



# Holy Spirit Parish

## DECEMBER 8, 2019

### OUR PARISH CHURCHES

#### ST. MARY CHURCH

236 Eldridge Rd.  
Wells, ME 04090  
(207) 646-5605  
FAX (207) 646-9437  
Weekday Mass: 8 AM  
Weekend Masses: Saturday 4 PM  
Sunday 9 & 11 AM

#### ST. MARTHA CHURCH

30 Portland Rd.  
Kennebunk ME 04043  
(207) 985-6252  
FAX (207) 985-7740  
Weekday Mass: 9 AM  
Weekend Masses: Saturday 4 PM  
Sunday 8 & 10 AM  
*Confessions at both Churches  
Saturdays 3-3:30 PM*

#### ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

*(closed until June 2020)*

### Our Parish Staff

Fr. Fred Morse, Pastor  
Fr. Agustin Sebasthian, Parochial Vicar  
Deacon Darrell Blackwell

#### OFFICES

Diane W. O'Neil, Manager  
Rosanne Smith  
Ruth Shrader  
Paula Moses

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Donald Webber  
Mark Reeth

#### FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

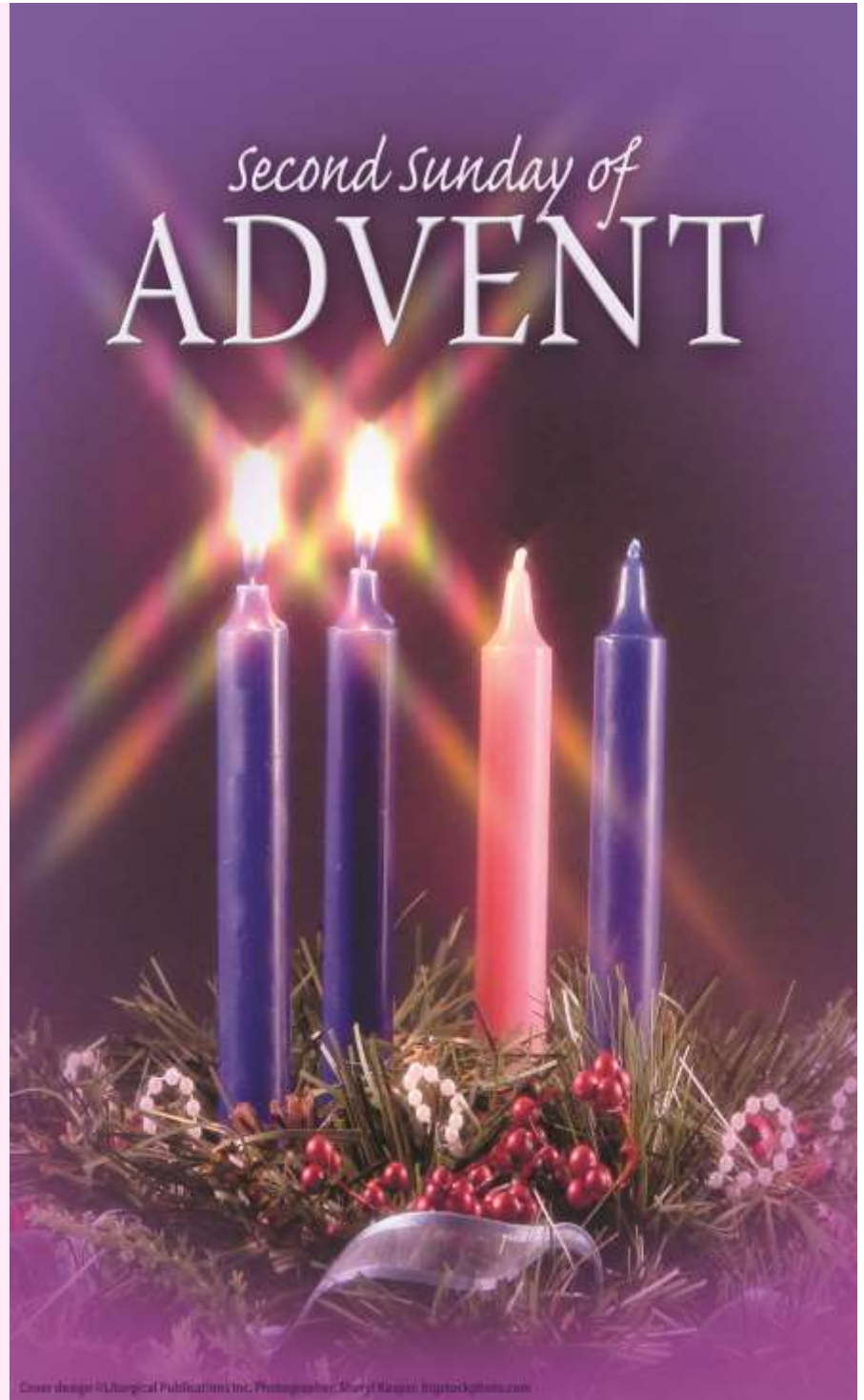
Timothy Gallant, Supervisor  
Jesse Ouellette

