



Dear Friends,

For many years the month of October has been designated as Respect Life Month by the bishops of the United States. It is another opportunity for us to examine our convictions on the dignity of the human person. On September 23 I had the privilege of spending some time with friends who were participating in a walk to benefit people with Downe's syndrome. It was great to see the progress of their adopted son since I left Wells, and it was inspiring to be with all the participants in the walk.

This good day was marred, however, by the realization that more than seventy-five percent of children with the syndrome are aborted. Among the materials provided by the Bishops for Respect Life Month is a pamphlet entitled, *Peter's Story: Discovering Hope and Love after an Adverse Prenatal Diagnosis*; it can be found at www.usccb.org/prolife/programs/rlp/kellet.pdf. The author has established a support group called Prenatal Partners for Life. The goal is to assist parents deal with the awful pressure to "induce labor early" (i.e. abort the baby) after they receive an adverse diagnosis.

One of the largest funerals I presided over at Saint Mary's, Wells, was that of a child with Downe's syndrome who had a debilitating disease. This child could not walk or talk but in his few years had endeared himself to his siblings' many friends and others throughout the parish and community. His death provoked great sorrow and compassion. He epitomized the truth taught by Saint Francis of Assisi; preach constantly, speak little. Every person who had the privilege of holding this child knew the evil that is abortion.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

October 6 4:00 PM Health for William Herkert, by Aunt Lucille & Uncle Bob
October 7 8:30 AM Mary Cyr, Marlene, Anne, & Philip, by Carlita Brown
 5:30 PM The Parishioners
October 8 7:30 AM Jeanne Tardif, by Ed McComb
October 10 7:30 AM Mafalda Reppucci, by David & Eileen Laconi
October 11 7:30 AM Communion Service

Next Weekend Masses

October 13 4:00 PM Special Intention
October 14 8:30 AM In Gratitude of Favors Received
 5:30 PM The Parishioners

Last Weekend's Offering: Your contributions for September 29 & 30, 2007 amounted to **\$5,244.25**. **\$3,392.00** was in 154 envelopes and **\$1,852.25** was loose.

Red Mass – The Red Mass of Maine will be celebrated on October 26, 2007 at 11:00 AM at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Judges, lawyers, government officials and people of all faiths are invited to attend the Red Mass to invoke God's blessing and guidance in the administration of justice. A luncheon will follow at the Portland Country Club with guest speaker Judge Edith Brown Clement of the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans. FMI or to make a reservation for the luncheon, please call Kim at 774-1486 ext. 216.


7th Annual Living Rosary of Nations – The Sodality of St. Anne of St. Anthony's Parish in Westbrook is sponsoring the 7th Annual Living Rosary of Nations for Religious Vocations and World Peace, Sunday October 14th at 3:00 PM at St. Hyacinth Church, Brown St in Westbrook. The candle light rosary will be said in many languages by priests, deacons, sisters, and parishioners representing many area parishes. A reception for everyone will follow in the church hall. FMI: Please call Marilyn Foster at 854-1199.

Religious education news for parents of 2nd grade children: There is an important meeting for parents of 2nd grade children regarding the preparation for the three sacraments that the children will celebrate this year. Due to the importance of the meeting, we are offering it on two evenings to accommodate your schedules: **Tuesday, October 9 or Thursday, October 11 beginning at 7PM.** Fr. Ford, Judy Dominick and Deacon Dennis will provide background information, materials necessary to support the children's formation, and an opportunity to answer questions. Please plan to attend one of the sessions. Help us assist you in passing on our gift of faith!

Sessions for Liturgy of the Word, Pre-K Program, Elementary grades 1-5, Jr. High 6, 7 & 8 and Youth Ministry are well underway. There are no sessions this Sunday or Monday, due to the Columbus Day Holiday. Sessions resume on October 14 & 15. We hope the interruption doesn't affect the participation when we resume!

Altar Servers: The November/ December Altar Server Schedule will be mailed the week of October 15th. (There will be a separate sign up for Christmas and New Years Masses.) If you have dates you know you *are* or *are not* available, please call Meredith Charest at 781-8599 or email mcharest1@maine.rr.com before October 12th. If you would prefer to receive your schedule via email, please email me your address. The Altar Server schedule is posted on the Holy Martyrs website for reference as well.

Curious About the Catholic Faith? Ever wonder why Catholics do the things they do? Do you know someone who is interested in exploring the Catholic faith? Do you know of a child who has a desire to become Catholic? Holy Martyrs is holding a series of Inquiry Sessions beginning October 13th at 3:00 PM. There is no obligation. Leave a message with the Religious Ed. Office at 781-2847 and we will call you with more details.



We are looking for families to set-up and sponsor the popular "Outreach Sunday Coffee & Donuts" for the coming months. Our September Outreach during the Ministry Fair was hosted by Jennifer Zinn and Jeanne & Chris Madden. Deacon Dennis & Beverly Popadak sponsored the event. There is a sign-up sheet on the Stewardship table in the Narthex. Please indicate your preference in the space provided. There is a sheet explaining the responsibilities for set-up and the sponsoring family is asked to make a check payable to Holy Martyrs in the amount of \$200.00 to cover the cost. In the past, a couple of families have shared the workload and expense by co-hosting or co-sponsoring the event. We are also looking for someone to come forward to act as the chairperson, since Mary Beth Bachman is stepping down, having served in this role for the past couple years. "Thank you" to Mary Beth Bachman and to all those who have helped in the past and "Thank you" for your willingness to help in this time of fellowship and sharing.

