



The Church is Apostolic

The salvation of the human race is bound up with the apostles. In his own mysterious and loving plan, the Son of God called and appointed twelve men to enter a relationship with him that was altogether unique (Mk 3:13-19). He lived and ate with them, listened to and consoled them, taught and admonished them. He trusted them with his very life and gave them a share in his own miraculous power. In this, he raised them to a level of intimacy with God that was not only unsurpassed, but could hardly be expressed or imagined. They found themselves lifted to the heights of divine friendship (Jn 15:15) and became “*partakers of the divine nature*” (2 Pt 1:4). It was only fitting, therefore, that after accomplishing our salvation, Jesus entrusted to these men his own saving mission (Mk 16:15) and granted them, for the sake of us all, a firm pledge of his own divine authority (Mt 28:18-20; Jn 20:21-23). It is through them and their successors that the divine grace won for us by Jesus on the cross, and the fullness of his saving message, are communicated to the world.

A careful reading of the Gospels reveals that, for Jesus, everything depended on the apostles. He himself wrote nothing down, and he often pulled the apostles aside to explain what was misunderstood or to reveal what he had hidden from the crowds and the other disciples. When they asked why he spoke to the people in parables, Jesus replied, “*To you it has been given to know the secrets of the Kingdom of Heaven, but to them it has not been given*” (Mt 13:11).

Although anyone who fears God and does what is good is acceptable to him (Acts 10:35), God wills to save us and make us holy as a “*people*” who are bonded and linked together in unity and charity. The calling of the Israelite race and God’s desire to make them his own attests to this. Nevertheless, Israel was called in *anticipation* of the redemption and a *new people* who would be gathered together from every tribe and nation. Together, in all the reality and power of Jesus’ death and Resurrection, they would become “*a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation... who once were no people but now are God’s people*” (1 Pt 2:9-10).



This new “*People of God*” was destined to be gathered, governed, and sanctified by “*the twelve apostles of the Lamb*” (Rv 21:14). They were sent to preach the Gospel that converts hearts, establish believers in communities of faith, and administer the sacraments that give the graces necessary for salvation. In short, they were called to establish the Kingdom of God on earth, namely, the Church. Thus, the one Church established by Jesus Christ for the salvation of humanity is an *apostolic* Church. Apostolicity is essential to its authenticity. It is founded upon the apostles and built upon Peter, chosen from amongst them, with Christ himself as the chief cornerstone.

Since our Lord intended to be with us until “*the close of the age*” (Mt 28:20), the apostles needed to choose successors to themselves. We see this first in the Acts of the Apostles, when St. Peter initiates the selection of a successor to Judas the traitor (Acts 1:15-26). St. Peter identifies this succession as one taking the “*office*” of Judas (Acts 1:20). As the Church spread beyond Judea into the Gentile world, it became essential to appoint additional individuals to oversee the various local churches, as we read in St. Paul’s letters (Phil 1:1; 1 Tm 3:1; Ti 1:7; the English word “*bishop*” derives from the Greek *episkopos*, which means “*overseer*”). And we learn also from St. Paul that, in his role as apostle, he had the power to appoint others to serve as priests:

This transfer of authority occurs by the laying on of hands, as we read in the book of Acts (Acts 6:6; Acts 13:3) and in St. Paul’s letter to his disciple, the bishop St. Timothy (2 Tm 1:6). It is the firm tradition of the Church that every bishop, every priest, and every deacon can trace his ministerial powers through the laying on of hands of a bishop who himself can grace his ordination directly to the apostles themselves.

The Church is also apostolic in the sense that, united to the successors of St. Peter and the other apostles, the Church is sent out to convert the whole world. Hence, all members of the Church are called in various ways to fulfill the apostolic mission. It is the task of every Christian to spread the Kingdom of Christ to all people.

Mass Intentions

Week of February 1st ~ February 7th, 2010

Monday	Feb. 1	St. Martin	9:00 AM	<u>Robert G. Farrington, Sr.</u> by friends from work
Tuesday	Feb. 2	Holy Trinity	9:00 AM	<u>Antoinette & Edmund Ferland</u>
Wednesday	Feb. 3	St. Mary	9:00 AM	<u>For the Intention of Fr. Mike</u>
Thursday	Feb. 4	Holy Trinity	7:00 PM	<u>Rev. Paul Ruzzo</u>
Friday	Feb. 5	St. Martin	9:00 AM	<u>Kathy Brown</u> by her husband Deacon Bill
		St. Martin	9:30 AM	24 hour Adoration
		St. Martin	7:00 PM	Healing Service
Saturday	Feb. 6	St. Martin	9:00 AM	<u>Intentions of All Parishioners</u>
		St. Martin	4:00 PM	<u>J. Frank Gelinis</u> by Gail Morin
		Holy Trinity	5:30 PM	<u>Marcel (2nd Anni.) & Rita Roy</u> by Rachelle & Marc Boisvert
Sunday	Feb. 7	Holy Trinity	7:00 AM	<u>Intentions of All Parishioners</u>
		St. Mary	8:00 AM	<u>James Donovan (11th Anni.)</u> by his wife
		St. Martin	10:00 AM	<u>Albert Turgeon (4th Anni.)</u> by his family
		Holy Trinity	11:30 AM	<u>For Intentions of Betty Bennett & Deb Anderson</u>



St. Mary Parish

Next Weekend ~ February 7, 2010

Lector	Ron Fortier
Eucharistic Ministers	Joe Caouette Sue Huff
Server	Beth Delcourt Colton Harvey Michael Fahy
Greeters	David Charpentier



Please remember in your prayers Roland Perreault who died last week. May he rest in peace.



