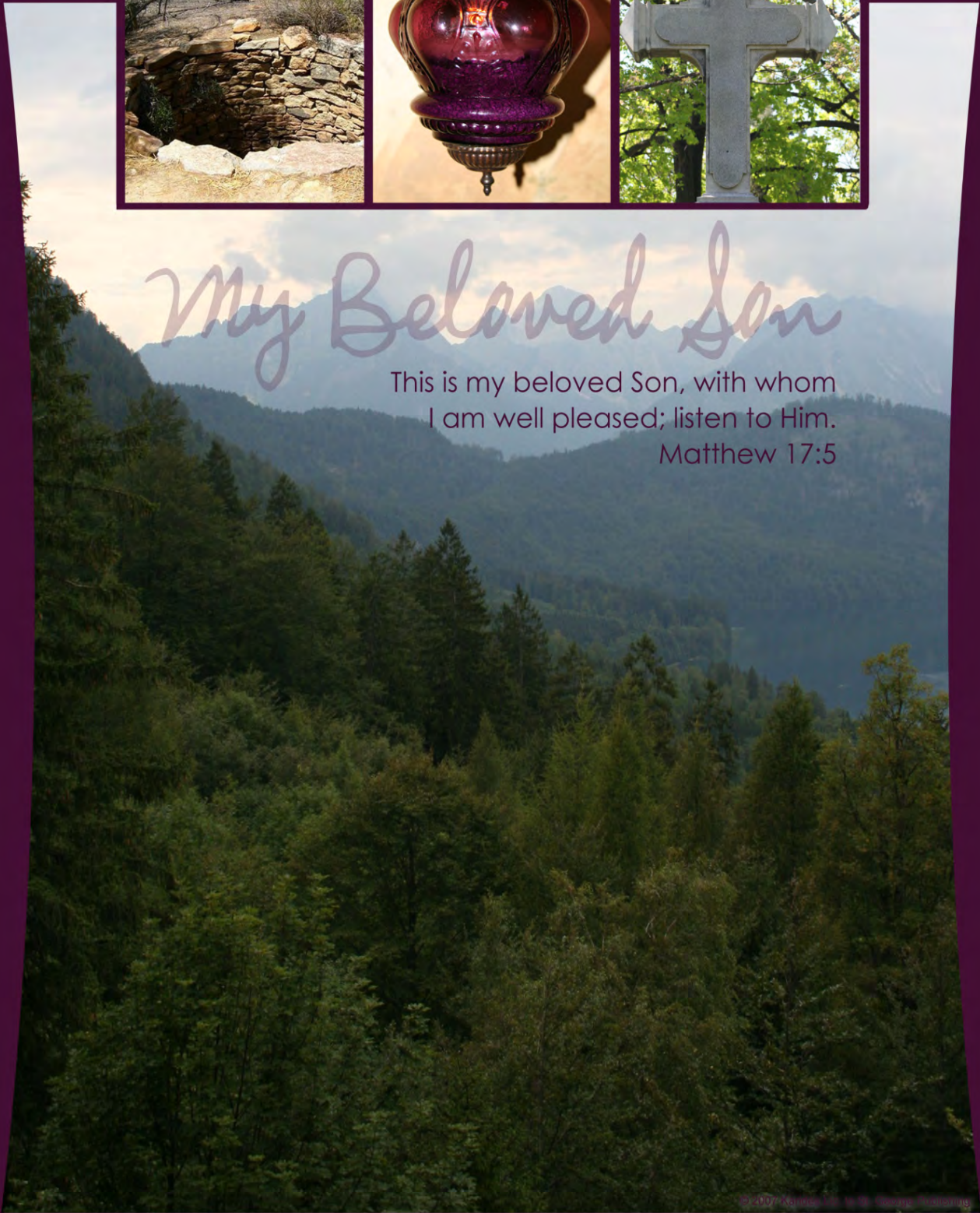




My Beloved Son

This is my beloved Son, with whom
I am well pleased; listen to Him.
Matthew 17:5



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 second Sunday of Lent: One of the responsibilities that we have as adults is to be concerned for others. Part of this responsibility is to pray for all of the people in the world. Can we bear our part in bringing out good for the sake of the gospel? In the readings today we see how God uses mountains to reveal something special. Where are the places in our lives where God is able to speak to us to help us feel special and renewed? These are the places and times where we go forth feeling renewed and unafraid. In revealing the glory of God we bring joy and hope to others.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: During Lent please take advantage of the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please consult the Lenten bulletin for the extra times for this sacrament and also each Saturday this sacrament is offered from 3:15 - 3:45 pm.

Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet: The Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed next **Sunday, February 24th, at 12:30 pm** for the Pro Life movement and a renewed reverence and respect for human life. Please come and join us in prayer for this most worthy intention.

Bible Class: There will be no Bible Class this coming Monday in observance of President's Day. It will resume on **Monday, Feb. 25th, at 10:00 am** in the O'Brien Room. Please read chapters 5-10 in the Book of Jeremiah.

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.

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. The presenters will be Sr. Dorothy Welch and Sr. Carol Fitzsimmons; and their topic is "Waiting in Hope." Give yourself a gift this Lent—come and rest for awhile—be fed and nurtured in preparation for the beautiful feast of Easter!

Fridays of Lent: Each Friday of Lent we will celebrate a different spiritual service which begins at 5:30 pm followed by a meager (simple) meal. This **Friday, Feb. 22nd**, we will be offering Stations of the Cross for children and families followed by the meal. Please plan on attending.

Recommended Readings: Lent and Easter Wisdom from G.K. Chesterton, The Center for the Study of C.S. Lewis and Friends, Liguori, 2007.

Lent and Easter Wisdom from Fulton J. Sheen, A Redemptorist Pastoral Publication Liguori 2004.