#### FAITH FORMATION

Carolyn F. Houston, Director  
Rosanne Smith, Adult Education

#### LITURGICAL MUSIC

Mark Reeth, Coordinator  
Lisa White, Choir Director



[www.holyspiritme.org](http://www.holyspiritme.org)

[www.facebook.com/holyspiritmaine](https://www.facebook.com/holyspiritmaine)



**GOSPEL MEDITATION**

What does it mean to be worthy? There are a few different ways to approach this question. Today's Gospel highlights two: the way of the

Pharisees and the way of John the Baptist. Our faith values good works and discipleship. Perhaps, then, we "earn" our worth by adhering to the right doctrines and following the right pious practice. The Pharisees thought they were worthy. Due to their religious pedigree and proper procedures, they were self-satisfied. John the Baptist's words to them are strong. "Do not resume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.'" Of course, Jesus (and John) don't omit the responsibility for moral behavior. John gives the Pharisees quite a strong warning in that regard.

*"Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance ... every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."*

It's a question of attitude. Of disposition. It's a matter of the heart. If anyone would be worthy in this scenario, it's John the Baptist. Jesus himself will name him the greatest of prophets and a great man. John, however, recognizes his own lowly place in the grand scheme of things. "The one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals." The Pharisees take pride in being "better" than others. John embraces humility in Christ being "better" than him. We don't self-generate our own worthiness. We receive it as a gift from God.

In a few short weeks, we'll celebrate the birth of Christ. Bishop Ven. Fulton Sheen wrote about the Nativity in his "Life of Christ": "Because [Jesus] was born in a cave, all who wish to see Him must stoop. To stoop is the mark of humility. The proud refuse to stoop and, therefore, they miss divinity." God invites us to prepare our hearts this Advent. When you consider your own life, where are you looking for your worth? This Christmas, are you prepared to stoop?

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**THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

This Feast Day is usually celebrated on December 8<sup>th</sup>; however, this year, due to the 8<sup>th</sup> being the Second Sunday of Advent (this weekend), that will take precedence. The Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated this Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> at our regular Masses and is exempt from being a Holy Day of Obligation.



The Holy Spirit Parish Pastoral Council continues to team up with the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation and Parish Social Life to bring six exciting faith community and education events to



