



And on entering the house they saw the child
with Mary his mother.

They prostrated themselves and did him homage.

Then they opened their treasures and offered him
gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

~ Matthew 2:11

St. Bartholomew Parish

1180 Greendale Ave.
Needham, MA 02492
781-444-3434

Parish Staff

Fr. Philip E. Mc Gaugh, Pastor
Sr. Julie Connolly, Pastoral Associate
Barbara Dury, Business Manager
Debby Deneen, Parish Secretary
Marianne Germano, Director of Music
Elizabeth Healy,
Religious Ed. Coordinator, Grades 7-10
Mary Ellen Jennings,
Religious Ed. Coordinator, Grades K-6

Weekend Celebrants

Fr. Hugh Lagen, S.M.A.
Fr. Charles Murphy
Fr. Thomas O'Malley, S.J.

Important Numbers & Addresses

Parish Office: 781-444-3434
Religious Ed. Office 781-444-4343
Fax 781-449-7550
Email: stbartholomew@comcast.net
Web site: www.stbartholomew-needham.org

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Mission Statement

We are a dynamic community of the People of God who are joined together by our faith in Jesus Christ. Our spiritual life is centered on the celebration of the sacraments, especially the Eucharist in the Sunday Liturgy. We are committed to being an active community of faith that worships together, and reaches out and ministers to the needs of others. Our vision is that St. Bartholomew Parish will be the center and source for the faith development of its people based on the active participation of all its members, women and men, young and old.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 9:45 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.
Monday - Saturday: 9:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays 3:15-3:45 p.m. or by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism

First Sunday of the month at 12:30 p.m.
Please call one month ahead
to make an appointment.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Arrangements must be made
at least 6 months prior to the wedding.
Please consult the Pastor.

Eucharistic Adoration

The St. Bartholomew/St. Joseph Cluster
gathers every Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 pm in
St. Joseph's Lower Church.
Benediction is at 7:30 pm.

Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet

Prayed immediately following
9:00 am weekday Mass
(except when we have a 10 am Funeral Mass)

Prayer Line

This is a phone network of people,
who pray for special intentions.
Call 781-444-5973 and leave a message for
whom or what you would like prayers said.



Next Scripture Class will be held on January 8th at 10 am in the O'Brien Room at the rectory when we begin the study of John's Gospel. Please read chapters 1-4. How does the study of John's Gospel help us with every day living? How do the miracles of Jesus speak to us today?

Grand Annual Collection: Once again I write to say thank you for your overwhelming generosity as is most often the scenario. We have gone over our goal again. May the good Lord continue to bless each of us during the coming year of 2007. Again thank you for your generosity.

Boston Catholic Men's & Women's Conference: Anyone interested in information about attending the Catholic Men's Conference on March 17, 2007 or Catholic Women's Conference on March 18, 2007 is asked to speak with the pastor.

Retreat Day for Women Contemplating Religious Life: His Eminence Cardinal Sean O.F.M. Cap will be offering a day of recollection for women thinking about entering religious life on Saturday, March 10, 2007 at Mt. Alvernia Academy, Chestnut Hill Mass. Anyone woman interested is asked to speak with the pastor.

Retreat Days for Men Contemplating the Priesthood: His Eminence Cardinal Sean O.F.M. Cap will lead a Day of Discernment and Reflection on Thursday, February 1, 2007 at Blessed John XXIII Seminary for men age 40 or older. From Friday, February 2, 2007 to Sunday February 4, 2007 Cardinal Sean O.F.M. Cap will lead a Discernment Retreat at St. John's Seminary for men age 18- 40.

CYO: Any parent who is interested in serving on an advisory committee for CYO is asked to let the pastor know. Any CYO age student who would like to share ideas or thoughts is asked to speak with the pastor. Please pray for the success of this. A meeting will be planned for the end of January for parents and interested students in grades 7 through high school.

Legion of Mary: Anyone interested in forming or joining the Legion of Mary here at St. Bartholomew is asked to speak with the pastor. Anyone interested in more information is asked to speak with the pastor.