Project Rachel: Do you know someone who is carrying grief and sorrow over past abortions? **Project Rachel** is the post-abortion ministry of the Catholic Church to help those dealing with the pain of abortion. **Project Rachel** will offer a "Come to the Waters" post abortion healing retreat on Saturday, March 1, 2008. For more information, contact **Project Rachel** at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com.

Movie Night: On Tuesday, February 19th, we will be showing "I Am David" (rated PG) in the McCullough Room of the school at 7:00 pm. We invite children from 4th grade and up to attend with a parent. There is one scene with some violence; but it is an important part of the story. **Plot Synopsis:** It is the story of a 12-year-old boy, David, who escapes a Communist concentration camp with little more than a compass, a sealed letter, a loaf of bread, and instructions to carry the letter to Copenhagen, Denmark. David is thrust into the free world for the first time in his young life as he travels across Europe. It is a spiritual voyage of discovery, where David slowly loses his instinctual mistrust of humanity and begins to smile, share, trust and ultimately, love. "I Am David" addresses the cruelties, politics, and suffering of warfare while celebrating the resilience of youth and the unbreakable spirit of a child.

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday	February 16	4:00 pm	Elsie Fitzgerald and Martha Dunleavy
Sunday	February 17	8:00 am	For the Intentions of Esther & Larry White (living)
		9:45 am	Donald Barnes
		11:30 am	Katherine Santos
Monday	February 18	9:00 am	Joseph A. Palmer
Tuesday	February 19	9:00 am	
Wednesday	February 20	9:00 am	Frank Sr. and Janet Thissell
Thursday	February 21	9:00 am	Philip Chiappisi and John Norris
Friday	February 22	9:00 am	Grace Mahoney
Saturday	February 23	9:00 am	
Saturday	February 23	4:00 pm	Leslie Madden, Sr. and Leslie Madden, Jr.
Sunday	February 24	8:00 am	The Parishioners of St. Bartholomew's Church
		9:45 am	
		11:30 am	James McElaney

Scripture Readings

17	Sun	Gn 12:1-4a/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9
18	Mon	Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38
19	Tue	Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12
20	Wed	Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28
21	Thu	Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31
22	Fri	1 Pt 5:1-4/Mt 16:13-19
23	Sat	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
24	Sun	Ex 17:3-7/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Collections

Weekend of February 9-10

Amount collected	\$5,777.20
Amount needed	\$6,000.00
Amount over/under	(\$ 222.80)

Peter's Pence Collection

Amount collected	\$2,290.36
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Thank you for your stewardship.

