

Mass Intentions

HOLY CROSS/ST. JOHN'S



We welcome our summer visitors who may be passing through or spending a period of time with us. We hope you will enjoy the hospitality of the community, which make up the parishes.

- Saturday July 23**
HC 4:00PM Margaret Blair by Jane & Jeff Flynn
SJ 5:30PM Daniel Davis by Sister & Family
- Sunday July 24**
HC 7:30AM For the Intentions of the Parishioners
SJ 9:00AM Nancy Feeney by Patsy & Jack McDonough
HC 10:30AM Julienne Page by Family
- Monday July 25**
SJ 12:00Noon Eva Wolff by David & Laura Stevens
- Tuesday July 26**
HC 7:30AM Ann Hamilton by M/M Leonard Bickford
- Wednesday July 27**
HC 7:30AM Communion Service
SJ 12:00Noon Communion Service
- Thursday July 28**
SJ 12:00 Noon Olive Toussaint by M/M Charles Boivin
- Friday July 29**
HC 7:30AM R. G. Williams by Justin & Pamela Kane
- Saturday July 30**
HC 4:00PM Sr. Marianne Norton, RSM Eleanor Flaherty
SJ 5:30PM Armand Pelletier by Family
- Sunday July 31**
HC 7:30AM Ann Hamilton by Mary Jo Keenan
SJ 9:00AM For the Intentions of the Parishioners
HC 10:30AM John Dickson by Family

HOLY CROSS

Weekly Goal	\$7,000.00
Total Collection for W/E 7-17-05	\$5336.30
Thank you for your continued support and generosity.	

ST. JOHN'S

Weekly Goal	\$3800.00
Total Collection for W/E 7-17-05	\$2825.00
Charity Fund	\$781.00
Thank you for your continued support and generosity.	

WEEK AHEAD

- Monday July 25**
 12:00Noon Bridge - **SJ Center**
 7:00PM Quilter's- **RM 2B**
- Tuesday July 26**
 7:00PM Marian Cenacle Prayer Group -
At HC Church
- Wednesday July 27**
 7:00PM Rosary- **SJ Church**
- Thursday July 28**
 9:00AM Food Cupboard- **SJ Church**
 9:00AM Quilters- **SJ Center**
 4:15PM Church Kitchen & Hall in Use
 6:30PM Rt. 1 Men's Step Mtg. - **Church**

CASCO BAY WINE TASTING

Southern Me Community College Picnic Field
August 4th, 6-8PM

Minimum donation- \$25.00 per person. Cash or Credit Card will be accepted at the door.
 Door prizes: 2 American Airlines tickets good for stand-by travel within the U.S. 48 states, Caribbean, Bahamas, Bermuda, Canada & Mexico and a Dental Whitening package courtesy of Dr. Robert Nelson, DDS. Catering by CVC.

Proceeds to benefit the Holy Cross Playground.



DEVOTIONAL LIGHTS

A devotional light is burning this week at **Holy Cross** in loving memory of:

Richard Elliot

Requested by Joyce Yankowsky
 And

A devotional light is burning this week at **St. John's** in loving memory of:

Olivia Thibeau

Requested by Diane & Bob Melanson

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings for the Week of July 24, 2005

Sunday:	1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/ Rom 8:28-30/ Mt 13:44-52
Monday:	2 Cor 4:7-15/ Mt 20:20-28
Tuesday:	Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/ Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday:	Ex 34:29-35/ Mt 13:44-46
Thursday:	Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/ Mt 13:47-53
Friday:	Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37 Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
Saturday:	Lv 25:1, 8-17/ Mt 14:1-12
Next Sunday:	Is 55:1-3/ Rom 8:35, 37-39/ Mt 14:13-21

“Questions for your Reflection”

First Reading 1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12

1. What would the world be like if everyone in a leadership position earnestly prayed Solomon’s prayer, “Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong.”?

2. How difficult do you find the task of applying Christian values to your everyday life? Would anyone’s life change for the better if you had more wisdom or understanding? Where can you get more?

Second Reading [Romans 8: 28-30](#)

1. “All things work for the good for those who love God.” Suffering is inevitable in human life. How can it work for the good?

2. How do you think the “pearl” in the gospel reading can impact “all things working for the good for those who love God”?

Gospel [Matthew 13: 44-52](#)

1. How do you recognize the “treasure” or the kingdom of God in your life today? Think of some times that you have experienced the glory of the kingdom of God to some degree.

2. Is there any treasure that is worth the investment of everything you have? What other “treasures” keep you from making a full investment in “the pearl of great price”?

By Anne Osdieck of the Center for Liturgy at Saint Louis University

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JOB OPENING: PARISH CATECHETICAL LEADER

The Parishes of Holy Cross and St. John the Evangelist in South Portland, Maine are seeking a Parish Catechetical Leader to be responsible for the overall direction of all catechetical activity in the parishes (sacramental preparation, baptismal preparation, RCIA, Faith formation of children, Adult faith formation) with an emphasis on whole community catechesis. This includes recruitment and formation of catechists. Applicants must have the ability to work collaboratively with catechists, families, RCIA team, pastoral and school staff. Masters Degree in Religious Education or Pastoral Studies or Certification through the Diocese of Portland. Parish experience in faith formation and some administrative experience preferred. Must be able to work in a team environment. Competitive salary and benefits. Send resume to: Rev. Michael Gendreau, Pastor, 29 Aspen Avenue, South Portland, ME 04106 or email to: fmike@hcsj.org

Dear Parishioners,

The following are statements from the General directory for Catechesis (GDC), a guide for those who work in the ministry of catechesis signed by Pope John Paul, II, in 1997. “In giving attention to the individual, it should not be overlooked that the recipient of catechesis is the whole Christian community and every person in it.” (GDC #168) “The Christian community is the origin, locus, and goal of catechesis. Proclamation of the Gospel always begins with the Christian community and invites (people) to conversion and the following of Christ. It is the same community that welcomes those who wish to know the Lord better and permeate themselves with a new life. The Christian community accompanies catechumens and those being catechized, and with maternal solicitude makes them participate in her own experience of the faith and incorporates them into herself.” (GDC #254) and “Adult catechesis must be given priority.” (GDC #258) In addition, the number one goal of our diocesan synod, mid 1990’s, was Lifelong Faith Formation.