Feast of the Epiphany: What gifts do we bring to God and others? What are our spiritual hopes for 2007? The magi came from all over the world to give homage to Jesus. The light and example of Jesus calls believers from everywhere to give Him homage. How often do we lead others to or bring them to Jesus? Do we ever offer to bring anyone with us to Mass each week?

Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet: The Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed on Sunday, January 21st at 12:30 P.M. On this particular day it is so appropriate to offer prayer for the cause of Pro-Life.

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Christmas Flowers were also donated in memory of Chet & Stacy Yablonski.

Social Club
The Social Club will meet on Wednesday, Jan. 17, at 2:30 pm in Ward Hall. Our program, "Memories in Melodies," features Stanley Macht, a pianist, together with a vocalist. Mr. Macht has become an expert on American music popular during the first half of the 20th century. He presents music of Broadway and Tin Pan Alley and includes anecdotes about the composers and performers. This will be a most enjoyable program and will be followed by delicious refreshments.

Catholic Daughters of America: The January meeting of the Court of Our Lady of Knock will be held on Wednesday, January 10, at 7:30 pm. Fr. Patrick Armano, our chaplain, will say Mass for us. This is a wonderful way to start the New Year. Let us aim for perfect attendance.

The program for the evening is "show and tell." Please bring samples of your favorite craft or collection for display. We should all enjoy seeing what others do.

The collection of "Pennies for the Unborn" takes place on January 20-21—so save your coins for this

Please... THE DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN CONTENT IS NOON ON MONDAY ...Thank you!

Mass Intentions

Saturday	January 6	4:00 pm	Mary T. Morrissey
Sunday	January 7	8:00 am	William Keyes
		9:45 am	George H. Ellison
		11:30 am	Elsa D'Orazio— 1st Anniv. and George & Lucy Peznola
Monday	January 8	9:00 am	
Tuesday	January 9	9:00 am	
Wednesday	January 10	9:00 am	Helen Fein Carroll
Thursday	January 11	9:00 am	
Friday	January 12	9:00 am	
Saturday	January 13	9:00 am	
Saturday	January 13	4:00 pm	Joseph & Florence Festa
Sunday	January 14	8:00 am	
		9:45 am	"Called by Name" Mass for First Communicants
		11:30 am	Mary DeGeorge—1st Anniversary

Scripture Readings

Week of January 7, 2007

- 7 **Sun** Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
- 8 **Mon** Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
- 9 **Tue** Heb 2:5-12/Mk 1:21-28
- 10 **Wed** Heb 2:14-18/Mk 1:29-39
- 11 **Thu** Heb 3:7-14/Mk 1:40-45
- 12 **Fri** Heb 4:1-5, 11/Mk 2:1-12
- 13 **Sat** Heb 4:12-16/Mk 2:13-17
- 14 **Sun** Is 62:1-5/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

Collections

Weekend of Dec. 30-31

Amount collected	\$4,757.33
Amount needed	\$6,000.00
Amount over/under	(\$1,242.67)

Grand Annual Collection

Amount to date	\$67,171.00
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Thank you for your stewardship.

Youth Choir:
The next rehearsal for Youth Choir is this coming Monday, January 8, from 5:00-5:45 pm in the Church. We are always happy to welcome new members to the choir, and anyone ages third grade through high school is encouraged to join. We are also looking for a student to play the flute with our choir. Any interested singers and/or flute players should just come to rehearsal or call Antonia Nedder at 781-929-2177.

Adult Choir:
The Adult Choir meets for rehearsals on Thursdays at 7:30 pm. We are always looking for new members. All are welcome!

Congratulations To:

Mary Helen Cutting,
daughter of William & Maura;
as this child is claimed
by Jesus Christ in the
Sacrament of Baptism
this weekend.



AMY'S BOOK CLUB

The next gathering of Amy's Book Club will be on Tuesday, January 23, at 12:30 pm in the O'Brien Room at the rectory. The book to be discussed is Father Frown of the Church of Rome by G. K. Chesterton, Ignatius Press.



