

Parish of the Resurrection of the Lord
Epiphany of the Lord—January 3, 2021



Bishop Deeley Offers Resounding Support of COVID-19 Vaccines, Implores All People to Get the Vaccine When Available



In recent weeks, the positive developments in the production of COVID-19 vaccines have stirred excitement but also hesitance in some quarters regarding the safety of the vaccines. Many Christians have expressed a range of emotions and opinions regarding the vaccines, and a variety of different questions have reached Bishop Robert Deeley.

“Our first response must be to give thanks to God for the scientific advancement and talent that helped to create such lifesaving vaccines,” said the bishop. “I have already been asked several times: **should I receive the vaccine when it is available to me?** My answer is a resounding ‘yes.’”

Some have claimed that if a vaccine is connected in any way with tainted cell lines taken from aborted babies, it is immoral to be vaccinated with them.

“This is, in my opinion, an inaccurate portrayal of Catholic moral teaching,” said Bishop Deeley.

The two vaccines that will be available in the U.S. are coming from Pfizer and Moderna. According to the moral guidance of the Bishops Conference (USCCB), “neither the Pfizer nor the Moderna vaccine involved the use of cell lines that originated in fetal tissue taken from the body of an aborted baby at any level of design, development, or production. They are not completely free from any connection to abortion, however, as one of the tests that Pfizer and Moderna cited to confirm that their vaccine would work relied upon an abortion-tainted cell line. There is thus a connection, but it is relatively remote.”

“Three separate documents have been released by the Holy See that address the question of an abortion-tainted cell line and also make distinctions in terms of the moral responsibility of the various actors involved, from those participating in designing and producing a vaccine to those receiving the vaccine,” said Bishop Deeley.

Most importantly, they all make it clear that, at the level of the recipient, it is morally permissible to accept vaccination when there are no alternatives and there is a serious risk to health.

“Catholics care about the common good,” said Bishop Deeley. “The Gospel calls us to care for each other. Even before COVID-19, Maine had one of the lowest rates of immunization in the country. There has been an increase in cases of whooping cough and other communicable diseases.”

That care needs to extend to auto-immune compromised individuals living in Maine.

“These individuals cannot receive vaccines and need the ‘herd-immunity’ from high vaccination rates,” said the bishop. “Many communities in Maine are almost below those rates. Caring for the common good of all provides an encouragement to all to receive the vaccination for both their own health and safety and that of others.”

Receiving the vaccine is, therefore, consistent with the Catholic commitment to promote the common good.

“As we soon enter into a new year, we continue to pray that God will remove this terrible virus from our midst,” said the bishop, “and grant healing, comfort, and peace to all.”

Gospel Meditation

“Where is that thing?” mumbled Bob as he searched frantically on his dimly lit desk for the current electric bill. “I know I put it right on top of these papers this morning!” Growing in frustration and bordering on anger, he flies stuff around, moves books and opines why simple tasks need to be so hard. Enter his wife, who calmly says, “Maybe it would help if you put the light on, dear.” The desk light goes on and lo and behold, there is the electric bill right where Bob left it earlier. All it took was a little light!

We stubbornly refuse to turn on the lights! Either we are distracted, determined, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Or perhaps, we fail to do the obvious. We would rather live our lives with the dimmest of lights or even in total darkness. Why are we afraid to do something so that we can actually see? It might help us to find quicker and better answers to problems, the meaning of life, relationships, happiness, and what is ultimate truth. Yet, we stumble along, moving things from one side to the other, getting angry, feeling cheated, being unsettled, resigning ourselves to the agony of defeat once again.

“And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.” The light has come into the world in the person of Jesus Christ! We no longer have to fumble in the darkness. We have been gifted with the illumination we need to see our way through things and find what we really are looking for. All these years later, however, so many are still reluctant to accept him. Perhaps they are unconvinced, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Everyone has their own reason for not wanting to turn on the switch.

But there are so many answers to so many of our problems in this humble Child of Nazareth. A simple birth teaches us about God’s tender wedded relationship with humanity. It speaks to the expanse of God’s salvation across the globe, and the incarnate Divine wonders and blessings that are a part of our life moment to moment. It calls us to understand the design of world order God intended as found in the Beatitudes, the sacredness of every human life and all of creation and the meaning of things we struggle with most, like suffering and death. We have a lot of Good News to share, not just with a privileged few but with all the world. All races and creeds can receive God’s healing word. God continues to manifest himself even now! Use the light to find what you are really looking for!

Epiphany of the Lord—January 3, 2021

The worship materials we use at Mass help each member of the assembly participate in the liturgy. So, to keep our faith community safe and healthy, we're inviting parishioners to have their own personal copies of our parish's missals. These can be used when worshipping from home or in church!



