

Holy Spirit Parish

MARCH 29, 2020

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



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life;
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live."

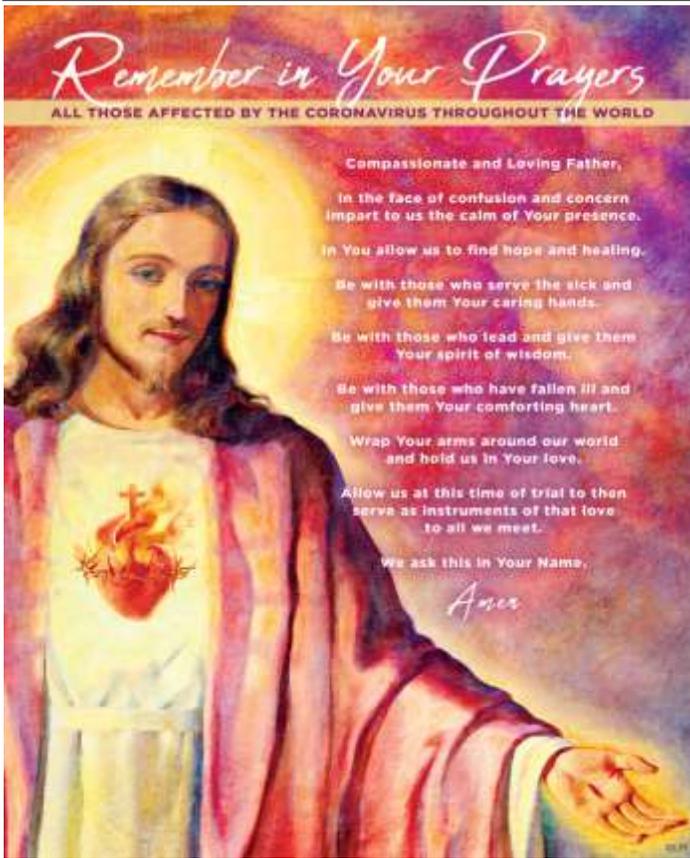
- Jn 11:25

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

GLPI

www.holyspiritme.org

www.facebook.com/holyspiritmaine



GOSPEL MEDITATION



Even though we say that we believe, there is a part of us that doesn't. There are many times in our lives when we experience death, whether it be the physical death of someone we love, a failed relationship, the loss of a job, or a broken dream. As we are going through these death experiences, we can easily find ourselves reaching out to God to make it better and fix it! We think that the proper order of life is to maintain the things of this world, especially those things that are essential to our sense of well-being and security. We do not like change. The grieving that comes from our death experiences can keep us stuck and in despair. If we have lost something or someone of great value, the very meaning and essence of life is lost with them. We need gentle companions to lift us from despair and that is precisely who God desires to be in our life as well. God calls us out of our tombs, where we have been closed up in fear and despair, and shouts, "Come out!" He desperately wants to show us the path to hope and the new life that is possible after loss and death. But our faith can be weak, and we still prefer to cling to the memory of what we had rather than the joyful possibilities of tomorrow. We sometimes live as if God is not real and that the transformative power of His resurrected presence is a story found in the Bible rather than a narrative unfolding in our lives.

God is the God of surprises, not our demise. God opens new possibilities, begins new chapters, creates new verses, and brings us to new heights! We spend so much time and energy ruminating over what we left behind yesterday that we are far too tired to see what can unfold tomorrow. Loving someone new doesn't negate our past loves. Embracing the love of a person, God, or life itself tomorrow doesn't diminish the love of yesterday. Each of our loves is different, and one cannot be replaced by another. They don't cancel each other out. God truly has tended to every detail of our lives, and if we listen to each detail, we find that they all lead us back to Him. Jesus wants us to come out of our closed-up tombs. Are we going to listen this time?

