



Light of the World

While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.
John 9:5



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 Fourth Sunday of Lent: Did you know that the story of the man born blind was a favorite one at baptisms in the life of the early church? At that time Christians might call the sacrament of Baptism the illumination or enlightenment. At that time the candidate might echo the blind man's confession of faith and recite the Creed. Jesus even healed on the Sabbath. Notice the journey of the cured man to faith in Jesus. Seeing does not always lead to believing, but in the case of the man born blind it did. Notice in miracle stories the joyful effect on the healed and their powerful experiences of Jesus. The Pharisees were not able to enter into the joy of the moment because of their spiritual blindness. May each of us learn from such stories in Sacred Scripture and may each of us rejoice in the healings of loved ones and people around us. Each of us might consider asking ourselves what we can do to secure greater light for our faith journey.

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.

Bible Class will continue on **Monday, Mar. 3rd, at 10:00 am** in the O'Brien Room. Please read chapters 7-11 in the Book of Jeremiah. We always welcome new people to these classes. Please note: classes will not take place if there is a funeral that day.

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.

The Pilot: Please take home a free copy of the Pilot which is the newspaper of the Archdiocese of Boston. This newspaper can be found at the doors of the church.

Lenten Retreat: There will be a Parish Lenten Retreat on March 2nd, 3rd, and 4th at 7:00 pm each evening. Lent is a very important time for each of us. We have approached the half-way point of Lent and the retreat strategically placed here will be really helpful as we prepare to take part in Holy Week Services, the Sacred Triduum and Easter Services. If at all possible please come and bring others to the parish retreat as well. Please check the bulletin for other details.

Catholic Appeal: This weekend, March 1st and 2nd, is Catholic Appeal Weekend here at St. Bartholomew Parish. This year's theme is "Handing on The Light of Christ." Cardinal Sean is asking every Catholic household to participate. This year our participation goal is 278 families and \$95,500. This Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parish—so your prayers and participation are essential and critical. We will be showing a video from Cardinal Sean at Mass and at the Community Sunday. Those who participated in the Appeal last year should have received a letter this week from the Cardinal. We ask those who did not receive a letter to pick up information packets in the back of the church. The pledge forms can be mailed directly to the address in the packet. I thank you for your consideration and your generosity toward this wonderful work.

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!!



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

Mass Intentions

| | | | |
|-----------|---------|----------|---|
| Saturday | March 1 | 4:00 pm | The Harrington, McCarthy & Igo Families |
| Sunday | March 2 | 8:00 am | Marianne & Caroline Duffy |
| | | 9:45 am | Thomas & Edna Nutile |
| | | 11:30 am | Paul K. Vahey, Jr. |
| Monday | March 3 | 9:00 am | Michael & Theresa Lovezzola |
| Tuesday | March 4 | 9:00 am | Marguerite Mann and Helena Scotto |
| Wednesday | March 5 | 9:00 am | Alice & Charles Scipione |
| Thursday | March 6 | 9:00 am | Virginia Ray and Virginia Hasenfuss |
| Friday | March 7 | 9:00 am | Elaine Corbett—Birthday Memorial |
| Saturday | March 8 | 9:00 am | |
| Saturday | March 8 | 4:00 pm | Fred & Mabel Mitchell |
| Sunday | March 9 | 8:00 am | |
| | | 9:45 am | Edward Hennessey—1st Anniversary |
| | | 11:30 am | Muriel Gatto |

Scripture Readings

- 2 Sun 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/
Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
- 3 Mon Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54
- 4 Tue Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16
- 5 Wed Is 49:8-15/Jn 5:17-30
- 6 Thu Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47
- 7 Fri Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
- 8 Sat Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53
- 9 Sun Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or
11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Collections

Weekend of February 23-24

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Amount collected | \$5,687.51 |
| Amount needed | \$6,000.00 |
| Amount over/under | (\$ 312.49) |

Thank you for your stewardship.

“Women in Communion”

The women in the parish are invited to attend our next gathering that will take place on **Sunday, March 9th, following the 9:45 am Mass.** There will be a light breakfast followed by a very special performance of the Credo Liturgical Dancers. The cost is \$5.00 which will be collected at the door. Please call Marianne at 781-326-3670 or Debby at 781-444-3434 **by March 4th** to make your reservation. We need a number so we will have enough food.

Youth Choir

There is **NO Youth Choir Rehearsal** on Monday, March 3rd. The next rehearsal will be on March 10th 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, March 5th, at 10:00 am** in the O'Brien Room at the rectory.

