



Dear Friends,
 This weekend we observe the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. Corpus Christi was made a feast at a time when devotion to the real presence of Christ was waning. Over the centuries there have been periods of great devotion and then other periods of lesser devotion. This has taken place in my lifetime. In my childhood the common practice in the church was to receive Holy Communion only after having received absolution in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Only the very devout would receive more often; most of the very devout went to confession every week. The awareness of the real presence of Christ was such the people felt unworthy of this precious gift. Still, more frequent communion was encouraged, and with the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of the Second Vatican Council the practice of frequent communion took hold. However, forty years later some would say that we have come to the extreme opposite to the practice of my childhood. Reverence for the reserved Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle has declined and people take for granted worthiness to receive communion. This feast of Corpus Christi provides an opportunity to renew our devotion and reverence.

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

BISHOP'S APPEAL: We are grateful to all who have participated to date. Some have sent gifts directly to the Appeal Office; others make their gifts on line. Those using the pledge card should place them in the collection. Since the economy may hinder some from participating, those less effected should consider a greater gift. We do touch thousands of lives through our gifts.

Mass Intentions & Mass Schedule

<u>May 24</u>	4:00 PM	Alan Smyth, by Beth, Kevin, Abby & Megan
<u>May 25</u>	8:30 AM	Julianna Waitrovich, by her daughter Rosemary Fecteau, PhD
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners
<u>May 26</u>	7:30 AM	Edward L. Dilworth, Sr. by Edward Jr. & Susan Dilworth
<u>May 28</u>	7:30 AM	Constance Greaney Kilroy, by her Family
<u>May 29</u>	7:30 AM	Communion Service

Next Weekend Masses

<u>May 31</u>	4:00 PM	Jane Noyes, by Edward & Susan Dilworth
<u>June 1</u>	8:30 AM	Janice O'Donnell, by the Family
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners

Last Weekend's Offering: Your contributions for May 17 & 18, 2008 amounted to **\$5,899.00**. **\$4,317.00** was in 147 envelopes and **\$1,582.00** was loose. Thank you for your gifts.

Graduation Mass – Sunday, June 1st at the 5:30 PM Mass.

Silver & Gold Mass – Bishop Richard J. Malone and Catholic Charities Maine Family Life Institute are inviting couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th, 55th, 60th, 65th and 70th wedding anniversaries to celebrate a special Silver and Gold Mass on **Saturday, June 28**, at 4:30 PM at the Cathedral in Portland. Those couples planning to attend please RSVP by June 13th to 871-7464, ext. 2670 or 800-CARE-002, ext. 2670. A light reception will follow.

Covered
Dish
Supper



Parish Potluck Supper – Saturday, May 31st 7:00 PM (after Mass) in the Parish Hall at St. Gregory's. Please join us for our first Cluster Supper. Bring a family favorite dish or dessert to share (sign up sheets are in the Narthex). Volunteers for set-up or clean-up, please call Paul Tracy @ 655-3828. **To date only a couple of families have registered. Please make every effort to join in this community building event.**

Contemplative Prayer Retreat – Tuesday, May 27 9:30-2:00 – The contemplative prayer group at Holy Martyrs Parish invites you to a one-day spiritual retreat entitled “Radical Love” with Adele Millette, founding teacher with Abbot Thomas Keating's Contemplative Outreach. Refreshment provided, please bring a bag lunch. There is no charge for this event. Donations gratefully accepted. FMI: Please call Linda Lois Nutter @ 781-8277.

Religious Ed Update – Sessions for Grades Pre-K through grade 12 have stopped for the summer months. Sessions will resume in September. A big thank you goes out to all the catechists who spent the last nine months reading and planning for their classes! We are so grateful for your gift of time to our young people. Holy Martyrs is blessed to have such a dedicated group of catechists! Parents, please consider becoming a catechist for our next session. Our enrollment is fast approaching 200 students, and we need your help! All grade levels have vacancies. Most catechists prefer to co-teach and share the schedule with another parent (or two!). Holy Martyrs and the chancery will provide training. The teacher's manual is volunteer friendly. Deacon Dennis, Father Ford and I are ready to support you! Please email your response or any questions to Judy at Dominick5@aol.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

Tuition Assistance Policy for Catholic School Students - As families consider the advantages of a Catholic education, a clarification of the policy on financial aid from the parish is offered. Aid will be provided for students who with their families worship at Holy Martyrs and volunteer in some way on behalf of the parish; the family must use our budget envelope system. The elementary school students meeting these requirements will be provided tuition assistance in accord with the amount determined by the Catholic school which they attend.

Elementary School Tuition Reminder – All elementary school students planning on attending Catholic school in the fall should return their school tuition contract form to the office ASAP.

High school students meeting these requirements are asked to present a written request for aid by June 13, 2008.

