



Dear Friends,

On July 2 we begin a new moment in history as Holy Martyrs Parish shares its priest and deacon with Saint Gregory's Parish. The new arrangement will have an effect on many of our activities; nearly every day I seem to think of another adjustment. Certainly, the first to be inconvenienced are those who participate in weekday Masses and those who are accustomed to the 10:30 AM Mass on Sunday.

Over the years of priestly ministry I have tended to consider the participants at daily Mass as the 'heart' of a parish. At Holy Martyrs fifteen to twenty-five people begin their day at Mass and carry in prayer all those unable to be present. This prayer strengthens and sustains me and is the bedrock of a parish. While I cannot be in both churches for daily Mass, I will hold the people and their loved ones of both parishes in my prayer. I am confident that our 'heart' will do the same wherever they may worship. I also note my gratitude for our rosary group which daily offers prayer for the parish and for many other needs.

To those who have been accustomed to the 10:30 Mass on Sunday morning I offer my hope that they will be able to adjust their schedules for another of our three Masses or one of the Masses in the cluster. The new schedule is intended for a year; we will continue to review the schedules for the four churches in anticipation of meeting the request of Bishop Malone that there be eight Masses in the cluster. I pray that we can all work together for the glory of God and the good of one another.

Father Joe Ford
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MASS INTENTIONS

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, Intention. Includes entries for June 30, July 1, July 2, July 4, and July 5.

Next Weekend Masses

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, Intention. Includes entries for July 7 and July 8.

Last Weekend's Offering: Your contributions for June 23 & 24, 2007 amounted to \$4,686.41. \$3,189.20 was in 136 envelopes and \$1,497.21 was loose. Thank you for your gifts.

Bishop's Appeal - We are grateful to the 133 households which have made gifts. Many people are relying on those who have not yet given.

NEW MASS SCHEDULE FOR HOLY MARTYRS - Beginning Monday July 2nd, 2007

Table with 2 columns: Day, Time. Lists mass times for Monday & Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Weekday Masses in the Area:

Table with 4 columns: Church Name, Time, Location, Notes. Lists mass times for Cathedral, St. Pius, St. Patrick, St. Louis, St. Peter, St. Joseph, and Sacred Heart.

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

Youth Ministry: Important gathering of parents. In early July, there will be an important meeting of parents of our senior high youth. Chris Rogers and Scott Ross are the new coordinators for our Youth Ministry Program...

Tuition Policy for Catholic School Students: Monday, July 2nd is the last opportunity to request tuition assistance for Catholic elementary and high schools. Aid will be provided for students who with their families worship at Holy Martyrs and volunteer in some way on behalf of the parish...

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2007: This summer come join the Nash, Carpenter and Johnson families as we join Sacred Heart of Yarmouth and St. Peter Church in Portland for Vacation Bible School that will run daily from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. We need your help. We're looking for several Junior High, & High School youth and adults as volunteers for various ministries for grades Pre-K-5 during the week of July 16-20.

Hymn Notes: Please join with gusto in singing our hymn of the week, "Holy, Holy, Holy", #469. Requested by one of the newer members of our faith community, this hymn dates from the late 18th-early 19th centuries.

Offertory Envelopes: To date, almost 3/4 of the offertory envelopes for 2007/2008 have been picked up. Please check the table in the parish hall to claim your box of envelopes, that begin with the new fiscal year.


Assistance for Patriot's Day Storm Victims - Information from Catholic Charities Maine If you suffered damage from the severe storms and flooding that occurred April 15 - 23, 2007 and live in the counties of Cumberland, Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc, Oxford or York, you may be eligible for State and Federal Disaster Assistance.

Friendship House is a residence in South Portland for formerly homeless men recovering from substance abuse. One day in the first week of each month, members of our parish contribute prepared hot or cold (can be frozen) dishes and grocery items such as fresh produce or toiletries, which I take to the men at FH.

Parish Calendar for the new year: We will develop a joint calendar for Holy Martyrs and St. Gregory's Parish. All responsible for the various events at Holy Martyrs are urged to submit proposed dates for activities through June 2008 to the office as soon as possible.

Fr. Scahill's Memorial Pilgrimage - Enjoy a Holy and Beautiful Pilgrimage to St. Joseph's and Our Lady of the Cape Wednesday August 8th to Friday August 10th. 5 meals and 2 nights lodging at the Cape and lots of Spiritual Programs. \$240. single, \$175 double, \$165 triple. FMI: Brian Maxwell 780-1144.

Holy Martyrs Weekly Calender

Sunday July 1	Mass at 8:30 AM 10:30 & 5:30 PM Readings begin at # 986; Communion Hymn #803 99: 1 Kgs 19:16b,19-21; Ps: 16; Gal 5:1,13-18; Lk 9:51-62
Monday July 2	Mass at 7:30 AM Parish Council 7:00 PM - St. Gregory's 377: Gn 18:16-33; Ps 103; Mt 8:18-22
Tuesday July 3	Mass at 8:00 AM – St. Gregory's 593; Eph 2:19-22; Ps 117; Jn 20:24-29
Wednesday July 4	Mass at 7:30 AM Office Closed 379: Gn 21:5,8-20a; Ps 34; Mt 8:28-34 
Thursday July 5	Communion Service at 7:30 AM 380: Gn 22:1b-19; Ps 115; Mt 9:1-8
Friday July 6	Mass at 8:00 AM – St. Gregory's 381: Gn 23:1-4,19;24:1-8,62-67; Ps 106; Mt 9:9-13
Saturday July 7	Mass at 4:00 PM 382: Gn 27:1-5,15-29; Ps 135; Mt 9:14-17
Sunday July 8	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM 102: Is 66:10-14c; Ps 66;Gal 6:14-18; Lk 10:1-12,17-20 or 10: 1-9

Cluster Mass Schedule

Mass Schedule for St. Gregory Church – Gray

Tuesday & Friday 8:00 AM
 Wednesday 8:00 AM – Communion Service
 Saturday 6:00 PM
 Sunday 10:30 AM

Mass Schedule for Sacred Heart Church – Yarmouth

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 8:15 AM*
 Saturday 4:30 PM
 Sunday 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

*This will be a Communion Service if there is a Nursing Home Mass scheduled for that day

*No morning Mass if there is a funeral Mass scheduled

Mass Schedule for St. Jude – Freeport

Wednesday 6:30 PM
 Sunday 9:30 AM