



Dear Friends,

Traditionally, October has been designated as the Month of the Rosary. The prayer was very popular in my youth; my family was strongly influenced by its practice every evening at home; in October we joined the parish at church every Wednesday and Friday evening. The prayer is attributed to Saint Dominic who arranged it so that laity could have 150 prayers to match the 150 psalms prayed by monks. It is a scripture based prayer. The Apostles Creed recounts the mysteries of faith revealed in the Bible. The Lord's Prayer and the opening verse of the Hail Mary are found in the gospels. The five joyful mysteries recall aspects of the incarnation while the sorrowful mysteries focus on the suffering of Christ. The glorious mysteries allow us to reflect on the resurrection and everlasting life. In 2002 Pope John Paul II added the Luminous Mysteries: the Baptism of the Lord, the Miracle at Cana, the Proclamation of the Kingdom of God, the Transfiguration and the Institution of the Eucharist. The U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults states this: "The repetition of the ten Hail Mary's with each mystery is meant to lead us to restful and contemplative prayer related to the mystery. Many who say the Rosary think of the words as background music that leads them to rest in the divine presence. The gentle repetition of the words helps us to enter the silence of our hearts, where Christ's Spirit dwells." *Father Joe Ford; email: jfford67@maine.rr.com*

MASS INTENTIONS and MASS SCHEDULE

<u>October 10</u>	4:00 PM	David Twomey III, by Margaret & Dan Honan
<u>October 11</u>	8:30 AM	Health for Maria Carr, by Eva Zapata
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners
<u>October 12</u>	7:30 AM	Bob Adams, by Diana Dowd & Craig Doremus
<u>October 14</u>	7:30 AM	Mary Jo Quinlan, by Steve & Deb Meahl
<u>October 15</u>	7:30 AM	Communion Service
Next Weekend Masses		
<u>October 17</u>	4:00 PM	Philomena Keogh, by Regina Walsh
<u>October 18</u>	8:30 AM	Leo Argento Zapata, by Eva Zapata
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners

Last Weekend's Offering: Thank you for your contributions of **\$5,652.00** last weekend.

To meet our budget for the new fiscal year the weekly collection should average **\$6,000.00** per week.

Next Sunday, World Mission Sunday, Pope Benedict XVI calls every Catholic in the world to celebrate our vocation to be missionary. We pray for those awaiting the Good News of our Lord's great love. We also provide financial help, through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, for missionaries who offer the poor and suffering the light of Christ, in 1,150 dioceses with growing churches in the developing world. Your generosity will help make a faith-filled difference round the world!

Flu protocols: Officials of the Diocese continue to be in contact with civil officials regarding protocols for the prevention of the flu. At this time the earlier restrictions are not being renewed. However, we are encouraged to use alternative gestures to the hand shake at the sign of peace. People should not receive from the cup if there is any sign of illness such as cold or flu, and ministers of communion are to continue to use antibacterial sanitizer.

40 Days of Marriage – Commencing September 24th, we began participating in the 40 Days of Marriage prayer and fasting campaign. Over this forty day period which ends November 2nd, please offer up your prayers and make a small personal sacrifice in defense of the institution of marriage.

Donut Sunday – If you would like to sponsor or host our Donut Sunday, please sign up this weekend or call Janet Kupferschmid at 797-2291 or e-mail her at Jkupferschmid@NEMoves.com.

STATUS OF CLUSTER 24 DEVELOPMENT

OCTOBER 5, 2009

Five years ago our diocese which includes the entire state of Maine began a process to consolidate parishes in order to develop more effective ministries and services and to reduce the workload of a diminishing number of priests. Much has been done. Many of the clusters have completed their planning and have formed new parishes. As of July 1 there were sixty-six parishes; three years ago there were one hundred thirty five. While there have been some inconvenience and disruption, many positive developments are taking place. People are realizing that uniting several churches into a single parish can enrich all.

In 2006 Bishop Malone accepted the recommendation of the planning committee that the four churches of Cluster 24 should form a single parish for the churches of Saint Gregory, Saint Jude, Sacred Heart and Holy Martyrs. Subsequently, we formed cluster pastoral and finance councils to undertake the planning for a new parish. They have been working since that time. A major endeavor was the survey conducted last year which is providing valuable information as ministries and programs are revised. The finance group has reviewed the condition of the three current parishes. The pastoral council has been reviewing ministries and services. By laws for both groups have been prepared and discussed. The four churches have already come together to celebrate Confirmation and First Communion. On May 2, 2009 126 youngsters received these sacraments at the Cathedral. Planning is underway for like celebrations on May 22, 2010. The Stewardship Committees have held several joint meetings. In September there was a joint kick off for the 2009 religious education season.

Last year we were advised that the four churches should be maintained and that they would be served by a pastor and perhaps a part time priest.

The formation of new parishes was to be completed by July 1, 2010. At the request of Fathers Picard and Ford on June 12, 2009 Bishop Malone granted permission for the formation of the new parish in Cluster 24 to take place on July 1, 2011. He directed that the cluster pastoral and finance councils continue to do the ground work necessary for the time when there will be a single priest administrator for the cluster in the Fall of 2010.

Given the endeavor to strengthen the heartbeat of the church in Maine, the councils did not meet over the summer. In September the cluster pastoral council resumed its work. They are to have a joint meeting on October 15.

We will need to face the challenge of revising the Mass schedule; on weekends the current nine Masses are to be reduced to eight. We may also have to implement Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest. Hopefully, this can be arranged with concern for as many of our individual people and churches as possible.

In order to demonstrate that we are on the path to unity we expect to have a single bulletin by the beginning of 2010.