Classes: There will be classes for all grades on Monday, January 8th:

K-6 4:00-5:00 pm
7-10 7:00-8:30 pm

All students should meet in the Church before breaking into classes.

Parent Reminders:

1) There will be an important meeting for parents of Confirmation candidates on Tuesday, January 9th, at 7:00 pm in the McCulloch Room of the school.

2) On Sunday, January 14th, all First Communion candidates and their families are expected to attend the "Called By Name" Mass at 9:45 am.

Happy New Year to our St. Bartholomew family! We are looking forward to our second half of the year. We have a lot to accomplish, so we encourage consistent attendance for all our students. The month of January is dedicated to the Holy Childhood of Jesus — so what better time to re-dedicate our commitment to giving our children the best faith formation possible. During these Impressionable years the foundation for their future spiritual practices and beliefs starts to form. It is a great privilege and responsibility to help with this process. We'll try to do our part and are confident that you — your children's most important teachers — will continue to take them to Mass and reinforce the lessons learned at Religious Education classes. We look forward to seeing you in 2007!

Peace to All,
Elizabeth Healy & Mary Ellen Jennings
Religious Education Coordinators

G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together): The next Prayer Group will be on Wednesday, Jan. 10, at 10:00 am in the O'Brien Room at the rectory. The format is simple: a short social followed by prayer and reflection. We are most eager to have new members join us. This special time enables us to stop...listen... and grow closer to the Lord. It can be wonderful food for the soul!

Liturgy of the Word for Children

Liturgy of the Word is for all children, not just those who attend our Religious Ed classes. All are welcome to join us at the 9:45 am Mass each week during the school year.

STEWARDSHIP: A WAY OF LIFE
Sharing: Time, Talent & Treasure

EPIPHANY

When Christ was born of Mary, we joyously celebrated God's great gift—that of His only begotten Son, Jesus, - come to live among us. We celebrate this child and the knowledge and joy He brings during His life in His teachings. The road to His Father is made clear. And in His death, Jesus brought us our salvation and the gates of heaven opened to receive us in our spiritual home with His Father. But often we overlook the hardly recognized but extraordinary gift that He left all of us for all ages to come — HOPE.

Celebrating the holidays of Christmas and the closely followed New Year are significant in their time frame. Christ's birth is a new beginning just as we believe the New Year is also an annual new beginning. We are excited and HOPEFUL that this new year will be a time of better things to come. HOPE while ever present, is rarely recognized as the essence of what we feel for our new year's beginning again. We HOPE to overlook what didn't work and start over (Isn't this what our wonderful Sacrament of Reconciliation is all about? - a new beginning—HOPE).

The Magi, recognized in today's Epiphany Mass, saw the Star. No matter their station in life, the Star and the spiritual revelations they experienced, personally mandated that they follow it to find its source. They listened to the message in their hearts and followed it. They obeyed. How many times in our lives have we felt an inner message and ignored it or felt to obey it was too inconvenient? The Magi—foreigners—paid attention to the message — the Light of Christ — followed it with a passionate desire to find the Christ — and once there paid homage. Do we see the Light of Christ when presented to us? Do we follow it with passion? How often do we pay homage? Or do we just continue along making hopeful resolutions to lose weight, be nicer to certain people, have more patience, etc.?

A New Year. A New Beginning. An Epiphany. May all of us be resolute in our lives this year to spend some quiet time with the Lord. May we hear when He speaks to us. May we not be too busy or preoccupied to see the Light of Christ."Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow... (Book of the Prophet Isaiah) For this we are truly HOPEFUL in the New Year and all the years to come.

Stewardship: Kathy Reilly (781-444-0862)
E-mail: kreilly15@yahoo.com

A Note from the Business Manager

Late spring and early summer you may have read in the bulletin a notice about an impending change in the software we use to keep track of our parishioners and your donations to the parish. This change was implemented at the request of chancery as a part of their efforts to standardize the software programs used by the parishes throughout the archdiocese. The conversion from Church Management Systems, a program the parish had used for 15 years, to ParishSoft was accomplished without any cost to the parish thanks to the publishers of our new bulletin. ParishSoft is a versatile and powerful program which will eventually allow us to introduce many changes such as the option of automatic envelope contributions using electronic fund transfers and the option of receiving parish communications via email.

