

# Blessed

REJOICE AND BE GLAD,  
FOR YOUR REWARD  
WILL BE GREAT  
IN HEAVEN.

MATTHEW 5:12



# 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

## 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 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time:**

Jesus introduced a new standard of justice that was based on God's way and not the way of the world. We need to listen very astutely to what Jesus is saying in chapters five through seven of St. Matthew's Gospel. When we hear these words in the Gospel, what comes to our minds and what challenges do we see? In today's gospel Jesus is challenging us to stretch our minds and hearts and our understanding of discipleship. Jesus introduces the attitude of true being. What aspects of the beatitudes are most challenging to us? This is a very fitting reflection as we are about to begin the holy season of Lent.

**Bible Class** will continue on **Monday, February 4th, at 10 am** in the O'Brien Room with the study of the prophet Jeremiah. Please read chapters 2-6 in preparation for the class.

**Second Collection Next weekend:** This collection is known as the Peter's Pence Collection. The purpose of this is to help the Holy Father respond with timely and effective assistance to the needy and suffering throughout the world.

**Morning Prayer:** During Lent we will be praying Morning Prayer on Tuesdays and Fridays at 8:45 am—immediately preceding the 9:00 am Mass.

**Blessing of Throats:** In honor of St. Blaise throats will be blessed as the final blessing at Mass this weekend. This general blessing is sufficient; but if you wish to be individually blessed, this can be done after Mass.

**Lenten Project:** During Advent we began the process of raising funds for a room in the new sick and retirement home for the Sisters of Notre Dame in honor of the many years that Sr. Julie has given in service to this parish. During Lent we would like to continue this effort. Please make checks out to St. Bartholomew Parish and mail them to the rectory indicating SND Room in the memo.

**Lenten Retreat:** There will be a Parish Lenten Retreat on March 2nd, 3rd, and 4th at 7:00 pm each evening. Please see the bulletin in coming weeks for more details.

**Ash Wednesday and Lent:** As the season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (February 6<sup>th</sup>) our hearts turn to the meaning of Lent as a time to improve our spiritual lives. Traditional practices have included almsgiving, fasting, and prayer. These practices are intended to help us live out our Christian vocation. All of these traditional practices are intended to help us improve our relationships with others. Almsgiving is a way of sharing with others what we have. Prayer brings us closer to God and helps us focus more on our dependence on God. Fasting is one of the ways to help us focus on who we are and what is at the center of our lives. All of these practices are intended to open ourselves to ongoing conversion, to a renewed and changed heart, that brings greater life to us and our community. Attending daily Mass, extra time in prayer or adoration, or doing an extra good deed each day are also other means to a spiritually enriched Lent. Please keep in mind that Lent is intended to prepare us for the Sacred Triduum and Easter which completes Lent and for our participation in these liturgies of the Sacred Triduum. Please see the bulletin elsewhere for the Ash Wednesday schedule.

**Recommended Readings:** My Wounded Hands: A Way of The Cross, edited by Renzo Sala, Pauline Book and Media, Boston 2008.

Step by Step To Calvary: Praying Through The Stations of the Cross by Angela M. Burrin, The Word Among Us, St. Augustine, 2004.

**Please pray this each day for the success of the Renew Program in the Archdiocese.**

Bicentennial Prayer

All loving and gracious God, we thank you for the Gift of your son, Jesus Christ. For two hundred years we have journeyed together as members of his Church in the Archdiocese of Boston.

We have tried to live the Gospel message in service to one another. Continue to walk with us as we seek to be receptive to your grace in Word and Sacrament.

Send us your Spirit to enlighten our minds, strengthen our wills and open our hearts. By our witness may others know you.

Through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, may the Church in Boston journey together in Christ with courage, joy and peace. Amen.