This report was prepared by Father Joe Ford with the advise of the cluster pastoral council.

Religious Education News

7 & 8 Grade Students - Come join us! Students and parents in grades 7 & 8 are invited to our Jr. High kick-off event on **October 18 from 6:20 PM to 8:00 PM**. Come hear what new things we have planned for this year. Pizza for everyone! Students, be prepared for a fun evening! Parents, please bring your family calendar.

Teachers still needed for Sundays – Two catechists are needed to co-teach a combined class for Grades 4 & 5, and two catechists are needed to co-teach Grade 6. If you are available, please call the Religious Education office at 781-2847 or see Judy or e-mail her at judy.dominick@portlanddiocese.org.

Young Adults (18-39) - Hour of Power - Wed, 10/14 - ON THE ROAD at St. Anne's in Gorham; Wed, 10/21 - back to St. Peter's in Portland as usual. To offer your musical talents or for event information contact Becky at houropowerportland@gmail.com or call Chris @ 653-1429. **Fr. Bob Vaillancourt will offer a "TEACHING MASS" for young adults on Thursday, October 15, 7:00PM** at the Chancery (510 Ocean Avenue, Portland). **DVD Night 6:30 PM Friday, October 16.** Film: "Molokai: The Story of Father Damien" at St. Peter's Parish Hall, 72 Federal St, Portland, Me. Father Damien will be canonized as a Saint on October 11 by Pope Benedict XVI. Pizza will be ordered at \$3 a person. FMI: Contact Lisa at veritasportland@yahoo.com or Craig 831-0852.

Cumberland & Falmouth Food Pantries – We are very grateful to those faithful parishioners that weekly donate to our less fortunate neighbors. We have, however, been experiencing a drop off of contributions. Please review your shopping list and add even one item for the pantry! One from many will most certainly be welcome when the weekly distribution is made. Thank you for remembering your neighbors in need. *Jack Mullin*

Garden Committee Thank You - We extend our heartfelt thanks to the following families for their hard work in keeping the gardens at Holy Martyrs watered this summer: the Tracy family, the Chapin family, the Mainella family, the Ewald family, the Delima Wyman family, the Squier family, the Waite family, the O'Donovan family, the Greenlaw family, and the Leskanic Caldwell family. Your contributions were of significant importance to creating and maintaining the beautiful gardens that are enjoyed by so many parishioners. Thank you again,

Monica Bigley and Michele Baranowski


Fall Rummage Sale – Saturday, November 7 from 8:00-Noon. Help is needed to set up on Thursday and Friday from 8:00-11:00 AM and to sell on Saturday from 8:00-Noon, please call Marty T. Honan at 781-2705.

Please do not drop off sale items until October 26th.



Holy Martyrs Christmas Fair, Sunday, December 6th 9:30 - 1:30 Mark your calendar and plan to join us in this fun holiday celebration. We need your help! Please consider donating a silent auction item, making crafts, baking or volunteering. Sign ups will start in the narthex next week. FMI please contact Sharon Leskanic at sharonL23@maine.rr.com or 797- 7072 or Kathy Coster at kbcmaine@aol.com or 781-3723. **Calling All Pie Makers** - Please join us in the church kitchen to make apple pies on **Thursday, October 15 and Thursday, October 22, 9 - 11 AM.** FMI call Kathy Coster 781-3723. **Apple Pies** - back by popular demand! Hand made in a real pie plate and ready to pop into your oven. Pick up a pie at the church kitchen on October 15 and 22 between 10 and 11 am, or pick one up after Masses the weekends of October 17/18 or 24/25.

Holy Martyrs Weekly Calendar

Donut Sunday October 11	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM NO Religious Education Classes	<i>143: Wis 7:7-11; Ps 90; Heb 4:12-13; Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27</i> Readings Begin at #1030
Monday October 12	Mass at 7:30 AM NO Religious Education Classes <i>Office Closed</i>	 <i>467: Rom 1:1-7; Ps 98; Lk 11:29-32</i>
Tuesday October 13	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 Parish Council 6:00 PM	Contemplative Prayer Group 9:30-11:00 AM Campaign Meeting 6:00 PM – Hall <i>468: Rom 1:16-25; Ps 19; Lk 11:37-41</i>
Wednesday October 14	Mass at 7:30 AM	Opus Dei Women 10:00-2:00 PM <i>469: Rom 2:1-11; Ps 62; Lk 11:42-46</i>
Thursday October 15	Communion Service at 7:30 AM FBTS 10:00 AM; Sedgewood 10:45 AM; Oceanview 2:30 PM Cluster Pastoral and Finance Councils 6:30 PM at St. Gregory's, Gray	Apple Pie Making 9:00-11:00 AM <i>470: Rom 3:21-30; Ps 130; Lk 11:47-54 see 657: Rom 8:22-27; Jn 15:1-8</i>
Friday October 16	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM	<i>471: Rom 4:1-8; Ps 32; Lk 12:1-7</i>
Saturday October 17	Mass at 4:00 PM	ICDA 2-9 PM <i>472: Rom 4:13,16-18; Ps 105; Lk 12:8-12 see 660: Phil 3:17-4:1; Jn 12:24-26</i>
Sunday October 18	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM † Religious Education Classes Continue	<i>146: Is 53:10-11; Ps 33; Heb 4:14-16; Mk 10:35-45 or 10:42-45</i> Readings Begin at #1033

MASSSES: *Saturday Mass: 4:00 PM*
Sunday Masses: 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM
Daily Mass: Mon. & Wed. at 7:30 AM
Thurs. at 7:30 AM
Confession: Sat. 3:15-3:45 & by appointment

Communion Service:

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: office@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.