

FROM THE **Dear Friends,**

In this season we observe graduations and celebrate the accomplishments of our young people. I am impressed with the wide range of knowledge opened to them and their access to the many and varied tools for learning resulting from the advances in technology. **Priest** Certainly, we pray that they will realize that their learning is a gift to be used for the benefit of society and the world.

While we celebrate these accomplishments, I must confess to anxiety over the religious ignorance of so many in our culture. We profess to be disciples of Jesus, yet, for many knowledge of him is all too superficial. It is important for us to remember that Jesus is the single most pivotal figure in the development of our western civilization. He is one of history's most compelling figures. Jesus is the founder of Christianity, the largest world religion claiming more than two billion people. While there are many differences among these two billion, Christians have a major impact. This is evident as we continue in this year of a presidential election. I would submit that many of the differences among Christians and obvious in the campaigns are due to the superficial understanding of Jesus which is present among Catholics and other Christians. The churches need to work harder to teach about Jesus, and our culture needs to recognize his impact on so many aspects of our lives.

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

Mass Intentions & Mass Schedule

May 31	4:00 PM	Jane Noyes, by Edward & Susan Dilworth
June 1	8:30 AM	Janice O'Donnell, by the Family
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners
June 2	7:30 AM	Alan Smyth, by Beth, Kevin, Abby & Megan
June 4	7:30 AM	Intention of Faith & Works, by the Stewardship Committee
June 5	7:30 AM	Communion Service

Next Weekend Masses

June 7	4:00 PM	Robert Benoit, by Maria Hanley
June 8	8:30 AM	The deceased family members of Carlita Brown, by Carlita Brown
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners

Last Weekend's Offering: Your contributions for May 24 & 25, 2008 amounted to **\$4,466.00**. **\$3,317.00** was in 135 envelopes and **\$1,124.00** was loose. Thank you for your gifts.

Seminarian Collection – On Saturday, June 7, Transitional Deacon Aaron Damboise of Augusta will be ordained to the priesthood. **This weekend** we will take up the Diocesan Seminarian Collection. This collection has helped defray the costs of seminarian education for Deacon Damboise, for Father Robert Lupo, ordained just a few weeks ago, for the six men still preparing for the priesthood, and for eleven men preparing to be Deacons. Anyone who has children or grandchildren in college (or on their way) knows how high the costs can be. Education for men preparing for the priesthood and diaconate is equally costly. With a full-time Vocations Director beginning this summer, the Church in Maine prays there will be even more enrolled in the years ahead. Please be generous in support of the priests and deacons of the future.

Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time – This weekend's readings call us to active discipleship. It is not enough to know the commandments; we must actively obey them. It is not enough to hear the words of Jesus; we must act on them. Good stewards demonstrate their gratitude for the gift of faith by putting it into action. (From *Stewardship By The Book*, by Sharon Hueckel. Used with permission.)

Commentary:

"Use it or lose it" "No pain, no gain!" If you have ever been in a gym or health club, you have probably seen or heard these phrases. Muscles deteriorate if they are not used regularly. People who once spoke a second language lose that ability if they don't speak it regularly. Any teacher will tell you how much kids forget over the long summer vacation. So we should not be surprised that faith fades if it is not a major part of everyday living. Like Alice in Wonderland, faith does not allow us to stand still: if we are not growing and moving toward Jesus, we are sliding backwards, away from Him.

Religious Ed Update – Sessions for Grades Pre-K through grade 12 have stopped for the summer months. Sessions will resume in September. A big thank you goes out to all the catechists who spent the last nine months reading and planning for their classes! We are so grateful for your gift of time to our young people. Holy Martyrs is blessed to have such a dedicated group of catechists! Parents, please consider becoming a catechist for our next session. Our enrollment is fast approaching 200 students, and we need your help! All grade levels have vacancies. Most catechists prefer to co-teach and share the schedule with another parent (or two!). Holy Martyrs and the chancery will provide training. The teacher's manual is volunteer friendly. Deacon Dennis, Father Ford and I are ready to support you! Please email your response or any questions to Judy at Dominick5@aol.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

Tuition Assistance Policy for Catholic School Students - As families consider the advantages of a Catholic education, a clarification of the policy on financial aid from the parish is offered. Aid will be provided for students who with their families worship at Holy Martyrs and volunteer in some way on behalf of the parish; the family must use our budget envelope system. The elementary school students meeting these requirements will be provided tuition assistance in accord with the amount determined by the Catholic school which they attend.