Unfortunately, the actual conversion of our data from Church Management Systems to ParishSoft did not go well. As I prepare to send out donation reports for 2006, I respectfully ask for your patience, understanding and cooperation. The staff has spent the last five months trying to find and correct conversion errors, a task which, as of now, is not yet complete. Much effort has gone in to family by family, donation by donation comparisons between the two databases - over a hundred thousand pieces of data - and making corrections, additions and deletions by hand. Mistakes in this process are inevitable. I apologize in advance for any errors in the donation reports and hope that you will call me at the rectory, 781-444-3434, so any discrepancies in the financial data can be resolved..

Recently an Advent Reflection Booklet and calendar was mailed to each family in the new database. The basic registration information for about one hundred families did not transfer correctly. A family by family comparison between the two databases helped to identify and correct the information for most of the families affected but, once again, it is inevitable that some errors still exist in the new database. May I ask a favor? If you know of anyone affected by this change, please explain to them and let us know.

Once again, I apologize for any inconvenience this conversion may have caused you and ask for your patience, help and cooperation as we try to complete the necessary corrections to the new parish donation and census database.

Thank you,
Barbara Dury

Dear Friends,

My heart is filled with gratitude for your overwhelming kindness and generosity during this time of uncertainty regarding what the Good God is asking of me. Your cards, letters, gifts and most especially your prayerful solicitude have been a source of strength and grace.

The surgery on November 27th was successful and on December 29th I will have had my first chemotherapy treatment. Special thanks to those who have already volunteered to be drivers to Beth Israel Hospital in Boston. Debby, our parish secretary will keep a list of those who still wish to volunteer. The treatments will be ongoing for approximately six months—so help is needed.

Please continue to pray for me and for the medical personnel who are caring for me. When I am stronger I will be happy to welcome visitors. Meanwhile, I will pray for you and thank god for the pastoral concern you have shown to me.

Sincerely—and as always God bless,
Sr. Julie



QUIZ

Can you choose the correct endings?

- Jerusalem should rise up:
(a) in sackcloth and mourning (b) against the nations (c) in splendor?
- The kings of Tarshish and the Isles:
(a) shall offer gifts (b) shall seize Jerusalem (c) shall see the face of God?
- Saint Paul had been given the stewardship of:
(a) the Church's income (b) God's grace (c) the city of Jerusalem?
- When King Herod heard of Jesus' birth:
(a) he was troubled (b) he was awestruck (c) he was indifferent?
- The magi found the child Jesus:
(a) in a cave (b) in the open fields (c) in a house?

ANSWERS

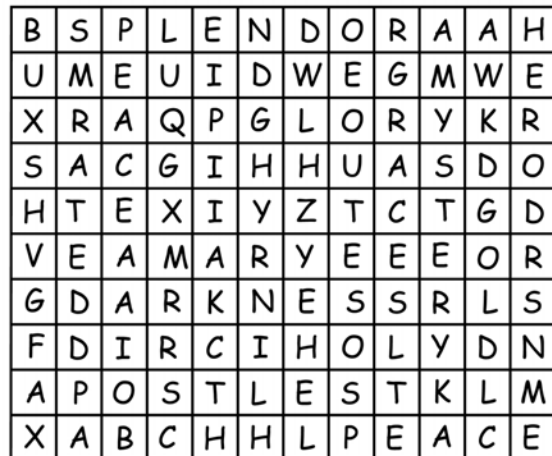
The correct answers are: 1(c); 2(a); 3(b); 4(b); 5(c)

WORDSEARCH

Solution to last week's crossword

Can you find and circle the words listed below?

- SPLENDOR LIGHT HOLY
 DARKNESS GLORY MARY
 MYSTERY EARTH GOLD
 APOSTLES MAGI HEROD
 PEACE STAR GRACE



A PICTURE TO COLOR

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 2: 1-12
 THE MAGI VISIT KING HEROD

