



God so loved the world
that He gave us His only Son

What are *you* doing for Lent?

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.

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.



The Next Scripture Class will be held on Monday, February 25th, at 10 am in the O'Brien Room at the Rectory. Please read chapters 13-17 of St. John's Gospel. All are welcome to come.

Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors: Any person who has received the Sacrament of Confirmation, including high school age, is eligible to be a Lector or Eucharistic Minister. If you are interested, please speak to the pastor.

CYO: The new CYO will formally begin with a Sunday evening Mass on March 25th, followed by a social. This will be exciting.

Extra Masses for Lent: There will be an extra Mass for Lent on Monday and Friday evenings at 5:30 pm.

2nd Collection: This weekend there will be a second collection called Peter's Pence which aids the Holy Father in his various projects and works to help peoples all over the world. Thank you for whatever you can do to help.

Altar Servers: We are desperately in need of young altar servers and adult altar servers. Any interested persons in fourth grade or older are asked to speak with Fr. Phil. Please encourage people who would be good servers to speak with me.

Reflection - First Sunday of Lent: Each of our lives are full of hopes and struggles. Jesus was even tempted in the desert. Sometimes we get into all types of routines and ruts being tempted to lose hope or feel down. Then something might happen that restores our hope. Things have improved before and the cycle of life shows us that they will improve again. God always sustained the people of Israel on their journey through the desert. God was lavish in His blessings on them and He is lavish with His blessings on each of us. Such blessings for us include the Eucharist and the sacrament of Reconciliation. I hope this Lent that each of us takes advantage of the opportunities that God extends to us. Enthusiasm and gratitude would be two helpful ideals for each of us this Lent.

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

"Lord. do not deal with us according to our sins."

Sin seems to be a word that is hardly ever spoken of these days. Is it because it is not "politically correct"? Or maybe it is something we find too painful to deal with. And so we don't. Sin is something we consciously do that is not in accordance with Jesus' teachings. "Consciously and knowingly do" and afterwards, we would rather not deal with it, face it, or accept our responsibility for it. Sin is uncomfortable. Some where in our conscience, it rests, even as we try to put it aside. We some how hope that God didn't notice. Wrong! Not only does He know, but so don't we. So this Lent let the SACRAMENT of Reconciliation be our bridge to returning to God with the cleansing and healing we seek and need. God in His infinite wisdom gave us the path to forgiveness. Ask for His forgiveness personally and also remember to forgive others.

"Jesus said to His disciples: 'Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you'." (Luke 6:36-38)

So as we are preparing our way for this Lenten journey, let us learn to heal-ourselves and in our relationship with others. Let us pray more, examine our consciences, be more tolerant of our own and others' short comings, and live in Christ by sharing in the Sacraments. Make this Lent a season of giving. Father Phil's requests for the Sisters of Notre Dame for bedding and toiletries is a good place to start. Do it now and not eventually. See, hear, and feel the needs around us and do something this Lent. Remember 15 minutes? Everyday, in some way, make 15 minutes of yours His.

"Give and it will be given to you." Maybe today's 15 minutes could be an examination of just how many ways we might give this Lent. Didn't your grandmother always say, "The joy is in the giving."?

TIME TALENT TREASURE-A WAY OF LIFE!

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

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday	February 24	4:00 pm	Jeanne Dawson
Sunday	February 25	8:00 am	Elsie Fitzgerald—5th Anniversary
		9:45 am	James McElaney
		11:30 am	Mary DeGeorge
Monday	February 26	9:00 am	
Tuesday	February 27	9:00 am	Stephen Stepeneck
Wednesday	February 28	9:00 am	The Harrington & McCarthy Families
Thursday	March 1	9:00 am	
Friday	March 2	9:00 am	
Saturday	March 3	9:00 am	Knights of Columbus
Saturday	March 3	4:00 pm	Mary & William Stapleton
Sunday	March 4	8:00 am	Roberta M. Sullivan—Month's Mind Mass
		9:45 am	Edna & Thomas Nutile
		11:30 am	Helen & Tom Boyle and Hester & Carroll Buckley

Scripture Readings

Week of February 25, 2007

- 25 Sun Dt 26:4-10/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13
- 26 Mon Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/ Mt 25:31-46
- 27 Tue Is 55:10-11/ Mt 6:7-15
- 28 Wed Jon 3:1-10/ Lk 11:29-32
- 1 Thu Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/ Mt 7:7-12
- 2 Fri Ez 18:21-28/ Mt 5:20-26
- 3 Sat Dt 26:16-19/ Mt 5:43-48
- 4 Sun Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Phil 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1/
Lk 9:28b-36

Collections

Weekend of Feb. 17-18, 2007

Amount collected \$4,988.21
 Amount needed \$6,000.00
 Amount over/under (\$1,011.79)

Thank you for your stewardship.

First Saturday Devotion

“Mary promised at Fatima each time that she appeared to help us if we pray to her to banish war and fear. “ In response to her promises First Saturday Devotion” will take place on March 3 following the 9:00 am Mass. Please plan to join in this effort for peace and unity.