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LENT



PRAYER



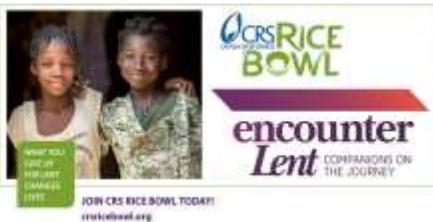
FASTING



ALMSGIVING

CRS RICE BOWL

This is a way for Catholics to live Lent. The program provides an opportunity for us to live in solidarity with our poorest and most vulnerable brothers and sisters through the three Lenten pillars of praying, fasting, and almsgiving. When we put money in our rice bowls, we are making a difference. What we give for Lent might change lives! Rice bowls will be available throughout the Lenten season.





He fasted for 40 days and 40 nights . . .
Matthew 4:1

ONLINE MASSES

As we continue to seek ways for parishioners to worship during these unprecedented times, Holy Spirit Parish is looking into the possibility of establishing online Masses. In the mean time, Bishop Robert P. Deeley will celebrate a Mass each Sunday at 10 AM at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Portland. The Mass will be closed to the public but shown live on the Diocese of Portland's website. All are welcome to participate by visiting www.portlanddiocese.org/online-Mass on Sunday.

See page 6 for more diocesan, online, prayer options.



SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM:

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

RECONCILIATION:

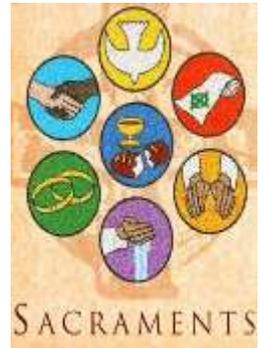
Suspended until further notice.

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. 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.

Prayer for the Sick

*Father of goodness and love,
Hear our prayers for the sick members of our community
and for all who are in need.
Amid mental and physical suffering may they find
consolation in your healing presence.
Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make
broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits.
May these special people find lasting health and
deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts.
We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who
believed.
Amen.*

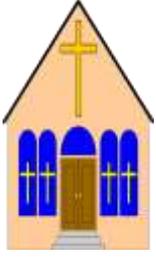
JesusPlus.org

CL



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

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.

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

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 em-
braces 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.



PARISH REGISTRATION/UPDATE

Name (s): _____
Street: _____
City: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

New registration Change of e-mail address
 Moving out of parish Change of address
 Request envelopes

**If you are new to the parish, or you have a new
address or phone number, please complete this
form, place it in the collection basket, or mail to:**

**Holy Spirit Parish
236 Eldridge Road, Wells, ME, 04090,
or e-mail to stmarywells@myfairpoint.net.**



stewardship

WEEKLY OFFERTORY REPORT

March 14 & 15

Collection	\$	7,030.00
We Share (32)	\$	1,190.00
Total Offertory	\$	8,220.00
Tithe	\$	575.40
Envelopes (174)	\$	4,789.00
Loose	\$	2,241.00

Thank you for your generous donation to
last week's second collection for
"Catholic Relief Services"

**If any parishioner would like a tax receipt
for 2019 donations, please contact Diane
O'Neil at diane.oneil@portlanddiocese.org
or 207-646-5605.**



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 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!



Holy Spirit
Parish has a
team of
adult parish-

ioners joining Cross Catholic Outreach on a
mission trip to the Caribbean island of Grena-
da. The trip is scheduled for Saturday, May 30
through Saturday, June 6. Participants must
be at least 18 years old. If interested, or FMI,
contact Lisa White at (207) 351-0502 or
lisa.white@portlanddiocese.org. To learn
more, please visit one of the following sites:
<https://www.stmartinsgrenada.org/about/> or
<https://crosscatholic.org/>. Donations to St.
Martin's Home for the Aged are through Cross
Catholic Outreach. Checks are to be made
payable to "Holy Spirit Parish". **Thank you!**

Holy Spirit Parish Raises \$10,000 with More on the Way for Six-Month-Old Girl in Need of Liver Transplant

In this difficult time, evidence that trying to forecast the kindness of faith-filled parishioners can be impossible, as this benevolence may well be limitless.

When the Knights of Columbus' Fr. William J. Kelly Council 9782 of Wells learned that a six-month-old relative of a parishioner needed a liver transplant, it sprang into action.

