

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see."

— Jn 9:13-17



SAINT ANNE'S CHURCH WEEKEND LITURGIES

Sunday 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

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Weekday Masses

Wednesday and Friday 9am

Communion Service Monday 9am

Our Lady of Sebago— Closed for the season

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SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

After the Sunday 8:00 AM Mass or by appointment after the weekday 9am Mass Wednesday or Friday Call 839-4857

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism preparation course - Please call the office
email teresa.ledue@portlanddiocese.org

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Contact the office six months prior to wedding.

Parish Catechetical Leader

SR. JACKIE MOREAU RSM 839-4857

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

MR GARY DUNLAP 642-3895

Youth Ministry

STEPHANIE HEATLEY 329-3213

Parish Office

MRS TERESA LEDUE 839-4857

Sexton

MR PETER ARSENAULT 839-4857

U.S.M CAMPUS PARISH Joy Segovia

Welcome !

all who are joining us for liturgy today. If you are visiting welcome If you are new to the area and would like to register at St Anne's please contact the office

CLUSTER 23

REV. JOSEPH KOURY, ADMINISTRATOR
joseph.koury@portlanddiocese.org 892-8288

REV. REGINALD BRISSETTE, SENIOR PRIEST

PARISH OFFICE

299 Main Street, Gorham, Maine 04038-
207-839-4857 Fax 207-839-3082

Website www.stannegorham.com

Email: stannegorham@portlanddiocese.org

Mission Statement

We the Parish Family of Saint Anne, in accepting Christ's call to holiness, like Christ, hear and proclaim the word of God, celebrate, nourish , and serve all our brothers and sisters.

SAINT ANNE'S PARISH COMMUNITY, GORHAM

ADMINISTRATOR'S CORNER

THE CHRISM MASS: The blessing of the oils used for sacraments, including the Chrism oil, takes place at the Cathedral on Tuesday of Holy week, April 15. This is the third year in a three-year cycle of inviting a selection of parishes to receive the holy oils at the Chrism Mass from the hands of the Bishop, and, of course, this is the first year that Bishop Robert Deeley will preside. Two parishes from our Cluster 23 are named this year: St Anne, Gorham, and St Anthony, Westbrook. Two representatives from each parish and I will receive the oils as part of the rituals at the end of the Mass. (Our Lady's was represented in a previous year, along with St Joseph, Bridgton, which at the time was in this cluster.)

CONFIRMATION (continued): PLACE Beginning this year, the Diocese has also implemented a three-year cycle for celebrating Confirmation in each of the parish churches belonging to a cluster. Part of the reason for doing this was that some parish churches were always excluded, and the bishop never got to visit some parish communities for Confirmation for five consecutive years. You may remember that here in this Cluster, for two years in a row, families from Fryeburg and Bridgton had to travel to Westbrook for the Confirmation of their 7-year old children on a Friday evening. For some, it meant driving back to Lovell, Sweden, Denmark, and Conway Center. It was late for the children and unfair to those families.

Comes now the time for all at the same time to learn a lesson: the place for Confirmation this year did not originate with me. I was told, and we are beginning the three-year cycle of rotating the place among the three churches in the cluster. I do take full responsibility for arguing that Confirmation should NOT be scheduled on the Friday evening of school vacation week. The Diocese was willing to hear that, and the date was changed to a Sunday morning. With the help of Parish Catechetical Leaders, we are trying to do the best that I/we can. I still don't know the number of families involved or the number of guests there will be. The first number was 60 candidates for Confirmation (not all will be First Eucharist); it has risen to 80. If it turns out that we cannot accommodate everyone, the diocese and the bishop have offered to have two Masses at St Anne on the same morning. (This would be similar to what we did when we had five churches and two Masses, one right after the other, with Bishop Malone.) That decision will be mine to make.

