

CHRISTMAS WEEKEND



DECEMBER 25TH AND 26TH, 2021



Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland, Most Reverend Robert P. Deeley, J.C.D., Bishop

**CATHEDRAL OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**
307 Congress Street, Portland

**SACRED HEART AND
SAINT DOMINIC PARISH**
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SAINT LOUIS PARISH
279 Danforth Street, Portland

SAINT PETER'S PARISH
72 Federal Street, Portland

SAINT CHRISTOPHER PARISH
15 Central Avenue, Peaks Island

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA
8 Beach Avenue, Long Island

Dear Parishioners,

I hope and pray that these days of Christmas will give you time to enjoy the blessings of family and friends and savor the goodness of life. These precious moments together around the holidays are often hard-fought, but they are worth all our efforts. Third graders at a retreat one year made this very clear to me. Before spending some time praying in the Blessed Sacrament chapel, I would meet with each small group for a little conversation to prepare them. Talking about how close to us Jesus would be in just a few moments, I asked “When have you felt closest to God?” After a little reflection, many of the children came back with the answer: “Home with my family spending time during Christmas.” What really surprised me was that a bunch of them (unprompted and in separate groups), also said that they felt closest to God while at Mass in quiet prayer after they had received Holy Communion. That’s a good way to get a priest all choked up.

How beautiful and moving it is when the abstract knowledge that Jesus is Emmanuel, “God with us,” becomes a real experience of his presence. I’m not talking about a mere emotional feeling, but a human experience that involves the whole person: mind and body, heart and soul. An experience that even a whole litany of words - awe, wonder, love, intimacy, tenderness, acceptance, light-heartedness, exhilaration, warmth, affection, joy, peace - falls far short of describing.

The experience of Emmanuel, “God with us,” is a gift that we are given in certain moments throughout our lives to heal us, strengthen us, and guide us. Not every moment or every day, not even every month or year. But at different moments in life we are given glimpses of what it is like to be close to God. These moments are meant to whet our appetite for heaven and strengthen us along our journey. Our hearts are restless, St. Augustine said, until they rest in Christ. We are made to be close to God, to dwell with him – first in this world in partial and mysterious ways, and finally at the end of time in complete and unending love.

My hope and prayer is that this Christmas will be for you an experience of the closeness of Christ as you spend time together with loved ones in your earthly homes and in the spiritual homes of our parish churches. Merry Christmas!



Fr. Seamus
Rector and Pastor



SUNDAY VESPERS AND TEACHINGS

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

5:30PM Chanted Vespers, 6:00-6:30PM Teachings of the Catholic Faith

Dec. 26 teaching: Eucharist Part 5 of 5: The Eucharistic Family

Presenter: Fr. Seamus Griesbach, S.T.L.

THE HOLY FAMILY

Sunday, December 26

Mass	Cathedral	8:00 a.m.
Mass	St. Christopher *	8:30 a.m.
Mass	St. Peter *	9:00 a.m.
Mass	Cathedral	10:00 a.m.
Mass	SHSD <i>Eng/Fr</i>	10:30 a.m.
Mass	St. Louis * <i>Eng/Pol</i>	11:30 a.m.
Mass	Cathedral Chapel <i>Latin</i>	12:00 p.m.
Mass	SHSD <i>Spanish</i>	12:30 p.m.
Azande Service	St. Peter <i>Arabic/Azande</i>	3:00 p.m.
Mass	St. Louis <i>Polish</i>	4:00 p.m.
Mass	Cathedral <i>Vietnamese</i>	4:00 p.m.
Vespers	Cathedral	5:30 p.m.

Monday, December 27

Mass	St. Peter	7:00 a.m.
Mass	Cathedral Chapel	12:15 p.m.

Tuesday, December 28

Mass	St. Peter **	7:00 a.m.
Mass	Cathedral Chapel	12:15 p.m.

Wednesday, December 29

Mass	St. Peter	7:00 a.m.
Mass	Cathedral Chapel	12:15 p.m.
Holy Hour	Cathedral Chapel	6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 30

Mass	St. Peter	7:00 a.m.
Bible Study	St. Christopher	10:00 a.m.
Mass	Cathedral Chapel	12:15 p.m.
Holy Hour	St. Louis	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Friday, December 31 - Pastoral Offices Closed

Mass	St. Peter	7:00 a.m.
Mass	Cathedral Chapel	12:15 p.m.
Mass	Cathedral	4:00 p.m.
Mass	St. Peter	6:00 p.m.
Mass	St. Christopher	6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 1 - Mary Mother of God

Mass	SHSD	12:00 a.m.
Mass	Cathedral Chapel <i>Latin</i>	8:00 a.m.
Mass	Cathedral	10:00 a.m.
Mass	St. Louis	11:00 a.m.
Confession	Cathedral Chapel	2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Mass	Cathedral	4:00 p.m.
Confession	St. Peter	4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Mass	St. Peter	5:15 p.m.

