

HOLY CROSS & ST. JOHN'S PARISHES, SOUTH PORTLAND, ME



Saturday November 26
HC 11:00AM Chazaud 50th Anniversary Mass
HC 4:00PM Lenore Higgins by John Higgins
SJ 5:30PM Paul Haney by K of C #8144

Sunday November 27
HC 7:30AM for the Intentions of the Parishioners
SJ 9:00AM Fitzpatrick & Furbush Families by Peg & Ralph Furbush
HC 10:30AM John Kneeland Family by daughter

Monday November 28
SJ 12:00Noon Richard Dawson by Jerry & Pat Shea

Tuesday November 29
HC 7:30AM Gertrude Lambert by Paul & Theresa Murphy

Wednesday November 30
HC 7:30AM Communion Service
SJ 12:00Noon Communion Service

Thursday December 1
SJ 12:00 Noon Leo Coyle by L. Jane Pooler

Friday December 2
HC 7:30AM Sarah Colello by Kaye Kane

Saturday December 3
HC 4:00PM Martin McLaughlin by Daughter & Family
SJ 5:30PM Clinton Hatt, Jr. by Family

Sunday December 4
HC 7:30AM Mary Norton by Family
SJ 9:00AM for the Intentions of the Parishioners
HC 10:30AM Polly Abraham by Family

HOLY CROSS

Weekly Goal	\$7,100.00
Total Collection for W/E 11-20-05	\$8,395.95
Campaign for Human Develop.	\$1,075.15
Thank you for your continued support and generosity.	

ST. JOHN'S

Weekly Goal	\$3800.00
Total Collection for W/E 11-20-05	\$3,476.50
Campaign for Human Develop	\$ 589.00
Thank you for your continued support and generosity.	

WORSHIP & SPIRITUALITY MAKE UP MEETING MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2005 AT ST. JOHN'S CENTER. TIME: 7:00PM

WEEK AHEAD

Monday November 28
 12:00Noon Bridge - SJ Center-Dble Rm.
 7:00PM Worship & Spirituality Mtg.-Rm. 1

Tuesday November 29
 12:00-1:30 Co-Ed Bible Grp- Sm.Conf.Rm
 12:00-2:30 Me. Voc. - Church Kitchen
 6:00PM Faith Formation- Ctr.
 7:00PM Marian Cenacle Prayer Group - At HC Church

Wednesday November 30
 10-11:30AM Ladies Bible Group- Library-Ctr.
 7:00-8:30PM Co-Ed Bible Grp.- Resource Rm
 6:00-8:30 AFG Group- Ctr.
 6:30PM RCIA-Center
 7:00PM Rosary- SJ Church

Thursday December 1
 9:00AM Quilters- Center
 9:00AM Food Cupboard- Church Hall
 12:30PM Book Club- Library
 6:30PM H.C. School Board Mtg.-Ctr.
 6:30PM S.J. Choir-S.J. Church
 6:30PM H. C. Choir - H.C. Church

Friday December 2
 5:00-6:00AM Marian Holy Hour- Church
 1-5PM 1st Friday Adoration- Church



DEVOTIONAL LIGHTS

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

Martin McLaughlin

Requested by Daughter & Family
 And

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

Richard Elliot

Requested by his sister Joyce

The **Marian Cenacle Prayer Group** meets each Tuesday evening from 7-8:30PM in the sacristy of the church at Holy Cross. FMI contact Carolyn or Jim Carson at 799-4796



The Rosary is said on Monday's and Thursday's at 11:30AM at St. John's Parish. The Joyful and Luminous mysteries. All are welcome to join us

Saturday December 3
 9:00-12:00 Breakfast with St. Nick- SJ Church Hall

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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, Theresa Chicoine, Eleanor Ward, Pete Peterson, Rose Clark, Ryan Burton, Ethel Ball, Eugenia Britt, Eleanor Krupski, Francis Branley, Janet Yankowsky, Anne Blake, Margaret Page, Emily Kane, Diana Slowinski, baby Evan Mayone, Rick Lopez, Carolyn Keegan, Laurent (of Lifesong Ministry), Joan Clark, Gordon Welch, Karen Hastings, Brady Wasina, Buddy Cohen, Wayne Carter, Bob Wilson and Robert Belanger**

THE ADVENT WREATH

Why the circular wreath? - A circle has no beginning and no end. The circular wreath reminds us that God's love for us is infinite.

Why the Evergreens? - Evergreens symbolize everlasting life.

Why the Candles? - There are four candles, one to be lit each week, symbolizes as follows.

1st, week Purple Candle- Hope, 2nd week Purple Candle- Peace, 3rd week Rose Candle- Joy and the 4th week light the last purple candle and that reminds us of God's Love for us.

THANK YOU!!!!!!

The Holy Cross Home & School Association and Christmas Fair Committee would like to extend their gratitude to the parents, students, teachers, parishioners and local businesses for all the support given to make our annual Christmas Fair another successful event.

CONGRATULATIONS

Every year the Greater Portland Council of Catholic Men honors a person for outstanding service in their parish by awarding them the Lester York Man of the Year Award. This year's recipient is our own Rick O'Brien. In the name of St John Parish, congratulations Rick and thank you for your dedication and service to our community.