the parish, entitled ***Journey in Faith – adult formation with separate sessions for children***. These events are geared toward **adult** faith formation, but also involve parishioners of every age. The events are for single or married parishioners, and for those with or without children. We gather together for some refreshment and an opening prayer before breaking into groups for age-appropriate faith formation. The adult sessions feature a dynamic guest speaker on the related topic. We are called to form our faith, as well as our community. As Catholics, our mission is to grow closer to Jesus and to share His story with others. These sessions enable us to learn more while evangelizing one another as a faith family. They also assist us in recognizing how we are called to bring the love of Jesus to our wider community. An informational brochure, containing the schedule and information about the events, and scheduled speakers for the adult sessions, is available in the narthex of both churches. In order to ensure enough supplies and adult supervision, we need to know if adults are bringing their children or grandchildren to the child component of the program **by the Wednesday before** the event (December 11). Our parish's third ***Journey in Faith*** event will take place next **Sunday, December 15, 3-5 PM, at St. Martha Church in Kennebunk**. The theme is "Social Justice and Catholicism", and is being presented by **Dan Mahoney**. Mr. Mahoney is a graduate of Cornell University. He completed his graduate studies in counseling and addiction at Cambridge College and Rutgers University, and recently obtained a certificate in pastoral studies at Loyola University.

**The Light is ON for You.**  
Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation

**DECEMBER 17 - DECEMBER 19 — 6 to 7 PM**

**TUESDAY, 12/17 - St. Mary, Wells**  
**WEDNESDAY, 12/18 - St. Mary, Wells AND St. Martha, Kennebunk**  
**THURSDAY, 12/19 - St. Martha, Kennebunk**

MASS INTENTIONS

THIS WEEKEND: December 7 & 8

- Saturday: 4:00 PM (K) Ralph Chenard by his family
- 4:00 PM (W) Charles Fohlin by his wife
- Sunday: 8:00 AM (K) John Barry by Bill & Mary Barry
- 9:00 AM (W) Rose Linehan by Larry & MaryLou Ryan
- 10:00 AM (K) Minh & Doi Mai by their family
- 11:00 AM (W) For our parishioners

WEEKDAYS: December 9-13

- Monday: 8:00 AM (W) Mary DeMarco by John Anderson
- 9:00 AM (K) Cait Calvo by Mary Foster
- Tuesday: 8:00 AM (W) Richard Rouleau by Ellie
- 9:00 AM (K) Jennifer Bettencourt by Jim Pastorelli
- Wednesday: 8:00 AM (W) Andrea Poulin by Ellie
- 9:00 AM (K) Ann Clark Sheehan by Beth Flynn
- 10:30 AM Communion Service at Kennebunk NH
- Thursday: 8:00 AM (W) The Lane brothers by Donna & Rick Wojtowicz
- 9:00 AM (K) Mary Lou Manning by Ray & Claire Jean
- Friday: 8:00 AM (W) Kristin Lally Clerico by Mary Cormier
- 9:00 AM (K) William Thomson by Mark & Kathleen

NEXT WEEKEND: December 14 & 15

- Saturday: 4:00 PM (K) Earl, Kathryn, & Ron Hemenway by Kathy & Russ Smith
- 4:00 PM (W) Alfred Robinson by his wife
- Sunday: 8:00 AM (K) For our parishioners
- 9:00 AM (W) Mary Carbone by her children
- 10:00 AM (K) Minh & Doi Mai by their family
- 11:00 AM (W) Michael & Louise Cangiano by Lorraine & Gene McSweeney, Margaret, & John Haseltine



~Rest in Peace~

Harold "Neil" Heyland

Location Key: (K) St. Martha, Kennebunk  
(W) St. Mary, Wells

CELEBRANT SCHEDULE

**December 14 & 15**

- 4:00 PM St. Martha (K) Fr. Agustin
- 4:00 PM St. Mary (W) Msgr. Murphy
- 8:00 AM St. Martha (K) Fr. Morse
- 9:00 AM St. Mary (W) Fr. Agustin
- 10:00 AM St. Martha (K) Fr. Morse
- 11:00 AM St. Mary (W) Fr. Agustin

*Schedule subject to change.*

**Reconciliation on Saturdays  
3-3:30 PM at St. Martha & St. Mary**

SACRAMENTS



**BAPTISM:** To register, call Diane O'Neil at (207) 646-5605.

**RECONCILIATION:** Saturdays, 3-3:30 PM (or upon request), at both St. Martha and St. Mary Churches.

**MATRIMONY:** Please contact the pastor six months prior to the desired wedding date.

**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:** Please call anytime. If you know that you will be admitted to the hospital, please call the office to make arrangements to receive the Sacrament after a daily or Sunday Mass. Please advise the office when a parishioner is hospitalized.