Sunday, January 2

Mass	Cathedral	8:00 a.m.
Mass	St. Christopher *	8:30 a.m.
Mass	St. Peter *	9:00 a.m.
Mass	Cathedral	10:00 a.m.
Mass	SHSD <i>Eng/Fr</i>	10:30 a.m.
Mass	St. Louis * <i>Eng/Pol</i>	11:30 a.m.
Mass	Cathedral Chapel <i>Latin</i>	12:00 p.m.
Mass	SHSD <i>Spanish</i>	12:30 p.m.
Azande Service	St. Peter <i>Arabic/Azande</i>	3:00 p.m.
Vespers	Cathedral	5:30 p.m.

* Rosary begins half an hour before Mass

** St. Anthony Devotion follows Mass

Apostolate of Prayer for Priests - Let us pray for:

Dec 26	Rev. Paul Marquis; Re. Thomas Lee
Dec 27	Rev. Antonio Amato; Rev. Kent Ouellette
Dec 28	Rev. Harold Moreshead; All Deceased Priests
Dec 29	Msgr. Charles Murphy; Rev. Aurelijus Gričius, OFM
Dec 30	Rev. Arockiasmay Snathiagu; Rev. Stephen Concannon
Dec 31	Rev. David Schlaver, CSC; Rev. Sylvio Levesque
Jan 1	Our Holy Father



Wednesdays: Cathedral Chapel, 6-7:15PM
 Thursdays: St. Louis Church, 6-7:00PM
 Saturdays: Cathedral Chapel, 2:30-3:30PM
 St. Peter's Church, 4:00-5:00PM

Please note: regularly scheduled Saturday confession opportunities will not be offered on Saturday 12/25/21.

Eucharistic Adoration



Wednesday

Cathedral, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. (Silent and ending with night prayer)

Thursday

St. Louis, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

ONGOING & LOOKING AHEAD

Weekend Mass Schedule Next Weekend, January 1 & 2, 2022

Saturday, January 1

4:00 p.m.	Cathedral	Fr. Kevin
5:15 p.m.	St. Peter	Fr. Agustin

Sunday, January 2

8:00 a.m.	Cathedral	Fr. Seamus
8:30 a.m.	St. Christopher	Fr. Agustin
9:00 a.m.	St. Peter	Fr. Kevin
10:00 a.m.	Cathedral	Bishop Deeley, Fr. Seamus
10:30 a.m.	Sacred Heart/St. Dominic <i>(Eng/Fr)</i>	Fr. Kevin
11:30 a.m.	St. Louis <i>(Eng/Pol)</i>	Fr. Agustin
12:00 p.m.	Cathedral Chapel <i>(Latin)</i>	Fr. Robert Parent
12:30 p.m.	Sacred Heart/St. Dominic <i>(Spanish)</i>	Fr. Phil

- Schedule is subject to change

Events at St. Louis!

Sunday, Dec 26th (First Sunday of Christmas): Holy Mass in Polish at 4pm with Fr Robert Będziński followed by traditional Oplątek gathering and Caroling in Polish.



As always, Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament and confession will start at 3:30pm before each Mass.

The Sacred Heart St. Dominic Social Justice and Peace Commission's collection of toiletries for the homeless will continue through the month of December. items will still be collected at the Pastoral Center and at Sacred Heart/St. Dominic Parish. Thank you for all the cards donated for the inmates of Cumberland County Jail. Peace.

Come join us—bring a friend!



All Middle School Students
Tuesday's 3:30-5pm with
Fr. Seamus
Guild Hall Gymnasium
Friends, Snacks ,Games, Prayer, and more!