Learn more and sign up to receive your copies at the Parish Office or by calling 827-4000. We are asking for a \$10 donation per book to cover the cost of the book and shipping.

Live the Liturgy Inspiration for the Week

Even the slightest flicker of a light helps to properly orient us when we find ourselves in total darkness. Being in darkness can be unsettling and even a bit unnerving. We lose our focus and struggle to find our bearings and achieve balance. On life's journey we may think we are walking in the light but are really lingering in darkness. We do not see the full picture, either because we are distracted, disinterested, or even apprehensive. Sometimes, we even choose to close our eyes when the light is readily available to illuminate our path. Do we really desire to know the truth of who we are? In Jesus Christ, a light has been given to those who dwell in darkness. God's revelation gives us the light to see where we come from, who we are and where we are going. It also tells us that this Good News is not meant for just a privileged few but is intended to go out to all the world. Is this something we want to see?

St. Andre Bessette Feast Day—January 6th

The greatest things start with the smallest, Saint Andre Bessette knew what it was like to do the great things with very little. Alfred Bessette was plagued with sickness and poor health. It had been impossible for him to hold a job until his priest sent him to the Holy Cross Brothers in 1870 with a note saying, "I am sending you a saint." The Holy Cross Brothers were teachers and Alfred did not know how to read and write (at age 25), he went to the religious order out of desperation, not vocation, and the brothers did not know what to do with him. He was asked to leave but begged to stay and was allowed. He was given the responsibility of answering the door. He later said, "I was shown the door and I stayed there for forty years." While answering that door Saint Andre requested permission to build a chapel to Saint Joseph with whom he had a special attachment. The bishop allowed the request only if the chapel could be built with no debt. St. Andre had a few hundred dollars he collected in change, who would start such an endeavor with so little: Saint Andre-who did what he could with what he had. He started with a small wooden shelter, fifteen feet by eighteen feet. As he collected more money he added on to this small building, his devotion to St. Joseph guided him along this path. Soon he added a roof so the people could be out of the wind and rain. He then added walls, heating, a road, and a place to live while he cared for the shrine and the pilgrims. He began building a basilica. When he was ninety-years old a statue of St. Joseph was placed in what would be the new basilica. Saint Andre did not live to see the basilica completed, although he would likely have never considered it complete since there was always a new way to express his devotion and providing healing to others. The man who could never work for himself worked his whole life for God.

SEEK21

SEEK21 is a one-of-a-kind event where thousands gather as small groups across the country to ask the big questions about joy, peace, hope, and salvation. It is a four-day live broadcast event encountering the heart of the Gospel from February 4-7, 2021. You will have the opportunity to hear from renowned Catholic speakers including Bishop Barron, Sr. Miriam James, and more. There has never been a Catholic conference of this magnitude focused on the Gospel message itself. Gather with your small group as you virtually join thousands of others who are seeking a new encounter with the Lord, a new chance to pursue holiness, a new moment for our Church. Come away knowing Jesus Christ and having the confidence and tools to share and live the Gospel in your day-to-day life. Learn more at seek.focus.org.

How can you participate in SEEK21? Small groups are meant to be groups of 10 people that experience SEEK21 together through prayer, fellowship, meals, discussions, and more. Registration is ideally done as a group with either the group leader registering everyone at once or the group leaders registering themselves and adding the rest of the group later.

If you are interested in being a group leader for our parish please reach out to Nina Cardillo (FOCUS missionary at UMaine) at 443-995-8434 or antonina.cardillo@focus.org. For more information about how to register go to <https://seek.focus.org/details/in-your-community/>. If you have any questions about SEEK21 please reach out to Nina Cardillo at 443-995-8434 or antonina.cardillo@focus.org.

SEEK21 is hosted by FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students). FOCUS is a Catholic apostolate whose mission is to share the hope and joy of the Gospel. FOCUS missionaries encounter people in friendship, inviting them into a personal relationship with Christ and accompanying them as they pursue lives of virtue and excellence. Through Bible studies, outreach events, mission trips, and discipleship, missionaries inspire and build up other in their faith, sending them out to live out lifelong Catholic mission wherever they are.



