



Dear Friends,

At their November meeting in Baltimore the bishops of the United States gave final approval to a new translation of the Sacramentary, the book used by the celebrant at Priest Mass. This project has been a long one. It involved a debate over the principles of translation from Latin to English. The prevailing view was that the translation should be more literal than the translation which we have been using for four decades. An example is the greeting used several times at Mass. The celebrant says: *The Lord be with you. We reply: And also with you.* The celebrant's words are a literal translation of *Dominus vobiscum*. The English reply is not a literal translation of *Et cum spiritu tuo: And with your spirit.* It will probably take us some time to get used to this change after such a long usage. I do note that the French and the Italian sacramentaries use the literal translation. Those proposing this change in English hold that the phrases are not just a greeting and response, rather the priest represents Christ in celebrating the Eucharist. It is the spirit of Christ that the congregation seeks. The new Sacramentary will not be published until after approval by the Holy See. The expected date is sometime in 2011. This is an opportunity for us to review again the structure and meaning of the Mass.

Father Joe Ford; email: jiford67@maine.rr.com

Mass Intentions & Mass Schedule

November 28	4:00 PM	David Twomey III, by Barbara McManus
November 29	8:30 AM	The Parishioners
	5:30 PM	Clayton Thomas, by The Polewaczyk Family
November 30	7:30 AM	Edna V. Juliano, by Randy & Marie Wimert
December 2	7:30 AM	Robert Donovan, by Sadie Donovan
December 3	7:30 AM	Communion Service

Next Weekend Masses

December 5	4:00 PM	Jacqueline Bousquet, by Joseph Bousquet
December 6	8:30 AM	Joan Burns, by her husband
	5:30 PM	The Parishioners

Holy Day Masses – Monday, December 7th at 5:30 PM and Tuesday, December 8th at 7:30 AM.

St. Gregory's – Monday, December 7th at 7:00 PM and Tuesday December 8th at 9:00 AM.

Last Weekend's Offering: Thank you for your contributions of \$4,767.00 last weekend. To meet our budget for the fiscal year, the weekly collection should average \$6,000.00 per week. The second collection totaled \$1,762.00. The E-Giving amount for November totaled \$1,435.00.

New Cluster Bulletin – Beginning January 2010 we will be using Liturgical Publications for our new cluster bulletin. Please note that the **new deadline for all bulletin items will be 10 business days before bulletin date** (i.e. Monday, December 28th deadline for the bulletin January 9 & 10, 2010.) The first edition of the new bulletin will be January 9 & 10, 2010.

Flu Protocols: The Sign of Peace should be offered without any physical contact (use a verbal greeting along with meaningful eye contact, a smile, or the bow of the head). The faithful should not hold hands during the Our Father.

Holy Communion - All ministers of Holy Communion must sanitize their hands prior to and after the distribution of Holy Communion. Communion in the hand is encouraged (not mandated); the faithful retain the option of receiving Holy Communion either on the tongue or in the hand. All ministers of Holy Communion are advised to distribute the consecrated hosts with care, being cautious not to touch the tongue or the hand of the communicant. The distribution of the Precious Blood for the faithful is suspended, with the exception of those who must receive from the cup due to medical reasons (i.e., Celiac disease). The faith of the Church teaches that Christ, whole and entire, is received even under only one species.

Music Ministry News: Please help us celebrate Jesus' birthday by joining one of our Christmas Choirs! The Family Choir will sing at the 4:00 PM Mass on Christmas Eve. Children, parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles are welcome to join the Family Choir. The Adult Choir will sing at the 6:00 PM Mass Christmas Eve. Rehearsals for both choirs will begin Tues. December 1. The Family Choir will meet in the church from 6:30 to 7:30 PM and the Adult Choir from 7:30 to 8:30 PM. Please contact Diane Beaton at 781-9869 or sbeaton@maine.rr.com for more information. *Diane Beaton will be moving from Maine after the holidays. Consequently, we are seeking an organist/director of music ministry. If you are interested or can recommend someone, please advise the office at 781-4573 or by e-mail.

The Bethlehem Village Experience - Dec. 11th at St. Gregory's Parish, Gray from 6:30pm - 8pm

Parishioners of all ages are invited to become part of the Christmas story -- you will actually feel, taste, hear, and smell what life was like during this miraculous time. An excited group of shepherds will lead groups of guests to the stable, where guests can interact with a very special -- but weary -- couple and their newborn. This isn't your typical "living Nativity" because guests will talk with Joseph and Mary, ask them what it was like to stay in a stable, and discover that God used regular people to fulfill his promise. What a remarkable reminder of God's amazing love for us! FMI - email judy.dominick@portlanddiocese.org.

Notice to all volunteers who work with children at Holy Martyrs Parish: As mandated by Diocesan Policy, everyone who works with children and youth on a regular basis, is required to attend a training session of "Protecting God's Children". The following dates have been selected to offer a choice that best fits your schedule, if you haven't already attended: Wednesday, December 2nd from 6-9p.m. at St. Gregory parish hall in Gray and Saturday, December 12th from 9a.m. -12 noon at Holy Martyrs, Falmouth. Please notify the church where you will attend the session, so we can plan on space and materials. Call Judy Dominick at 781-2847 if you have any questions.

Early alert for "Think Smart/Stay Safe" during Liturgy of the Word and Religious Education sessions on

December 13/14 & 20/21: We will be conducting our annual Diocesan approved "Think Smart/Stay Safe" program for this year, during the regular scheduled sessions on Sunday and Monday, December 13/14 & 20/21 for the children registered for Religious Education at Holy Martyrs. If you would like to attend with your child, please feel free to do so. Also, if you would prefer that your children not participate, you should sign an opt-out form that can be obtained from the office. Thank you for all your efforts to create and maintain safe environments for our children, and break the cycle of abuse.



