

PORTLAND PENINSULA AND ISLAND PARISHES
NEWSLETTER

*In the Roman Catholic Diocese
of Portland, Maine*

Labor Day: The Dignity of Work and Catholic Social Teaching

by Fr. Mike Seavey

Labor Day Weekend gives us an excellent opportunity to present a Catholic perspective on human labor. The Church teaches us that we are called to see our daily labors as an opportunity to experience God's grace and transformative love.

More than twenty five years ago, Pope John Paul II issued an encyclical letter entitled **On Human Labor**. In that encyclical, the Holy Father reminded us that all Christians are called to be *co-creators with God* and *co-redeemers with the Risen Christ*. This teaching alone is worth many hours of reflection, prayer and action!

We need to be reminded that Jesus was raised in a family and worked with his own hands in hard daily labor of carpentry. This teaches us that Jesus pointed to the dignity of work and raised it to a divine activity.

In our daily work, we shape creation with God's grace. We are called to shape the world we live in with many virtues, including justice, dignity, and thanksgiving. Using these virtues, our work makes our own lives more human and makes for more human communities. This calls for a vision that sees beyond our own needs and preferences and brings forth a *vision of community or solidarity*. We



Praise the Lord, my soul!

then see our daily labors as an opportunity to serve God by serving the wider community. This lets us see our daily work as a *vocation*.

We would also be remiss if we understood our daily work only as our job outside the home where we receive wages and benefits. While this is a central understanding of Catholic Teaching, it is far from exclusive. Our daily labors also include our relationships (marriage, parenting, friendships, neighbors, etc.), our daily worship (prayer, Mass attendance, other sacraments and devotions), community service, civic responsibilities and our stewardship towards the church (parish ministries, volunteer efforts, sacrificial offerings, works of charity for the poor, etc.).

Therefore, homemakers, students in the classrooms, the unemployed, retirees, and everyone else continues to be called to be co-workers and co-redeemers with Christ by their daily labors, whatever they may be.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church has many references to these teachings. Please see the Index under the heading "Work".

Health Care Reform

The issue of Health Care Reform is a matter of great importance. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has developed a Web site explaining the issue and offering the Catholic perspective to educate ourselves and our families. To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/healthcare.

The USCCB position summary includes:

- a truly universal health policy with respect for human life and dignity;
- access for all with a special concern for the poor and inclusion of legal immigrants;
- pursuing the common good and preserving pluralism including freedom of conscience and variety of options,
- restraining costs and applying them equitably across the spectrum of payers.

Vocation Awareness

The Diocese of Portland is providing training sessions to assist us with a new Parish or Cluster Vocation Awareness Committee. Please contact your parish office for more information on activating or serving on such a committee.

*Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 5/6, 2009*

Latin American Music, Sept 13

Sacred Heart / St. Dominic Parish is proud to present a truly memorable concert of Latin American music at 3 p.m. on Sunday, September 13, at Sacred Heart Church featuring Puerto Rican/ Argentine *Sol y Canto* lead singer/percussionist Rosi Amador and New Mexican husband Brian Amador, composer/guitarist and 2009 MacDowell Artist Colony fellow, along with their twin daughters Alisa and Sonia.

The Amador family's repertoire features Latin American classics, jazz standards, and refreshing original Latin compositions from tender to danceable in Pan-Latin rhythms from *Sol y Canto*'s critically lauded latest CD, "Cada Día un Regalo/Each Day a Gift," described as "unfailingly inspiring" by *Billboard Magazine*.

Suggested donation is \$10. Proceeds will benefit the mission and ministry of the parish, which serves the Parkside and Hispanic communities of Portland.

Children's Corner:
Every difficult situation is made easier or more bearable because of Jesus. It is up to us to pray and work faithfully, and Jesus will be our helper.

Find more about the Catholic Community of the Portland Peninsula and Island Parishes online at www.cluster21portland.org

The Web site contains the most current news and information about our five parish community, the history, meeting dates and minutes, links to each parish, and a schedule of activities and events throughout the cluster. This Newsletter is produced by the Communications Committee of the Portland Peninsula and Island Parishes Pastoral Council together with the bulletin editors of each parish.

Our Community Calendar Notes:

East End 5K Thanks: The entire Cathedral School family would like to thank everyone who is pitching in to make the 1st Annual East End 5K this Saturday morning a huge success! A special "thank you" goes out to our sponsors whose contributions are making this event possible. Please support these businesses who gave so generously: **Norway Savings Bank, Rare Earth Horticultural Services, Winxnet, Mittapheap World Market,** Maine Running Company, Evolution Fitness, Rainmaker Spring Water, Eastside Screen Printing, David Paul, Caldwell Banker, Ferricchia Hair Salon, Olympia Sports, New Balance, East End Kid's Katering, Whole Foods, Coffee By Design, Hannaford, BJ's Wholesale, Freihofer's Bakery Outlet, Silly's.

September 7, 2009 is Labor Day. On that day, our cluster and parish offices will be closed, and there will be only one Mass said in the Cluster. It will be at 9 a.m. at Cathedral.

Hour of Power will be held Sept 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2009 from 7 - 8 p.m. at St. Peter's Church featuring praise and worship, Eucharistic adoration, and Reconciliation. Sponsored by Veritas, Portland's Young Adult Ministry.

September 12, 2009, Yard Sale for the Haiti Project: on the lawn in front of Deering High School on Stevens Avenue. This annual yard sale benefits the school in Haiti. Donations of good saleable items will be greatly appreciated. Need items picked up? Call Anne Johnson, 929-3088.

September 12/13, 2009, Special Collection: Next weekend at all Masses, there will be a Diocesan collection to protect traditional marriage from redefinition. Special envelopes will be provided; checks must be made payable to "Stand for Marriage Maine" and are not deductible for income tax purposes.