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

*Mass Intentions*

Saturday	February 2	4:00 pm	Edward Nowak, Sr.
Sunday	February 3	8:00 am	
		9:45 am	The Parishioners of St. Bartholomew's Church
		11:30 am	James Shaughnessy—Active duty in Iraq
Monday	February 4	9:00 am	Elizabeth J. Campbell
Tuesday	February 5	9:00 am	Francis & Mary E. Gillis
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>February 6</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday Mass</b>
		<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday Service</b>
		<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday Mass</b>
Thursday	February 7	9:00 am	Jay Grodin
Friday	February 8	9:00 am	
Saturday	February 9	9:00 am	
Saturday	February 9	4:00 pm	Aldona Caffrey & Sean Caffrey
Sunday	February 10	8:00 am	
		9:45 am	
		11:30 am	The Parishioners of St. Bartholomew's Church

*Scripture Readings*

- 3 Sun Zep2:3;3:12-13/1Cor1:26-31/Mt5:1-12a
- 4 Mon 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Mk 5:1-20
- 5 Tue 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—  
19:3/Mk 5:21-43
- 6 Wed Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6,  
16-18
- 7 Thu Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25
- 8 Fri Is 58:1-9a/ Mt 9:14-15
- 9 Sat Is 58:9b-14/ Lk 5:27-32
- 10 Sun Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/  
Mt 4:1-11

*Collections*

**Weekend of January 26-27**

Amount collected \$5,039.20  
 Amount needed \$6,000.00  
 Amount over/under (\$ 960.80)

**Church in Latin America**

Amount collected \$2,690.00

**Thank you for your stewardship.**

**Amy's Book Club**

The next meeting of the Book Club will be on **Tuesday, February 26, 2008, at 12:30 pm** in the O'Brien Room at the rectory. The book to be read is Inviting God In, by Joyce Rupp. In addition to this book, our February meeting will include a discussion on "Increasing Our Spirituality Through Reading." Other books/booklets to share during the Lenten period will be found in the library in a basket in the O'Brien Room. Please feel free to borrow these and then return them for others to share during Lent.

**Youth Choir:** Rehearsal this week is on **Monday, February 4th, from 5:00-5:45 pm** in the church. New members, third grade through high school, are always welcome.

**Prayer Group**

G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together) will meet on **Wednesday, February 6th, at 10:00 am** in the O'Brien Room at the rectory.

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



**Community Sunday & Free Blood Pressure Screening** will be held on **Sunday, February 3rd**, following the 8:00 & 9:45 am Masses. Come down for coffee and donuts—visit acquaintances and welcome new families!!

## STEWARDSHIP: A WAY OF LIFE Sharing: Time Talent Treasure

"7 SUNDAYS"

There are only 10 Commandments. Some we ignore. Some we remember. Some influence our daily lives with their powerful meaning. Some we may not remember. Can you list all 10? Who gave them and to whom? When? And why?

Lent starts in several days. How is this period going to affect us? Or maybe it will not change anything at all? If this is the case, we are missing a truly significant part of our Catholic heritage, faith, and relationship with Jesus. What more could anyone do to get our attention? He is our God, who took on our humanity. He suffered and died for us in His God/human person. Is it too much to ask for us to notice and to try to live more closely in His presence for 40 days?

One of the Commandments, that is easy to remember, is hard to truly live, especially in our culture and in this time. REMEMBER TO KEEP HOLY THE SABBATH. We go to church. We have kept the Sabbath holy, right? Then we go to the mall, the movies, games, etc. The Sabbath is more than one hour. There are 7 Sundays in Lent. Could we not consider taking these 7 (out of 52), and truly slowing down, change our behavior, spend time with our families, pray, read about our Lord, do a charitable work in His name, stay out of a mall? In other words, in this Lent for 7 Sundays we will try to remember our Lord and His journey to His death for our salvation. This will not be easy. What a wonderful example for our children. Jesus' sufferings are ours. We will inconvenience ourselves for 7 Sundays. We will stop running around occupying ourselves with daily clutter. We will keep holy the Sabbath, all day times 7. A little more organization, a little more planning, a lot more meaning for the word sacrifice. Sundays are different!

Lent is a time to focus on growth. We grow closer to God in thanksgiving. We are not focused entirely on denial or punishment. Rather, it is towards God that we should be driving and not a movie which in two weeks or less, we will have forgotten. "Jesus said to His disciples: 'As the Father loves Me, so I also love you. Remain in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will remain in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and remain in His love. I have told you this so that My joy might be in you and your joy might be complete.'" (John 15:9-11)

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

## Children and Youth

### Religious Education Reminders

- All students have classes on Feb 4<sup>th</sup>
- Grades K-6 only have class on Feb 11<sup>th</sup>

### Confirmation:

- Confirmation Information forms and Baptismal certificates are due to the Religious Education Office as soon as possible; they may be mailed/dropped off or given to Melisa or to your child's catechist.