What is disheartening, however, is how much hate, name-calling, judgments about my lack of appreciation for families, insults and threats against me and "the church" have come from a small handful of people. The same words have been used in more than one email. I've even been told that I cannot meet with my staffs and P.C.L.s without volunteer / email writer present. The lack of respect shown, and the abuse directed to us who are trying to do the best that we can, is truly sad. I pray that no parents are teaching such stuff to their child who is to be Confirmed and receive First Holy Communion. Any catechist who is teaching such stuff should be removed and no one should entrust their children to such people. Lastly, I strongly counsel going to Confession for those who are responsible for spreading gossip, destroying church unity, and damaging the good name of a person. For an examination of conscience, The Code of Canon Law (1983) is helpful on this one, canon 220: *"No one is permitted to damage unlawfully the good reputation which another person enjoys, nor to violate the right of another person to protect his or her own privacy."*

Fr Joe Koury, Administrator of Cluster 23

LIGHTS ARE ON FOR YOU

April 7th-10th week we will have reconciliation in our Cluster.
Tuesday April 8th 6-7pm OLPH Windham
Wed. April 9th 6:30pm ST ANTHONY Westbrook
Thursday April 10th 6-7pm ST ANNE'S . Gorham

Women The Maine Diocesan Council of Catholic Women cordially invites all interested Catholic Women to attend its annual meeting at St. Anne's, Gorham, Saturday, **April 26th**. Registration begins at 9 a.m. , mass or communion service at 9:30. Beth Mahoney, Director of Holy Cross Family Ministries and Cynthia Nickless, will be our speakers. Cost \$25, includes a Lagna lunch. Please make checks payable to MDCCW. Register by mail to Barb Welch, 5 Summit Circle, Westbrook, ME 04092 by April 18th. FMI, or call 807-8458

St Anne PRAYER PARTNERS

We invite you to pray for our children who are making Sacrament of First Eucharist and Confirmation. . Names are in a basket, on the lower lobby table. Please take one .

RETREAT UPDATE . On March 1, over 40 people from all three parishes in Cluster 23 attended the Living Christ Retreat held at St. Anne's. There was plenty of snacks and delicious soup served for lunch. The design of the retreat was structured to help people move along their individual faith journey, understand how "dying in Christ" and forgiveness are integral to moving forward, and then making a personal commitment to move forward. The evaluation comments showed that people thought the retreat was just what they needed as we move into the season of Lent. The retreat team plans to continue to offer more retreats in the future.

Living Christ Retreat Reunion. On June 4, 6pm at St. Anne's, Fr. John McHugh from St. Joseph's College will talk about continuing to grow in faith. Please come for community with your fellow parishioners from St. Anne's, OLPH and St. Anthony's. A light dinner is planned. No cost. FMI, please contact Susan Snow at sesnow23@gmail.com or 632-9009



**April 4th and 11th 5-6:30pm
FISH DINNERS**

Gorham Food Pantry Board Vacancy The Food Pantry is accepting applications to fill a vacancy on its Board of Directors. The Board meets once / month FMI contact Diane O'Neill at 839-4511. or visit [gorham foodpantry.org](http://gorhamfoodpantry.org)

RIDE NEEDED TO CHURCH Buxton area If you are able and interested in providing a ride to person in the West Buxton area to Mass Please contact Teresa 839-4857.

5th Annual Holy Saturday Church Walk! we will visit seven Catholic churches in Portland by foot, Saturday, **April 19**. The walk is just under nine miles. Bring good sneakers! We will break for lunch along the way. Meet at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at 8:00 a.m. Bishop Deeley will offer Morning Prayer at 7:00 a.m. Feel free to attend this as well. The day ends at 3:00 p.m. Optional ferry ride to Peaks Island afterward.

Veritas, Greater Portland Young Adult ministry, serves all young adults (18-39), single, married, and professed, in the greater Portland area. All events and activities are self-run, and we welcome you! FMI, veritasportland@yahoo.com.

FORTH SUNDAY OF LENT

CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT March 23rd, 2014

Offertory	3,084.00
Mortgage	34.00
Total	\$3,118.00

This weekend there is a second collection for **Catholic Relief Services** There is no envelope in your budget box. Next weeks second collection is for the **Mortgage**

Catholic Relief Services CRS is your way to help the world. Motivated by the example of Jesus Christ to assist the poor and suffering people in 91 countries through humanitarian aid, resettling, displaced individuals and families, advocating for victims.

ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER If you are interested in using EFT contact Teresa in the office at 839-4857.