Young Adults' Advent Retreat: Keeping Our Eyes Fixed on Jesus - December 11-13, 2009 ~ with Fr. William Brown, OMV & Fr. David Nicgorski, OMV. In preparation for Christmas, this Advent retreat for young adults in their 20's and 30's will provide an opportunity to discover how the disordered attachments in our lives keep us from ordering our life to Christ and experience the freedom He desires for us. Cost: \$145.00. FMI and to register, call Marie Joseph Spiritual Center – 207-284-5671.

Cumberland/Falmouth Food Pantries – Jean Lamson, Director of the Cumberland Food Pantry, advises that their needs have increased by 25% over the last two months. She said the Holy Martyrs donations have been "Heaven Sent" and thank you all so very much! They could really use cleaning supplies, laundry detergent, coffee, canned fruit, fruit juices, canned pasta, spaghetti, ravioli, etc. Thank you for helping your needy neighbors.

Caring Tree - In the Narthex, you will find the teen youth ministry's caring tree. It is beautifully decorated with white lights, and ornaments which we invite you to take. The ornaments are tags that represent presents for those who depend on the generosity of others at Christmas time. Please take a tag, purchase the present(s) and then return them unwrapped, and in gift bags **by December 13th**. Please attach the tag to the gift bag so that they can be properly sorted and delivered. For more information, please contact Deb Meahl - 781-8251 or Carol Keroack – 878-8468.

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 dishes (dishes may be donated frozen) and grocery items such as fresh produce, paper products or toiletries, which I then take to the men at FH. If you would like to donate something this Wednesday, Please call Deborah Nicklas @ 781-4362. The men at Friendship House will also be selling **Christmas trees and wreaths** daily from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., starting Thanksgiving Day. FH is located at 390 Lincoln Street, South Portland; call 767-7403 for directions.

Holy Martyrs Weekly Calendar

 First Sunday in Advent November 29	NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM <i>3: Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25; 1 Thes 3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-28,34-36</i> Readings Begin at #879
Monday November 30	Mass at 7:30 AM Religious Education Classes Continue <i>684: Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22</i> Cluster Stewardship Committee 7:00-8:30 PM
Tuesday December 1	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM 6:30-8:30 PM Choir Rehearsal Contemplative Prayer Group 9:30-11:00 AM <i>176: Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24</i>
Wednesday November 2	Mass at 7:30 AM Protecting God's Children 6-9 PM at St. Gregory's Friendship House <i>177: Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37</i>
December 3 Thursday	Communion Service at 7:30 AM <i>178: Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21.24-27</i>
Friday December 4	Mass at St. Gregory's at 8:00 AM <i>179: Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31</i>
Saturday December 5	Reconciliation for Grade 2 at 10:00 AM Mass at 4:00 PM <i>180: Is 30:19-21,23-26; Mt 9:35-10:1,5a,6-8</i>
 Second Sunday in Advent December 6	Mass at 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM NO Religious Education Classes Christmas Fair 9:30-1:30 Readings Begin at #882 <i>6: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6,8-11; Lk 3:1-6</i> Connected Catholics 5:00 PM

Connected Catholics of Maine - General Meeting: Sunday, December 6 - Holy Martyrs Parish Hall, Route 88, Falmouth. 5:00 PM Social Hour - Potluck Supper; 5:45 PM Business Meeting; 6:00 PM Program – Christmas Party – Yankee Swap (Please try to limit the cost of gifts to \$5.00.)

Vocations - "Strengthen your hearts in holiness." Are you being called to grow in holiness as a priest, deacon, religious brother or sister? Call Fr. Bob Vaillancourt @ 207-773-6471 / robert.vaillancourt@portlanddiocese.org or Sr. Rita Mae Bissonnette @ 207-773-6471 / ritamae.bissonnette@portlanddiocese.org.

Holiday Candlelight Service of Remembrance - Please join us for a special service for those who have suffered the loss of a loved one this past year on Sunday, December 6th at 2:00 PM at St. Maximilian Kolbe Church, 150 Black Point Road, Scarborough. Music will be provided by Judith James, Musical Director at St. Maximilian Kolbe and St. Maximilian Kolbe's choir. FMI please call 773-6511 or e-mail at info@ctcrawford.com.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter – Your marriage is important to you, your family and the church. The next weekend is March 19-21, 2010 at the Lewiston Ramada Inn. The registration fee is \$50.00 and a freewill donation will be accepted at the end of the weekend. FMI and to register, please contact Dave & Ellie at 207-933-4237 or go to www.womenewengland.org.

Camp Fatima for boys & Camp Bernadette for girls are now taking registrations for the 2010 summer season. The camps, located in the Lakes Region of NH, offer 2 week overnight sessions for children, ages 6-15. To request a brochure and DVD, contact Michael Drumm at 603-364-5851 or email mdrumm@diocamps.org, or visit us on the web at www.diocamps.org. Please don't wait as sessions fill quickly.

Adoption ...a beautiful way to give your child life and a loving family. Pregnant women facing unexpected pregnancies deserve to know about all their options. For an understanding ear and information on life affirming choices call Catholic Charities Maine Birthline, call 871-7464 (Portland), Ext. 2670; toll-free at 1-800-CARE-002; or e-mail: psm@ccmaine.org All inquiries are strictly confidential.

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: 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.