



**MEETINGS THIS WEEK**

- St. Joseph Parish Council: Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m., friary meeting room.
- Bible Study: Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m., friary meeting room.

**ALTAR SERVER TRAINING**

Fr. Jim Hammer has recently visited the school and religious education program to recruit new altar servers for St. Joseph Parish. Those who expressed interest were given a form to be completed by their parents and returned to Fr. Jim. Training for new altar servers will begin next Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, in the church at 6:00 p.m. There will be four training sessions. The rite of commissioning of new altar servers will take place at the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.

**PUBLIC WELLNESS FAIR**

**Saturday, October 31, 2009**

**10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Fr. Hayes Center  
699 Stevens Avenue, Portland  
FREE ADMISSION**



**Sponsored by St. Joseph's Women's Sodality**

Forty members from the medical field, human services, non-profit organizations, and government agencies will focus on topics of personal health, physical fitness, nutrition, and safety for all ages...plus children IDs and bike/helmet inspections!

**CENTENNIAL INFORMATION**

The 100 years since the founding of St. Joseph Parish (May 4, 1909) have seen wonderful experiences in the sacramental lives of our parishioners: 10,759 baptisms (1<sup>st</sup> baptism: Francis Arnold Boyce, baptized by our first pastor, Msgr. John Houlihan on May 25, 1909, the latest: Patrick Michael Tracy, baptized by Fr. Don Bosco on September 27, 2009), 4,029 weddings, 7,801 First Communions, 8,281 Confirmations, and 2,428 funerals.

**CENTENNIAL MASS OCTOBER 4, 2009**



**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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> and the morning of November 7<sup>th</sup>.

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.**

**ThankYOU**

Mary E. Merrigan, Financial Director of the St. Vincent de Paul Society here in Portland, has recently written to thank St. Joseph's Parish Family for our donations in the amount of \$384.82. These donations were received in our poor boxes during the month of September. Ms. Merrigan wrote that "this money will be used to provide hot meals and bag lunches for the homeless, unwanted and unemployed in the Greater Portland Area." Poor Box donations for the month of October are designated for the Wayside Evening Soup Kitchen.



## CHRISTMAS

St. John the Evangelist Parish, Main Street, South Portland, will hold its annual Christmas and Craft Fair on Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. All are welcome.



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

### Monday, October 26

8:00 a.m. Holy Souls in Purgatory

### Tuesday, October 27

8:00 a.m. Placide & Priscilla Violette

### Wednesday, October 28

8:00 a.m. Edward Malone

### Thursday, October 29

8:00 a.m. Dorothy DiBiase

### Friday, October 30

8:00 a.m. Holy Souls in Purgatory

### Saturday, October 31

8:00 a.m. Raymond James Cartwright

4:00 p.m. Alfred & Lee Carnicella

### Sunday, November 1

8:00 a.m. Rosemarie Vaughan

10:00 a.m. Francis Donahue

5:00 p.m. Our Parish Family

## EMBRACING CHRISTMAS

“Embracing Christmas” is a program for divorced, widowed, and single persons that provides helpful ways to journey through the holidays. This program will be held on Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m., at Holy Martyrs Church, Falmouth. Please RSVP by November 12<sup>th</sup>, by calling 207-871-7464, ext. 2672 or via email [psm@ccmaine.org](mailto:psm@ccmaine.org).

## McAULEY ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP

Catherine McAuley High School will hold its first High School Placement Test (HSPT) on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Alternate test dates are December 5<sup>th</sup> and January 9<sup>th</sup>. A full tuition scholarship will be granted to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who has shown academic excellence by being the top ranking tester. FMI, or to register, call the Admissions Office at 797-3802 or visit their website at [www.mcauleyhs.org](http://www.mcauleyhs.org).

## CLUSTER 28 TRANSITION COMMITTEE

One of our first important insights in thinking about the process of clustering was to recognize the integral importance of St. Brigid School to the cluster. Hence we have included representatives from the school as members of the transition committee, and in our thinking and planning, we consider the school as an institution of equal importance to the three parishes. As American Catholics, we know the importance of parochial schools to the growth of our Church in this nation; and in that light, we understand the responsibility we have to support Catholic education in our own day, lest they be lost to us. One way our support in this cluster is enshrined is in the financial subsidy that the parishes generously provide for St. Brigid School - \$190,000 in this current fiscal year.

But St. Brigid is precious to us for more tangible reasons than that of fulfilling our obligation as Catholics to support Catholic education. Because of its commitment to the children and families of our parishes, St. Brigid School is central to the life of our cluster. It is not only the sign of our hope for the future of our Church, but also the means whereby we build that future through the education of children and their families. In this busy and often crazy world we live in, the school is our best resource for gathering families into the life of our Church, our parishes, our cluster community. Without this school in our midst, we would be all the more vulnerable to the many forces around us that seek to scatter us. Thus we strongly affirm our determined commitment to our school in this clustering process. The investment of all the resources we can muster in support of St. Brigid represents the best investment in our future that we can make.

As always, we pledge to communicate with you in a regular and transparent manner about our planning. We will utilize the bulletins, 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.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

Representatives from our Knights of Columbus will be in the back of the church taking Citrus Fruit orders following each Mass this weekend. An excellent selection of navel oranges, grapefruit, tangelos or a combinations of the three. Prices range from \$16 to \$24 in ten to twenty pound cartons. The fruit comes directly from Florida and will be delivered by a dependable Knight directly to your door step during the second week of December...just in time for Christmas! Money needs to be collected at the time the order is placed. All earnings will be used to benefit charitable organizations throughout our area.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Last weekend's offertory collection totaled \$8,825. This was our single highest amount since Easter weekend April 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>, which was \$11,140. The second collection to benefit Mission Sunday totaled \$1,485. A total of 825 individuals attended church...the highest number since the same Easter weekend when 1,125 individuals attended church.

Last year over the same weekend, offertory collections totaled \$7,785 and 733 individuals attended church.

Your continued financial support of our church is most needed and **much appreciated!** Please be as generous as your means allow.

**Did you know?** As all have become recently aware, the winter "heating season" is upon us! Over the last two years, our church has spent \$64,965 for oil to heat the church and friary. Our Finance Committee has budgeted \$32,485 to pay this expense for the current fiscal year that runs from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.



Fr. Peter blessing the animals on October 4, 2009,  
The Feast Day of St. Francis

