

God the Father

Who is God the Father? He is the first person of the Blessed Trinity. Throughout the Holy Scriptures, God is revealed as the almighty God who is strong and protective of his people, Israel. He commands obedience and holiness of life. Yet he is also tender, compassionate, and forgiving. The Israelites certainly had an awareness of God as their Father who had formed them into a people and continually cared for them and their needs:

Through the prophet Jeremiah, God expressed his intentions toward Israel: *“I thought how I would set you among my sons, and give you a pleasant land, a heritage most beautiful of all nations. And I thought you would call me, My Father; and would not turn from following me”* (Jer 3:19), yet Israel had to be reminded of his steadfast care: *“Is not he your father; who created you, who made you and established you?”* (Dt 32:6). To David, especially, God was Father (2 Sm 7:14-15; Ps 89:26). The prophet Isaiah acknowledged our debt to God’s loving creation in a beautiful metaphor: *“O Lord, thou art our Father; we are the clay, and thou art our potter; we are all the work of thy hand”* (Is 64:8), and reminded Israel of God’s promise of redemption: *“thou, O Lord, are our Father; our Redeemer from of old is thy name”* (Is 63:16).

However, it was not until the coming of Christ that the Father was fully revealed. Jesus said, *“He who has seen me has seen the Father”* (Jn 14:9). One of the primary things that Jesus came to do was to reveal God to us. And Jesus reveals that the first person of the Trinity is our loving Father. He is the origin of all that exists and ever will exist. The second person of the Blessed Trinity comes forth from God the Father. He is the Son of God. He took our human nature, and we know him as Jesus. The Holy Spirit, the third person of the blessed trinity, comes forth from the Father and the Son. This dynamic action of love within the Trinity has occurred from all eternity and will always continue: there are three Persons, yet one God.



God and the Christian Family

God created human beings the way he did for a particular reason. Adam and Eve were made in the image and likeness of God. God created them as man and woman to reflect what God is like in himself (Gn 1:27). God is not a man or a woman. As a completely spiritual being, God could not have such distinctions. He transcends them. However, human masculinity and femininity do reflect, in a limited way, things that are true of God. This is vitally important. When a man and woman marry and have a child, the fruitful family becomes an image of the Blessed Trinity. In other words, every human family provides a profound reflection of the Family, the Blessed Trinity.

When a family is living in accordance with God’s plan, it becomes a powerful reflection of God. In addition, and most importantly for our topic, the family provides our first experience of father and mother. God intends that our earthly father and mother, limited and imperfect as they are, reflect God to us. Once again, the fact that God is our Father does not mean that the first person of the Trinity is male, for he is above all such distinctions. But the human term “father,” though imperfect and limited, does accurately express personal qualities of God.

The Father of Jesus

God our Father is the origin of all that exists or ever will exist. All fatherhood takes its origin from him. Some people think that in calling God “Father” we are simply projecting human concepts onto God. But the reverse is true. God is the first and perfect Father, and all other fatherhood finds its ultimate origin in him. He alone is the perfect Father. Human fathers are imperfect, limited, and faint reflections of our all-perfect, all-powerful, and all-loving Heavenly Father. Central to the mission and teaching of Jesus was the revelation of his heavenly Father.

The Father deeply desires our happiness and peace. He longs for us to know him and to rest in him. So let us go to him with confidence. Let us ask Jesus and the Holy Spirit to reveal the Father to us.

Mass Intentions

Week of February 8th ~ February 14th, 2010

Monday	Feb. 8	St. Martin	9:00 AM	<u>Maurice "Moe" Morin</u> by Mrs. Toni Guilmette
Tuesday	Feb. 9	Holy Trinity	9:00 AM	<u>Charles J. Favolise, Jr.</u> by Irene & Bob McCann
Wednesday	Feb. 10	St. Mary	9:00 AM	<u>Jean T. Dionne</u> (18 th Anni.) by his wife
Thursday	Feb. 11	Holy Trinity	7:00 PM	<u>Raymond Chevalier</u> by Jim Gray
Friday	Feb. 12	St. Martin	9:00 AM	<u>Richard Vezeau</u> by Tut & Elaine
		St. Martin	6:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Adoration
Saturday	Feb. 13	St. Martin	4:00 PM	<u>Robert, Jeanne & Dennis Guilmette</u> by the family
		Holy Trinity	5:30 PM	<u>Julia Tiernan</u> (3 rd Anni.) by the Tiernan family
				<u>Maureen Tiernan</u> (1 st Anni.) by the Tiernan family
Sunday	Feb. 14	Holy Trinity	7:00 AM	<u>Intentions of All Parishioners</u>
		St. Mary	8:00 AM	<u>Deceased members of Hersom family</u> by the family
		St. Martin	10:00 AM	<u>Lillian Fournier</u> (2 nd Anni.) by the family
				<u>Norman Fournier</u> (25 th Anni.) by the family
		Holy Trinity	11:30 AM	<u>Florence Chasse</u> (5 th Anni.) by her sister



St. Mary Parish

Next Weekend ~ February 14, 2010

Lector	Joe Caouette
Eucharistic Ministers	Heide Fogarty Jack Fogarty
Server	Logan Hill Patrick Fahy Celina Hill
Greeters	The Lepage Family



Please remember in your prayers Antoinette Roy and Robert R. Daigle who died last week. May they rest in peace.