Thank you for your continued support

TAXES END OF YEAR OFFERTORY STATEMENTS

If you would like to have a record of offertory donations for tax purposes, call 839-4857 or teresa.ledue@portlanddiocese.org.

ST. ANNE'S PRAYER NETWORK

Would you like us to pray for someone, or would you like to join the prayer line? Call Barb Welch 807-8458

BEREAVEMENT

St. Anne's Bereavement Committee is here to help families in time of sorrow. We are available to provide food (reception) at the church after a funeral, Call Chris 892-9437 Thanks!

FOOD PANTRY

The food pantry is opened each Thurs morning 9-11, the 2nd & 4th Wed from 6-7pm each month, canned meat, canned tuna, beans, vegetables, and fruit. And cereal Items can be left in the wire basket in the lower lobby. Thank you for your continued support

Diocese News

Are you getting ready for Spring Cleaning? We will gladly come and take your gently used small furniture items including love seats, tables, chairs, bookcases, bureaus and night stands. We can provide you with a donation receipt for tax purposes. We are "Threads of Hope" Catholic Charities Thrift Stores in Portland and Sanford. (clothing donations at our store locations, only.) Please call 781-8555 or 956-1457 to schedule a pickup. Or email us at threads@ccmaine.org.

A Retreat with Brother Mickey McGrath 'Saved By Beauty,' a retreat with Brother Mickey McGrath, will be held May 6-8 at the Lucerne Inn on 2517 Main Road in Dedham. Brother Mickey, an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales, works explores the connections between art and religious faith. FMI, contact Judy Michaud at judy.michaud@portlanddiocese.org.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat April 25-27 Struggling with the emotional or spiritual pain of an abortion, including men, relatives and medical professionals. FMI Annette Rioux at (207) 321-7885 or annette.rioux@portlanddiocese.org

Silver & Gold Anniversary Mass Bishop Deeley will celebrate a Silver & Gold Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Portland on Saturday, June 28, at 4 p.m. Couples planning to attend please RSVP Annette Rioux 321-7885 or annette.rioux@portlanddiocese.org.

FAITH FORMATION

Older Confirmation: Missed this sacrament.? Contact Sr. Jackie 839-4857

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN WORKSHOP to find scheduled workshop in our area www.portlanddiocese.net

Eucharist- CD available in lending Library. The Mass explained by Fr Larry Richards. Fr. Larry will do a parish mission @ St Joseph's in Bidd. March 31-April 3rd. Another CD available highlights The Sacrifice Theme by Richard May. FMI See Sr Jackie

Catholic Youth Convention

Lights, Camera, Action!

Join hundreds of other Catholic teens from around Maine as we celebrate our faith at the Catholic Youth Convention 2014 on April 25-27 at the Samoset Resort in Rockport, ME. Our national presenters and local youth leaders will explore our Catholic faith with a special look at Popes John XXIII and John Paul II who will be canonized that weekend! To register for the convention or for more information, visit www.OLFFmaine.com

Stations of the Cross booklets will be left on a window sill outside of chapel. Consider praying them after Mass or communion service.

Vacation Bible Camp: In the Wilderness with Moses, June 23-27, 9-noon, at St. Anne's, for K-grade 5. Older teens can help in small groups or at activity sites. Crafts, outdoor games, drama, music, snacks

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wayside Soup Kitchen Nite -Preble Street Resource 2nd Sat of each month Cooks 3pm Servers 4:30pm

Adoration Thursday 6-7pm

Crafters Wednesday 9am,

Prayer for Peace First Sat of each Month 9:00am April 5th, May 3rd, June 7th, July 5th, August 2nd

Prayer Shawl Group meets Wed. 1pm-2:30pm

Monday book group, 10-11:30am

Senior Lunch Wednesday 9-1 lunch served at noon

Centering Prayer Wednesdays 6:30-7pm

Book Group Wednesday 7-8pm "The Cloud of Unknowing,"