HOLIDAY CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Please join us for a special service for those who have suffered the loss of a loved one this year on Sunday, Dec 4 at 2PM at St Patrick's Church, 1342 Congress St, Portland. There will be light refreshments at the conclusion of the service. Sponsored by Conroy-Tully Crawford Funeral Homes & Cremation Services and hosted by St Patrick's Church and Rev Thomas Murphy. If you are planning to attend, please call 773-0858 with the number of family members that will be joining us as well as the name of the loved one that you have lost.

MARIAN HOLY HOUR to pray for non-believers, religious vocations, world peace and right to life issues. St. John the Evangelist Church, Main Street, South Portland on Friday, December 2, 2005 from 5:00-6:00 A.M. **PLEASE ENTER BY PARKING LOT BACK DOOR.**

Those who cannot join us at Church are urged to **Pray an Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be** For these intentions sometime during the day

BOOK CLUB MEETS on the 1st. Thursday of every month. The first meeting will take place at St. John's in the Library on **December 1st from 12:30-1:30PM**. Please bring a lunch. Coffee will be served. First book will be "The Return of the Prodigal Son a story of homecoming" by Henri J.M. Nouwen. FMI call Marie Crocket @883-4690, please leave message.



THE GIVING TREE

Only one week left to return the Giving Tree gifts. It is important that these are back by **next Sunday, December 4th**, as our needy brothers

and sisters have asked for so little. We will meet their requests but we need your help. If you have taken a tag and will not be able to return the gift wrapped with tag attached by 12/4, please let Mary Margaret Reid (799-9584) or Lillian Hanlon (767-2555) know so we can make alternate arrangements. Thank you for your caring hearts.

Special Mass in honor of Persons with Disabilities

Bishop Richard Malone will celebrate a Special Mass in honor of Persons with Disabilities on **Sunday, December 4, 10:00 a.m.**, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Portland.

LECTORS

St. John's Lectors please pick up your workbooks in the Sacristy.

Stop In... AND HAVE A CUP OF COFFEE 

Join us for Coffee, Juice, Donuts & Bagels after the 9:00AM Mass at **St. John's** in the Church Hall. Your host at St. John's will be the Church Life Committee. Next week your host will be the Women's Council.

Holy Cross will not be having Coffee Hour this week.

A VOCATION VIEW

The season of Advent calls us to be vigilant in anticipation of the Master's return so that we live each day according to the teachings of Christ. Some are called to teach, preach and witness those teachings as priests and religious. God may be calling you to a Church vocation. If you think God is calling you to be a priest or religious, call Fr. Frank Murray at 782-8096, ext. 108.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

November 27 at Holy Cross from 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. to pray the Liturgy of the Hours. During the Advent Season we are so busy about decorating, shopping, and baking; let this brief time on Sunday be a time to slow down, to pray and to prepare as we celebrate the great feast of Christmas.

FAITH FORMATION



ALL parents of children enrolled in the Faith Formation program @ St. John's and ALL parents of Catholic School

children. There will be an informational meeting on **Wednesday, November 30th at 6:00PM at Holy Cross Church** regarding the child safety program. "Child Lures." Any questions please call Laurie at 773-8710 or Deacon Steve at 799-6661.



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
Saturday, December 3rd from 9:00AM – 11:00AM at St. John's Parish Hall. Craft Table for children, story time and singing.

BUDGET ENVELOPES

Beginning in January 2006 parishioners of both parishes will receive their offertory envelopes by mail, there will no longer be a full year boxed set for you to pick up in the narthex of the Church! Envelopes will be mailed on a quarterly basis to all parishioners who are currently using their envelopes, and to any parishioners who requested envelopes when they recently completed the Parish Census form. Look for your new offertory envelopes packet to arrive in the mail towards the end of December, just in time for the beginning of the calendar year. If you have any questions please contact Dorothy Stack, Business Manager.

Readings for the Week of November 27, 2005

Sunday:	Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/ 1 Cor 1:3-9/ Mk 13:33-37
Monday:	Is 2:1-5/ Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10/ Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Rom 10:9-18/ Mt 4:18-22
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6/ Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Is 29:17-24/ Mt 9:27-31
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26/ Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Next Sunday:	Is 40:1-5, 9-11/ 2 Pt 3:8-14/ Mk 1:1-8

CHRISTMAS FAIR

St Bartholomew Church, Cape Elizabeth will hold their annual Fair on Dec 3, Saturday, 1PM-6:30PM and Sunday, Dec 4, 10AM-1PM. FMI Charlene Hagen, 883-1645.

QUESTIONS & REFLECTIONS

First Reading [Isaiah, Chapter 63, Verses 16-17, 19; Chapter 64, Verses 2-7](#)

1. Just how does a potter handle clay? Even though we wander away from the Lord, God is our father and handles us as a potter handles the clay. Explain this metaphor.
2. Is there a veil that keeps you from seeing God's presence at work in your life and in your world? How can you use Advent to lift that veil, to get more in touch with God in and around you?

Second Reading

[1 Corinthians, Chapter 1, Verses 3-9](#)

1. What have you been given to do God's work now, as you wait for Christ's coming at the end of your life? The concern here is to make sure you are ready for life with God after death. Is there life with God before your death? Explain.

2. In what ways has God enriched you personally?

Gospel

[Mark, Chapter 13, Verses 33-37](#)

1. As vigilant gatekeepers watching for the Lord of the house, what signs do you see that tell you God is present in the world and in your life?
2. As gatekeepers we are responsible for God's goods on earth. What is the Church's responsibility in the maintenance of the life of the earth? What is your responsibility?

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