September 13, 2009 Sol y Canto! Hear the exciting music of the well-known Boston-based Latin duo of Rosi and Brian Amador with their twin daughters Sonia and Alisa. 3 p.m. Sacred Heart / St. Dominic Parish. \$10 suggested donation.

September 13, 2009 Stand for Marriage Rally: 6 - 8 p.m. Augusta Civic Center presented by Focus on the Family, the Maine Jeremiah project, Family Research Council, Stand for Marriage Maine and other groups. Speakers include Bishop Malone. Call 773-6471 for more information, or visit www.mainejeremiahproject.com

September 19th, Public Bean Supper - 4 to 6 pm - St Louis Church, baked beans, breads, casseroles, salads, and out of this world desserts. sponsored by the St Louis Women's Society. Adults \$5, Children \$3.

September 20, 2009, 10:15 a.m. at St. John, Bangor: Bishop Malone invites the public to the annual Blue Mass honoring EMS, fire and law enforcement personnel.

October 10th - Fall Yard, Book, and Bake Sale - 9am - 3 pm - St Louis Church, Yard sale will feature new, antique, and slightly used items; St Louis Women's Society baked goods table; New and used books for wintertime reading. Reasonably priced luncheon also available. Sponsored by the St Louis Women's Society.

Cheverus High School Fall Open House October 18, 2009, Noon to 4 p.m. and **Ignatian Scholarship Exams** for incoming freshman, class of 2014 will be held January 23, 30, and February 6, 2010. For info, call 774-6238 ext. 35.

Two Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday September 5, 2009 // Saturday, September 12

- 4:00 p.m. Sacred Heart / St. Dominic - Fr. Richard Bertrand, S.J.
- 4:30 p.m. Cathedral - Fr. Lou Phillips
- 5:00 p.m. St. Peter - Fr. Kevin Martin // Fr. Mike Seavey
- 5:15 p.m. St. Louis - Fr. Fred Irving
- 5:00 p.m. Long Island - Fr. Mike Seavey (Sept 5 only)
- 6:15 p.m. Chebeague Island - Fr. Mike Seavey (Sept 5 only)

Sunday September 6, 2009 // Sunday, September 13

- 8:00 a.m. St. Peter - Fr. Kevin Martin // Fr. Mike Seavey
- 8:15 a.m. St. Christopher - Fr. Mike Seavey (Sept 6 only)
- 8:30 a.m. Cathedral - Fr. Lou Phillips
- 9:00 a.m. St. Louis - Fr. Paul Marquis // Fr. Kevin Martin
- 9:30 a.m. Sacred Heart / St. Dominic - Fr. Richard Bertrand, S.J.
- 10:00 a.m. Cathedral - Fr. Lou Phillips
- 10:00 a.m. St. Christopher - Fr. Mike Seavey // Fr. Fred Irving
- 10:30 a.m. St. Peter - Fr. Fr. Kevin Martin // Fr. Mike Seavey
- 11:00 a.m. St. Louis - Fr. Paul Marquis // Fr. Kevin Martin
- 12:00 p.m. Cathedral (Latin Mass) - Fr. Robert Parent
- 12:15 p.m. Sacred Heart / St. Dominic (Sp) - Fr. Phil or Fr. Richard
- 5:00 p.m. Cathedral - Fr. Paul Marquis
- 6:00 p.m. Sacred Heart / St. Dominic - Fr. Richard Bertrand, S.J.

October 23, 2009, Cathedral School's annual gala fundraising event! This year's theme is "We Believe." 5:30 p.m., Dinner and Silent Auction. Italian Heritage Center, Outer Congress Street. Call 775-1491 for info.

Friday, October 30, 2009 3rd Annual Harvest Ball: 7 p.m. to midnight at Holiday Inn by the Bay, featuring the Tony Boffa Band. \$60 per person / \$100 per couple, 773-6471, ask for Christine. Proceeds will benefit Harvest Magazine.

November 14, 2009, the big shopping day in our cluster: Two great Christmas fairs in the daytime and a Silent Auction in the evening. Save the date, and support our Cluster parishes.

ST LOUIS TOYOTA PRIUS FOR SALE: Last chance to buy the 2007 St Louis Toyota Prius. Contact Denis Lafreniere at 773-7746 today. The silver Prius is selling for \$17,500 with the remainder of its original factory warranty.

Daily Masses

Monday, Septmeber 7, 2009
9 a.m. Cathedral

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

7:00 a.m. St. Peter
12:15 pm. Cathedral
5:15 p.m. Sacred Heart / St. Dominic

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

7:00 a.m. St. Peter
12:15 pm. Cathedral
5:15 p.m. Sacred Heart / St. Dominic

Thursday, September 10, 2009

7:00 a.m. St. Peter
12:15 pm. Cathedral
5:15 p.m. Sacred Heart / St. Dominic
6:30 p.m. St. Louis

Friday, September 11, 2009

7 a.m. St. Peter
12:15 pm. Cathedral
5:15 p.m. Sacred Heart / St. Dominic

Reconciliation

Saturdays, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.,
Cathedral Chapel

Saturdays, 3:00 - 3:30 p.m.,
Sacred Heart / St. Dominic

Sundays, 12:00 noon (Spanish)
Sacred Heart / St. Dominic

Or by appointment:

Fr. Lou Phillips.....773-7746
Fr. Richard Bertrand, S.J. 772-6182
(English, Français, Español)

Fr. Alfred Irving..... 380-5620
(English, Français)

Fr. Paul Marquis..... 233-5914
(English, Français) or 662-5911

Fr. Kevin Martin..... 773-0748

Fr. Michael Seavey..... 773-7746

Fr. Phil Tracy..... 767-6501
(English, Français, Español, Portugues)



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