Young Adult Ministry: Casco Bay Catholics

Calling young adults! Casco Bay Catholics is a ministry of and for young adults in the greater Portland area, based out of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. We hope to continue to build a vibrant community of young people to grow in faith together in various ways. We look forward to many exciting events this coming year including Adoration, social hours, trivia, a Lenten retreat, volunteer opportunities, and more. Join us at our next event, Hour of Power Eucharistic Adoration on **Friday, January 7th at 6 pm** in the Cathedral followed by a social hour. Sign up for our email list by using the QR code below or visiting bit.ly/CascoBayCatholics. Email Abrey (afelliccia@gmail.com) with any questions.



The St. Peter's Church Holy Name Society will hold a regular business meeting on Sunday Jan. 9, 2022 at 6:00 pm in the Monsignor Domingo Hall. New members to the Holy Name Society are always welcome. For more information contact Rocco Ferrante at rferrante@maine.rr.com or 207-776-4507.



FAITH FORMATION

Children's Weekly Gospel Reflection

Today we read about the Holy Family—Jesus, Mary and Joseph. We normally think about Jesus as a baby or as an adult, but in today's Gospel, Jesus was 12 years old. He went to the Temple with Mary and Joseph. Suddenly Mary realized that Jesus was missing, and it was a while before they found him. Jesus is God's Son, but he was still a child. He needed Mary and Joseph to be safe. He needed to obey them. Sometimes we may not want to obey our family's rules. We can remember that Jesus obeyed his parents. We can ask him to help us.



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Men's 18+ Christmas Discernment Retreat (January 7-9 in Biddeford Pool)



Join Fr. Greg Dube, director of vocations and seminarians, and other priests from the Diocese of Portland in praying for discerners and each other from Friday, January 7, to Sunday, January 9, at the Marie Joseph Spiritual Center in Biddeford. Sponsored by the Office of Vocations, this gathering is for all Catholic college-aged (18+) men or older who are striving to live out their faith and to follow God's will. To sign up or for more details, visit the events section on the Vocations website:

www.portlanddiocese.org/vocations/content/upcoming-activities-and-events. Please register by December 27. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Bernier, ministerial services assistant for the Diocese of Portland, at (207) 773-6471 or jennifer.bernier@portlanddiocese.org.

St. Christopher's Church
Breakfast after 8:30 Sunday Mass-
Please join us!

Readings for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or
1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52
Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40
Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18
Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
Next 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

Observances for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: The Holy Family
Monday: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
Tuesday: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Wednesday: St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
Thursday:
Friday: St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve
Saturday: New Year's Day; Mary, The Holy Mother of God; World Day of Peace
Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

FAITH IN ACTION

Sacred Heart Sodality

Thank you to all who were able to come to our Christmas Gathering. It was well attended, with 60 ladies enjoying music by Jim Ciampi and great food with Becky Mitchell's help. We even had a visit from Santa (thank you for that special "ho ho ho!")!

Thank you to all who worked so hard to sell raffle tickets for our "Gift of the Magi" fundraiser. It was very successful, and we are grateful to all of you. There will be a full treasurer report at our next meeting. We also collected almost \$500 for the Matthew 25 Fund. through generous donations from DiMillo's, Bruno's, artistic designs by Susan Bowden and wine donated by Mike and Maria DiMillo, we raised an additional \$400 for our donations in June 2022. Thanks to Mary Taliento Goodwin and Barbara Smith for their work in creating gifts given to all who attended the breakfast.

On behalf of the Officers of the Sacred Heart Sodality... "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!" May the new year bring joy, peace and health to all.

Mary Capobianco, Barbara Linnehan-Smith, Maria DiMillo and Becky Mitchell

JOIN US FOR MONDAY NIGHT MOVIES...

*Beginning January 10th with Joseph Fiennes "Risen"
St. Peter's Msgr. DiMingo Hall at * 6:00pm*

As we anxiously await Season 3 production of The Chosen, we'll be continuing our "Monday Night Movies" beginning January 10th with "Risen" a powerful biblical film that takes a unique look at the Resurrection story featuring Joseph Fiennes.

Questions....Email: jimciampimusic@gmail.com

The Sacred Heart St. Dominic Food Pantry is helping many newly arrived people who are in need of large soup pots. If you have an extra 6 or 8 quart pot with a lid, we would be able to find it a welcome home. Drop off any Monday from 12-2pm at the SHSD parish hall. Thanks! God Bless. FMI (Anne Johnson 207 929-3088).



World Youth Day (WYD) is an international encounter with the Pope generally celebrated every three years. Different countries around the world have hosted WYD gatherings, and in 2023, the host city will be Lisbon, Portugal. The weeklong celebration includes opportunities for prayer, catechesis, and daily Mass, and events with Pope Francis, most especially the closing liturgy in which hundreds of thousands of youths from around the world participate. With Fatima a short trip from Lisbon, it is sure to be on our pilgrimage.