Epiphany of the Lord—January 3, 2021



Worship
SCHEDULE



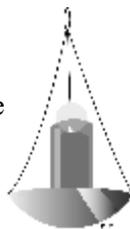
Day/Date	Time	Location	Priest	Intention
Saturday 1/2/2021	10:00 AM	Holy Family, Old Town	<i>Fr. Kyle</i>	David Foster by Ray & Arlette
	4:00 PM	Holy Family, Old Town	<i>Fr. Kyle</i>	Germaine & Eugene LeGal by Mireille Legal
Sunday 1/3/2021	8:00 AM	Holy Family, Old Town	<i>Fr. Apolinary</i>	Michael J. Morin by Allen & Joyce Brackley
	9:30 AM	St. Ann, Bradley	<i>Fr. Kyle</i>	Parishioners by Pastor
	11:00 AM	Our Lady of Wisdom, Orono	<i>Fr. Kyle</i>	Mary Paul by Edwina Mitchell
Monday 1/4/2021	8:00 AM	Holy Family, Old Town	<i>Fr. Kyle</i>	Verna Joy by Noreen & Harold White
Tuesday 1/5/2021	8:00 AM	Holy Family, Old Town	<i>Fr. Kyle</i>	Willy King by Mom & Dad
Wednesday 1/6/2021	8:00 AM	Holy Family, Old Town	<i>Fr. Kyle</i>	Herbert Daigle by Sister, Pauline
Friday 1/8/2021	8:00 AM	Holy Family, Old Town	<i>Fr. Kyle</i>	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Saturday 1/9/2021	4:00 PM	Holy Family, Old Town	<i>Fr. Apolinary</i>	Deceased Members of the Morin & Ouellette Families by Dan & Marcy Ouellette
Sunday 1/10/2021	8:00 AM	Holy Family, Old Town	<i>Fr. Kyle</i>	Doris Melanson by Wayne Melanson
	9:30 AM	St. Ann, Bradley	<i>Fr. Apolinary</i>	Ramona Gallant by Bud & Ann
	11:00 AM	Our Lady of Wisdom, Orono	<i>Fr. Kyle</i>	Parishioners by Pastor

**The Vigil Light by the Tabernacle burns this week
(January 3—9, 2021)**

Holy Family Church
Lorraine Dunn by Family

St. Ann, Penobscot Nation
Kenneth ‘Choppy’ Lucas by Wife

Holy Family, Rectory
Our Lady of Wisdom, Orono
St. Ann, Bradley
For the deceased in the Parish



Questions of the Week for Scripture Reflection

Isaiah 60:1-6

In late 6th century BC, the prophet Isaiah proclaimed an unimaginable future of glory for Israel in the wake of their return from seventy years of captivity in Babylon. What message of hope does our nation need today?

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Paul speaks of God’s “revelation” to include Gentiles as “coheirs” and “copartners” with Jews in the divine promise fulfilled in Christ Jesus. How welcoming are you to those you consider outsiders?

Matthew 2:1-12

The magi’s visit to discover the “newborn king of the Jews” caused great anxiety for the religious leaders of Jerusalem, including King Herod. Why do you think some people are not open to the good news of Jesus Christ?



Weekly Confession

Saturday

Holly Family, Old Town—3:00-3:45 pm



Weekly Adoration

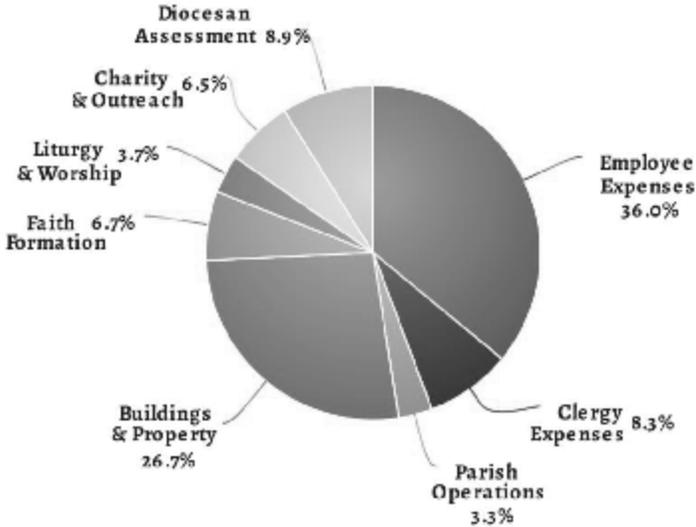
Friday

Holy Family, Old Town—8:30 AM-12:30 PM

STEWARDSHIP

Annual Parish Budget

Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021



Spread the Good News!

Nearly two-thirds of our budget is allocated towards *ministry* and *mission*! Your weekly offertory ensures that we are able to continue this good work.

Thank you!

COLLECTION REPORT		
WEEKLY OFFERTORY FOR: 12/20/2020		
74	Regular Envelope Total	\$ 4,682.00
	Currency	\$ 245.74
50	Online Donations	\$ 1,455.00
	Total Offertory	\$ 6,382.74
	BUDGETED WEEKLY OFFERTORY	\$ 8,365.00
	Under for the Week	\$ 1,982.26
	Thrift Store	\$ 1,060.26
1	Christmas Online	\$ 25.00
3	Retired Religious Envelopes	\$ 23.00
7	Christmas Flower Envelopes	\$ 107.00
14	Building Fund Envelopes	\$ 246.00
3	Building Fund Online	\$ 45.00

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.”