Reminder to parents of 2nd grade Confirmation: Just to let you know that there are a few certificates that were not picked-up at the reception following the celebration of Confirmation and First Communion at the Cathedral. Please stop by the table in the Narthex and take your child's certificate home, today.

Confirmation DVD - There is a sign-up sheet for those requesting a copy of the DVD of the Mass. If you haven't already made a request, please put your name on the available sheet. Checks in the amount of \$15.00 per copy should be made payable to: Holy Martyrs Church. We will notify you when the copies are ready (in about 2 weeks)

Hymn Notes: This weekend at the Saturday 4 pm Mass, we welcome Helen Roberts who will play a meditative piece on her cello. Thank you, Helen, for sharing your talent with us!

Music Director – Cecile DeRoche-Cain has resigned as our music director effective June 30, 2008. We are beginning a search for a new director. Persons interested should contact the parish office.



Wear Your Jeans to Church Sunday - Service Opportunity - On Sunday, June 1, following the 8:30 Mass, the youth of our Parish and their families are invited to participate in a Parish Spring Planting Day. All ages are encouraged to participate. We will plant annuals throughout the church grounds, do some light digging and pruning, put out watering hoses etc. This service project was developed as a way for the children of Holy Martyrs Parish to complete community service time in the name of Pope Benedict XVI as a gift for his 81st birthday. The Pope celebrated his birthday during his recent visit to the United States. We estimate the project to take about an hour. Birthday cake will be served in the parish hall at the completion of the project. If you and your family would like to help with this project, please sign up in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Michele Baranowski at 878-6155 or Monica Bigley at 829-6810.

Holy Martyrs Weekly Calender

Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ Sunday May 25	Mass at 8:30 AM Readings Begin at #945; Communion Hymn #814 167: Dt 8:2-3,14b-16a; Ps 147; 1 Cor 10:16-17; Jn 6:51-58 Mass at 5:30 PM
Memorial Day Monday May 26	Mass at 7:30 AM <i>Office Closed</i> 347: 1Pt 1:3-9; Ps 111:1-2,5-6,9-10; Mk 10:17-27 see 570: Phil 4:4-9; Jn 17:20-26
Tuesday May 27	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM Contemplative Prayer Retreat 9:30-2:30 348: 1 Pt 1:10-16; Ps 98:1-4; Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday May 28	Mass at 7:30 AM 349: 1 Pt 1:18-25; Ps 147:12-15,19-20; Mk 10:32-45
Thursday May 29	Communion Service at 7:30 AM ♫ Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM 350: 1 Pt 2:2-5,9-12; Ps 100:2-5; Mk 10:46-52
Friday May 20	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM 170: Dt 7:6-11; Ps 103:1-4,6-8,10; 1 Jn 4:7-16; Mt 1:25-30
Saturday May 31	Mass at 4:00 PM 572: Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16; (Ps) Is 12:2-3,4b-6; Lk 1:39-56 Cluster Pot Luck Supper at St. Gregory's at 7:00 PM (after the 6:00 PM Mass)
Sunday June 1	Mass at 8:30 AM – Parish Planting Day after Mass Connected Catholics 5:00 PM Mass at 5:30 PM – Graduation Mass 85: Dt 11:18,26-28,32; Ps 31; Rom 3:21-25,28; Mt 7:21-27



Memorial Day Mass at Holy Cross Cemetery at 8:15 AM. More than 100 people attend, young and old. Plan to come to Holy Cross Cemetery this Memorial Day for morning Mass at 8:15. Bring your chair. The Cemetery is located on Smith Street, off Route 88, in Yarmouth, Maine.

Memorial Day Mass at New Calvary Cemetery at 9:00 AM. The annual outdoor Mass for deceased Veterans and family members will be held at 9:00 AM Monday, May 26th at its usual location in the St. Dominic/Armed Forces section of New Calvary Cemetery, South Portland.

ITNPortland's Walk For Rides - Please join us for the 7th annual Walk for Rides from 2-5 p.m. on Sunday, June 1 around the Back Cove in Portland. Walk for Rides supports the Independent Transportation Network's mission to provide dignified transportation to seniors and those with visual impairments. It's our most important annual fundraising event. There will be food, entertainment and music. There is no cost to participate. If you are interested in this opportunity, walking as an individual or with a team, sponsoring someone who will walk on behalf of those who are unable, volunteering at the event, hanging flyers around town, baking some goodies, or donating a prize, please call ITNPortland at 591-6936. A Walk for Rides brochure can be downloaded at www.ITNPortland.org.

Struggling With Alcohol/Drug Issues? Catholic Charities Maine Counseling Services offers confidential substance abuse and mental health counseling for those experiencing problems and/or family members needing assistance. Immediate appointments available. Walk-ins welcome. Mon-Fri 10am-4pm @ 250 Anderson Street, Portland Call 775-5671.

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: 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: 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.