Elementary School Tuition Reminder – All elementary school students planning on attending Catholic school in the fall should return their school tuition contract form to the office ASAP.

High school students meeting these requirements are asked to present a written request for aid by June 13, 2008.

Hymn Notes: This weekend, at the Sunday evening Mass, we honor our high school graduates. The music ministry would like to extend their thanks to one of these graduates, Catherine Hayes, who has shared her musical talent for several years in our parish. Best wishes to her and all the other graduates.

Music Director – Cecile DeRoche-Cain has resigned as our music director effective June 30, 2008. We are beginning a search for a new director. Persons interested should contact the parish office.

Memorial Plantings at Holy Martyrs

Pagoda Dogwood, Grotto area 2007 - Mr. and Mrs. J. Clarence Madore In memory of her Mother and Stepfather, Mr. & Mrs. J. Oram Caron

Beach Roses 2005 - The Keeley Family In memory of Joan Keeley

Prairie Fire Crabapple Tree 2005 - Ronald and Jenna Hart In memory of their son, Bradford T. Hart

Fall Mums in Grotto since 2002 - Paula and David Spellman In memory of their Parents

Thank you for these plantings that enhance the gardens at Holy Martyrs - The Garden Committee

Offertory Envelopes – Offertory envelopes for the new fiscal year can be found in the Narthex. If you do not see your name and would like envelopes, please sign-up on the sheet provided at the table. New envelopes will be available next weekend.

Friendship House is a residence in South Portland for formerly homeless men recovering from substance abuse. The first Wednesday of each month, members of our parish contribute prepared hot or cold (may be frozen) dishes and grocery items such as fresh produce, paper products and toiletries, which I then take to the men at FH. If you would like to contribute something **this Wednesday**, please call Deborah Nicklas @ 781-4362.

Holy Martyrs Weekly Calendar

Sunday June 1	Mass at 8:30 AM – Parish Planting Day after Mass Readings Begin at #972; Communion Hymn # 587 Connected Catholics 5:00 PM Mass at 5:30 PM – Graduation Mass 85: Dt 11;18,26-28,32; Ps 31; Rom 3:21-25,28; Mt 7:21-27
Monday June 2	Mass at 7:30 AM 353: 2 Pt 1:2-7; Ps 91; Mk 12;1-12
Tuesday June 3	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM 354: 2 Pt 3;12-15a,17-18; Ps 90; Mk 12:13-17 see 576; 2 Mc 7;1-2,9-14; Mt 5:1-12a
Wednesday June 4	Mass at 7:30 AM Friendship House 355: 2 Tm 1:1-3,6-12; Ps 123, Mk 12:18-27
Thursday June 5	Communion Service at 7:30 AM 356 : 2Tm 2:8-15; Ps 25; Mk 12:28-34; see 577: Acts 26:19-23; Jn 10:11-16 ♫Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM
Friday June 6	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM 357: 2 Tm 3:10-17; Ps 119; Mk 12:35-37
Saturday June 7	Mass at 4:00 PM 358: 2 Tm 4:1-8; Ps 71; Mk 12:38-44
Donut Sunday June 8	Mass at 8:30 AM Mass at 5:30 PM 88: Hos 6:3-6; Ps 50; Rom 4:18-25; Mt 9:9-13

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
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

Jn 10:11-16

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: 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.

Class of 2008



Mary Bruen
 Shannon Cassidy
 Elise DeSimone
 Ethan Duran
 Kathryn Esty
 Alicia Marie Hahn
 Catherine Hayes
 Stephen Hebson
 Nellie Honan
 Jessica Howard
 Christopher Machesney
 Alison Miller
 Katherine Miller
 Kelly Miller
 Megan Mullaney

Falmouth HS
 Greely HS
 Falmouth HS
 Falmouth HS
 Greely HS
 Falmouth HS
 Falmouth HS
 Falmouth HS
 Falmouth HS
 Catherine McAuley HS
 Greely HS
 Carrabassett Valley Academy
 Falmouth HS
 Falmouth HS
 Falmouth HS
 Catherine McAuley HS

University of Montana
 Fairfield University, CT
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, NY
 New Brunswick Community College
 University of Richmond, VA
 University of Maine, Orono
 Middlebury College
 Brown University
 Loyola College, MD
 Bates College
 Whitman College, WA
 Boston College
 Smith College
 Skidmore College
 Sweet Briar College, VA