



Dear Friends,

On August 28 we observed the feast of Saint Augustine one of the most influential people in the history of the church. He was the Bishop of Hippo in northern Africa, and his writings continue to nourish our faith. Augustine resisted conversion for many years and seemed to revel in a self-centered life style. He writes of his conversion and embrace of the faith in his Confessions. I offer a quotation that describes his later awareness that despite his sin God was seeking him.

“ Late have I loved you, O Beauty ever ancient, ever new, late have I loved you! You were within me, but I was outside, and it was there that I searched for you. In my unloveliness I plunged into the lovely things which you created. You were with me, but I was not with you. Created things kept me from you; yet if they had not been in you they would not have been at all. You called, you shouted, and you broke through my deafness. You flashed, you shone, and you dispelled my blindness. You breathed your fragrance on me; I drew in breath and now I pant for you. I tasted you, now I hunger and thirst for more. You touched me, and I burned for your peace.”

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

<u>September 6</u>	4:00 PM	Normand Cormier, by Mary Dunphy
<u>September 7</u>	8:30 AM	Deceased family members of Carlita Brown, by Carlita Brown
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners
<u>September 8</u>	7:30 AM	Ray Crowley, by Ellen Honan
<u>September 10</u>	7:30 AM	Victims of 911
<u>September 11</u>	7:30 AM	Communion Service

#### Next Weekend Masses

<u>September 13</u>	4:00 PM	Mary Brown, by David & Eileen Laconi
<u>September 14</u>	8:30 AM	Janice O'Donnell, by the family
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners

**Last Weekend's Offering:** Thank you for your offerings of **\$5,430.00** for last weekend. \$4,195.00 was in 136 envelopes and \$1,235.00 was loose. Our weekly operating expense is \$6,318.00.

**Blue Mass** – Law Enforcement, fire and EMS personnel from across the state will gather in Lewiston for a special commemorative Mass honoring their service to the people of Maine. The fourth annual Blue Mass will be held Sunday, **September 14 at 10:00 AM at the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul.** Bishop Richard J. Malone will bestow his blessings upon those who contribute to the public health and safety in the State of Maine. “This Mass is to thank those in our communities who serve us everyday and often in dangerous situations,” said Bishop Malone. Members of these public safety agencies have been invited to attend the Mass in uniform, color guards will be on hand and vehicles representing the departments will be on display around the Basilica. Family members and the general public have been invited to attend this celebratory event. A reception will take place immediately following the Mass in the lower level of Saints Peter and Paul.

**Red Mass** – The Red Mass of Maine will be celebrated on **September 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 PM** at the Cathedral of Immaculate Conception by Bishop Richard J. Malone. 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. Reception and dinner immediately following Mass at the Portland Country Club. Please RSVP by September 4<sup>th</sup> by contacting Heather Stevens at 792-1392 or email: hstevens@pierceatwood.com. Forms also available at the back of the church.

**Vocations** – Do you know the power of prayer within a group? Join with others to pray for an increase of vocations to ordained ministry and the consecrated life. (Matthew 18:15-20). If you think God is calling you to be a priest, contact Fr. Bob Vaillancourt at the Diocesan Office of Vocations (773-6471) or email us at vocations@portlanddiocese.org.

**Cluster Mission:** Plans are being made for the mission which will take place from **October 5-9**. Try to reserve those evenings for this opportunity for spiritual growth.

**Cluster Survey:** With many hours of work by dedicated folks the data of the surveys has been entered and is now being processed. It is to be reviewed by the cluster council and will be available to all in a few weeks. Many thanks to Tom Gruber and those who gave of time and talent. The response rate was 30% well beyond most surveys. The rate demonstrates the interest and support of the members of our four churches.

**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time** – Am I my brother's keeper? All three readings today suggest that for the Christian steward the answer is “Yes!”

(From *Stewardship By The Book*, by Sharon Hueckel. Used with permission.)

Disputes within families are sometimes the hardest to solve. Children who won't talk to their parents, siblings who will not be in the same room with each other, cousins fighting over an inheritance-these kinds of conflicts run deep and hard. We must do everything possible to reconcile with family members, to forgive, to listen, to change as necessary. Further, we should all try to be peacemakers whenever we have the chance. Resolving disputes is a wonderful way to use our time and talent as stewards of God's gifts.

#### Questions of the Week

**Adult: How do I manage conflict in my family or workplace?**

**Children: What do I do when I feel hurt by a relative or a friend?**

\* \* \* \* \* **Religious Education** \* \* \* \* \*

**Registration for Fall Classes is this weekend.** Your help is needed to assist us plan for the Fall that, unfortunately, is fast approaching: Please take the time to register your child/children for Fall Religious Education sessions. In order to expedite the process, there will be printouts with names of all the children of the parish, in our database, for you to verify the information and update. To date, only 50+ children have been formerly registered for sessions. We especially need the names of second graders who will be preparing for the Sacraments. **Classes are scheduled to begin September 21, 2008.**

**Veritas Portland's Young Adult Youth Ministry** – invites all young adults 18-39 to a DVD presentation on “Exploring God's Purpose for Your Life” followed by faith sharing. **Thursday, September 11**, Sr. Elaine Lachance and Sr. Thelma Bouchard will host this evening at St. John Convent, 11 Aspen Avenue in South Portland. Social at 6:30 PM followed by the DVD and faith sharing at 7:00 PM.

