

Dear Friends,

FROM THE The Cluster Pastoral Council met on April 24, and the Finance Council met on April 28.



Priest

The discussion at the Pastoral Council again focused on issues and concerns of people about the process of the formation of a single parish by mid 2010. The survey being prepared for every household is intended to elicit concerns and needs. The results should assist the planning process. The council also agreed that a study be undertaken to develop a single bulletin for the four churches.

The Finance Council reviewed the financial statements for the nine months ending March 31. A note was made of the decline in the offertory income of two churches. For the first nine months of the last fiscal year Holy Martyrs had offertory income of \$283,606; this year it was \$257,263. At St. Gregory's offertory income was \$131,219 last year; this year it was \$117,934. Undoubtedly, the change in the Mass schedules was a significant factor in this loss of revenue. The Finance Council has formed several committees to address revenue management, facilities, budget and personnel in the new parish.

Father Joe Ford

email: jjford67@maine.rr.com

Mass Intentions & Mass Schedule

<u>May 3</u>	4:00 PM	Trudy Murray, by the Family
<u>May 4</u>	8:30 AM	The deceased family members of Carlita Brown, by Carlita Brown
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners
<u>May 5</u>	7:30 AM	Tim McManus, by Pat Quinlan
<u>May 7</u>	7:30 AM	Intention of Faith & Works, by the Stewardship Committee
<u>May 8</u>	7:30 AM	Communion Service

Next Weekend Masses

<u>May 10</u>	4:00 PM	Donald Maloney, by Maryann Anderson
<u>May 11</u>	8:30 AM	The Parishioners
	5:30 PM	Rose Wright, by her daughter Candace Jalbert

Last Weekend's Offering: Your contributions for April 26 & 27, 2008 amounted to **\$4,678.00**. **\$3,420.00** was in 136 envelopes and **\$1,258.00** was loose. The second collection for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal totaled **\$1,714.00**. Thank you for your gifts.

Bishop's Appeal: May brings our annual opportunity to demonstrate our solidarity with some the neediest people in Maine and with other parishes who together bring a variety of services. Last year 217 of our households gave \$145,858; in 2006 234 households contributed \$167,865. Some of us may not sense deeply the effects of the winter, the high costs of fuel and losses in savings. We hope those households will be able to make a substantial gift this year.

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.

Memorial Service for Bob Dyk – A celebration of Bob's life will be held at the Hannaford Auditorium on the Portland Campus of USM on Saturday, May 17th at 11:00 AM.

Religious Education

First Communion & Confirmation for Grade 2 – Saturday, May 10, 1:30 PM at the Cathedral. Rehearsal is this Tuesday, May 6, 6:00 PM at the Cathedral.

Confirmation for Grades 3-12 – Saturday, May 17th at the 4:00 PM Mass.

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

Altar Server Training: There will be a training for new altar servers on Thursday, May 15th from 4:15 - 5:15 p.m. There is a particular need for additional servers at the 4:00 Saturday Mass and the 5:30 Sunday Mass. While many of our servers are in grades 3, 4, and 5, older students and adults may also become altar servers. Please contact Meredith Charest (781-8599 or mcharest1@maine.rr.com) if you plan to attend, or, if you would like to become an altar server but can't make this training.



Music Notes: This weekend at the 4:00 PM Saturday Mass we are grateful to Abby Regan for writing an additional verse to our Communion Hymn, "Worthy is the Lamb". We also acknowledge Moira desRosiers' gift of cantoring.

Friendship House is a residence in South Portland for formerly homeless men recovering from substance abuse. The first Wednesday of every month, members of our parish contribute prepared hot or cold dishes and grocery items such as fresh produce, paper products or toiletries, which I then take to the men at FH. If you would like to contribute something this Wednesday, please call Deborah Nicklas @ 781-4362.

Save a Brown Bag Sunday – To honor Mother's day, and to do our part to save our beautiful planet, this month we will transition away from using brown paper and plastic bags for our food collection. We will pass out only shopping lists this time. If you can, would you please return your groceries in a reusable cloth bag? They are for sale for \$1.00 at Shaw's and \$1.50 at Hannaford. The bags will become the property of Holy Martyrs to be used for our good drives. So if you would like to help feed the homeless, take a shopping lists as you leave today. Return the groceries in a reusable bag anytime this week or next weekend. ANGELS ARE NEEDED to sort the groceries on Sunday, May 11 after the 5:30 Mass and to deliver the groceries on Monday morning, May 12 at 8:00 AM. FMI call Nancy Castonia 829-5803 (h) or 772-5499 (w).

Preble Street Thank You - *"Late last year, the federal government reported that Maine's hunger rate had increased by 40 percent since it was last measured during the period 2001-2003 – the biggest increase of any state in the nation. Between 2001-2003, 9.2 percent of Maine households experienced hunger; during the 2004-2006 period, that number jumped to 12.9 percent. That's 168,000 Maine people who are hungry."* (Well-fed kids will learn Legislature expands school breakfast, Morning Sentinel, April 3, 2008).