Baptismal Congratulations!

We welcome **Collin Ryan Perreault and Logan Michael Perreault** sons of Ryan R. Perrault and Jade (Burkhard) Perreault who were baptized at St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish this past weekend.

St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish Support

January 30/31, 2010

Sunday Offertory envelopes (313)	\$5,357.50
Loose Offering	839.00
Total	\$6,196.50

Other Collections & Donations:

Initial Offering	\$ 10.00
Seminarian Collection (6)	\$ 84.00
 Total Offering & Collections	 \$6,290.50

Thank you for your generosity!

St. Mary Parish



Church Support January 31, 2010

Sunday Offertory Envelopes (47)	\$ 781.00
Loose Cash Offering	209.00
Total	\$ 990.00

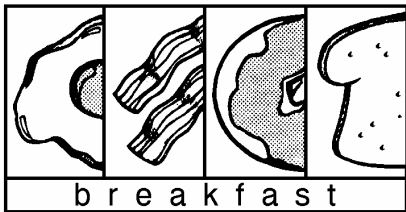
Thank you for your generosity!

INDONESIAN COMMUNITY MASS

Church support for Jan. 24, 2010	\$ 203.00
Haiti collection	140.00
Total	\$ 343.00

60/40 Club

Week #5 of the 60/40 Club had 29 entries. Congratulations to Irene Leclerc as the winner of \$17.40.



St. Ignatius Breakfast Buffet

Please join us for the St. Ignatius Breakfast Buffet on Sunday, February 14th from 8:00 AM to 11:30 AM at St. Martin Church.

The meal includes sausage gravy on a biscuit, scrambled eggs, fried eggs, plain and blueberry pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, bacon, home fries, "St Martin" potatoes, toast, beans, juice, milk, hot chocolate and coffee. The price is still only \$5.50 for Adults, \$1.50 for children 6 to 12, and free for children under 6. Groups of six or greater can reserve a space by calling 692-2848.

Remember that you get twice the benefit by having breakfast with us. You get a great meal for a great price, plus the profit from the breakfast helps support your parish. Do you attend the 10:00 AM Mass? If so, join us for "Brunch".



"MEETINGS"

St. Ignatius Finance Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, February 8th at 5:00 PM in the Parish Office.

Joint Liturgy Meeting will be held on Monday, February 8th at 7:00 PM at the Parish House.

St. Mary Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 10th at 6:30 PM at the Parish House



Many have to choose between keeping warm, getting necessary medications and putting a hot meal on the table. Helping feed people in our community who find themselves in a crisis situation is part of Our Lord's commands.

We ask that you to donate hot or cold cereals or any breakfast items to the Food Pantry the weekend of February 13 - 14. Cereal bars, pancake or waffle mixes, muffing mixes, toaster tarts are just a few examples of items we are looking for.

The Community Food Pantry thanks all who contribute to it in any way. Without your continued support many would be left destitute.



Astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him and all those with him, and likewise James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners of Simon. Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." - Lk 5:9-10

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the old Walt Kelly comic strip "Pogo" every time things would get to be too much for the main characters you could bet on seeing the "Gone fishin" sign posted on a nearby tree. It was a literary device that Kelly used, to bring a break to the previous action and change the story line. In a way, Luke does the same thing in Sunday's Gospel. After the press of the crowds, Jesus convinces Simon to let him teach from the boat. Then he tells him to head out into deep water to fish. We've changed the subject from Jesus healing and preaching. Suddenly, we've "Gone fishin" and while initially that's what is literally happening, it doesn't stay that way for long. It's a setup for the greater point of the story: "From now on you will be catching men."

It's not just Simon and the sons of Zebedee that get led into this convenient little scenario. Gospels are not just quaint stories. They are good news for us as well. Jesus gets into life with us, much like he got into Simon's boat. He tells us to go out a little farther, that is, to stretch our faith a little more. And even when we want to give up ("we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing") he tells us to cast into the deep. Trusting in him, we find that wondrous things happen as we witness to the meaning of Jesus in our lives. In the end, the example of our faith is to lead others to Jesus. That's where instead of fish, we'll be catching men and women.