### Social Justice –

- A huge thank you to the students who helped cook and serve dinner for over 70 individuals at the soup kitchen last week. You are truly a witness to living your faith.
- All students in 7<sup>th</sup> 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. The next activity is making Valentine's Day cards with mentally challenged adults on Wednesday Feb 13<sup>th</sup>.

### Parent Workshop:

"Chastity: How to talk to your kids about it" – Tuesday Feb 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Lent for Families:

We enter the season of Lent by receiving ashes, a sign of humility and penance as we prepare for Christ's death and resurrection. Some dates to note:

- **Ash Wednesday** (Feb 6<sup>th</sup>) – 4:00 pm service is specifically geared to children and families.
- **Fridays in Lent** – each Friday in Lent, St. Bart's celebrates with a prayer service followed by a "meager meal". You are invited to join us every week, but **Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>** will be Stations of the Cross for children.
- **Keep watch for more family oriented activities throughout Lent (and beyond)**

**Our Lady's School, 920 Trapelo Rd., Waltham, Open House** will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 5th, from 10 am-12 Noon and from 6:00-8:00 pm. The school has grades Pre-K-8, ages 3 and up. It is NEASC Accredited. Come for a tour and experience the heartbeat of our school. Meet our principal, students and parents. Hear about our WeatherBug program, Community Service, Spanish in all grades, and more! For more information, call 781-899-0353.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- Sun., Feb. 3 Community Sunday & Free Blood Pressure Screening following the 8:00 & 9:45 am Masses
- Sat. & Sun., Feb. 2 & 3 Blessing of the Throats at all Masses
- Sun., Feb. 3 Baptisms-12:30 pm
- Mon., Feb. 4 Bible Study-10 am-O'Brien Room
- Mon., Feb. 4 Rel. Ed. classes for all grades
- Mon., Feb. 4 Pre-School story hour-4:00 pm in O'Brien Room in the rectory
- Mon., Feb. 4 Youth Choir Rehearsal-5:00 pm
- Wed., Feb. 6 Prayer Group-10 am-O'Brien Rm.
- **Wed., Feb. 6 Ash Wednesday: Mass-9 am; Service-4 pm; Mass-5:30 pm**
- **Thurs., Feb. 7 Adult Choir Rehearsal-7:30 pm**
- Fri., Feb. 8 Morning Prayer-8:45 am
- Fri., Feb. 8 5:30 pm Mass followed by a meager (simple) meal
- Sun., Feb. 10 Afternoon of Reflection for Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers-12:30 pm
- Mon., Feb. 11 Bible Study-10 am-O'Brien Room
- Mon., Feb. 11 Rel. Ed. classes for K-6 only
- Mon., Feb. 11 Pre-school story hour-4:00 pm in O'Brien Room in the rectory
- Mon., Feb. 11 Youth Choir Rehearsal-5:00 pm
- Tues., Feb. 12 Morning Prayer-8:45 am
- Tues., Feb. 12 Chastity Workshop-7:00 pm in McCulloch Room in the school
- Wed., Feb. 13 Prayer Group-10 am-O'Brien Rm.
- Thurs., Feb. 14 Adult Choir Rehearsal-7:30 pm
- Fri., Feb. 15 Morning Prayer-8:45 am
- Fri., Feb. 15 Prayer Service followed by a meager (simple) meal and a Spiritual Inventory

**Communication Ministry:** *We're looking for individuals to help with all forms of communication in the parish. This includes helping parish groups or event planners get news of their events published, keeping the parish calendar updated, working on the web site, writing articles for the local paper, informing local media about events and activities, and brainstorming about how to best keep all parishioners informed about what's happening.*

*The time required can be anywhere from helping out occasionally to regular weekly commitments. Don't worry if you're not a professional writer or web designer, we have plenty of things to do! This is your chance to help with a very important activity!*

*If you are interested in helping, please contact the rectory.*

**“Dear Faithful Parishioners of St. Bartholomew’s Parish:**

Before the New Year gets any older, this letter of gratitude is being written. You and the awareness of your compassion, generosity and kindness have filled my heart and thoughts.

First, your numerous gifts, cards and spiritual remembrances for Christmas added much to the joy of that very special feast. May the Christ Child gift you accordingly.