*For more information, or to make an appointment for any sacrament, please call the office at 207-646-5605.*



The sanctuary lamp at St. Martha's burns in loving memory of Rachel Lachance by Muriel Martel.

Due to a recent incident at one of our Masses, the following enhanced security measures are in effect: When gatherings are taking place, such as Masses, Faith Formation classes, etc., all exterior doors will remain locked except for the doors at the main church entrances. This will, of course, continue to allow access to areas within the churches where programs are taking place. These are also the safest access points year-round due to handicap accessibility. Thank you for your understanding.



**Those seeking to join the Church or wanting to know more about the Catechism of the Catholic Church,** call Rosanne Smith at 207-985-6252.

**Prayer Line Requests** may be made to Aline Saunders at 207-985-9214 or [alinesaunders@roadrunner.com](mailto:alinesaunders@roadrunner.com).

**Homebound Parishioners** wishing to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion at home, please call the office at (207) 646-5605.



THE WEEK AHEAD

**December 8-15**

**ST. MARTHA CHURCH**

Sunday: Faith Formation - 9 AM  
S Anon - 7 PM

Monday: Centering Prayer - 9:30 AM & 6 PM  
K of C Officers - 6:30 PM

Tuesday: K of C Meeting - 7 PM

Wednesday: Ignatian Exercises  
Weight Watchers

Thursday: Cursillo - 4 PM  
Romans: The Gospel of Salvation - 6 PM  
Faith Sharing - 7 PM

Friday: Produce Pantry

Saturday: Reconciliation - 3 PM

Sunday: Faith Formation - 9 AM  
Journey in Faith - 3 to 5 PM  
S Anon - 7 PM

**ST. MARY CHURCH**

Sunday: Faith Formation - 10 AM  
Coffee & Donuts - 10 AM  
RCIA - 10 AM

Monday: Faith Formation - 3:45 PM

Tuesday: Bereavement Quilting - 9 AM  
Romans: The Gospel of Salvation - 1 PM

Wednesday: Bible Study - 10 AM  
Food Pantry - 5:30 PM  
Spiritual Study Group - 7 PM

Thursday: Food Pantry - 1 PM

Friday: AA - 7:30 PM

Saturday: AA - 8 AM  
Reconciliation - 3 PM

Sunday: Faith Formation - 10 AM  
RCIA - 10 AM  
K of C breakfast after Masses

**HOLY SPIRIT PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

Holy Spirit Parish is a welcoming and caring Roman Catholic community, grounded in Eucharistic faith, and which enthusiastically lives and embraces the values modeled by Jesus Christ. As a community of believers, Holy Spirit Parish is committed to:

- ~ ongoing faith formation,
- ~ life-long spiritual growth,
- ~ nurturing and sharing our gifts for the common good.



**stewardship**

**WEEKLY OFFERTORY REPORT**

**November 23 & 24**

Collection	\$	11,310.92
We Share (34)	\$	1,156.50
Total Offertory	\$	12,467.42
Tithe	\$	872.00
Envelopes (303)	\$	6,622.49
Loose	\$	4,688.43

**Catholic Campaign for Human Development**

Collection	\$	3,893.00
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This weekend's second collection will be for the ***Retirement Fund for Religious.***

Religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs.

Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and much more for many elderly religious.

In addition to your regular weekly offering, you may donate to *special collections* through **WE SHARE.**



***How to create your We Share account:***

1. Visit [holyspiritme.org](http://holyspiritme.org) and click Give Online.
2. Click on the collection to which you'd like to donate.
3. Click Recurring Donation; enter your donation amount and frequency.

