



Dear Friends,

The publicity surrounding the death of Senator Edward Kennedy included note of his frailty and sinfulness. There were remarks and comments on his admitted immoral actions. However, we Catholics need to remember the reconciliation which the Church offers constantly. I was moved by the homily given by the Senator's pastor. He spoke of his visits with the Senator over the past months and of their prayer together. Undoubtedly, the Senator participated in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick in which God brings forgiveness of our sins and healing of body, mind and spirit. As Catholics we consider these sacraments not only as directed to individuals but also as invitations for us to be agents of reconciliation and healing. When we recognize our frailty and need for healing and are reconciled with God and the church, we are graced to bring those gifts to others. As our nation continues the debate over health care, a cause dear to the late Senator, may we be instruments of charity and civility, for we live by God's great love. *Father Joe Ford; email: jjford67@maine.rr.com*

MASS INTENTIONS and MASS SCHEDULE

<u>September 5</u>	4:00 PM	Frederick Gorgone, by John & Natalie Bonnell
<u>September 6</u>	8:30 AM	Theodore Barris, by Bob & Lucille Robinson
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners
<u>September 7</u>	7:30 AM	Alice E. Kelly, by Mary T. & Jim Honan
<u>September 9</u>	7:30 AM	Arthur Harrington, by a family member
<u>September 10</u>	7:30 AM	Communion Service

Next Weekend Masses

<u>September 12</u>	4:00 PM	Victims of 9/11 and their families
<u>September 13</u>	8:30 AM	The Parishioners
	5:30 PM	Esther Groller, by Steve & Debbie Meahl

Last Weekend's Offering: Thank you for your contributions of **\$5,248.00** last weekend. To meet our budget for the new fiscal year the weekly collection should average **\$6,000.00** per week.

Next weekend at all Masses, there will be a second collection to protect traditional marriage in Maine from a dangerous redefinition. Your generous support will help ensure that the institution of marriage is preserved as God intended it: between one man and one woman. Special envelopes will be provided; **checks must be made payable to Stand for Marriage Maine.** These freewill donations are not deductible for income tax purposes. Please give generously. Thank you.

The office will be closed on Monday, in observance of Labor Day.

Prayer Group – Contemplative Prayer group will begin Tuesday, September 22 from 9:30-11:00 AM in the Quiet Room. The prayer group meets each Tuesday from 9:30-11:00 AM. **All are welcome.**

Strengthening the Heartbeat of the Church

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTLAND



Strengthening the Heartbeat of the Church is the theme of a Diocesan Campaign to support future ministries and generations. Every parish in Maine is being asked to work to provide formation for laity serving the church, to support formation and continuing education of priests and assist ill and retired priests, to fund tuition assistance in our schools and to assist Catholic Charities – Maine. Please be receptive to requests for your time, talent and treasure.

† Religious Education †

Registration for Fall Classes – You may register for religious education classes **this weekend and next weekend** September 12 & 13. Please take the time to register your child/children for Fall Religious Education sessions. You may also register by calling the religious education office at 781-2847. Please register ASAP to ensure the proper student teacher ratio.

This year's fee is **\$50 for the first child, \$50 for the second child and \$25 for each child after that.** This fee was instituted to offset a portion of the expense for books and materials as well as administration fees that account for almost a quarter of our annual parish budget. If you prefer a payment plan, please let Deacon Dennis or Father Ford know, and we will arrange it with you. Please note that no child will be excluded from attending class because of these costs. The fees are due at the time of registration.

†Classes are scheduled to begin the week of September 20, 2009.

Sundays	during the 8:30 AM Mass	Pre-k – 4 & 5 year olds (Min. 10 participants)
Sundays	9:30-10:30 AM	Grades 1 – 6
Mondays	4:15-5:15 PM	Grades 1 – 5

Parents Meeting for all 2nd Grade Children - Parents should plan on attending **one** of the following meetings:

Monday, September 28 at 7:00 PM or Tuesday, September 29th at 7:00 PM.



Religious Education teachers are needed: Catechists are needed for all grade levels. There will be training on Saturday, September 19th at St. Maximilian Kolbe in Scarborough. Please call the religious education office at 781-2473 or speak to Deacon Dennis or Judy Dominick if you are interested in helping with this important ministry.

Cluster Religious Education "Kick-Off" - Circle September 13 on your calendar! The Religious Education co-coordinators from the three parishes have put together a **Religious Ed "kick-off" at Sacred Heart next Sunday, Sept. 13 from 1 – 4pm.** We will take you to St. Paul's ancient Rome where you will get a taste of what it was like to be a follower of Jesus in those first days. We invite **all ages** of the cluster to participate in this afternoon in Rome.

Altar Server Ministry: If you are interested in becoming an altar server, please contact Meredith Charest at 781-8599 or mcharest1@maine.rr.com to arrange a time for training. Parishioners who have received their sacraments and are in at least third grade may become altar servers, though many of our servers are in Middle School. Serving is a wonderful way to participate more deeply in the Mass, so older students may want to join this ministry.