Youth Choir: There is no Youth Choir rehearsal this week, Feb. 18th, due to the mid-winter break. The next rehearsal will be on Monday, Feb. 25th, at 5:00 pm in the church.

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

Prayer Group

G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together) will meet on **Wednesday, February 20th, at 10:00 am** in the O'Brien Room at the rectory.

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.



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

"ARE YOU A BEIGE PERSON?"

If any of you have watched the recent explosion of TV shows that "make over" someone's home or person, you have probably noticed that almost all of the chosen homes or people lack decorative color and the overall impression doesn't make any kind of appealing statement. The way a great many of us live, apparently, is in a safe, extremely understated, beige world. In less than an hour, the homes and people are totally made over with touches of color, sometimes very bright. Everything is inviting, welcoming, and we might wish we lived like this, except we never would have had the courage to choose those bright colors on our own. And what would we do, if things didn't match? We probably might only attempt these changes, if we had professional help and guidance. Even then, would we accept another's opinion or do we only trust our own choices for our own lives?

Believe it or not, Jesus asked us to step out of this safe, beige world in order to be His followers. He is and always has been our "professional help." He asked us to follow Him with color and courage. He has always shown us the way, if only we would listen to Him. We are to proclaim our love of our Lord above all else. And we will love and care for each other, just as Jesus instructed, when He walked on this same earth. We will speak out against injustice. We will help the poor. We will act whenever and wherever we perceive a need. We will pray to our God, publicly and privately. He is our shining light. We are His stewards, mandated to care for all His creation. His Father said "This is My Son, My beloved, in whom is all My delight: listen to Him." (Mt. 17:5) Being a Catholic cannot be a safe, stay in the beige background way of life. It is a call to stand out and speak up. It is a call to action. You are the one who has to make the choice for how you want to live.

Lent is the perfect time for us to reexamine our lives: how we live them; and what is our relationship with God. Do we want to blend in and go unnoticed? Or do we have the courage to be a disciple? Can we take direction from Jesus? Did those black ashes on our foreheads get wiped off or did we wear them proudly announcing to the world that 'I am one of His-a believer and a doer of His Word.' Do we only trust our own life choices? Or can we take that leap of faith that Jesus asked of us and sometimes make a loud noise or paint a very bright color to change lives?

(continued on next column)

A wonderful 92 year old parishioner died this past week, Leo Heffernan-the self proclaimed oldest altar server in the diocese. No one who knew Leo will ever remember him without a smile. Such was his giving and happy presence. What color are you? Beige? Or hopefully, like Leo, are you a ray of sunshine, who loves and lives all of God's colors?

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

If anyone needs a ride to any Lenten service, please call me.

Children and Youth

Religious Education Reminders

- No Classes Feb 18th – Happy President's Day!

Confirmation:

- Confirmation Information forms and Baptismal certificates are due to the Religious Education Office as soon as possible; they may be mailed, dropped off, given to Melisa or to your child's catechist.
- **Retreat:** Students participate in an overnight retreat in preparation for Confirmation, Fri. Feb 29th – Sat. Mar 1st at the Espousal Retreat Center in Waltham.

Parent Workshop:

"Chastity: How to talk to your kids about it" – **POSTPONED to Monday March 10th during Religious Education class** 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.

Soccer!

