

*And a voice came from the heavens, saying,
"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."
Matthew 3:17*



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
Melisa Hughes
Director of Religious Education and
Youth Ministry
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.

First Saturday Devotion

First Saturday of the month
following the 9:00 a.m. Mass

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.



Reflection for the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord:

This is a special moment when we come to see that Jesus is God made man. God tells us that Jesus is His beloved Son. This is God becoming man. In Jesus being baptized Jesus would formally identify Himself with all of those people who were searching for God and it was his desire to save all such people. This was how the public life of Jesus began. This was different from the sacramental baptisms that we have received. Through our baptisms we become sons and daughters of the Lord. As followers of Jesus how are we sensitive to the needs of others? As followers of Jesus we are called to learn from Jesus and strive to follow His behavior. Would God be well pleased with our behavior?

Renew: We are looking for people who would be interested in working on the steering committee for the Renew program. This will involve attending not only parish meetings but some Archdiocesan training meetings. The purpose of the Renew program is to introduce small group sharing into parish life as a means of revitalizing the faith experience of all. The training will begin in February and March of 2008 in the different regions of the Archdiocese and parish wide programs begin later in the year. It is my hope that this will be an enriching program for this parish and our Archdiocese. Please pray for the success of the Renew program. If interested in assisting, please call the rectory.

Bible Classes will resume on **Monday, January 14th at 10 am** in the O'Brien Room with the study of the prophet Jeremiah. Please read the first five chapters in the book of Jeremiah.

The Day of Recollection for Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors of the parish that was scheduled for next weekend must be moved to another date because a number of people were going to be away. We will let you know what the new date is shortly.

Vocation Retreats: On Thursday, February 7th, 2008, His Eminence Cardinal O'Malley will lead a retreat day at Blessed John XXIII Seminary for men over 40 thinking about a vocation to the priesthood. From Friday, February 8th, 2008 to Sunday, February 10th, His Eminence will lead a retreat at St. John's Seminary for men between the ages of 18 and 40 who are contemplating a vocation to the priesthood. If you think you might be interested, please speak with the pastor or a member of the parish staff.

Movie Night

Please make your calendars! The next movie night will be on **Tuesday, January 15th, at 7:00 pm** in the McCulloch Room in the school. The featured film is "The Jeweler's Shop" - a modern mystery by Pope John Paul II. Its story is timeless and focuses on the contrast of human relationships, love and marriage, and hope for the future. Don't miss it!

Thank You...Again

In last weeks bulletin I expressed a general thank you for the many ways I feel blessed to be here. As the Christmas Season ends today with the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, I wish to say thanks again. Many of you have commented how special it was this year— whether it was the belated Christmas Concert last weekend— or the church and flower decorations throughout Advent and the Christmas Season— or the spirit that is St. Bartholomew Parish. It is also the work of so many throughout the year that is the specialness of this parish. May 2008 be a wonderful year as well. Thank you.

Fr. Phil

★ Thank You! ★
★ THANK YOU! ★

St. Bartholomew Retreat Team

We are looking for people to help plan and lead active retreats for our students. Anyone who has been Confirmed is welcome, no experience is necessary; together we will come up with creative themes and resources to help our students experience their faith.

This is not a job for one person!

Please contact Melisa Hughes for information, melisa-hughes@comcast.net or at the rectory, 781-444-4343.

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday	January 12	4:00 pm	Mary DeGeorge
Sunday	January 13	8:00 am	Anne & Edith Campbell
		9:45 am	"Called by Name" for First Communicants
		11:30 am	James Shaughnessy—Active Duty in Iraq
Monday	January 15	9:00 am	Josephine Maher
Tuesday	January 8	9:00 am	The Schofield & McDonough Families
Wednesday	January 16	9:00 am	Paul Connolly
Thursday	January 17	9:00 am	Barbara Hurley
Friday	January 18	9:00 am	
Saturday	January 19	9:00 am	
Saturday	January 19	4:00 pm	The Ramrath Family
Sunday	January 20	8:00 am	Frank Masterson
		9:45 am	Ann S. Curley
		11:30 am	Carolina Lopez

Scripture Readings

- 13 Sun Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Acts 10:34-38/Mt3:13-17
- 14 Mon 1 Sm 1:1-8/Mk 1:14-20
- 15 Tue 1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28
- 16 Wed 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Mk 1:29-39
- 17 Thu 1 Sm 4:1-11/Mk 1:40-45
- 18 Fri 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Mk 2:1-12
- 19 Sat 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Mk 2:13-17
- 20 Sun Is 49:3, 5-6/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