Secondly, your many notes, Mass enrollments, and donations in memory of my dearly loved brother, Tom, were and are a source of comfort to me. How blessed am I to have such compassionate friends and a dedicated pastor, Fr. Phil, who has been most thoughtful.

The money contributed toward furnishing a room in our new Notre Dame facility for retired or infirm Sisters of Notre Dame is heart-warming, and I pray that the good God of Saint Julie may bless you abundantly for your generosity.

Finally, a big and sincere “Thank You” for your prayers these many months. Currently, I am beginning a new series of treatment. The biopsy report on a lymph node indicated this need.

So...my journey continues. Your prayerful support, the love and encouragement of my family and Notre Dame, and the grace of God will enable me to persevere.

To each of you for everything...thanks and God bless you.”

*Sr. Julie*

**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.



**ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE**

On Ash Wednesday, February 6th, Masses will be celebrated at 9:00 am and 5:30 pm. There will be a service at 4:00 pm that will be geared to the children. Ashes will be distributed at all services.

**LENTEN REGULATIONS**

**ABSTINENCE:** Catholics over 14 years of age are bound to the obligations of abstinence. Abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent. On days of abstinence, meat may not be used at all.

**FAST:** Catholics over 18 and up to the beginning of their sixtieth year are bound to the obligation of fasting. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are the days of fasting. On these days, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.

Lent is a period of special penitential observance. Following the instructions of the Holy See, the Bishops of the United States have declared that the obligation to fast and to abstain from meat still binds on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. In this matter, the faithful enjoy freedom in conscience to excuse themselves but, as the Bishops state, "no Catholic Christian will lightly excuse himself from so hallowed an obligation" on these days. In addition, the tradition of abstinence from meat on the other Fridays of Lent is preserved. Again, the Bishops express their confidence that "no Catholic Christian will lightly hold himself excused from this penitential practice".

Regarding all the other weekdays of Lent, we strongly recommend participation in daily Mass and the voluntary observance of fasting. Commendable, particularly during Lent, is generosity to local, national, and world programs of sharing our abundance, the traditional Lenten Devotions, and all the self-denial summed up in Christian concept of 'mortification'.

"Let us witness to our love and imitation of Christ by special solicitude for the sick, the poor, the underprivileged, the imprisoned, the bed-ridden, the discouraged, the stranger, the lonely, and persons of other color, nationalities, or background than our own. A catalogue of not merely suggested but required good works under these headings is provided by our Blessed Lord Himself in His description of the Last Judgment." (cf. Matt 25, 24-40) "This salutary word of the Lord is necessary for all the year, but should be heeded with double care during Lent." (Bishops' Statement)

**WORDSEARCH**

Can you find and circle the words listed below the wordsearch grid?

Z	J	U	S	T	I	C	E	L	B	A	C
H	F	R	E	F	U	G	E	E	I	D	W
G	U	H	H	U	N	G	E	R	C	E	I
A	I	M	T	H	I	R	S	T	R	K	S
N	S	W	I	C	K	E	D	S	O	W	E
G	J	T	K	L	M	Y	Z	P	W	I	J
E	W	L	R	N	I	O	A	I	D	S	I
R	P	E	R	O	W	T	E	R	S	D	G
Q	V	U	A	T	N	X	Y	I	B	O	H
P	O	O	R	K	S	G	D	T	C	M	F

SPIRIT	JUSTICE	POOR
REFUGE	HUMILITY	WICKED
LIES	WISDOM	CROWDS
WISE	HUNGER	WEAK
ANGER	THIRST	STRONG

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**QUIZ** Can you choose the correct endings?

- The Lord would leave as a remnant:  
(a) a people humble and lowly (b) a strong army  
(c) those he had rejected?
- Happy the poor in spirit, for theirs is:  
(a) influence over others (b) a life without trouble  
(c) the kingdom of heaven?
- To shame the strong, God chose:  
(a) the clever (b) those of royal descent  
(c) the weak of this world?
- Blest are the single-hearted, for they:  
(a) shall see God (b) shall achieve their goals  
(c) shall conquer others?
- Be glad when you are slandered and persecuted because of Christ, for:  
(a) God will save you (b) your reward in heaven is great  
(c) your opponents will die?

**ANSWERS**

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

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