25th and 50th Wedding Anniversary Mass: Sean Cardinal O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap. invites all couples of the Archdiocese of Boston who are marking their 25th and 50th wedding anniversaries in 2008 to join him for the annual celebration at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross on **Sunday, April 13th, at the 11:30 am Mass.** Family members and friends of the participating couples, as well as the general public, are welcome to attend. **Please register with the parish staff by March 28, 2008** if you are celebrating your 25th or 50th wedding anniversary and would like to attend this celebration.

Children and Youth

Thank You! To the students and volunteers who helped make our Confirmation Retreat a great success!

Religious Education Reminders

- Students in K-6 grades have class Mon., Mar. 3rd
- All students have class on Mon., Mar. 10th

First Reconciliation:

- Please pray for our students who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time next Saturday.
- Students in the 2nd grade class should arrive in the church no later than 12:50 pm. Reconciliation Service begins at **1:00 pm.**

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.

Spot Light on 7th grade:

This year the 7th grade focused on "Discipleship through Service" and as part of their class, participated in a Hunger Banquet, a model of global food distribution. Students were each given a name and a brief description of someone in the world; then divided among 3 tables:

The first table were the richest people in the world - who expect to receive 3 (different) meals a day, have structurally sound sheltering, and education. This table had bread, butter, salad, steak, vegetables, potatoes, soda, and chocolate cake for dinner. (about 15% of the class)

The second table was considered middle class, they could expect to receive 2 meals a day and have some sort of shelter. For dinner they had red beans and rice and clean water (about 35% of the class)

The third table represented everyone else, they would have on average 2-3 meals per week, are likely to die of disease or malnutrition. For dinner they ate only white rice and "dirty" water (about 50% of the class).

Some Comments from the class:

"I think it was a good, enjoyable experience to learn about how other people live because we do not realize how lucky we are" - Brenna

(From a student seated at the third table watching unfinished salad being thrown in the garbage) "I'd eat that, we aren't getting enough!"

"It was a great lesson, but I got dirty water"

Children & Youth Activities

Bowling:

Come join us for an afternoon of bowling and pizza Sunday, March 16th, 4:00 - 6:30 pm at Fairway Bowling on Rt. 9 in Natick. Bring a friend, but please register with Melisa 781-444-4343.

Amy's Book Club

The next meeting of the Book Club will be on **Tuesday, March 25th, at 12:30 pm** in the O'Brien Room at the rectory. The book to be read is The Day Christ Died by Jim Bishop.



Congratulations To:

Jordan Lyn Morrissey,
daughter of David & Caffie,
as this child is claimed by
Jesus Christ in the
Sacrament of Baptism
this weekend.

Clean Up Day - Saturday April 5th

Middle and High School students are available to help seniors or individuals with physical difficulties with indoor or outdoor Spring Cleaning as part of their Christian Service. Please contact the rectory to receive help with Spring Cleaning or to recommend someone who would benefit from the clean-up day.

Possibilities include:

Inside:

Window washing
Bathroom cleaning (tub/shower, countertops, etc.)
Kitchen cleaning (appliances)

Outdoors:

Raking
Planting bulbs
Pruning shrubbery

A Lenten Afternoon for Young Adults: Young Adults in their 20's and 30's, married and single, are invited to a special *Lenten Afternoon of Reflection* on Sunday, March 9th, at St. Patrick in Stoneham from 2:30-5:30 PM. Fr. John Bartunek, LC will present his new book, *The Better Part*, which is a guide for daily prayer with the Gospels. The registration fee of \$30 includes the conference, lunch and a copy of Father's new book which retails at \$35.95. Contact Marco Desiderio at bridge.builders@comcast.net for full information and registration forms or St. Patrick's Rectory at 781-438-0960.

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 1-800-470-2230. The next New England Retrouvaille weekends will be held April 11-13, September 12-14.

Lenten Devotions

Most Precious Blood Church, in Dover invites you to attend Lenten Devotions on the following Wednesday evenings from 7:30-8:15 pm: March 5th "Lenten Prayer Walk—Labyrinth Meditation" with Regina O'Connor as presenter; and March 12th "Finding the Joy of Hope" with Susan Horne as presenter.

Mid-Lent Review

As the six week journey to Easter approaches its midpoint, I think a few moments set aside to ask myself "How is my Lent going?" would be time well spent.

1. What did I hope to accomplish during these six weeks set aside by the Church for introspection and renewal?
2. How am I doing in whatever Lenten discipline (s) I decided to practice?
3. Are these discipline (s) that I chose connected in anyway to my first question?
4. What changes have these disciplines affected in my life?
5. Are these disciplines helping me to grow in faith and bringing me closer to God?

Even if my answers to these questions are:

1. Nothing
2. Not very well
3. Not really
4. None
5. No

Not all is lost because I still have time to begin again.

The last question I need to ask myself is what changes do I need to make these last 3 weeks to make my Lenten journey more meaningful and fruitful?

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.