Children's liturgy for younger children at 8am Mass
March 30th Class

April 1st Leadership meeting 6:30pm

April 4th FISH DINNER 5-6:30pm

April 5th Prayer for Peace 9am

April 6th Class

April 8th Communication Group 6:30

April 11th FISH DINNER 5-6:30pm

April 12th Soup Kitchen Nite Preble St Portland

April 13th No Class There is Children Liturgy 8am

April 12th Sacramental Retreat Sat 1:30-3:30pm

April 17, 18, 19th EASTER TRIDUUM

April 20th EASTER

April 26, 2014 Women's Council 8-2 States

June 1st 9:30am First Eucharist and Confirmation



Sunday March 30th

8:00AM Deceased loved ones of the Goodine family

10:30AM Constance Moreau by husband Phil and family

Monday March 31st

9:00AM Communion Service

Tuesday April 1st NO Mass / No Communion Service

Wednesday April 2nd

9:00AM Bruce Mason by Martha Muldoon and John Charest

Thursday April 3rd NO Mass / No Communion Service

Friday April 4th

9:00AM Lindor and Georgette Jacques by daughter

Sunday April 6th

8:00AM Carol LaMontagne by Jack and Cindy McCormack

10:30AM Adam Spellman by his Dad

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Readings for the Week of March 30, 2014

Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Jn 5:17-30

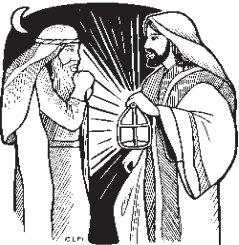
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

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When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him. - Jn 9:35-38

VOCATIONS

.Is the Lord calling you to be a priest, deacon, or in consecrated life? FMI, contact Fr. Nathan March, Director of Vocations for the Diocese of Portland, at (207) 321-7805 or at vocations@portlanddiocese.org

REFLECTION by Pope Francis God did not let our salvation drop down from heaven, like someone who gives alms from their abundance out of a sense of altruism and piety. Christ's love is different! When Jesus stepped into the waters of the Jordan and was baptized by John the Baptist, He did so not because He was in need of repentance, or conversion; He did it to be among people who need forgiveness, among us sinners, and to take upon Himself the burden of our sins. In this way He chose to comfort us, to save us, to free us from our misery.

4th Sunday of Lent

"So he went and washed, and came back able to see."

The man born blind was healed by the power of Christ. But the man played his part as well. First, he let Jesus spread the clay on his eyes, which was probably just as strange as it sounds. This wasn't a typical practice for curing blindness! In fact, there was no such practice; as the blind man said, "It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind." Yet the man trusted Jesus enough to submit to this odd therapy. Then, still caked in mud, the man followed Christ's direction to wash in the Pool of Siloam. Only after this washing was the healing complete.

If the man had doubted Jesus, if he had been too skeptical to participate in this unusual ritual, he would not have been cured. But he believed. He took Jesus at his word and obeyed his command. Ironically, this man without physical vision "saw" what those around him did not. He recognized that Jesus was a prophet. The Pharisees, on the other hand, were "blinded" by Jesus' boldness in curing the man on a Sabbath day. They thought they were looking at a sinner.

Jesus tells us he came, "so that those who do not see might see." Where do we fall on this spectrum of spiritual vision? Are we like the man who followed Christ without question? Like him, do we respond to Jesus with obedience, even when it doesn't "appear" to make sense at the time? Or do we struggle to see Christ in the trials of life? During this season of Lent may we identify any areas where doubt has created a blind spot in our hearts. Let us pray that our eyes may be opened to recognize, even amidst struggles, the One who is "the light of the world."

Sharing the Gospel

When Jesus saw the blind man, he did not just walk by. Jesus stopped. He knew he could help the man, and honor God at the same time. Showing all of God's love and power, Jesus healed the blind man's eyes. For the first time in his life, the man could see Jesus and believe in him.

Prayer Jesus, thank you for helping the blind man believe in you.

Draw With your eyes closed, try to draw a picture of Jesus.

Mission for the Week Draw a cross and put it in a place where you can see it and think of Jesus every day.

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CLUSTER 23 MASSES

SAINT ANNE – Gorham

Sunday Masses 8:00a.m. and 10:30a.m.

ST ANTHONY OF PADUA- Westbrook

Saturday 4:00p.m. & Sunday 9:00a.m.

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP Windham

Saturday 4pm Sunday 10:00am “

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