Community Sunday and Free Blood Pressure Screening will take place this Sunday, March 4, following the 8:00 am and 9:45 am Masses.

Liturgy of the Word for Children 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.

Youth Choir:

Our next rehearsal will be held on Monday, Feb. 26th, in Ward Hall at St. Sebastian's from 5:00-5:45 pm. New members are welcome anytime.

Adult Choir:

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

G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together): The next Prayer Group will be on Wednesday, Feb. 28, 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.

Amy's Book Club will meet on Tuesday, February 27, at 12:30 pm in the O'Brien Room at the rectory. The book to be discussed is "The Children of Men" by P. D. James.



Classes: There will be classes for all grades on Monday, Feb. 27th:

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.

Confirmation Candidates are reminded that there is a mandatory retreat scheduled for Sunday, March 4th, from 3:00-6:00 pm at St. Bartholomew's.

Dear Parents,

We have passed this information on previously, but because it is so important, we could all use a refresher. Catechesis, which is the process of teaching about faith, has undergone many changes throughout history. Up until Vatican II, Catholics learned their faith through two sources: home and Church. There were no formal "CCD" classes then; faith was a part of family life and the Church was not just Mass on Sunday, but for many their go-to destination for social and community-building activities.

Since Vatican II there have been several directories published to help parishes develop comprehensive formation programs. The latest, called the National Directory for Catechesis (NDC) was published in 2005 by the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. We have a copy of the Directory in the Religious Education Office, and they are also readily available in Catholic book stores or on-line.

The one development we want to reiterate is the emphasis on the six tasks the bishops have determined are essential for complete formation. We no longer rely mostly on information from textbooks to teach our children, but rather attempt to achieve a more holistic approach to our faith. Some of these fundamental tasks can be taught in weekly religious education classes; and some, due to time, space and other logistical constraints, simply cannot. If parents want their children to understand Catholicism as it is meant to be learned, they must assume responsibility for the components of formation that cannot be addressed in classes.

The six categories, or "tasks" of catechesis are:

1. Promoting knowledge of the faith. (Teaching the basics of scripture and tradition.)
2. Liturgical education. (Experiencing sacramental and other liturgical celebrations.)

(continued on next column.)

3. Moral formation. (Learning the moral teachings of Jesus and applying them to everyday life.)
 4. Teaching to pray. (Instruction and practice with formal and informal prayer.)
 5. Education for Community Life. (Preparing and participating in the life and mission of the Church.)
 6. Missionary Initiative. (Preparing individuals to spread the Gospel to others by word and example.)
- These are important but daunting responsibilities for catechists and parents alike. We need to appreciate and support each other as we try our best to pass on our faith to the next generation.

Peace to All,
Elizabeth Healy & Maryellen Jennings
Religious Education Coordinators

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Recommended Reading from Fr. Phil:

The Power of Small Choices by Hilary Brand, Pauline Books and Media, Boston, 2004.

Chocolate for Lent by Hilary Brand, Pauline Books and Media, Boston, 2002.

Online Courses for Lenten Renewal: Renew your Spirit this Lent without leaving home! **Boston College's C21 Online** is offering non-credit courses for spiritual enrichment and faith renewal, right from your computer. Beginning March 5th for 4 weeks **Spirituality Matters** will feature videos with Fr. Michael Himes. What is spirituality? What is at the heart of prayer? Do we need community? What can suffering teach us? Join other adults in discussing these important questions and share best spiritual practices. For more information, a demo course, and registration, visit us at www.bc.edu/c21online.

Congratulations To:
Lisa Josephine O'Leary,
daughter of John and Nancy,
as this child is claimed
by Jesus Christ in the
Sacrament of Baptism
this weekend.



THE POWER OF SMALL CHOICES: A LENTEN JOURNEY

Sunday, February 25, from 1:00-4:00 pm in the McCulloch Room

Using selected scenes from the two movies, *Babette's Feast* and *Shawshank Redemption*, as our starting point, we will begin to explore the possibilities and consequences of different choices and how we can turn our small daily choices into occasions for personal growth and conversion.

TRADITIONAL LITURGIES—MEAGER MEAL & STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday, March 2, beginning with Mass at 5:30 pm in the Church

Following the 5:30 pm Mass on Friday, March 2, we will be serving a "meager meal" followed by Stations of the Cross. A "meager meal" is just a simple low-cost meal. The idea behind this tradition is that the money saved in the preparation of a "meager meal" is then donated to help feed the poor. Our meal will consist of soup and bread (peanut butter & jelly sandwiches will also be available.) Any free-will offering you may choose to make will be donated to Our Daily Bread. We will begin our journey of the Stations of the Cross in Church at 7:00 pm.

PARISH LENTEN PROJECT

Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. It has come to our attention that the Notre Dame Sisters Home for retired and convalescing sisters, which has been Sr. Julie's home-away-from home these past several weeks, is in need of many items. As our almsgiving project we have adopted the Mother St. Joseph Home in Wakefield.