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and clients of Preble Street, I want to thank you for your March 2008 donation of 40 bags of miscellaneous breakfast items including oatmeal, sugar, sugar substitute, pancake mix, pancake syrup, jelly and vegetable oil. Because of your commitment to our mission and the wellbeing of the people we serve, the most basic needs—from a nourishing meal and a safe place to sleep, to healthcare and legal assistance—of thousands of youth and adults who are struggling to survive have been met. More important, however, your generosity and dedication in sharing your resources has had a transforming affect on their lives, our work, and the communities we all share. Thank you again for joining our efforts to improve the circumstances of homeless and low-income youth, adults, and families. Sincerely,

John Conroy, Food & Volunteer Programs Coordinator

Rummage Sale Thank You – Many thanks to all who contributed articles for the Holy Martyrs Rummage Sale and to those who helped to get ready for the sale on Thursday and Friday morning. Thanks to those who worked Saturday to sell and waited on customers. We sold after Saturday and Sunday Masses and are at **\$1,004.31**. We found that vacation week was not the best time, but are happy with the results. A parishioner is bringing clothing for men, women and children to the needy people in Mexico. Thanks to all who helped.

Mary T. Honan & Crew

Holy Martyrs Weekly Calendar

Sunday May 4	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM	Rel. Ed. Classes Readings Begin at #937; Communion Hymn # 809 59: Acts 1:12-14; Ps 27; 1 Pt 4:13-16; Jn 17:1-11a Connected Catholics 5:00 PM Save a Brown Bag Sunday
Monday May 5	Mass at 7:30 AM	Rel. Ed. Classes 297: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-5acd,6-7b; Jn 16:29-33
Tuesday May 6	Mass at St. Gregory's @ 8:00 AM	Contemplative Prayer 9:30-11:00 AM Confirmation Rehearsal at Cathedral 6:00 PM 298: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68; Jn 17:1-11a
Wednesday May 7	Mass at 7:30 AM	Friendship House 299: Acts 20;28-38; Ps 68; Jn 17:11b-19
Thursday May 8	Communion Service at 7:30 AM	♫ Adult Choir 6:30 PM 300: Acts 22:30;23:6-11; Ps 16; Jn 17:20-26
Friday May 9	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM	301: Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103; Jn 21:15-19
Saturday May 10	Mass at 4:00 PM	Confirmation at Cathedral 1:30 PM 302: Acts 28:16-20,30-31; Ps 11; Jn 21:20-25
Pentecost Sunday May 11	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM Mother's Day	63: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104; 1 Cor 12:3b-7,12-13; Jn 20;19-23



Thank You, Mom! - Fresh carnations will be available after Mass on Mother's Day weekend in recognition of the sacrifices of motherhood, and in honor of the wonderful mothers in our parish! In addition to thanking moms for their gift of life, your participation in this program also helps promote a Culture of Life right here in Maine. Suggested donation is \$1.00 each. Proceeds benefit Maine Right to Life Committee. Your generous support is greatly appreciated.

McAuley's 5k Run for Hope - The 2nd annual 5k USATF Certified "Run for Hope" will take place Saturday, May 10th at 10am at Catherine McAuley High School. Walkers are welcome at 10:15am. Pre- registration is \$15 and closes May 7th. Participants may also register on the day of the race for \$20 starting at 8:00a.m. Race T-Shirts will be available for the first 250 entrants. A post-race gathering will begin at McAuley at 11:30am with refreshments and music. Proceeds benefit the Jim and Maxine Pouravelis Scholarship Fund. For more information or to register, visit us online at www.McAuleyhs.org or call Rita at 899. 0981.

Connected Catholics of Maine, a group of unmarried adults who join together for fellowship, and spiritual growth invite all to join us. **General Meeting: Sun. May 4, 2008**, Holy Martyrs Parish Hall - Route 88, Falmouth, 5:00 PM - Pot Luck Supper. followed by Program: Maureen Grygiel will share experiences with "Safe Passages", the tale of the Guatemala Missions trip and those of the wonderful folks, who have traveled to help these needy citizens to our south. **General Meeting: Sun. June 1, 2008**, Holy Martyrs Parish Hall, Route 88, Falmouth 5:00 PM, Potluck followed by installation of new officers. **For Fun: Sunday, June 29, 11:30 AM**, Joseph's by the Sea, Old Orchard Beach, Contact Linda Madsen 871-0392 by June 20 to reserve. For more information of CCME activities, contact Phil Rocheleau 856-6431.

MASSES:

<i>Saturday Mass:</i>	4:00 PM
<i>Sunday Masses:</i>	8:30 AM & 5:30 PM
<i>Daily Mass:</i>	Mon. & Wed. at 7:30 AM
<i>Communion Service:</i>	Thurs. at 7:30 AM
<i>Confession:</i>	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.