"When we learned about baby Ophelia and the financial strain the family has been going through, we all agreed we needed to help," said Phil Lizotte of the council. "What happened next was extraordinary." Ophelia has a life-threatening liver disease called biliary atresia and is under care at Boston Children's Hospital. The constant medical care has caused severe financial hardship for her family. Even though they have insurance, much of the treatment is not fully covered.

"We obtained a picture of little Ophelia and stationed knights with donation baskets in the narthex of St. Mary Church in Wells," said Lizotte.

As people came in for Mass, it didn't take long for her smiling face to generate donations. The parish also made Ophelia's parents the beneficiary of the annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance at St. Mary which was held, fortunately, prior to the restrictions on large gatherings in Maine.

"At the start of the event, I gave a welcoming speech which included Ophelia's story and the financial struggles her parents are going through. The outpouring of love was overwhelming," said Lizotte. What initially began with a goal of making a \$3,000 donation had grown into a massive display of caring for a baby most donors had never met.

On March 18, a check for \$10,000 was sent to the parents. "Ophelia's dad was at a loss for words to express how so many people he didn't know could do so much to help them in their time of need", Lizotte said.

This inspiration extended outside of Wells, leading to countless pieces of mail from communities far and wide, providing checks and notes of prayer and hope. **Anyone wishing to make a donation may send a check, made out to the "Knights of Columbus," to P.O. Box 3050, Wells, ME 04090.**

~ EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP ~ RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS



I remember Jim Valvano, Jimmy V to many, saying the iconic words, "Don't give up; you can never give up." The former coach of the NC State men's basketball team was dying of cancer, yet he refused to throw in the towel and give in to his disease. His words exemplified the best of the human spirit we all share. Sometimes, living out those words seem much more difficult than saying them. These words are also important for our faith life. The life Jesus calls us to is not easy. When working toward a life of greater generosity and surrender of all to God, we are prone to fall flat on our face many times. We are not called to this life only when we are strong. It is how we respond when times are the most difficult that truly defines us as disciples and stewards. The world may think we are down for the count, but rising again gives testimony that in Christ we are stronger.

Commitment takes a willingness to do the things needed to get stronger and build our spiritual muscles. We cannot expect to find success in the spiritual life unless we continue to work on our resolve and grow in our knowledge of the faith. A marathon runner would never be able to make it to the finish line unless they have trained and prepared in advance. We must work hard to stay the course and prepare for the race at hand. No matter what this life may have in store for us, we are called to not give up. God will never give up on us.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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**“PRAY, LEARN, CONNECT FROM HOME” Website
Now Offered by Office of Lifelong Faith Formation**

In an effort to help individuals and families find resources for spiritual growth during the COVID-19 crisis, the Diocese of Portland’s Office of Lifelong Faith Formation is offering a website with resources and links to help channel time and energy in positive ways while adjusting to more time at home.

The website is entitled “Pray, Learn, Connect from Home” and can be found at www.portlanddiocese.org/olff/covid19-home.

It offers ways and resources to maintain a fulfilling prayer life, despite the temporary suspension of Masses, and many in-person, parish activities; links to past and present parish bulletins; materials that help feed both spirit and mind with faith; suggestions on how to connect with the community. The resources and materials will be updated frequently.

The website is the latest in a plethora of resources being offered by the Diocese of Portland during this difficult time. Additional opportunities can be found below and at www.portlanddiocese.org/content/response-coronavirus (will also be continually updated).

ADDITIONAL PRAYER RESOURCES

GIVE US THIS DAY

Give Us This Day is centered on the Word of God and provides a relevant and trustworthy understanding of Scripture, including daily Mass texts. To access the resources for free, visit www.giveusthisday.org/digital.

MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat is honored to provide complimentary access to its online version and resources to help people pray from home. To access the resources for free, visit <https://us.magnificat.net/free>.

USCCB

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops provides the daily readings along with reflections and other materials. To access the resources for free, visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings. In addition, the USCCB is offering prayers and resources for engagement during this difficult time at "Catholic Current." Explore the materials for free at www.catholiccurrent.org/covid19.

The Word Among Us

The Word Among Us, a Catholic devotional magazine designed to help people to pray and read Scripture, is offering its entire website, including daily Mass readings and countless resources, free of charge. Explore the materials at www.wau.org.