***Thank you for your ongoing generosity!***



Extra Christmas flower envelopes are available in the pews.

Donations may also be made through **We Share.**

If you are registered in the parish, your gift will be recorded for your tax receipt.

**ST. MARTHA COMMUNITY PANTRY NEEDS:**

muffin mix, mayonnaise, fruit juice, powdered milk, canned meats

**ST. MARY ECUMENICAL FOOD**

**PANTRY NEEDS:** canned pasta, beef stew, jelly/jam, pancake syrup, dish detergent, laundry detergent.



**Family Breakfast**  
 All Are Welcome  
 SUNDAY, DEC. 15<sup>TH</sup>  
 8 AM - Noon  
**ST. MARY'S HALL**  
 236 Eldridge Road, Wells  
**MENU**  
 Pancakes, Waffles, Eggs, Toast,  
 Potatoes, Bacon, Sausage,  
 Fresh Fruit,  
 Juices: Apple & Orange,  
 Milk, Coffee:  
 Tea, Reg. &  
 Water Decaf

Adults \$10, Children 6-10 \$5  
 Preschoolers - FREE  
 FMI: 207-646-6870

Photos  
With  
Santa

**Get your picture  
 taken with  
 SANTA  
 at the family  
 breakfast after  
 the 9 and 11 AM  
 Masses at  
 St. Mary's on  
 SUNDAY,  
 DECEMBER 15!  
 NO CHARGE**

**Romans**  
 The Gospel of Salvation

Paul's letter to the Romans has been at the center of reflection, conversion, and controversy from the very beginning. **Romans: The Gospel of Salvation** is a Bible study being offered by Holy Spirit Parish. It might help make sense of the difficult passages regarding faith, works of the law, and justification. It will provide a Catholic, comprehensive, and simple way to understand this challenging epistle. The next Bible study will take place this **Tuesday, December 10, at 1 PM at St. Mary in Wells**, and this **Thursday, December 12, at 6 PM at St. Martha in Kennebunk**. FMI, or to register, contact Rosanne at 985-6252 or [rosanne.smith@portlanddiocese.org](mailto:rosanne.smith@portlanddiocese.org).

**The Holy Spirit Prayer Shawl Ministry** invites you to its next meeting on **Wednesday, January 15, at 11 AM**, in the downstairs parlor at St. Mary Church. The group meets once a month to knit/crochet and offer prayers over the shawls so as to pass along personal petitions and intentions for the recipients. FMI, or if you know of someone who would benefit from a shawl, please call Sue at 646-8217, or Verna at 646-4543.  
*(The ministry will not meet in December)*

**CENTERING PRAYER** meets at St. Martha Church every Monday at 9:30 AM and 6 PM. FMI, contact Deacon Darrell at 207-467-0957 or [doxieduo@maine.rr.com](mailto:doxieduo@maine.rr.com).



**Charismatic Prayer Group**  
 St. Martha Church, Kennebunk, 9:30 AM, the second & fourth Mondays of each month. FYI, call Dan Mahoney at 207-317-7646.

Bulletin insert requests for consideration must be submitted by Friday at noon (8 days prior to the weekend for which being requested). Earlier deadlines are required based on holidays. Please send e-mail to Mark at [mark.reeth@portlanddiocese.org](mailto:mark.reeth@portlanddiocese.org).



Holy Spirit Parish is looking for a team of adult parishioners to join Cross Catholic Outreach on a mission trip to the Caribbean island of Grenada. The trip will be Saturday, May 30-Sunday, June 7, 2020. Our mission will be to provide love to the 20 people being cared for at St. Martin's Home for the Aged. These residents have no other friends or family to care for them, and the Diocese of St. George's in Grenada is asking for missionaries to come and love them in their final days. The home has additional needs, such as painting, repairs, and yard work with which we might help. We will be staying at the St. Martin Retreat Centre in Mount St. Evans. You must be at least 18 years of age to participate. If interested, or for more information, please contact Lisa White at (207) 351-0502 or [lisa.white@portlanddiocese.org](mailto:lisa.white@portlanddiocese.org). To learn more, you may also visit one of the following sites: <https://www.stmartinsgrenada.org/about/> or <https://crosscatholic.org/>

If you would like to make a donation to St. Martin's Home for the Aged through Cross Catholic Outreach, checks can be made out to Holy Spirit Parish.