**Wednesday evenings 7PM**, ~ Hour of Power Praise the Lord with music, worship and Eucharistic Adoration! Veritas, Portland's Young Adult Ministry invites community members of **all ages** to this weekly event at St. Peter's Church, 72 Federal St in Portland. Please note that the first week of each month we are 'On The Road'.

**Protecting God's Children** – The next Protecting God's Children seminar will be held on Wednesday, September 17 from 6-9PM at St. Gregory's in Gray.

**Catechist Training Session** – will be held on Thursday, September 25 at 6:30 PM at St. Maximilian Kolbe in Scarborough.

**Brown Bag Sunday** – If you would like the opportunity to help the homeless men, women and children through Preble Street Resource Center please take a shopping list of much needed food items and reusable grocery bags as you leave the Church today and return your donation in the reusable bag. If you would like to donate a reusable bag...just take a shopping list and return your donated groceries in the reusable bag. ANGELS are needed to sort the groceries on Sunday, September 14 after the 5:30 PM Mass and to deliver the groceries on Monday morning, September 15 at 8AM. 2 of my very loyal people who deliver the groceries will be unable to help me. Please consider helping with the delivery if you can. Thanks! FMI: Nancy Castonia 829-5803 (H) or 772-5488 (W).

**Rummage Sale** – Our fall rummage sale is scheduled for Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. If would like to volunteer, please call Mary T. Honan at 781-2705.

**Early Warning!! Maine Marathon/Relay/Maine Half Marathon – Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup> !** 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.

**Please do not braid the ribbon markers for the hymnals.** The ribbons are there to help parishioners mark the various hymns, readings, and responses. Thank you for respecting and prolonging the life of the materials. **Thank you for thinking of Holy Martyrs** – however, we are **NOT** accepting any donations for the nursery, classrooms, music room, or kitchen. We are currently in the process of cleaning these rooms and weeding out all unused items that have accumulated over the years. Please take your unwanted items to Goodwill or another charity of your choice.

### Holy Martyrs Weekly Calendar

<b>Sunday September 7</b>	<b>Mass at 8:30 AM</b> <b>Mass at 5:30 PM</b> <i>127: Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95:1-2,6-9; Rom 13:8-18; Mt 18:15-20</i> <b>Readings Begins at #1014</b> <b>Connected Catholics 4:00 PM</b>
<b>Monday September 8</b>	<b>Mass at 7:30 AM</b> <i>636: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6abc; Mt 1:1-16,18-23 or 1:18-23</i>
<b>Tuesday September 9</b>	<b>Connected Catholics Board 6:00 PM</b> <b>Parish Council 6:00 PM</b> <i>438: 1 Cor 6;1-11; Ps 149; Lk 6:12-19 see 719-730</i>
<b>Wednesday September 10</b>	<b>Mass at 7:30 AM</b> <b>Stewardship Committee Meeting 6:30 PM</b> <b>Opus Dei Women 10:00-2:00</b> <i>439: 1 Cor 7:25-31; Ps 45; Lk 6:20-26</i>
<b>Thursday September 11</b>	<b>Communion Service at 7:30 AM</b> <i>440: 1Cor 8:1b-7,11-13; Ps 139; Lk 6:27-38</i>
<b>Friday September 12</b>	<b>Mass at St. Gregory's 8:00 AM</b> <i>441: 1 Cor 9:16-19,22b-27; Ps 84; Lk 6:39-42 see 637: Eph 4:1-7; Mk 4:1-10,13-20 or 4:1-9</i>
<b>Saturday September 13</b>	<b>Mass at 4:00 PM</b> <i>442: 1 Cor 10;14-22; Ps 116; Lk 6:43-49 see 637: Eph 4:1-7,11-13</i>
<b>Sunday September 14</b>	<b>Mass at 8:30 AM</b> <b>Mass at 5:30 PM</b> <i>638: Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17</i>

**Connected Catholics, a social group for singles, opens its year with a pot luck supper and movie.** General Meeting: **This Sunday, September 7, 2008**, Holy Martyrs Parish Hall. 4:00 PM - Social Hour & Pot Luck Supper, 4:45 PM - Business Meeting, 5:15 PM - Playing is "Amazing Grace", an inspiring film to begin the coming year. Popcorn is encouraged! FMI Mary Edwards 829-4054.

**Cheverus Open House** – On Sunday, October 5, 2008 prospective students and families interested in learning more about Cheverus are invited to our Annual Open House. The program begins with a 1:00 PM welcome from the President and Director of Admission. Please come and enjoy the refreshments, see our 25-acre campus and enjoy the music of the Cheverus Jazz Combo. This is your chance to see what Cheverus is all about!

**Development Director & Human Resources Director** – The Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland, Maine is currently looking for a **Director of Development** to lead and coordinate all the Development activities for the Diocese as well as a **Director of Human Resources**. Drake Inglesi Milardo is a Human Resources Consultant Firm located in Portland. FMI: Please respond by attaching resume to email to and forward it to: jobs@dimihr.com or mail to: Drake Inglesi Milardo Inc., 50 Portland Pier, Portland, Maine 04101.

**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:**                      *Monday – Friday 8:30-3:00*

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## PARISH OF THE HOLY MARTYRS OF NORTH AMERICA

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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: 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.

