



*Jesus answered and said
to them, "Destroy this temple
and in three days I will raise it up."*

John 2:19 (NAB)

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 Ed./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
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Email: stbartholomew@comcast.net
Website: 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.



During this time of uncertainty and economic concern, I pray that all of us will be reaching out in prayer, encouragement and other grace-filled ways to help others.

Reflection on Third Sunday of Lent: Lent reminds us that life is a constant call to deeper refinement. God reveals His love to each of us in different ways such as by the talents He has given to each of us and the people He has put in our lives. One of the real treasures in life is to observe in Sacred Scripture how Jesus interacted with others then and how He interacts with us now. How often we choose to live in less fulfilling ways. Each of us is God's temple. Please notice that the story of the cleansing of the temple occurs in all four gospels. Jesus' zeal for His Father's House in today's gospel has to be appreciated and admired. The temple of His body was to be destroyed only to be raised from the dead. The simple call of the gospel is to see the ways and signs of God's presence and love in our lives. Like Jesus our zeal ought to create a passion and compassion in us that consume us as we seek to truly live the gospel message of Jesus. Lent provides us the opportunity to examine how in the midst of daily routines that can be overwhelming at times our lives can be lived with a zeal for God.

The Catholic Appeal has begun. The theme of this year's Catholic Appeal is "Responding to God's Grace, Renewing Our Church". As a Catholic community we are called during the season of Lent and throughout the year to respond to God's graces in our lives. The readings each Sunday of Lent show us that we do this by building up His Kingdom. As Catholics we are called by virtue of our Baptism to give of our time, talents, and treasures to help others. The Catholic Appeal is an opportunity to respond to the grace of God by sharing our treasures to help others, Catholic and non-Catholic alike. Because of the really severe economic times it is crucial to support the Catholic Appeal this year. If you are able, please participate this year. Those who gave last year should have received a letter from Cardinal Sean this week. We invite all others to take an information packet home. Our goal for this year is \$95,500.00. We came close to reaching our goal last year; I hope we are able to achieve our goal this year. Last weekend we saw how the Archdiocese is working to establish a closer relationship between the parishes and the Archdiocese. Last year's appeal has proven to be helpful to the parish thanks to your generosity, as was discussed at last weekend's Masses.

Holy Hour each Sunday of Lent: There will be a Holy Hour of Adoration on each of the Sundays in Lent following the 11:30 am Mass. Different themes will be highlighted each time. This Sunday, March 15th The Seven Sorrows of Mary will be reflected upon in light of God's Plan for us. On Sunday, March 22nd, the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet will be included in this Holy Hour of Adoration.

Morning Prayer during Lent will be prayed at 8:45 am on Tuesdays—right before the 9:00 am Mass.

Bible Study: Classes will meet on **Monday, March 16, at 10 am** in the O'Brien Room. Please read the beginning of St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians.

Fight FOCA Postcard Campaign: With the approval of the U.S. Bishops in their November 2008 general meeting the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the National Committee for a Human Life Amendment are co-sponsoring the Fight FOCA Postcard Campaign. This will take place the weekend of March 28 & 29. More details to follow in coming weeks.

Recommended Reading: Seeking God, Finding God (Lent 2009) by Kathleen O. Chesto, Twenty Third Publications, New London, CT. 2008.

The Path to Forgiveness (Lent 2009) by Rev. Paul Boudreau, Twenty Third Publications, New London, CT. 2008.

Perpetual Food Drive

We have begun a new ministry to help Needham families and individuals during these tough economic times. We are collecting non-perishable food, toiletry & paper products for donation to the Needham Community Council's Food Pantry.

Contributions may be left in the box in the back of the church. All donated items will be delivered to the Food Pantry on your behalf.

If you would like to help deliver the items (anytime after the 9:45 or 11:30 Masses, after Religious Ed, etc. and delivered any time the pantry is open), please contact Patty Doyle at 781-449-5652 or Kathy Ellison at 781-400-1093.

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday	March 14	4:00 pm	Elsie Fitzgerald and Martha Dunleavy
Sunday	March 15	8:00 am	Robert Campbell and Family
		9:45 am	The Ramrath Family
		11:30 am	Carmen Julius Bastien
Monday	March 16	9:00 am	Marybel Lucas
Tuesday	March 17	9:00 am	
Wednesday	March 18	9:00 am	
Thursday	March 19	9:00 am	E. Marie Kench
Friday	March 20	9:00 am	Elizabeth & Stephen Stepenuck
Saturday	March 21	9:00 am	Dorothy Masterson
Saturday	March 21	4:00 pm	Paul Connolly
Sunday	March 25	8:00 am	Jane Talanian
		9:45 am	Members of the Sarkis & Sulvane Families
		11:30 am	Phyllis Obijinski, Frances Obijinski and Wanda Kane

 *Collections*

Weekend of Feb. 28-Mar. 1

Amount collected \$6,443.71
 Amount needed \$6,000.00
 Amount over/under \$ 443.71

Weekend of Mar. 7-8

Amount collected \$6,059.65
 Amount needed \$6,000.00
 Amount over/under \$ 59.65

Thank you for your generosity.