Collections

Weekend of January 5-6

Amount collected \$5,995.72
 Amount needed \$6,000.00
 Amount over/under (\$ 4.28)

Grand Annual Collection

Amount collected to date \$72,820.00

Donations to Notre Dame Retirement Home

Amount collected to date \$3,210.00

Youth Choir: Rehearsal this week is on **Monday, January 14th, from 5:00-5:45 pm** in the church. All young people in the parish from grade 3 through high school are welcome to join our group..

Thank you for your stewardship.

Prayer Group

G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together) will meet on **Wednesday, January 16th, at 10:00 am** in the O'Brien Room at the rectory.

Social Club

The Social Club will meet on **Wednesday, Jan. 16th, at 2:30 pm** in Ward Hall. Our entertainer will be Stanley Macht, pianist, and Linda Mellen, vocalist. Last year we enjoyed their presentation of a survey of Broadway music. This time their program will focus on Lerner and Loewe whose shows include "Brigadoon," "My Fair Lady," and "Camelot". They were so great last year—don't miss the encore! Members and guests are invited to enjoy the program and delicious refreshments at its conclusion.

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

Children and Youth

Religious Education Reminders

- All students have class Monday Jan 14th
- **No Class** – Jan 21st – Martin Luther King Day

Called By Name - We prayerfully celebrate our students preparing to receive their First Eucharist in a special ceremony to invite each student to come to the Table of the Lord. At the **9:45 Mass** each student will be called by name to come forward to receive a blessing in anticipation of their First Eucharist in May.

As a community we welcome and pray for these children!

Confirmation:

- Catholic School Students intending to receive Confirmation through St. Bartholomew's must be registered by **Jan 30th**.
- If you missed the parents meeting in the Fall we will have a "recap" Monday Jan 28th 7:30 pm in the Church. Any parents with questions are also welcome.

Social Justice – all students in 6th grade and up are expected to sign up for at least one opportunity for service this year. If you have not yet signed up, the calendar is posted on the parish website.

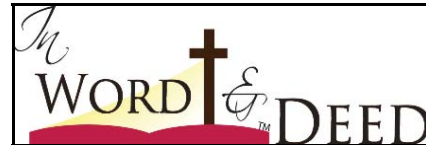
Parent Workshop:

"Chastity: How to talk to your kids about it" – **Tuesday, Feb 12th 7-9 pm** in the McCulloch Room. A video, resources and discussion to help parents talk openly and compassionately about waiting for marriage with teens and pre-teens in a meaningful, healthy and life affirming way.

Christmas Flowers Were Donated in Memory of:

Martha Dunleavy
Elsie Fitzgerald
Marie Williams

(These names were submitted after the Christmas bulletin was printed.)



Baptism of the Lord

The story is told of a bearded priest who was baptizing a number of children in his large parish. Numerous siblings of the infants were talking and walking around, more interested in the stained glass windows and the back hallways of the sacristy than they were in the sacrament. At one point, a little boy finally noticed what was going on and, to everyone's delight, yelled out loud, "Look! There's Jesus giving my new brother a bath!"

Baptism should never be taken for granted. The sacrament initiates us into the community of believers, but it is the family—the domestic church—that teaches the child about God, faith, prayer, virtue and grace. After the bath of baptism, the child is dressed in the robe of faith worn by those who promise to love the child and raise the child in the ways of Christ.

The Church community also has an obligation to be people of faith, witnesses to the power of Christ in daily life. If our children cannot see faith in action, the best thing about church might be the stained glass windows. Baptism is the call to live a life worthy of the saints, sharing the gift we have received.

*~James Gaffney, © 2007 Karides
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Information Night

St. Joseph Elementary School in Needham is having an Information Night on Thursday, Jan. 17th, at 7:00 pm in the school library (May St. entrance). For a preview, visit www.saintjoes.com.

Open House

St. Theresa School in West Roxbury is having Open Houses on Wed., Jan. 16th, at 7:00 pm; Sun., Jan. 27th, following the 9:00 am Mass; and on Wed., Jan. 30th, at 9:00 am. The open houses will provide you with an opportunity to visit the campus, meet the teachers, speak with parents of current students and observe school in session.