Music Ministry News: As we look forward to fall, the music ministry is looking for cantors or leaders of song. If you would like share your gift with us at Holy Martyrs, please contact Diane Beaton at 781-9869 or sbeaton@maine.rr.com. Training will be provided.

Falmouth/Cumberland Food Pantries – More accolades for our Holy Martyrs donors to the pantries! Jean Lamson, Coordinator of the Cumberland Food Pantry said, "they never would have made it through the summer without the wonderful consistent donations from Holy Martyrs". You all are wonderful for continuing to remember your needy neighbors as you shop. Thank You!
Jack Mullin

Connected Catholics of Maine - General Meeting – Sept. 13 at the Holy Martyrs Parish Hall at 5:00pm; Social Hour - Pot Luck Supper; 5:45pm Business Meeting; 6:00pm Program - Rabbi Harry Sky. **All are welcome** and for more information please call Mary Jane Norton (318-6032) **Other Social events:** Sat. Sept., 19, 5:30pm Baked Bean Supper, St Louis Parish – FMI: Call Mary Dexter (727-3907). Book Club, Thurs. Sept., 17 - 6:00pm to 8:30pm: "The Shack", FMI: Call Louise Way (926-5676).

Holy Martyrs Weekly Calender

Sunday September 6	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM <i>128: Is 35:4-7a; Ps 146; Jas 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37</i>	Readings Begin at #1015
Labor Day Monday September 7	Mass at 7:30 AM <i>437: Col 1:24-2:3; Ps 62; Lk 6:6-11</i>	Office Closed
Tuesday September 8	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM <i>636: Mic 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13; Mt 1:1-16,18-23 or 1:18-23</i> Parish Council 6:00 PM	
Wednesday September 9	Mass at 7:30 AM <i>439: Col 3:1-11; Ps 145; Lk 6:20-26 see 719-724</i>	Opus Dei Women 10:00-2:00 PM
Thursday September 10	Communion Service at 7:30 AM <i>440: Col 3:12-17; Ps 150; Lk 6:27-38</i>	
Friday September 11	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM <i>441: 1 Tm 1:1-2,12-14; Ps 16; Lk 6:39-42</i>	
Saturday September 12	Mass at 4:00 PM <i>442: 1 Tm 1:15-17; Ps 113; Lk 6:43-49</i> Brown Bag	
Sunday September 13	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM <i>131: Is 50:5-9a; Ps 116; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35</i> Brown Bag	Readings Begin at #1018 Connected Catholics 5:00 PM

Stand for Marriage Rally – Please join us at the **Augusta Civic Center** for the Stand for Marriage Rally presented by Focus on the Family, The Maine Jeremiah Project, Family Research Council, Stand For Marriage Maine and many other family groups **next Sunday, September 13th, 2009 from 6-8 PM**. Tickets are required and may be obtained free of charge via email through SFMM or the Public Affairs Office in the Chancery. Contact Brian Souchet at SFMM at 207-846-9052 or brian@standformarriagemaine.com. Contact information for the Chancery Public Affairs Office is 207-773-6471 or Christine.pitteroff@portlanddiocese.org. Include you name, telephone number and requested number of tickets when you call or email. Call the SFMM office in Yarmouth at 207-846-9052 if you'd like to make arrangements to pick up tickets. FMI: www.standformarriagemaine.com.

Early Warning!! Maine Marathon/Relay/Maine Half Marathon – Sunday, October 4th! The race will impact access to all the churches along the route during the morning. We are fortunate at Holy Martyrs to be able to come to church from Johnson Road. If you need to use Route 88, parishioner passes to be placed on the dashboard will be available in the NARTHEX at the end of September.

Town of Falmouth – Community Discussion on Former Brown Property – Monday, Sept. 21 from 6:30-8:30 PM at Holy Martyrs church hall. A site walk will be held at 5:30 PM. No pre-registration for the meeting or site walk. For meeting agenda and more information, please see posters on bulletin board.

Cheverus High School is pleased to offer a six-week Scripture course for adults this fall on Tuesday mornings from 7:00 AM to 7:45 AM **beginning Tuesday, September 22nd**. This fall's topic will be an examination of the four Gospels in parallel. We will look at the first chapter of each Gospel and then will move directly to the supper, arrest, trial, crucifixion/death, and resurrection of Jesus. Bring your own bible. Discussion is expected. Contact Fr. John Predmore, S.J. at predmore@cheverus.org to obtain the syllabus.

Habitat for Humanity - If you are looking for something FUN and different to do with the entire family and don't have children in the religious education program, please know you are cordially invited to attend the annual "Raise the Roof" Bluegrass and Barbecue on **Sunday, September 13th from 1-4pm**. This is a rain or shine event, and tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10 for kids --no charge for those 5 and under. FMI and tickets: Nikki at 772-2151 or go to www.firstgiving.com/habitatme to buy discounted tickets in advance!

MASSSES: *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*
 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: 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.