4:00 PM Mass on Saturday. Please contact Father Ford or Deacon Dennis if you can help out.

#### Religious Education

**Gentle reminder:** We would like to remind parents of students from Pre-K to grade 8 that we are still collecting the registration fee for 2007/2008. To date 70% of families have paid. The current fee is \$50 for one student, \$50 for the second student, and \$25 for the third or more student(s). Checks can be made out to Holy Martyrs and should be put in an envelope marked Religious Ed Office. This annual registration fee helps to defray the cost of materials and other associated expenses. As always, all students are welcomed in class regardless of payment. Please see Fr. Ford, Deacon Dennis, or Judy Dominick for more information if needed. Thank you for your support of this important ministry to our children.

**Grade 2 Attendance:** Our second graders will soon begin studying the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. We ask that their attendance in class be a first priority during these next few months so that each one will be properly informed and prepared to receive these two sacraments on May 10<sup>th</sup>. We also ask that their parents reinforce at home the information given in class since we only see these children for one hour a week. It would be greatly appreciated if we could have 100% attendance during these weeks of such important sacramental instruction! Thanks so much for your cooperation! **\*Please note that the Confirmation Registration and Information Form should be turned in to the Religious Education office no later than March 1, 2008.**

**Catechists Workshop - Save the Date!** – A workshop for all teachers grades Pre-K – Grade 12 will be held on Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-10:30 AM.

**Disciples in Mission** – The last two weeks were our Sign-Up Sundays for **Disciples in Mission**. We had an excellent response, with 37 people along with 4 families deciding to join faith-sharing groups, teen groups, or to participate within their families. If you have not signed up, it is not too late. You can register at the **Disciples in Mission** table in the Narthex after Mass today or you can call Judy Dominick, our **Disciples in Mission** Small Group Coordinator, at 781-2946, and she will be glad to take your information over the phone.




**Worship Through Hymn Notes:** We are fast approaching the holy season of Lent, and if there are any hymns appropriate for that season that you yearn to sing, please let me know right away, as I am now planning the music. You can always use the hymn book as a reference, since it also contains the readings. We are in Year A of the Liturgical Cycle.  
[musikmom@maine.rr.com](mailto:musikmom@maine.rr.com)

Song & Music

**Choir Notes:** The Holy Martyrs Choir currently sings at the 4 PM Saturday Mass. We currently have 6 women and 6 girls, plus a part-time accompanist. If you are interested in joining us as a parent/child team, please talk to me in church or simply show up on Thursday evening at 6:30 PM. We would welcome the gift of your presence!!

**Brown Bag Sunday Thank You** – Many thanks from Preble Street Resource Center for the 80 -90 bags of groceries that were recently collected. The shelves were mostly empty when we arrived. Volunteers in the kitchen were taking coffee and creamer out of the bags as we were stocking the shelves. Thanks to all of our ANGELS who stapled, passed out the bags and to Matt Brown, and Jim Honan who helped me deliver on a very cold morning. **"The poor don't know that their function in life is to exercise our generosity."** Jean-Paul Saratre. Thanks for continuing your generosity. We will collect the groceries again in March. *Nancy Castonia* 829-5803.

### Holy Martyrs Weekly Calender

<b>Sunday January 27</b>	<b>Mass at 8:30 AM &amp; 5:30 PM</b> <b>Readings Begin at # 954; Communion Hymn #661</b> <b>Disciples in Mission Sign-Up</b> <b>Rel. Ed. Classes Resume</b> <i>64: Is 49:3,5-6; Ps 40; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34</i>
<b>Monday January 28</b>	<b>Mass at 7:30 AM</b> <b>Rel. Ed. Classes Resume</b> <i>317: 2 Sm 5:1-7,10; Ps 89; Mk 3:22-30 see 522: Wis 7:7-10,15-16</i> <b>Staff Meeting 11:00 AM</b>
<b>Tuesday January 29</b>	<b>Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM</b> <b>Contemplative Prayer Group 9:30-11:00 AM</b> <i>318: 2 Sm 6:12b-15,17-19; Ps 24; Mk 3:31-35</i>
<b>Wednesday January 30</b>	<b>Mass at 7:30 AM</b> <i>319: 2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89; Mk 4:1-20</i>
<b>Thursday January 31</b>	<b>Communion Service at 7:30 AM</b> <b>♫Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM</b> <i>320: 2 Sm 7:18-19,24-29; Ps 132; Mk 4:21-25; see 523: Phil 4:4-9; Mt 18:1-5</i>
<b>Friday February 1</b>	<b>Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM</b> <i>321: 2 Sm 11:1-4a,5-10a,13-17; Ps 51; 4:26-34</i>
<b>Saturday February 2</b>	<b>Mass at 4:00 PM</b> <i>524: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32</i> <b>RCIA 3-5</b> 
<b>Sunday February 3</b>	<b>Mass at 8:30 AM &amp; 5:30 PM</b> <b>Rel. Ed. Classes</b> <i>70: Zep 2:3;3:12-13; Ps 146; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12</i>  <b>Souper Bowl of Caring</b>

**Souper Bowl of Caring – Next Weekend** there is an alternative to the annual Super Bowl. Please bring canned goods or boxed foods or donate money to support the local Falmouth Food Pantry, as we join other churches in Maine and across the country for **Souper Bowl Sunday**. Thank you for your support as we reach out to those in need.

**Preble Street Thank You** - "On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers of Preble Street, I want to thank you for your donation of \$125 (cash) to Holy Martyrs Brown Bag Sunday for our food programs. These gifts touch the lives of people in our communities who are struggling just to survive. Thousands of youth, adults, and families who are homeless and living in poverty must depend on the Resource Center, the Teen Center, and the Lighthouse Shelter for safety and basic necessities-good meals three times a day, showers, personal hygiene products, clothing, mail, etc. We couldn't begin to accomplish what we do without our partners in caring-churches, businesses, organizations, and individuals who share our mission. Thank you for helping us to feed our hungry neighbors and to create a community that sees the homeless as men and women, boys and girls with dignity, worth, and potential."  
*Sincerely, Mark R. Swann, Executive Director*

**Need the perfect gift for your spouse this Valentine's Day?** Register for a 2008 Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend before February 14, and save \$10 off your registration fee. Better than power tools or jewelry...Better than a romantic dinner...Even better than a cruise...Give your spouse the gift of your time and love by taking him/her on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend in 2008. Register by Valentine's Day to receive a \$10 discount off your registration fee. To learn more go to [www.womenewengland.org](http://www.womenewengland.org) or call Dave & Ellie Mulcahy at 207-933-4237.

**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

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## PARISH OF THE HOLY MARTYRS OF NORTH AMERICA

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266 Foreside Road, Falmouth, Maine 04105  
[www.holymartyrs.org](http://www.holymartyrs.org)

**PARISH DIRECTORY:**

Parish Office: 781-4573  
Religious Education: 781-2847  
Fax: 781-3961  
Email: [rectory@holymartyrs.org](mailto: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: Cecile DeRoche-Cain  
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.