Adult Choir

The Adult Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:00 pm in the Church. If you have any questions, please call Marianne Germano at 781-326-3670.

Clean Up Day - Saturday, March 28th: 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:

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

Outdoors:

- Raking
- Planting bulbs
- Pruning shrubbery

Youth Choir

The next rehearsal will be on **Monday, March 16, at 5:00 pm** in the church. New members are always welcome.

Prayer Group

G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together) will meet on **Wednesday, March 17, at 10:00 am** in the O'Brien Room at the rectory.

Social Justice Movies will be shown every **Thursday evening at 6:30pm** throughout Lent. The movies will be based on social justice themes followed by discussion in the O'Brien Room of the rectory. Movies are geared for adult discussion, though would be appropriate for interested students in high school.

Children and Youth

Religious Education

Class Schedule:

Class Schedule:

K-6th have class on March 16th

All Grades have class on March 23rd

Congratulations & Blessings!

To our 2nd grade students on the occasion of their First Reconciliation! May the Lord brighten their paths and be merciful with them in all their decisions in life.

Activities & Other News

Junior Lectors: Any student 6th grade and up interested in trying out being a lector at the 9:45 Mass, please contact melisahughes@comcast.net to schedule training.

Altar Servers: We always welcome new students to participate in this important ministry! Any student in 4th grade and up is welcome to be an altar server. Training sessions will be scheduled in the spring for interested students, please contact melisahughes@comcast.net

Newsletter – Each week, many families receive an email newsletter with news/events, spiritual activities to do at home, and prayer that helps stay and be connected to the parish amid the busy-ness of family life. If you would like to join our mailing list, visit our webpage, www.stbartholomew-needham.org (the subscription link is near the bottom of the front page)

“The Way of the Cross” (see details on page 6) – In order for this performance to be a true parish wide event, help from students is needed:

Students in Middle School and up are needed to help **serve & clean up dinner** for the performers.

Students in 4th grade and up are needed to be **ushers** for the performance.

Artistic talent – Large Posters are needed to help us promote this event

Please contact Melisa to sign up, or for more information. This is a great way to share your talent and can be counted as R.E. or school required Community Service hours.

Liturgy of the Word for Children

takes place at the 9:45 am Mass each week until the end of the school year (except on long holiday weekends). The children gather with the entire assembly and then are invited to come forward with their adult leaders. They then process to a different location in the building and listen to the Word of God using a lectionary for children. They return to church at the Offertory. We invite all children—not only those who attend Religious Ed classes here.

We are in need of volunteers for this beautiful ministry. Please call the rectory if you are interested. The commitment would be approximately once a month. Please call Melisa at 781-444-3434 if you are interested.

Senior Social Club

The big day is almost here! We will gather on **Wednesday, March 18, at 1:00 pm** in Ward Hall for our annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon. We hope to see many of you there to enjoy the delicious meal and the Irish entertainment. It should be a great time for all. If you have last minute questions, please call Anne Carey at 781-444-6531.

Amy's Book Club will meet on **Tuesday, March 31st, at 12:30 pm** in the O'Brien Room at the rectory. The book for discussion will be God's Enduring Presence by Joyce Rupp. If you need a copy of the book, you may call Kathy Reilly. Her phone number is 781-444-0862.

Mom's Night Out: Join us for conversation and cuisine at Bertucci's in Needham at **7:00 pm on Thursday, March 26th**. This is a great opportunity to socialize with other mothers from our faith community. Please RSVP to Jeanne D'Alleva by Tuesday, March 23, by calling 781-400-5083.

**The Immaculate Heart Central School Mystery Players
"The Way of the Cross"**

This group from Watertown, New York, will present an unforgettable experience in our parish on **Saturday, March 28th, at 7:30 pm**. Through the use of special lighting, music, pantomime, and paraliturgical readings, this group of high school students and adults presents a moving, dramatic meditation that promises to be the highlight of our Lenten season.

Each year up to 1/3 or more of the senior class tries out for the 16-18 available positions. The group starts practicing in early October and remains together until their final performance on Good Friday.

The group is based on prayer and the players attempt to bring that spirit of prayer to those in attendance. The group spends up to 45 minutes in prayer before the performance. In no way is the group presenting a play as such; instead, the presentation is a powerful meditation on events in the life of Christ.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!
SATURDAY, MARCH 28
7:30 PM**

Protecting God's Children

All volunteers are required to attend the Child Abuse Prevention video training, *Protecting God's Children* prior to starting volunteer responsibilities. This training is only necessary to complete once. A training session will be held on **Sunday, March 22nd, at 1:00pm** in the McCulloch Room of the St Sebastian's School. All new volunteers and any volunteers who have not done this training yet, please contact the rectory to sign up.

Can you wait?

**Just a few more weeks!
What is it?**

The Palm Path and Easter Egg Hunt is coming!

That's right.

Sunday, April 5th after the 9:45 Mass.

Fun for all ages!!!

But first, we need your help. We have Easter Eggs, hundreds of them, to fill. We need your help.