Cantor Notes: We are happy to have Jenna Beaulieu visiting this weekend from UMO. She will cantor at the 8:30 am Mass on Sunday. However we are still in need of an 8:30 cantor to fill in while Dan Wellehan is recuperating and also to alternate with him on a regular basis.

Music Help Needed: Our MVM (most valuable musician) Guilds Hollowell has recently moved down south for new employment. Guilds had been able to operate the computer on the organ so that we don't have to spend money on a substitute. Anyone, young or old, with computer expertise is needed to fill this job. Please contact Cecile as noted above.

Homemade Apple Pies! Back by popular demand: Apple pies ready to be popped into your oven or frozen for the holidays. Order your pie(s) after masses the weekends of October 6/7 through 20/21. Pies may be picked up fresh at the parish hall from 11-12 on October 19 and 25 (just after pie-making sessions) or frozen after masses 10/20 - 10/21 and 10/27 - 10/28. **Pie Making October 19 and 25, 9 - 11 AM** in the Parish Kitchen. We need many hands to produce 100 pies! Please join this friendly and productive group - and bring your paring knife. RSVP to Kathy Coster at kbcmanie@aol.com or 781-3723 if you can help. We would also love to recycle your 9" glass pie plate. Please drop off in the parish kitchen by 10/18.

Holy Martyrs Weekly Calender

Sunday October 7	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM Readings Begin at #1028; Communion Hymn #615 NO REL. ED. CLASSES Connected Catholics Gen. Meeting and Pot Luck Supper 5 PM 141: Hb 1:2-3;2:2-4; Ps 95; 2 Tm 1:6-8,13-14; Lk 17:5-10
Monday October 8	Mass at 7:30 Office Closed for Columbus Day NO REL. ED. CLASSES 461 : Jon 1:1-2:2,11; Ps Jon 2:2-5,8; Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday October 9	Mass at 8:00 AM at St. Gregory's 462:Jon 3:1-10:1-4ab,7-8; Lk 10:38-42 Contemplative Prayer Group 9:30-11:00 AM 2 nd Gr. Parents Meeting 7:00 PM
Wednesday October 10	Mass at 7:30 AM 463: Jon4:1-11; Ps 86:3-6,9-10; Lk 11:1-4 Opus Dei Women 10:00-1:00; Men 6:00 PM REFOCCUS 6:30-8:30 PM
Thursday October 11	Communion Service at 7:30 AM 464: Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:104,6; Lk 11:5-13 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM 2 nd Gr. Parents Meeting 7:00 PM
Friday October 12	Mass at 8:00 AM St. Gregory's 465: J1 1:13-15;2:1-2; Ps 9; Lk 11:15-26 Staff Meeting 1:30 PM
Saturday October 13	Mass at 4:00 PM 466: J1 4:12-21; Ps 097; Lk 11:27-28 Rummage Sale 8:30-11:00 AM RCIA 3:00 PM
Sunday October 14	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM 144: 2 Kgs 5:14-17; Ps 98; 2 Tm 2:8-13; Lk 17:11-19 Rel. Ed. Classes Resume

Rummage Sale - Saturday, October 13, 8:30-11:00 AM. - Help is needed Thursday and Friday from 8:00-11:00 AM to set up and on Saturday 8:30-11:00 to sell. Please call Mary T. Honan 781-2705 if you can help.

REFOCCUS – 5 Great Date Nights to Enrich Your Marriage – REFOCCUS sessions will be held here at Holy Martyrs Parish on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:30 PM.

October 10 “Marriage As A Process” October 17 “Intimacy”
October 24 “Compatibility” November 7 “Communication” November 14 “Commitment”
FMI and to register, please contact Catholic Charities Maine Family Life Institute at 1-800-CARE-002 or email familylifeinstitute@ccmaine.org.

Project Rachel will offer a retreat weekend in southern Maine, October 19-21, for those seeking healing and hope after abortion. For more information or to register, please contact: Catholic Charities Maine Family Life Institute, 871-7464, Ext. 2670 in Portland), or 1-800-CARE-002, e-mail: familylifeinstitute@ccmaine.org. All inquires are strictly confidential.

Pastoral Care Position: Part-time, 20 hours per week, position available working with the elderly. Hours are 12:30 PM-4:30 PM, including every other Saturday. Please apply to Sr. Judith McNamara, St. Joseph's Manor, 1133 Washington Ave., Portland. FMI: 797-0600. Fax: 797-2782.

CCME: General Meeting: This Sunday, October 7th. 5:00 PM Social Hour & Potluck Supper; 5:45 Bus. Meeting; 6:00 Jeanne Stephens, from St. Pat's shares the story of her conversion from Judaism to Catholicism.

Catherine McAuley Open House - Catherine McAuley High School, Maine's only college-preparatory school for young women, will be hosting its annual Open House for prospective students and their parents on Sunday, October 21, 2007, at 2 PM.

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 Leader: Deacon Dennis Popadak

PARISH STAFF:

Christian Initiation: Judy Dominick
Youth Ministry: Margaret Colford, Scott Ross & Chris Rogers
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.