Some of the needed items include:

New Bedding :twin bed sheet sets, twin bed mattress covers, twin bed blankets, "bed in a bag" sets, simple bedspreads, pillows, and towels.

Toiletries: Dove Body Wash, Dove Body Lotion, Ivory Soap & Lotion products (The sisters are frail and need gentle soap/lotion)

New Personal Items: Long sleeve brushed cotton or flannel nightgowns and robes in sizes small, medium, or large. (The sisters are older and usually are cold – so please, no sleeveless items.)

Your donations can be dropped off at the back of the church, in the sacristy or at the rectory.

To receive a tax receipt for your donation(s) you will need to bring your purchase(s) along with relevant



Lenten Series and Devotions: Most Precious Blood Church in Dover is presenting the following on Wednesdays from 7:30-8:15 pm:

- Feb. 28 "Sacraments-Signs of Christ's Presence" with Mary Ann McLaughlin
- Mar. 7 "How to forgive when one has been hurt" with Fr. John Grimes
- Mar. 14 "Seeing Lent through the eyes of Pope Benedict XVI" with Fr. Gregory Hoppough
- Mar. 21 "Stations of the Cross" with Regina O'Connor
- Mar. 28 "Praying and Celebrating Holy Week" with Fr. Chris Coyne.

The address of Most Precious Blood is 30 Centre St. The phone number is 508-785-0305.

Faith Formation: Join the parishioners of Corpus Christi-St. Bernard Parish for three Tuesday evenings in Lent:

March 6 at 7:00 pm for "Reasons for the Season" - Reflections on the rich tradition of Lent and ways we can grow in relationship with the Lord—presenter is Fr. Richard Erikson, Vicar General of the Archdiocese.

March 13 at 7:00 pm for "Imagining Your Way to Spiritual Wholeness: Lent and Beyond" - Reflections on the spiritual and critical implications of living in a world where "God is always and everywhere present— with Fr. Anthony Penna, Campus Ministry at Boston College.

March 20 at 7:00 pm for "The Season of Penance" - Reflections on the difficulties Catholics face this Lenten Season and on spiritual resources for growing beyond them to communion and cooperation—with Fr. William Clark, S.J., Religious Studies Dept., Holy Cross College

The presentations will be given at St. Bernard's Church, Fr. Moore Hall, 1529 Washington St., West Newton. Light refreshments and social afterwards. The hall is handicapped accessible.

Annual Boston Catholic Conference

Boston Convention Center
Men's Conference - Saturday, March 17th
Women's Conference - Sunday, March 18th

What are you doing for Lent this year? If you're like many, then you've started to think about what you'll do for Lent. As opposed to "giving up something," consider receiving something! Receive a day of spiritual nourishment at the Boston Catholic Men's or Women's Conference. Come be in the company of over 5,000 other Catholic men or women and enjoy hearing from inspirational speakers addressing real-life issues and topics. Mass will be celebrated both days by Cardinal Sean O'Malley.

A limited number of tickets are available for \$25 (door price is \$40). There will be bus transportation available for the Women's Conference from St. Joseph's in Needham. Please call Jackie Rose at 508-359-7408 to purchase tickets for the Women's Conference or Michael Gillis at 781-251-9494 to purchase tickets for the Men's Conference. Both Michael and Jackie can be contacted for more detailed information or you may go online at www.bostoncatholicmen.org or www.bostoncatholicwomen.org.

Hospice Hosts Educational Series: The Hospice of the Good Shepherd is honored to host two renowned death and dying educators, Rabbi Earl Grollman and Professor Sandra Bertman. "Explaining Dying to Children and to Ourselves" presented by Rabbi Grollman will be held on Thursday, March 1st, from 8:45-10:30 am and "Awe and Mystery of Our Work: Art, Spirit and Soul" presented by Prof. Bertman will be held on Thursday, April 5th, from 6:00-7:30 pm. Both programs will take place at the Hospice of the Good Shepherd, 2042 Beacon St. in Newton. The events are free to the public and places can be reserved by contacting the Hospice office at 617-969-6130. (Social workers and nurses may request CEU's. There will be a \$10 processing fee for VEU's.)

Retrouvaille.....a Lifeline

Rediscover a loving marriage with a Retrouvaille weekend. If your marriage is tearing the two of you apart, if there is little or no meaningful communication, if you are considering separation or divorce, we believe Retrouvaille can help you. Look us up on the web at www.HelpOurMarrige.com or call 1800-470-2230. The next Retrouvaille weekend will be held March 23-25.

Diabetes Clinic: The parish nurses are pleased to have Mary Paschal, R.N., Diabetes Nurse Educator from Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital, come to speak about diabetes, its treatments, and complications on Thursday, March 1st, at 11:00 am in the Linse Room at St. Joseph's Church, Needham. Sandwiches and coffee will follow. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.