As the snow melts, we are thinking again of our popular parish soccer program for 1st - 2nd graders *BUT* we cannot accept registrations until we have at least 8 adults to help with the many administrative tasks that make the program run. The time commitment is minimal: approx. 25 hrs March - November, most of which can be done from your home on your own schedule. Please contact Melisa Hughes 781-444-4343 or melisahughes@comcast.net

Lent for 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 22nd** will be Stations of the Cross for children. Children interested in participating should arrive by 5 pm in the Church, Stations begin at 5:30 pm.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Mon., Feb. 18 Parish Office Closed
- Mon., Feb. 18 No Bible Study
- Mon., Feb. 18 No Religious Ed Classes
- Mon., Feb. 18 No Youth Choir Rehearsal
- Tues., Feb. 19 Morning Prayer-8:45 am
- Tues., Feb. 19 Movie Night-7 pm-McCulloch Rm.-
"I Am David" is the featured presentation
- Wed., Feb. 20 Social Club-2:30 pm-Ward Hall
- Thurs., Feb. 21 Adult Choir Rehearsal-7:30 pm
- Fri., Feb. 22 Morning Prayer-8:45 am
- Fri., Feb. 22 Children and Family Stations of the Cross-5:30 pm followed by a simple meal
- Sun., Feb. 24 Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet-12:30 pm-Church
- Mon., Feb. 25 Bible Study-10 am-O'Brien Room
- Mon., Feb. 25 Religious Ed classes for all grades
- Mon., Feb. 25 Pre-school Story Hour-4:00 pm in O'Brien Room
- Mon., Feb. 25 Youth Choir Rehearsal-5:00 pm
- Tues., Feb. 26 Morning Prayer-8:45 am
- Wed., Feb. 27 Prayer Group-10 am-O'Brien Rm.
- Thurs., Feb. 28 Adult Choir Rehearsal-7:30 pm
- Fri., Feb. 29 Morning Prayer-8:45 am
- Fri., Feb. 29 Adoration followed by a meager (simple meal)-5:30 pm
- Sat., Mar. 1 First Saturday Devotion-following 9:00 am Mass
- Sun., Mar. 2 Community Sunday & Blood Pressure Screening following 8:00 & 9:45 am Masses
- Sun.—Tues. Lenten Retreat-7:00 pm in Church
- Mar. 2-4

Social Club

The Social Club will meet on **Wednesday, Feb. 20th, at 2:30 pm** in Ward Hall. Our speaker will be Beverly Beckham who wrote columns and editorials for the Boston Herald for 19 years and who is currently writing for the Boston Globe. Her entertaining column appears each Sunday in the Globe West section.

In addition, she writes a bi-monthly column for Grandparents.com. She is also the author of A Gift of Time, a collection of personal essays and Back Then, a memoir of childhood. Because of her special talent for writing of ordinary things in an extraordinary way, her readers look forward to her column each week. Members and guests are invited to join us to hear her comments and to share refreshments after the meeting.

Kids Night Out

Drop your kids off for a movie and pizza while mom and dad enjoy a few hours to themselves.

When: **Saturday, March 8th, after the 4:00 Mass until 8:00 pm**

Where: The McCulloch Room in the school

Who: All children grades K-6

All children MUST be pre-registered by Tuesday, March 4th, if they wish to attend.

Parents must fill out an emergency form and an awareness food allergy info form when dropping their child off. No one will be admitted at the door without registering. We need to know ahead of time how much pizza is needed. Cost is \$5.00 per child of a parishioner or \$10 per child of a non-parishioner.

To register or to volunteer to help call Debby at the Parish Office at 781-444-3434. Leave your name, how many children will attend, the names and ages of the children, and your phone number.

The movie to be shown is "Meet the Robinsons", a Walt Disney movie rated "G". Join a brilliant young inventor named Lewis as he sets off on a time-traveling journey to find the family he never knew. The Robinsons help Lewis learn to keep moving forward and never stop believing in himself.