For more info contact
shawn.gregory@portlanddiocese.org



Many thanks to the wonderful volunteers from the St. Louis Women's Society who baked and sold dozens of Christmas cookies to raise needed funds for the St. Louis Parish Fuel Fund! Your efforts are appreciated.

STEWARDSHIP

2022 Offertory Envelopes will be made available at the church entrance as soon as they arrive! If you would like yours mailed to your house, please call the office to let them know. Thank you!

Masks are strongly recommended while attending Mass.

Cathedral Giving Tree Program

Many individuals at the parishes have stepped forward to help those in need during the Christmas season, and it has been a pleasure to see! The parishioners of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception were very generous in supporting the Cathedral Giving Tree Program again this year. Members of six families were recipients of this generosity, one "giving" tag at a time. Many, many individuals at Preble Street Resource Center and young people at Long Creek Youth Development Center will feel warmth and kindness, knowing of our prayers and support. Additionally, six families were "adopted" by six donors, providing blessings that were greatly appreciated in challenging times.

Many thanks to the energetic volunteers of the Sacred Bakery at Sacred Heart/St. Dominic Parish! Another rousing success with many more tasty treats sold to raise funds to benefit the parish and its good works.



Please pray for the repose of the souls of our faithful departed, especially:

Laurie Larou

May their souls find their rightful resting place in the eternal presence of our Risen Lord.

OFFERTORY 12/11 & 12/12

1st Collection 2nd Collection

	1st Collection	2nd Collection
Cathedral		
4:00 - Saturday	840.00	406.00
8:00 - Sunday	1,055.00	508.00
10:00 - Sunday	1,797.00	887.00
12:00 - Latin Chaplaincy	640.00	7.00
3:00 - Azande service	77.00	
12:15 - Holy Day	164.00	225.00
6:00 - Holy Day	337.00	195.00
Online & Mail	3,088.11	
	7,998.11	2,228.00
Sacred Heart/ St. Dominic		
10:30 - Sunday	648.00	276.00
12:30 - Sunday (Spanish)	743.00	264.00
6:30 - Holy Day	96.00	30.00
Online & Mail	808.99	
	2,295.99	570.00
St. Christopher		
8:30 - Sunday (Peaks Island)	668.00	282.00
6:30 - Holy Day	100.00	265.00
Online & Mail	2,041.84	
	2,809.84	547.00
St. Louis		
11:30 - Sunday	401.00	292.00
6:30 - Holy Day	91.00	65.00
Online & Mail	282.65	
	774.65	357.00
St. Peter		
5:15 - Saturday	573.00	151.00
9:00 - Sunday	1,233.00	385.00
7:00 - Holy Day	196.00	98.00
Online & Mail	1,512.04	25.00
	3,514.04	659.00
Total Offertory	17,392.63	4,361.00

The search for our Pastoral Communications Coordinator is ongoing. If you know of someone who might be interested, please have them contact the Pastoral Offices for more information.



PORTLAND PENINSULA & ISLAND PARISHES

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Saturday, December 25, 2021

- 8:00 AM Consuelo Esperante by her family
10:00 AM Mary DelRossi and Deceased Members of the Leone Family by Craig & Dolly Foster

Sunday, December 26, 2021

- 8:00 AM Peter E. O'Donnell by Carol & Bill Reeve
10:00 AM Cathy Rand (living) by Gene Fetteroll
12:00 PM H&S Marcia McCabe by her family
H&S = Health & Salvation

Monday, December 27, 2021

- 12:15 PM Louis B. Maietta, Jr. by Molly & Eric Walker

Tuesday, December 28, 2021

- 12:15 PM Thomas F. Kirby by Estate

Wednesday, December 29, 2021

- 12:15 PM Richard Rand by Jim & Judy Lynch

Thursday, December 30, 2021

- 12:15 PM Rev. Thomas M. Lee by Estate

Friday, December 31, 2021

- 12:15 PM Toby McLaughlin by Carol McLaughlin
4:00 PM Deceased Members of the Walsh Family

Saturday, January 1, 2022

- 8:00 AM Deceased Parents & Grandparents of Diane & Leland Embry
10:00 AM Daniel DiMillo by Barry & Joanne Tibbetts
4:00 PM Richard Rand by Carol McLaughlin