In light of these statements, my observations of our current catechetical programs, and needs that have been expressed to me, Holy Cross and St. John the Evangelist is shifting its philosophy and vision so that we can widen our scope of catechesis, that is, a move to “Whole Community Catechesis.”

Joseph Draper ministered among you for 8 years sharing his gifts and talents with the Catholic Community in South Portland, however, as a result of the shift in vision and needs, I felt it necessary to make a change in leadership. You will notice a “help wanted ad” posted in this weekend’s bulletin that outlines an opening for a Parish Catechetical Leader as well as a summary of the scope of responsibility of this position. **I would like to thank Joseph for his many years of service to our parishes**

Peace
Fr. Mike

Whole Community Catechesis/Christian Formation
By Brigit O'Donnell

Many of us still think about Christian Formation in terms of religious instruction. Some still call it "CCD", though most don't know what those letters stand for. We have a framework of a school. Another way of looking at Christian Formation is in the context of the whole community.

What we do on Sunday mornings or whenever we gather is far more inclusive than meeting in school classrooms, following an academic year calendar, using textbooks and having "teachers". Our framework is being lifelong disciples and learners rather than "graduating" after a sacrament or even eighth grade. "The program", while it is one component, is not the most important part of our formation.

Here are some of characteristics of whole community catechesis:

- Sunday Mass is the most important gathering of the Christian community.
- The total parish is involved in learning and sharing about the faith. Every age in the parish is involved, not just children and youth.
- Christian home-making is very important. It is where faith happens on a continuing basis. Families are the domestic church.
- Christian Formation is not an optional parish program with a beginning and an end. Continual faith formation is part of being Christian.
- Christian Formation happens in many ways:
 - During the homily at Mass
 - At Liturgy of the Word with Children
 - In preparing for sacraments
 - During more structured sessions
 - In everyday household life
 - By reading articles and inserts like The Faith Connection
 - In web sites for children, youth, and adults
 - While doing service for others, whether as an individual or group, a parish setting or in the family
 - In discussions with others

Whole community catechesis/Christian Formation cannot be evaluated or measured by the usual standards. It is an ongoing process that consists of conversion rather than achievement. Its aim is stated in the General Directory for Catechesis #80: **"...the definitive aim of catechesis is to put people ...in communion and intimacy with Jesus Christ."**

We try to provide small communities of faith where your child(ren) can grow in knowledge of their faith, understanding liturgy, moral formation, prayer, community life, and professing their faith in word and deed in reaching out to others. We work in partnership with you as you continue on the faith journey with your child(ren).

FOOD CUPBOARD

Occasionally we receive calls from families that are cleaning out homes of loved ones who have passed away. The canned goods are gratefully received. Last week Rosemary Clark told the family of Lu Ann Haffey to give the food items to the Food Cupboard. Lu Ann used to make desserts for the Broadway Getty Mart, and had unfortunately passed away at the age of 47. Her family was from Ohio and had no idea where we were or how to bring food to us as they were staying at Gary's House. When we went to Lu Ann's home to pick up the food items we thought it would be maybe a box full. Well, Lu Ann had a lot of food--- 7 full banana boxes and 3 frozen turkeys! Thank you Rosemary and Lu Ann's family. They said "she would have wanted the food to go to us".

We thank Elm Street United Methodist Church, First United Methodist Church, and Thornton Heights United Methodist Church for their monthly food donations.

Jordan's Farm gave us beet greens and 3 types of lettuce, and Buttered biscuit gave us biscuits and soup.

We thank the following for their monetary donations: Michael & Eileen Connolly, Helen Keating, Mary Cash, Pauline Robishaw (in honor of St. Anthony in thanksgiving for favor received), Eileen Cullinan, and those who wish to remain anonymous.

We need: **Baked beans**

PRAY FOR:

People in our families, our friends and members of our parish who are ill, facing surgery, hospitalized, or experiencing difficult times have asked for our prayers. During the course of the week, please take a few moments to offer a prayer of healing and strength for: **Lydia Barron, Harold & Betty Janson, Gail Smith, Steve Lesneski, Laura Stevens, Louise Dixon, Elaine Cribby, Michael LaForgia, Gertrude Fraser, Anne Hewlett, Ed & Ann Letourneau, Steve, Theresa Chicoine, Eleanor Ward, Pete Peterson, Camella Gatley, Rose Clark, Ryan Burton, Ethel Ball, Eugenia Britt, Eleanor Krupski, Katherine Farrell, Diane Greenwood, Francis Branley, Janet Yankowsky, Anne Blake, Libby Vescobi, Margaret Page, Emily Kane, Stanley Slowinski, George DiMauro, baby Evan Mayone, the Roberts Family, Katie Large, Rick Lopez and Carolyn Keegan.**

INTERNATIONAL PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE

August 22nd is a special date for our parishes. The International Pilgrim Virgin Statue, one of two statues Touring the world out of Fatima, will be at Holy Cross Church for us to reverence. This is an opportunity for us to ask Our Lady for special favors. We, the Holy Cross "Marian Cenacle Prayer Group" (hosting this Visitation) believe that the reason she is with us is because She desires to bless us abundantly and bring us to Her Son, Jesus. Mark your calendars and watch for more information in future bulletins