It's a no-brainer. If I can do it, you can.
It takes so little time.

So call Dorothea O'Connell at 781-449-4110
to volunteer to fill the eggs

Thanks!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sun., Mar. 15 Holy Hour of Adoration-12:30 pm-Church
- Mon., Mar. 16 Bible Study-10:00 am-O'Brien Room
- Mon., Mar. 16 Religious Ed classes for K-6 only
- Mon., Mar. 16 Pre-School Story Hour-4:00 pm in O'Brien Room
- Mon., Mar. 16 Youth Choir Rehearsal-5:00 pm
- Tues., Mar. 17 Morning Prayer-8:45 am-Church
- Wed., Mar. 18 Prayer Group-10:00 am
- Wed., Mar. 18 Senior Social Club-1:00 pm-Ward Hall
- Thurs., Mar. 19 Social Justice movie & discussion-6:30 pm-O'Brien Room
- Thurs., Mar. 19 Adult Choir Rehearsal-7:30 pm
- Sun., Mar. 22 Holy Hour of Adoration (including the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet)-12:30 pm-Church
- Sun., Mar. 22 Protecting God's Children Training-1:00 pm-McCulloch Room in the school
- Mon., Mar. 23 Bible Study-10:00 am-O'Brien Room
- Mon., Mar. 23 Religious Ed classes for all grades
- Mon., Mar. 23 Pre-School Story Hour-4:00 pm in O'Brien Room
- Mon., Mar. 23 Youth Choir Rehearsal-5:00 pm
- Tues., Mar. 24 Morning Prayer-8:45 am-Church
- Wed., Mar. 25 Prayer Group-10 am-O'Brien Room
- Thurs., Mar. 26 Mom's Night Out-7:00 pm-Bertucci's
- Thurs., Mar. 26 Adult Choir Rehearsal-7:30 pm
- Sat., Mar. 28 Community Clean-up Day
- Sat., Mar. 28 "The Way of the Cross" Lenten Play-7:30 pm-Church

STEWARDSHIP: A WAY OF LIFE
Sharing: Time Talent Treasure

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

ON THE ROAD TO THE CRUCIFIX

As we take this journey with Jesus on the road to the Crucifix, it is imperative that we note our behaviors during these 40 days. Are they the same or have we remembered the journey that we are on? Has anything changed in these first three weeks? Something that certainly has changed has done so probably without our even noticing it and this change remains with us all year round regarding the Commandment: Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day."

From the Book of Exodus: "Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day. Six days you may labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord, your God. No work may be done then either by you, or your son or daughter or your male or female slave, or your beast, or by the alien who lives with you. In six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them; but on the seventh day He rested. THAT IS WHY THE LORD HAS BLESSED THE SABBATH DAY AND MADE IT HOLY."

Yes, times have changed. Soccer, baseball, hockey, football games, shopping malls, grocery stores, overworked parents with calendars too full, and not enough time for it all. How could anyone turn away from these activities for a day! Life is full of choices. And our Lord needs to be at the top of the list. Lent would be a very good time to think about how we spend our Sundays. Not only do we not notice the substance of the meaning of the Sabbath to curtail our activities; but for some, all these other activities take precedent over even attending Mass. The Lord gave us the Sabbath because He knew that we needed it, not only to restore our bodies, minds and souls; but also to reflect on His gifts.

We live in and are surrounded by His creation every day. How can we be in thanksgiving, if we don't ever take time to notice what wonders we have to behold? (including ourselves) Do we need to take an expensive vacation to notice beauty? Take time to plan a little differently, spend time with people important in our lives, and celebrate in thanksgiving and worship our God. He gave us more than we could ever imagine and then He died for us in order to give us more---eternity. Could we not give Him a bit of what He asked for—a holy Sabbath?

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

If anyone needs a ride to a Lenten service, please call. If you need a Communion visit at home, please call. We are still waiting to hear from our good parishioner craftspeople to help us with our building issues. Please call. We need you.

Going to the Well

Our journey through Lent can be described as "going to the well." We are dusty and thirsty from our travels; we need to be refreshed and cleansed. We make our way to the well of the Spirit which we find in prayer and sacrament. Jesus is waiting there for us. In his presence, we become more aware of our thirst and hungers. He invites us again to drink deeply of the waters of faith, promising that this living water will become a fountain within us, leaping up to provide forgiveness, healing, wholeness, and a foretaste of eternal life.

In the waters of baptism, we were reborn to newness of life and sealed with the Spirit of God. Authentic conversion should produce the fruits of holiness and justice. For most of us, it is a long, slow process with many setbacks and failures. But the Lord is patient and long-suffering. He gives us the opportunity to "come to the well" often.

St. Paul writes: "Let us profess the truth in love and grow to the full maturity of Christ" (Eph 4:15). Lent may call us to the practice of self-denial, yet it is more a time for growing up than for giving up. It is also a time for living faith and sharing faith. Like the Samaritan woman we must become evangelists. The quality of our daily lives must announce the good news to others, and invite them to "come to the well" to discover in Jesus the healing and peace that we enjoy.