



Dear Friends,

Recent events have prompted several people to ask me for the position of the church on suicide. Paragraphs 2280 – 2283 of the Catechism of the Catholic Church treat this subject. We are reminded that we are stewards of the life entrusted to us and that suicide contradicts the natural inclination of a person to preserve one's life. We are also taught that "grave psychological disturbances, anguish or grave fear of hardship, suffering, or torture can diminish the responsibility of the one committing suicide." The Catechism encourages us not to despair over salvation for the person who has committed suicide and reminds us that God can provide for these people.

Some forty years ago harsh regulations on Christian burial were mitigated. Catholic funerals had been denied to those considered to be public sinners including those who had committed suicide. The 1983 Code of Canon Law reserves the authority to deny a funeral to the local bishop. It is very rare that a funeral is denied. This better reflects our awareness of God's compassion. Those of us who have experienced the suicide of a family member or friend know that their pain obscured the natural inclination to preserve one's life. We know also that the pain blinded them to the great sadness their death would bring to others.

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

Mass Intentions & Mass Schedule

<u>July 5</u>	4:00 PM	Arthur Young, by Gertrude Young
<u>July 6</u>	8:30 AM	Normand Cormier, by David & Janet Kupferschmid
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners
<u>July 7</u>	7:30 AM	Carol Hall, by Anne Marshall
<u>July 9</u>	7:30 AM	Tim McManus, by Anne Marshall
<u>July 10</u>	7:30 AM	Communion Service

Next Weekend Masses

<u>July 12</u>	4:00 PM	Janice O'Donnell, by the family
<u>July 13</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 June 28 & 29, 2008 amounted to **\$4,377.00**. **\$2,856.00** was in 123 envelopes and **\$1,521.00** was loose.

Offertory Envelopes – The remaining offertory envelopes for the new fiscal year can be found in the Narthex. If your 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.

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - "Let all Your works give You thanks, O Lord, and let Your faithful ones bless You," says the psalmist. Stewardship in this "attitude of gratitude" for the many gifts God has given us. (From *Stewardship By the Book*, by Sharon Hueckel. Used with permission.)

The word "attitude," once a positive word, is now usually a part of the phrase, "He's got an 'attitude', meaning "This person is combative, mean, nasty, etc." A shame, really, that a perfectly good word could be changed so much. It would be wonderful if we could indeed speak of "an attitude of gratitude." Attitudes, after all, are our approach to life. What we see and hear, taste, and feel, gets filtered through our attitudes and values before we decide how to respond. If we are always looking for reasons to be grateful, many troubles and worries would just fade away. An attitude of complete trust in God will surely produce lasting peace in hearts everywhere.

BISHOP'S APPEAL – To date 114 households at Holy Martyrs have made a gift or pledge to the Appeal. The total of these gifts is \$105,660. Hopefully, there are some who can make a larger gift this year in order that the many ministries and services funded by the Appeal can continue.

Vocations - "You are in the spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you." Is the Spirit leading you or someone you know to ministerial service? If so, call Fr. Andrew Dubois at (207)689-2033 or e-mail us at vocations@portlanddiocese.net

The DVD's are here!: Copies of the Confirmation and First Communion DVD's have arrived, and we have a few copies remaining from 2007. Please stop by the table and pick up your copy today. Those with red dots indicate that payment is due. Please make checks payable in the amount of \$15.00 per copy to: Holy Martyrs Church. What a wonderful memento of the celebration of the Sacraments.

Catherine McAuley High School - is currently looking for families to host exchange students from Korea for the 2008-2009 academic year. Families will be paid a monthly stipend of \$500 and be able to take part in a wonderful ministry. If you are interested in possibly hosting a student or know someone who you think would be, please contact the Admissions Office at 797-3802 ext.2043 or email dsalvaggio@mcauleyhs.org

New Music Notes: We welcome Diane Beaton as our new director of music. We are looking for adult cantors who would like to help us celebrate at the weekend Masses. If you would like to share your talent at any of the weekend Masses as an example of your stewardship, please contact Diane by phone at 781-9869 or via email at sbeaton@maine.rr.com.



St. Gregory's Campground & Beach Sunday, August 3rd after the 10:30 AM Mass

The members of St Gregory's Parish Council would like to invite all the members of our cluster parishes to a picnic at the campground and beach of St. Gregory's on August 3 after the 10:30 Mass. Hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken, chips and drinks will be provided. Please bring salads or deserts to share. Bring chairs and bathing suits. Sun or rain! Since we need a count of participants in order to purchase food, please use the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. For more information, contact: Will Plante @ 233-8247 wjplante@ra.rockwell.com or Paul Tracy @ 838-4480

Celebrate Life! Walk Saturday, July 12, 2008 9:00 AM – Join Pro-Life Maine this summer...Support and Celebrate the Gift of Life! Join family, friends, and community leader... as we **Walk for Life!** FMI: Contact team leader Mary Ibrahim at 838-8095 or email: marykiely1@yahoo.com. Maine Right to Life Committee, PO Box 257, Auburn, ME, 04212, phone: 782-0101.

CLUSTER SURVEY WINNING NUMBERS AND UPDATE – We are pleased to report that we have received over 1,000 surveys. If you have not already returned your survey, please note that we will collect surveys through July 11th. Survey input is extremely important for the Cluster Pastoral Council in making its recommendations to the Bishop. Listed below are the **10 winning raffle numbers 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	6830065
3858329	6830079
3858817	6831944
3859090	
3859141	
3859170	
3859457	

Holy Martyrs Weekly Calender

Sunday July 6	Mass at 8:30 AM Mass at 5:30 PM	Readings begin at #987, Communion Hymn #809 100: Zec 9:9-10; Ps 145; Rom 8:9,11-13 Mt 11:25-30
Monday July 7	Mass at 7:30 AM	383: Hos 2:16,17b-18,21-22; Ps 145; Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday July 8	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM	384: Hos 8:407,11-13; Ps 115; Mt 9:32-38
Wednesday July 9	Mass at 7:30 AM	385: Hos 10:1-3,7-8,12; Ps 105; Mt:1-7
Thursday July 10	Communion Service at 7:30 AM	386: Hos 11:1-4,8c-9; Ps 80; Mt 10:7-15
Friday July 11	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM	387: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51; Mt 10:16-23 see 597: Prv 2:1-9; Mt 19:27-29
Saturday July 12	Mass at 4:00 PM	388: Is 6:1-8; Ps 93; Mt 10:24-33
Sunday July 13	Mass at 8:30 AM Mass at 5:30 PM	103: Is 55:10-11; Ps 65; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 or 13;1-9

Office Hours for the Week of July 7 – 11, 2008

Monday	Vacation Day
Tuesday – Thursday	7:30-10:30, 4-5:30
Friday	7:00-10:30

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 the Week of July 7 – 11, 2008

Monday	Vacation
Tuesday – Thursday	7:30-10:30, 4-5:30
Friday	7:00-10:30

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.

