



**DAMARISCOTTA PUMPKINFEST & REGATTA - BLESSING OF THE FLEET
REV. BOBBY IVES, PRESIDING
OCTOBER 8, 2018**

We gather today for this special **celebration**
Of Pumpkins and people, with laughter and **jubilation**.

It is the Pumpkinfest Regatta, and there's joy in the **air**
With families and friends wearing orange **everywhere**.

We have come from all over, from the hills to the **shore**
To share in this time that we love and **adore**.

And now as we gather in our beloved **Damariscotta**
To view this unique race called the Pumpkinfest **Regatta**.

The vessels are before us unusual **boats**.
One always truly wonders how they actually can **float**.

Orange and round bottomed, inspiring **craft**,
that bring amazement to our minds
and make us all **laugh**

We have come now to cheer for everyone and **all**,
with hopes that no one gets into a **brawl**.

So, blessings upon this wonderful **event**
Of happiness and fun; time truly well **spent**.

Bless the boats and the captains and all of the **crews**,
Bless the pumpkins and the paddlers whether they win or **lose**.

May they be safe and secure as they paddle from the pier,
May there be friendliness, and laughter, encouragement and **cheer**.

But most especially we ask blessings upon our **community**
May it always be filled with peace and with **unity**.

So here's to this day; let the races **begin**
with hopes and with prayers that the racers can **swim**.

May kindness and friendship,
May love and good **cheer**
bless this day both now, and throughout all the **year**. **Amen**

Damariscotta Pumpkinfest & Regatta™

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