The Father William J. Kelly Knights of Columbus Council 9782 of St. Mary Church is sponsoring the annual “Keep Christ in Christmas” poster contest. This is a way for our parish children between the ages of 5 and 14 to express the true meaning of Christmas in “their own language”. The entrants compete in one of three age groups: 5-7, 8-10, 11-14 (age eligibility is determined by the age on November 1). **The winner in each age category will be awarded \$100.**

Applications and poster materials are available in the church narthexes. The posters must be submitted to the K of C table in the narthex by **next Sunday, December 15**. For more information, call Bob at 646-6870 or Steve at 850-6488.

The Holy Spirit Advent Giving Trees are an annual parish tradition, and they are up and ready at both St. Martha and St. Mary Churches. The ornaments on the Giving Trees contain a brief description of items requested by the organizations for which our parish is collecting. Caring Unlimited (which takes care of abused women and children) has requested gift cards. Long Creek Youth Development Center, the CourageLIVES residence of St. Andre’s Home, and the York County Shelter have requested items which their clients need and desire. The baskets found below the Giving Trees are for families in the Head Start Program, and the items requested on the sheet taped to the basket are those that may not be purchased with food stamps. If you wish to participate, please take an ornament (or basket), purchase the item (new items only, please), wrap it (unless the tag indicates otherwise), and attach the original ornament to the package. The tags identify the items, allowing them to get to their proper destination.



**PLEASE HAVE YOUR ITEMS BACK UNDER THE GIVING TREES NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 15 IN ORDER FOR THE GIFTS TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS.**

## Youth Ministry Matthew 25:35 Meal

The Matthew 25:35 Meals put on by the youth ministries of both Holy Spirit and St. Therese of Lisieux Parishes are served monthly, every second Tuesday (*this Tuesday, December 10*) at St. Ignatius Church Hall in Sanford, 5:30-6:30 PM. To support this community meal project, gift cards to Hannaford, Walmart, or Shield’s Meats in Kennebunk, are welcome. All donations should be labeled “youth ministry” and dropped off at either church site. Prayers for volunteers and guests are also appreciated! If you have any questions, please contact Carolyn Houston at 985-6252, 646-5605, or [carolyn.houston@portlanddiocese.org](mailto:carolyn.houston@portlanddiocese.org).



**Cursillo** Maine invites you to Christian fellowship. Join us in the spiritual exercise of examined and shared “Piety, Study and Action”. All are welcome at weekly small group Thursdays, 4 - 5:15 PM, and our monthly Ultreya (Onward!), 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month (Sept to June), 10 - 11:30 AM. Both meet in the conference room at St. Martha. 3-Day Cursillo Weekends (Short Course in Christianity) are held in Winthrop, Maine. **Men’s Weekend to be held April 30 - May 3, 2020.** Applications are available: [www.maineursillo.org](http://www.maineursillo.org) or Kat Boucher [lkmb@roadrunner.com](mailto:lkmb@roadrunner.com) or 207-216-7839. Women’s date will be set as applications are received.



Are you called to be a “herald’s voice in the desert”, preparing the way of the Lord in the hearts of His people? If you are considering a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, call Father Seamus Griesbach at (207) 773-6471 or write: [seamus.griesbach@portlanddiocese.org](mailto:seamus.griesbach@portlanddiocese.org).

## WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

“Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.” Work to ensure your marriage bears good fruit by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekends are December 13-15 and March 13-15, both in Duxbury, MA. FMI, call Stephen & Michelle O’Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>.