(1 Peter 4:10)

According to the 1992 U.S. Bishops’ Pastoral Letter, *Stewardship: A Disciple’s Response*, a Christian steward is defined as a disciple of Jesus who “*Receives God’s gifts gratefully, cultivates them responsibly, shares them lovingly in justice with others and returns them with increase to the Lord.*” Stewardship is about more than just “supporting the work of the parish,” – it is a way of life and is better understood within the context of personal conversion, mission, outreach, and evangelization. Christian disciples are motivated to share their time, talent, treasure, and assets with the Church and other worthy causes from a deep sense of gratitude and in a planned, proportionate and sacrificial manner.

For those actively engaged as Christian stewards in our parish, *thank you* for sharing your gifts with the people of God.

Rebuild His Church

The Capital Campaign for the future of the Parish of the Resurrection of the Lord
As of November 20, 2020

Campaign Goal	\$3,500,000
Commitments to Date	\$1,311,067.25
Percentage of Goal	37.46%
Registered Families	765
Returned Pledge Cards	304
Percent of Participation	39.74%

If you would like to contribute to the Capital Campaign through We Share the link is:

<https://parishoftheresurrection.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities>

The pledge cards are available at all churches.



CATHOLIC APPEAL REPORT

As of 12/17/2020

Goal: \$ 65,943

Gift Count	Total	Percent of Goal	Participation Rate
156	\$52,425	80%	20%

Please make your pledge today or send your gift directly to:

The Catholic Appeal
PO Box 628, Lewiston, Maine 04243-0628
OR

make your gift online at portlanddiocese.org/appeal

Prayer REQUESTS

Readings of the Week

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

[cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a

[8ab]/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/

Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13

[cf. 11]/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14

and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20

[12a]/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a

and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/

Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/

Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/

Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3])/1 Jn 5:1-9/

Mk 1:7-11

Samuel Bastarache	Wayne Hesseltine
Chris Bate	Courtney King
Rosemarie Bate	Vin Knapp
Peter Bosse	Karen Lavoie Stone
Pauline Butler	Cherie Levesque
Ralph Button	Linda O'Connor Smithson
Theresa Cote	Darrell Parrick
John Davis	Vincent Rush
Paula Davis	Bud Smith
Theresa DeGrasse	Mary Carmen Thibault
Glenn Dupuis	Johndavid Toothman
Jake Dupuis	Scott Walker
Linda Evans	Owen Young
Leslie Hair	

The food pantry is in need of Spam, unsweetened cereal, Pasta Sauce.

Please check expiration dates of food before donating.
We cannot accept homemade/home canned foods.

Thank you for your donations.

Please note: Names will be removed from the prayer list after 8 weeks. If a person needs to remain on the prayer list after that time please notify the office at 827-4000.

Pray for our Military:

Mark Abbott	Preston Hodge
PFC Brandon Appel	Tyler Moore
SSG Dale Bragg Jr.	Andrew Rackliff
Kyle Dupuis	Jonathan Seymour
Lew Henderson Jr.	Dillon Shorey
Adam Hesseltine	SGT Anthony Waite



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Religious

Feast Day: January 4th



January 3, 2021

Parish Contact Information

Clergy

Kyle.doustou@portlanddiocese.org
Michael.boggs@portlanddiocese.org
827-4000

Religious Education Director

Jessica Moore: Jessica.moore@portlanddiocese.org
827-4000

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) & Campus Ministry

Audrey Aylmer: Audrey.aylmer@portlanddiocese.org

Parish Council

Joseph Beale, William Halteman, Matt Ketch, Terri Maher,
Bo Meservey, Robert Pascale, Philip Roy, Kathy Shorette
pofrotlc@gmail.com

Baptisms

To make arrangements for baptisms please call the Parish
office at 827-4000.

Prayer Line Ministry

For prayer line requests call Bernice Curtis at 827-3264.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

For prayer shawl requests call Anne Richard at 827-3070.

Sacrament of the Sick

If your loved ones are in the hospital or nursing facility and
wish to see a priest to receive the sacraments, please contact
the Parish Office at 827-4000 and someone will visit them
as soon as possible.

Communion to Home Bound

Please call the Parish Office at 827-4000 if you or a family
member wish to receive communion at home while sick or
recuperating from surgery, etc. Thank you!

Parish Hall Use

Please contact the Parish Office at 827-4000

Food Pantry

The Resurrection of the Lord Food Pantry opens at 9:30
a.m. on the last Monday of each month at the Brunswick St.
Parking Lot at Holy Family, Old Town.

Resurrection Parish Thrift Shop

The Thrift Shop is closed until February 3, 2021.

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