Come Get Your Tickets!!

Come and enjoy a fun evening on Saturday, March 15th, from 5:00-7:00 pm. There will be step dancers, music, and raffles. Fun for the whole family!! There will be pizza, salad, cake, ice cream, and soft drinks. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$6 for children 7-15, and \$1 for children 6 and under. You may buy tickets in advance after the weekend Masses or call Marianne at 781-326-3670 or Joan at 781-449-3991.

Don't miss out!!

Last year was a sell-out!!



**Palm Sunday, March 16
A Children's Journey**

After the 9:45 am Mass on Palm Sunday, we invite all the children of the parish through Grade 6 to join us as we remember Jesus' journey. The children will follow our "Palm Path" to an Easter Egg Hunt. Don't miss this wonderful family event.

Please RSVP by March 8th so we can be properly prepared. Please contact Jeanne D'Alleva at 781-400-5083 or jeannedalleva@comcast.net with the number of children you wish to join the "journey."

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• **Mom's Night Out—Lots of Fun!** Our first •
• Mom's Night Out was a success! Great conver- •
• sation, lots of laughter and a wonderful group of •
• ladies made for quite an enjoyable evening. •
• More parish social events are being planned— •
• please look for them in upcoming •
• •

Handy?! The parish is looking to have 2 "A-Frame" signs built to help advertise parish events & activities. If you could make even one it would be appreciated. If you are not able to make a sign, but are interested in donating material to have it built, that would also be greatly welcomed. Please contact the rectory for dimensions and details.

Boston Bruins Faith & Family Night

The Boston Bruins NHL Hockey team is promoting Faith and Family Night on **Tuesday, March 4th**. The ticket incentive is buy one—get one free. If you are interested in purchasing tickets, call Walter Zaykowski at 617-624-1979 or email wzaykowski@bostonbruins.com

Lenten Mass Times: If you are unable to attend our 9:00 am Mass Monday through Saturday during Lent, the following churches offer additional choices: **St. Joseph in Needham** has Mass at 6:50 am & 9:00 am Monday through Friday and 8:30 am on Saturday. **St. Catherine in Norwood** has Mass at 6:45 am Monday through Saturday and 5:15 pm Monday through Friday. **Mary Immaculate of Lourdes in Newton** has Mass on Monday, Tuesday and Saturday at 7:30 am.

Bikes—Not Bombs is coming to Memorial Park, Highland Ave., Needham. "Bikes Not Bombs promotes bicycle technology as a concrete alternative to war and environmental destruction. For the past 23 years Bike Not Bombs has been a nexus of bike recycling and community empowerment both in lower income neighborhoods of Boston and in the nations of the global south." The Bike Not Bombs organization will be collecting bicycles in Needham at Memorial Park on **Saturday, March 8, from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm**. Please bring those bikes which you have outgrown, may be in need of repair, or are just taking up space in the garage. The Bike Not Bombs trucks and staff will be there to receive your donations.

Bike Not Bombs has sent over 30,000 bikes and technical assistance to Central America, the Caribbean, Africa, New Orleans, Guatemala, So. Africa, etc.—giving countless numbers of people throughout the world a chance to develop small businesses, to have transportation to go to work and earn a living or go to school. The bike which you donate can offer a future to an individual or a family.

For more information, contact Marge Cohen, Social Action Co-chair, at 781-449-2688.

A Lenten Prayer

God of truth, a blessing you promised and a blessing you give. Through deserts and up mountains we follow Jesus and there find you...and ourselves as we were meant to be.

We long to hold on to that vision, O God. We try to set up tents and stay as long as we can, because it is there that we know we are truly home.

But faith calls us, for it was in faith that Jesus lived life and accepted death. His faith in you was born of love. His love was born of freedom.

In Jesus, the bright cloud of your grace is forever upon us. May we be willing to leave the mountaintop experiences of life and walk the plains of every day. Amen.