

Connecting through communications

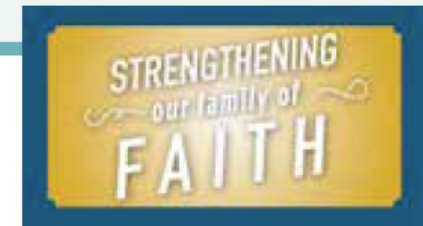
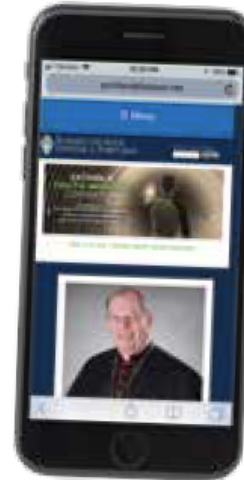
“Communication has the power to build bridges, to enable encounter and inclusion, and thus to enrich society.” – Pope Francis

Traveling and need to find a Mass time at another church? Perhaps, you’re interested in participating in eucharistic adoration or are looking for resources such as Pope Francis’ apostolic exhortations, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, or Holy Days of Obligation. They’re all a tap or a click away thanks to the Office of Communications, which is funded by the annual Catholic Appeal.

The Office of Communications, led by Dave Guthro, works to spread the good news of Jesus Christ and the work of the Church in Maine in many different ways. In partnership with parishes, schools, and diocesan ministries, it shares information about programs, events, service work, and other happenings, using both traditional and social media. It maintains the diocesan website on which you’ll find the latest news of the diocese, information about

upcoming events, Mass times and church locations, contact information for various parishes and ministries, the bishop’s public schedule, teachings of the Catholic Church, and so much more. It also oversees social media, including the diocese’s Facebook and Twitter accounts, which are quick ways to stay on top of the latest goings-on in the diocese. Did you happen to catch the live Facebook posts during the Christm Mass and the many photos and stories during Holy Week?

The office also assists parishes in their communications efforts. It was through the coordination of the Office of Communications that many parishes in Maine now have free apps, enabling




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them to share homilies, the day’s readings, and other messages. On a weekly basis, the office emails information to parishes for possible inclusion in the bulletins you pick up at Mass. Dave also travels to parishes and schools offering workshops and presentations on the latest trends in social media and assisting parishes with their own communications efforts.

Pope Francis has said that “communication is part of God’s plan for us and an essential way to experience fellowship,” and that is at the heart of the office’s mission, bringing the people of the diocese together, whether they are in Paris, Pembroke, Portage, or Portland. †

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