Baptismal Congratulations!

We welcome **Matthew Paul Marcus, Nathan William Marcus and Andrew Michael Marcus** sons of Paul and Magee (Shannon) Marcus who were baptized at St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish this past weekend

St. Ignatius of Loyola

Parish Support

January 23/24, 2010

Sunday Offertory envelopes (324)	\$5,550.50
Loose Offering	<u>742.97</u>
Total	\$6,293.47

Other Collections & Donations:

Christmas (1)	\$ 5.00
Catholic Relief (Haiti)	\$5,214.00
Seminarian Collection (10)	\$ 97.00
Total Offering & Collections	\$11,609.47

Thank you for your generosity!

St. Mary Parish



Church Support

January 24, 2010

Sunday Offertory Envelopes (45)	\$ 996.00
Loose Cash Offering	<u>397.00</u>
Total	\$1,393.00

Other Collections & Donations:

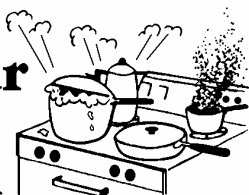
Seminarians (4)	\$ 35.00
Catholic Relief (Haiti)	\$1,110.50
Total Offering & Collections	\$2,538.50

Thank you for your generosity!

60/40 Club

Week #4 of the 60/40 Club had 28 entries. Congratulations to Rita DeMott as the winner of \$16.80.

From Our Church Kitchen



St Ignatius of Loyola Parish is hosting A Sunday Brunch on February 7th at The Holy Trinity Church Hall. Our Volunteers will serve you from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM. Please join us and consider Bringing a friend along.



“MEETINGS”

St. Ignatius Finance Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, February 1st at 7:00 PM in the Parish Office.

St. Ignatius Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 3rd at 7:00 PM in the Parish Office.

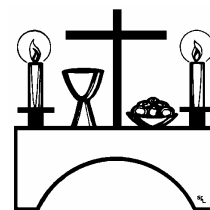
Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine and Guadalajara Mexico

September 27 – October 2, 2010

Spiritual Director Rev. Marcos Gonzalez-Torres of Corpus Christi Parish, Portsmouth.

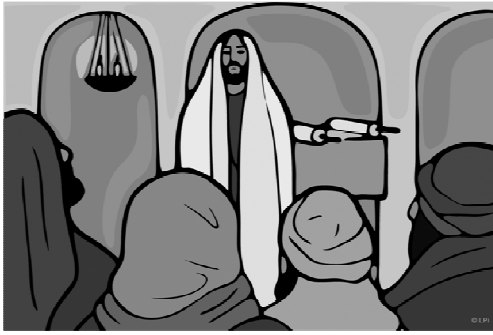
The price is \$1,925 per person, double occupancy round trip from Boston. For Single supplement – additional \$300.

For more information contact: Bernie Lajoie 603-436-8065 or email btlajoie@comcast.net.



St. Mary Parish Sunday Mass

Beginning the first Sunday of Lent, Feb 21, the Mass at St. Mary Parish will begin at 8:30AM. This Mass time change will allow us to gather on Sunday mornings to pray the rosary together prior to the beginning of Mass. The rosary will begin at 8:00 AM. We hope that this Mass time change will better accommodate your needs noting that we only have one Mass on Sundays here in Rollinsford.



He said to them, "Surely you will quote me this proverb, 'Physician, cure yourself,' and say, 'Do here in your native place the things that we heard were done in Capernaum.'" - Lk 4:23

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Did you tune out the second reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians today? If you have been to a lot of weddings, it is likely that you've heard this paean to love at most of them. It's a favorite that gets chosen again and again. And because of that, the very familiarity of the words can lose their meaning. "Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous? it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury?" Oh, yeah, I know that one; I've heard it all before. No need to listen."

Because of the context in which so often we hear those words (a marriage celebration) we sometimes miss what Paul is really trying to convey. The Corinthians were disputing among themselves what the better gifts of the Spirit were and who had the greater ones. Paul takes them to task, rather harshly, by telling them that all the prophecies and sacrifices are nothing compared to love.

We can feel righteous about many things, and our sense of justice can breed high expectations about equitable treatment and our rights in the world. We expect our "fair share" all the way around. Sometimes our "gift" turns out to be one of self-justification.

