



Dear Friends,
The General Instruction on the Roman Missal emphasizes the importance of being prepared for and aware of the sacred mysteries we celebrate. As the athlete has a game plan, the Mass goer should be spiritually prepared for receiving God's gifts. It is recommended that we read and pray over the scriptures at home; those who participated in Disciples in Mission realized the value of this practice. Two actions on entering the church are intended to help us focus our minds on what is about to happen. We take water and make the sign of the cross. This action is to be a reminder of our baptism when water was poured over us and the Trinity invoked. In baptism we became members of the Body of Christ sharing in the very life of God. Our conscious use of holy water can assist us to be ready to receive the Word and Eucharist. Last week I wrote of the second action: genuflection or a profound bow to the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the tabernacle. The use of holy water and the reverence remind us that we are gathering in the real presence of Christ whose disciples we have become. We are at Mass to deepen our relationship with the master.

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

Mass Intentions & Mass Schedule

<u>July 19</u>	4:00 PM	Robert Archambault, by the family
<u>July 20</u>	8:30 AM	The Parishioners
	5:30 PM	Catherine Wallace, by the Vella Family
<u>July 21</u>	NO AM MASS	
<u>July 23</u>	NO AM MASS	
<u>July 24</u>	7:30 AM	Communion Service

Next Weekend Masses

<u>July 26</u>	4:00 PM	Maurice Linehan, by Bob & Carol Cain
<u>July 27</u>	8:30 AM	Hugh J. Farrell, by MJ & Brendan Murphy
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners

Last Weekend's Offering: Your contributions for July 12 & 13, 2008 amounted to **\$5,286.60**. **\$3,851.50** was in 135 envelopes and **\$1,435.00** was loose. Thank you for your gifts.

Offertory Envelopes – The remaining offertory envelopes for the new fiscal year can be found in the Narthex. If your name isn't there and you would like envelopes, please sign-up on the sheet provided at the table. New envelopes will be available next weekend.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Good stewards in a parish are like the yeast in this weekend's Gospel. Their selfless gifts of time and talent help the parish grow and thrive, and their example inspires others to become good stewards, too. (From *Stewardship By the Book*, by Sharon Hueckel. Used with permission.)

When you look around your parish, what do you see? A set of buildings? Or a real faith community? More and more people are seeing the community. No pastor can create that community himself. It is built by the involvement and commitment of people to many different ministries, using their time and talent in the service of the Lord. These days we hear calls for more lay involvement in the Church. Those opportunities have long existed; but too many people have been content to leave their gifts unused. There is always room for everyone to help the faith community to thrive.

BISHOP'S APPEAL – To date 122 households at Holy Martyrs have made a gift or pledge to the Appeal. The total of these gifts is \$103,130. Hopefully, there are some who can make a larger gift this year in order that the many ministries and services funded by the Appeal can continue.

Religious Education

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. Remember: sessions for Pre-k 3,4 & 5yr olds during the 8:30 A.M. Mass (if the numbers warrant it); grades 1-5 will be Sunday mornings at 9:30-10:30A.M. or Monday afternoons from 4:15-5:15 P.M.; Jr. High and Youth Ministry Sunday evenings for one hour following the 5:30 P.M. Mass. 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. No registration will be accepted without payment. 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. A \$10 discount per family will be given if a parent signs up to be an aide, catechist, or co-catechist.

We will have tables set-up for registration on the weekends of July 26 and 27 and on August 9 & 10.

There will be printouts with names of all the children of the parish for you to verify the information and update our data base. Or you can call the Faith Formation office at 781-2847. Thank you for helping us to plan for the upcoming year to effectively assist our children in their faith development.

The DVD's are here!: Copies of the Confirmation and First Communion DVD's have arrived, and we have a few copies remaining from 2007. Please stop by the religious education office and pick up your copy today. Those with red dots indicate that payment is due. Please make checks payable in the amount of \$15.00 per copy to: Holy Martyrs Church. What a wonderful memento of the celebration of the Sacraments.

Music Notes - We are looking for adult cantors who would like to help us celebrate at the weekend Masses. Please contact the new organist Diane Beaton by phone at 781-9869 or via email at sbeaton@maine.rr.com if you are interested in helping in the music ministry.

Brown Bag – 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 bag as you leave the church today and return your donation in the reusable bag. We still need approximately 20-30 more reusable bags. 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, July 27 after the 5:30 PM Mass** and to deliver the groceries on Monday morning, July 28 at 8AM. FMI call Nancy Castonia 829-5803 (H) or 772-5488 (W).

St. Gregory's Blood Drive – Monday, July 21st from 1-7

Donors Needed – Volunteers Needed

Sign up sheets for volunteers and donors are located in the Narthex.

Cluster Picnic - St. Gregory's Campground & Beach Sunday, August 3rd after the 10:30 AM

Mass. The members of St Gregory's Parish Council would like to invite all the members of our cluster parishes to a picnic at the campground and beach of St. Gregory's on August 3 after the 10:30 Mass. Hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken, chips and drinks will be provided. Please bring salads or deserts to share. Bring chairs and bathing suits. Sun or rain! Since we need a count of participants in order to purchase food, please use the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. For more information, contact: Will Plante @ 233-8247 wjplante@ra.rockwell.com or Paul Tracy @ 838-4480

Cluster Raffle – We are pleased to report that we have received over 1,000 surveys. Listed below are the remaining winning raffle numbers to be claimed for the \$50.00 Irving gas card. If you have a winning ticket, please call Holy Martyrs at 781-4573 to arrange a time to pick up your gas card.

1212037 3859141
 3858329
 3858817 3859457 6831944
 3859090

Holy Martyrs Weekly Calender

Sunday July 20	Mass at 8:30 AM Mass at 5:30 PM	Brown Bag 106: Wis 12:13,16-19; Ps 86; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30
Monday July 21		395: Mi 6:1-4,6-8; Ps 50; Mt 12:38-42 St. Gregory's Blood Drive 1-7 PM
Tuesday July 22		396: Mi 7:14-15,18-20; Ps 85; Jn 20:1-2,11-18; see 603: Sg 3:1-4a or 2 Cor 5:14-17
Wednesday July 23		397: Jer 1:1,4-10; Ps 71; Mt 13:1-9
Thursday July 24	Communion Service at 7:30 AM	398: Jer 2:1-3,7-8,12-13; Ps 36; Mt 13:10-17
Friday July 25		605: 2 Cor 4:7-15; Ps 126; Mt 20:20-28
Saturday July 26	Mass at 4:00 PM	400: Jer 7:1-11; Ps 84; Mt 13:24-30 see 606: Sir 44:1,10-15; Mt 13:16-17
Sunday July 27	Mass at 8:30 AM Mass at 5:30 PM	109: 1 Kgs 3:5,7-12; Ps 119; 130 Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

Worldwide Marriage Encounter – With our busy lives we need to plan ahead. Now is the time to consider going on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend to enrich the specialness of your marriage. The registration cost is \$50.00 and there is an opportunity for a free will offering on the weekend. The weekend will be held at the Lewiston Ramada Inn on **7-9 November**. Register on-line at: www.womenewengland.org or contact Dave and Ellie at 207-933-4237 or DaveEllie@fairpoint.net. You deserve all this weekend has to offer.

Office Hours for July 21 – August 22, 2008

Monday & Friday 10:30-5:30
 Tuesday – Thursday 9:30-4:00

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

OFFICE HOURS: **Office Hours for July 21 – August 22, 2008**
 Monday & Friday 10:30-5:30
 Tuesday – Thursday 9:30-4:00

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: 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.