Sunday, January 2, 2022

- 8:00 AM Jeannette Harris & Family
by April & Doug Bushey
10:00 AM Richard Rand by Maine Associates
12:00 PM H&S Joseph McCabe by his family
H&S = Health & Salvation

Sacred Heart/Saint Dominic Parish

Sunday, December 26, 2021

- 10:30 AM Parishioner of the Portland Peninsula & Island Parishes
12:30 PM Our Deceased Family & Friends

Friday, December 31, 2021

- 11:59 PM Richard Lee by Donna Bristol

Sunday, January 2, 2022

- 10:30 AM Parishioner of the Portland Peninsula & Island Parishes
12:30 PM Our Deceased Loved Ones

Saint Christopher Parish

Sunday, December 26, 2021

- 8:30 AM Willie Audet by The Hannigan Family

Friday, December 31, 2021

- 6:30 PM Maria "Coco" Sanclemente
by Mary & Peter Anderson

Sunday, January 2, 2022

- 8:30 AM Coco Sanclemente by Pastoral Staff

Saint Louis Parish

Intencje Mszalne

Sunday, December 26, 2021

- 11:30 AM Milt Clark by Hayden Sprague
4:00 PM Helena Krzylewska & Gizela Gawronski
by Friend Helena

Saturday, January 1, 2022

- 11:00 AM Fr. Ronald Sermak, Lucy McDonough, & Fr. Stanislaw Flis by Kaz Zywnina

Sunday, January 2, 2022

- 11:30 AM Jozef Hadziewicz by Family

Saint Peter Parish

Sunday, December 26, 2021

- 9:00 AM Patricia Sundik by Carol McLaughlin

Monday, December 27, 2021

- 7:00 AM Stephen Anthony Costello
by Mike & Donna Hutchins

Tuesday, December 28, 2021

- 7:00 AM Julia Murphy by Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Leahy

Wednesday, December 29, 2021

- 7:00 AM Pat & Anne Napolitano by Family

Thursday, December 30, 2021

- 7:00 AM Margaret Bailey by The Reardon Family

Friday, December 31, 2021

- 7:00 AM Faye Frances Allen by Mickey & Jackie Caiola
by Vincent & Adele Costa-Zarcone
6:00 PM Richard Vanderport by the Tamulevich Family

Saturday, January 1, 2022

- 5:15 PM Joseph DiPietro by Family

Sunday, January 2, 2022

- 9:00 AM Gertrude Giaquinto Moran
by Ken & Angela Giaquinto



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Parish Registration

Welcome! Please register with the parish of your choice by visiting www.portlandcatholic.org and filling out a Parishioner Registration form. Changes to your contact information may be made by using the Update Parishioner Registration form.

Baptism

Baptismal Preparation classes are offered once a month at the Pastoral Center. All parents arranging for their child's baptism must contact Melissa Maurais at 773-7746 x 103 or complete the form on our website.

Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered every Saturday at 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Cathedral and 4-5 p.m. at St. Peter's.

Marriage

Before making your reception plans please contact Carolyn Mitchell at 773-7746 x 110. Please **DO NOT** make wedding reception arrangements until you have confirmed a wedding date with us. Thank you in advance for your understanding and consideration.

Funeral Arrangements

Please contact the funeral home and they will work with our office to help you make arrangements.

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

Please call the Pastoral Center with the name, address, phone number, and condition of the person seeking a home visit. .

Mass Intentions and Prayers

For Mass intentions and prayer line requests, please contact the Pastoral Center. Mass intention requests may be made up to a year in advance.

Thinking About a Religious Vocation?

Please call the Pastoral Center to speak with one of our priests, or contact the Diocesan Vocations Office at 207-773-6471.

Interested in Learning More About the Catholic Church, or Returning to the Catholic Faith after a time away?

We are glad you are! Please call the Pastoral Center to arrange an appointment with one of our priests to have your questions answered and be welcomed home.

Pastoral Center in Guild Hall

307 Congress St, Portland ME, 04101
Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

PortlandPeninsula@PortlandDiocese.org
www.PortlandCatholic.org
207-773-7746



Our Parish Priests



**Very Rev. Seamus P. Griesbach
Rector and Pastor**



**Rev. Agustin Sebasthiyan, HGN
Parochial Vicar**



**Reverend Kevin T. Upham
Parochial Vicar**

Our Deacons



Deacon Michael B. Augustino



Deacon Luis I. Sanclemente