Paul turns those expectations on their head. His proclamation that love is the way suddenly put us in a different position. Love does not seek its own interests and it does not brood over injuries. These are not easy things to put into practice, but it is what is asked of us as believers in Christ. Maybe that's really why we tune out these words sometimes, because they are not easy to put into practice. But love is the essence of our faith-love of God, and love for one another.

Readings for the Week of January 31, 2010

Sunday: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/1 Cor 12:31---13:13 or 13:4-13/Lk 4:21-30
 Monday: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Mk 5:1-20
 Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
 Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Mk 6:1-6
 Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/Mk 6:7-13
 Friday: Sir 47:2-11/Mk 6:14-29
 Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Mk 6:30-34
 Next Sun.: Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11

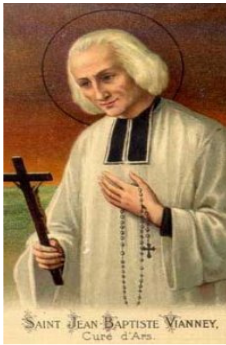
What are a "nihil obstat" and an imprimatur?

Much has been published these days about all aspects of Catholicism. One way to determine if something has approval or is at least not contrary to faith is to look for the "nihil obstat" and the imprimatur. These Latin words are followed by the name of the person granting them. "Nihil obstat" means "nothing stands in the way" and indicates that there is nothing contained in the book that is contrary to Catholic doctrine or morality. Usually the person granting the "nihil obstat" is a theologian who has the necessary church credentials. The imprimatur, which means "let it be printed," is usually given by a bishop after a thorough review of the material. It is a kind of guarantee that the printed material is Catholic in its content and teaching. This disclaimer often follows: no implication is contained therein that those who have granted the "nihil obstat" and imprimatur agree with the contents, opinions, or statements expressed.

When looking for books that are faithful to Catholic doctrine and teaching, the "nihil obstat" and imprimatur are the easiest and surest ways of being certain of orthodox teaching.



No Religious Education Classes The week of February 6th. We will be celebrating the Sacrament of First Reconciliation.

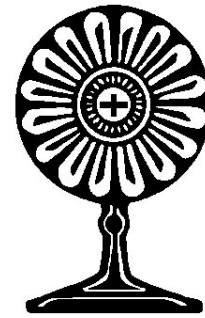


The Curé of Ars was very humble, yet as a priest he was conscious of being an immense gift to his people: “A good shepherd, a pastor after God’s heart, is the greatest treasure which the good Lord can grant to a parish, and one of the most precious gifts of divine mercy”. He spoke of the priesthood as if incapable of fathoming the grandeur of the *gift* and *task* entrusted to a human creature: “O, how great is the priest! If he realized what he is, he would die... God obeys him: he utters a few words and the Lord descends from heaven at his voice, to be contained within a small host...” Explaining to his parishioners the importance of the sacraments, he would say: “Without the Sacrament of Holy Orders, we would not have the Lord. Who put him there in that tabernacle? The priest! Who welcomed your soul at the beginning of your life? The priest! Who feeds your soul and gives it strength for its journey? The priest! Who will prepare us to appear before God, bathing us one last time in the blood of Jesus Christ? The priest! always the priest. And if this soul should happen to die as a result of sin, who will raise it up, who will restore its calm and peace? Again, the priest... After God, the priest is everything! *His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI - Proclaiming a Year for Priests.*

Please come and pray for our priests with us on Thursday, February 4th, at Holy Trinity Church. Rosary begins at 6:00 p.m., confessions 6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., Mass at 7:00 p.m.

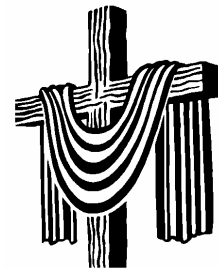


On Friday evening, at 7:00 PM on February 5, 2010 at St. Martin Church, we will have our monthly healing service. Please come and join us as we ask the Lord for the healing of Body, Mind, and Soul.



"When we go before the Blessed Sacrament, let us open our heart; our good God will open His. We shall go to Him; He will come to us; the one to ask, the other to receive. It will be like a breath from one to the other,"
- St. John Vianney

First Friday 24 Hour Adoration, St. Martin Church, Friday, February 5 after 9:00 AM Mass ending on Saturday, prior to 9:00 AM Mass.



We are a light
to each other

Franciscan Mystery Players “Life is a Mystery and We are the Players”

Friday, February 12, 2010 at 7:30 PM

St. James Church, 2075 Lafayette Rd., Portsmouth
“The Sorrowful Mysteries” is a dramatic multi-media presentation of the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary. It will be offered in several area churches during the next few months by the Franciscan Mystery Players from Ste. Marie Parish, Manchester, NH. Written and directed by Father Francis Pompei, OFM, a Franciscan Friar from Holy Name Province, the Mystery Players are made up of 16 teenagers and 7 adults. The performances will be in the tradition of the medieval Mystery Plays that were frequently sponsored by Franciscans who advocated popularizing scriptural events.

It is the kind of event that one can experience over and over again and always walk away with something new each time. You won’t want to miss this!

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EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Carleen Plante**

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