

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

- St. Joseph Parish Council Executive Committee: Tuesday, November 3rd, 5:00 p.m., Friary.
- St. Joseph's Women's Sodality: Tuesday, November 3rd, 7:00 p.m., rosary in church followed by meeting in Friary meeting room.
- Cluster 28 Transition Committee: Tuesday, November 3rd, 7:00 p.m., St. Patrick Rectory.
- St. Joseph Bible Study: Thursday, November 5th, 7:00 p.m., Friary meeting room.
- St. Joseph Altar Server Training: Sunday, November 6th, 6:00 p.m., Church.

PARISH DEBT REDUCTION

The second collection at Masses next weekend is a very special collection to reduce our parish debt. At present our debt (to the Diocese of Portland) is \$79,330.06. It is being amortized at the rate of \$1,009.84 per month for the next 8.75 years. This debt is the result of major maintenance work done over the past several years to replace the lower roof on the church and the roof on the Friary. Please be as generous as your means will allow.

FINANCE COMMITTEE



754 individuals attended Mass last weekend and contributed \$7,130 to the offertory. One year ago for the same weekend, the offertory collection totaled \$8,320.

At the 1/3 mark of our fiscal year, offertory collections have totaled \$129,735. This amount is \$7,210 lower than one year ago and \$12,500 lower than our Finance Committee had projected when formulating the parish's fiscal year budget in July.

At the current level of our offertory collections and expense levels, our Finance Committee is now estimating that our parish will finish the current fiscal year with a deficit totaling between \$20,000 to \$30,000. Last year, we finished the year with a deficit totaling \$9,640.

Did you know? Our parish has an outstanding loan with the Diocese that has a current balance totaling \$79,940. This amount was for several loans that have been taken out over the years to make needed repairs on both our Church and Friary. The terms of our loan agreement requires the church to make monthly payments of approximately \$600. Next weekend, we will be conducting a special second collection in which all funds collected will be used to assist in paying this loan. Please be as generous as your means allow.

CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP AT NOTRE DAME

The University Of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN, is currently accepting applications for its program in educational administration designed especially to prepare Catholic school principals. The MA degree is part of the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) program. All certified teachers interested in the principalship are encouraged to apply. Call 541-631-4449 or visit <http://ace.nd.edu>. Online application is now available.



St. Joseph's Disciples In Mission small group will meet in the Fr. Hayes Center following the 8:00 a.m. Sunday Mass today (November 1st) and on November 15th, and 29th. All are welcome.

LEAF RAKING



Cheverus High School seniors will be raking leaves as a fund raiser for Project Graduation during the month of November. A minimum donation of \$25 per lawn is requested. Please contact Margaret Rogosienski at 774-6238, ext 27 to arrange a date.

HELP WANTED

Holy Cross Church, South Portland, is in need of an organist. This position is part-time, with two Masses per weekend and choir practice. Availability is expected for the major Holy Days (e.g. Christmas, Holy Week). If interested, please send a cover letter and resume to Rev. Msgr. Michael Henchel, Parish Office, 29 Aspen Avenue, South Portland, ME 04106 email tom.cheehan@portlanddiocese.org.

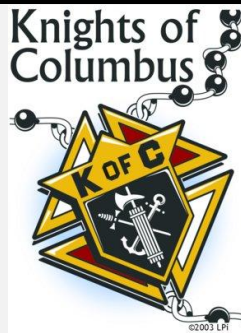


ST BRIGID FUND RUN



As a kick-off to St. Brigid's Harvest Fair on Saturday, November 7th, there will be the first annual St. Brigid Fund Run at 8:00 a.m. This event will be a 5K and kids' run/walk beginning and ending at the school. All proceeds will support St. Brigid School. Registration forms are available at the exits of the church and on the school website www.sbrigid.com.





NEWS

One week remains in the Knights of Columbus citrus fund raiser in which money is being raised to support charitable organizations throughout the area. Orders for grapefruit, navel oranges, and tangelos in 10 or 20 lb cartons can be made by visiting the Knights of Columbus Booth at next Saturday's Harvest Fair or contacting St. Joseph Knight Eric Griffin via email at eric_griffin_33@msn.com or leaving a message at 885-8034. Fruit deliveries will be made by a dependable Knight right to your door step during the first week of December just in time for the Christmas season!

The upcoming month of November is a very busy month for our Knights! Activities for the month include collections for families in need during the Thanksgiving Season, assisting in the kitchen during the Harvest Fair, a Tuesday, November 10th monthly member meeting, coordinating a Knights' sponsored essay contest for St. Brigid's students, putting up the Christmas lights and wreaths on the Church and Friary, hosting coffee and donuts after Sunday morning Mass on November 15th, installing the Christmas Crèche in the front of the church, and organizing the annual "Mitten Tree" Christmas season gift drive.



NEWS

ADVENT FAMILY GATHERING

NOVEMBER 22nd at 3:00 p.m.

For all parishioners, whether you're a family of one or many....please join us as we "prepare the way of the Lord". Advent is a time of waiting, watching and hoping. We'll share in fun activities that will help us understand the meaning of Advent. We'll learn about the Jesse Tree, the Advent Chain/Calendar, the Nativity, and Jesus, the Light of the World.

So mark your calendar for an afternoon celebration of family fun, fellowship and sharing of our faith.

There will be more detailed information in next week's bulletin.



Among the intentions remembered at the Masses during the upcoming week are:

Monday, November 2

8:00 a.m. All Souls Novena

Tuesday, November 3

8:00 a.m. All Souls Novena

Wednesday, November 4

8:00 a.m. All Souls Novena

Thursday, November 5

8:00 a.m. All Souls Novena

Friday, November 6

8:00 a.m. All Souls Novena

Saturday, November 7

8:00 a.m. All Souls Novena

4:00 p.m. Anthony Casale, Sr.