It wouldn't be the worst thing in the world if we hung a little "Gone fishing" sign somewhere where we would see it every day, as long as we remember that our faith is the net, and from now on we're out there fishing to bring others to Christ.

**Readings for the Week of
February 7, 2010**

Sunday:	Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11
Monday:	1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday:	1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday:	1 Kgs 10:1-10/Mk 7:14-23
Thursday:	1 Kgs 11:4-13/Mk 7:24-30
Friday:	1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Mk 7:31-37
Saturday:	1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Mk 8:1-10
Next Sun.:	Jer 17:5-8/1 Cor 15:12, 16-20/Lk 6:17, 20-26

To solve the shortage of priests in this country, why can't we bring in priests from other countries where they have enough?

This is a recycled story that makes me wonder where exactly is this country where there are so many priests? The place does not exist, but it raises some interesting issues, including people's attitudes towards priests.

Firstly, diocesan priests are ordained for a diocese to serve the needs of their own people. Much of their ministry is based on "knowledge" of cultural norms, customs and values. They are called from their local communities to serve local needs. They are not all foreign missionaries.

Secondly, Americans often assume wrongly that people of other nations are anxious to come to the US. Priests, like any of us, want to be close to family and friends, and do not necessarily see us as having the land of wonder and opportunity.

Thirdly, the priesthood is changing and people need to adapt. In the short term, things will be difficult. There may not always be a Mass in your parish every day or even every week. In the long run, the Holy Spirit will have to show us what we are to do.

Fourth, ministry is everyone's responsibility, so get involved! Finally, show your appreciation and concern for the priests we do have. They have a tough job and it is not getting any easier.

PRAY FOR VOCATION



Kevin Farley “that Irish guy”

Maple Suites, 30 Holiday Drive (intersects with 47 Back River Road) Dover, NH 03820. Kevin Farley, you know him as “that Irish guy” will be appearing at Maple Suites on Wednesday, February 10, 2010. The fun begins with a Mysterious Scavenger Hunt at 10:30 AM continuing with a fun filled show with Kevin Farley “that Irish guy” at 11:30 AM followed by a delicious lunch at 12:30! Come for the entire event and be registered for fabulous door prizes!

RSVP by Thursday, February 4, 2010. Need a ride? Call us at 742-8820 to book your pick up time! This event is free and open to adults over the age of 50!



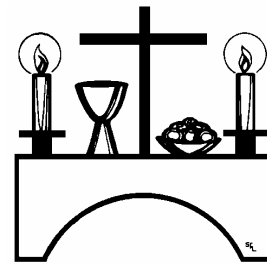
Valentine’s Day Dinner Dance

Maple Suites of Dover (30 Holiday Drive, Dover, NH) presents a Valentine’s Day Dinner Dance with the Fred Manzi Orchestra on Sunday, February 14th at 11:30 AM RSVP by February 11th. Bring your mate, bring a date or maybe meet a new Valentine if you choose to participate in our Valentine Speed Dating Service. Need a ride? Let us know 603-742-8820. This event is free of charge and open to all adults over the age of 50.

Auction to benefit Saint Mary Academy

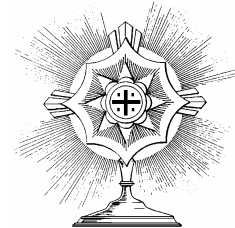
Saturday, March 20

Save the date for Saint Mary Academy’s live auction to be held on Saturday, March 20 in SMA’s Mercy Hall. The online auction goes live on March 1, please visit www.biddingforgood.com and register today. If you are interested in donating items to their event or would like ticket information, please contact Meaghan Puglisi at Puglisi@saintmaryacademy.org or 742-3299.



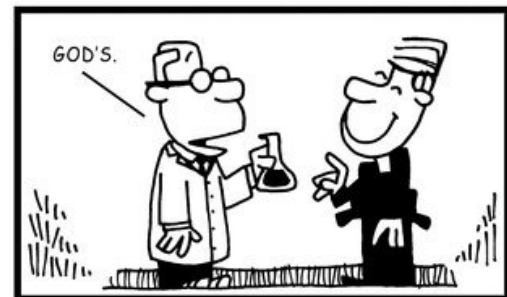
St. Mary Parish Sunday Mass

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.



When we contemplate Him present in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar, Christ draws near to us and becomes more intimate to us than we are to ourselves. Remaining in silence before the Blessed Sacrament, it is Christ totally and really present whom we discover, whom we adore and with whom we are content.- Pope John Paul II. Come to Him in Adoration every Friday from 6:00 PM. - 9:00 PM 24 Hour Adoration every First Friday

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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