

A Pastor's Perspective

December 14, 2025 Bulletin



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Light Is On For You: The first reading for the second Tuesday of Advent had Isaiah prophesying that the Lord would come among us as a shepherd who compassionately gathers, carries, cares for, and feeds the sheep of his flock. Then in the Gospel, Jesus teaches that a shepherd with one hundred sheep (a number symbolizing perfection or fullness) will not be satisfied if even one of his sheep goes astray. He will sacrifice everything — a foreshadowing of Jesus who lays down his life for his sheep (John 10:11) — to go in search of and to rescue that one sheep. Jesus goes on to say, “It is not the will of your heavenly Father that one of these little ones be lost” (Matthew 18:14).

Jesus continues this search-and-rescue mission through the shepherds of his Church, who give their lives in service to the Sacrament of Reconciliation (also known as Penance or Confession). This week, at multiple locations throughout our parish, on various days, both afternoons and evenings, and through the generosity of the priests who reside in our parish, we are offering the equivalent of more than 57 hours of confession time. Please see the schedule on page 6 of this bulletin or on the Advent-Christmas flyer that was mailed to all registered families. Many thanks to Msgr. Frank Murray, Fr. Alou Pilizue, and Fr. Michael Adebote, all of whom will be assisting Fr. Kilian, Fr. Valles and me to welcome you, hear your confessions, and absolve you ... as preparation for receiving anew the Lord in your hearts, lives, and homes this Christmas.

Mother Cabrini Maine Catholic Education Initiative: Through a significant lead gift and other private donations to the Diocese of Portland, the Most Reverend James T. Ruggieri “has launched an initiative aimed at building the reign of God through education.” This effort seeks to help our Catholic schools expand and excel in our mission of educating the whole child (spirit, mind, and body), including teacher training and formation; to provide resources to home schooling families; and to start two small high schools (Brewer and Brunswick) that offer a traditional and integrated classical curriculum. (For more information about this project, please see the article on [page 20](#) of the Winter 2025 issue of *Harvest* magazine).

St. Paul the Apostle Parish currently is negotiating with the Diocese of Portland, which is seeking to rent four (4) classrooms and other spaces (i.e., the church, hall, and kitchen) located at the St. Joseph Pastoral Center in Brewer. The apostolate at this location will be called the Frassati Classical Catholic High School (named for the newly canonized St. Pier Giorgio Frassati, who as a young man unabashedly shared his faith, especially his love of the Eucharist, with everyone he met).

Please keep your eye on this column for additional exciting information about this initiative as it takes off.

*Peace and Blessings,
Msgr. Andrew Dubois*