Sunday, November 8

8:00 a.m. All Souls Novena

10:00 a.m. Joanne Flaherty

5:00 p.m. Our Parish Family



WAYSIDE EVENING

St. Joseph Parish's weekly evening to assist at the Wayside Evening Soup Kitchen is WEDNESDAY. Volunteers are needed to assist this wonderful program (4:00 to 7:00 p.m. each Wednesday). FMI: call Jerry O'Shea at 781-2160.

CLUSTER 28 NEWS

From Fr. Jim Lafontaine

One of the issues we will begin considering at our upcoming meeting this week is how to plan effectively for the ongoing pastoral needs of our cluster community. Beyond the pragmatic issues (such as how the cluster will conduct its financial business and maintain its property) lies the most important part of our life as Church: our care of each other, by which we assure that all grow and flourish in life and in faith. The Church should be intimately involved in the many cycles of our lives – births, baptisms, education, marriages, sicknesses, deaths – to name just a few of the more important ones; and since Vatican II, we have been called as a community – clergy, sisters and laity – to be ministers to each other as part and parcel of our participation in the priesthood of Christ. With diminishing numbers of clergy and religious, it is all the more important that we continue working together to meet this central mission of our community to care for each other.

Other clusters in our diocese have formed an *Office of Pastoral Life* (with a pastoral coordinator) as a companion to the cluster business office. We are exploring these models and looking at how best to address the pastoral challenges of our own cluster. Such an office might attend to such pragmatic things as the scheduling/training of liturgical ministers and the preparation of the bulletin. But there is also a need for coordinated oversight of liturgical and sacramental preparation, wedding and funeral planning, as well as care for the sick and shut-ins of our community. Additionally, we will be considering the existing religious education and RCIA programs to see how they might fit under this umbrella, especially in partnership with St. Brigid. We have much to think about in this regard.

As always, we pledge to communicate with you in a regular and transparent manner about our planning. We will utilize the bulletin, school news notes/letter, and websites as the first means of this communication. If at any time you have input you wish to share, please feel free to speak with one of the committee members – you can call your parish or school office for contact information. Please continue to keep us and this process in your prayers.

CATHOLIC FOUNDATION OF MAINE

Perhaps you have already provided for your parish in your will. That is wonderful! You are smart to plan ahead so that even after your lifetime you can support the good work of your faith. However, if you intend for your bequest to be given to your parish endowment at the Catholic Foundation of Maine, then you will need to add a codicil to your will. Contact Chris Reilly at 321-7820 for instructions on how to do this. Explore other ways to give wisely at www.portlanddiocese.planyourlegacy.org.



ST. BRIGID SCHOOL HARVEST FAIR



Mark your calendar, the annual St. Brigid Harvest Fair will be held inside and outside of the Fr. Hayes Center on Saturday, November 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Raffle Ticket sales - available after each Mass next weekend. Prizes: \$1000 cash, 100 gallons of heating oil, and an iPod Touch. Additional raffle tickets are available at the school office or by calling Tracy Campbell at 893-0608.

First Annual 5K and Kid's Run – registration

6:30 – 7:45 a.m., run starts at 8:00 a.m.
Fair with Tag sale – 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Bingo Night - 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., with light supper and refreshments available from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

We would appreciate donations for the following to help with the Fair:

Wheel and Book donations – drop off at the back of the church.

Tag Sale donations – Blue storage unit on the side of the Fr. Hayes Center. Drop off times as follows: Oct. 25 after 10:00 Mass, Oct. 26 – 29, 7:45 – 8:15 a.m., 2:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Baked Goods/Homemade Candy donations – dropped off at the Fr. Hayes Center all day on November 6th and the morning of November 7th.

Craft or Knit donations – can be dropped off at the Fr. Hayes Center on Nov.6.

Many thanks for your support in helping with the Harvest fair fund raiser to benefit St. Brigid's School.

A VOCATION VIEW

“He is able for all time to save those who approach God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.” Are you being called to help others approach the mercy of God as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Contact Fr. Bob Vaillancourt (773-6471, Robert.Vaillancourt@portlanddiocese.org) or Sr. Rita-Mae Bissonnette (773-6471, ritamaebissonnette@portlanddiocese.org). If you are interested in the Capuchin Franciscan way of life, please speak with one of the friars here at St. Joseph's, contact Br. Tim Jones, O.F.M. Cap., (212-567-1300, brtimjones@yahoo.com), or log onto www.capuchin/vocations.org.

YEAR FOR PRIESTS

“The worship of the Eucharist outside of the Holy Mass”, says the encyclical, “is of inestimable value for the life of the Church” (25). The priest's responsibility for this cult is described as follows: “It is the responsibility of Pastors to encourage, also by their personal witness, the practice of Eucharistic adoration, and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, as well as prayer of adoration before Christ present under the Eucharistic species”. The Holy Father not only invites every priest to give this witness but also offer us his own personal testimony: “it is pleasant to spend time with Him, to lie close to His breast like the Beloved Disciple (cf. jn 13:25) and to feel the infinite love present in His heart. If in our time Christians must be distinguished above all by the ‘art of prayer’, how can we not feel a renewed need to spend time in spiritual converse, in silent adoration, in heartfelt love before Christ present is the Most Holy Sacrament? How often, dear brothers and sisters, have I experience this, and drawn from it strength, consolation and support! (Encyclical – Ecclesia de Eucharistia, 2003 – Pope John Paul II)