



He waits with
open arms

His mercy endures forever

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.



Reflection – Fourth Sunday of Lent: I hope that your Lent is going well, but it is moving by so rapidly. Today's gospel about the prodigal son raises many questions that perhaps we have never thought about before. Why did people with the prodigal son not offer to help him or feed him? What would we have done? What do we do in similar circumstances when one needs to be spiritually feed? How many times are we like the Prodigal Son when we stay away from the love that God has for us? Lent is a season for coming back to God. I urge all of us to reflect upon the times when we are like the Prodigal son, the times we are like the elder son, and the times that we might reflect the love of the Father. In our reflections we might be surprised by what we discover. In the remaining weeks of Lent may we grow closer to the Lord.

Tuesday Movie Night: This Tuesday, March 20th, we will be showing the movie The Passion of the Christ followed by questions. Even if you have seen this movie before, it is spiritually enriching to see it again and contemplate all that Jesus has done for us and does for us each day. As always light refreshments will be served.

Welcoming back: Over the years we have all known or heard of people who no longer attend Mass possibly because of a bad experience or a misunderstanding. If you know anybody who would like to talk about this or would like to return to church, please speak to Fr. Phil. Lent is an appropriate time to bring and welcome people back to church and Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: One of the important moments during Lent may be the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Each Saturday from 3:15 pm to 3:45 pm confessions are heard. There are other opportunities to receive this sacrament as well. Please consult the Lenten calendar.

Morning Prayer: Every Tuesday morning during Lent we will pray the Morning Office of the Liturgy of the Hours at 8:45 am.

Stations of the Cross: Every Friday morning during Lent there will be Stations of the Cross following the 9:00 am Mass.

The Next Scripture Class will be held on Monday, March 19th, at 10 am in the O'Brien Room at the Rectory. Please read chapters 18-21 of St. John's Gospel. This is one of the little extras that one can do during Lent.

Extra Masses for Lent: There will be an extra Mass for Lent on Monday and Friday evenings at 5:30 pm. Please check the Lenten calendar for the other activities planned on Fridays during Lent.

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. Some have already done so. Thank you.

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 at 6:30 P.M. followed by a social. We have a lot of hopes for the young people of our parish from grades six to twelve. We are very proud of our young people. Please come.

2nd Collection: Catholic Relief Services Weekend of March 18th. Catholic Relief Services provide shelter, water, and food and education to thousands of people to refugees of the poorest countries in the world. This collection has helped to make a difference for the better in so many of the poorest people in the world. Please be as generous as your means allow.

Thank you for who you are and all of the good things that you do.

Easter Flowers: To make a donation for Easter Flowers in memory of your loved ones, please use the special envelopes located at the entrances of the Church. These envelopes should be dropped off at the rectory or handed in at Church.

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday	March 17	4:00 pm	The Harrington & McCarthy Families
Sunday	March 18	8:00 am	
		9:45 am	Michael & Theresa Lovezzola
		11:30 am	Deceased Members of the Ramrath Family
Monday	March 19	9:00 am	
Tuesday	March 20	9:00 am	Charles & Alice Scipione
Wednesday	March 21	9:00 am	Dorothy Masterson
Thursday	March 22	9:00 am	
Friday	March 23	9:00 am	Marguerite Mann and Helena Scotto
Saturday	March 24	9:00 am	
Saturday	March 24	4:00 pm	Jeanne Dawson
Sunday	March 25	8:00 am	Timothy Foley
		9:45 am	Harry McDonough
		11:30 am	Charles Schofield

Scripture Readings

- 18 Sun Jos 5:9-12/Ps 34:2-7/2 /cir 5L17-21/
Lk 15:1-3,11-32
- 19 Mon 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/ Rom 4:13, 16-18,
22/ Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
- 20 Tue Ez 47:1-9, 12/ Jn 5:1-16
- 21 Wed Is 49:8-15/ Jn 5:17-30
- 22 Thu Ex 32:7-14/ Jn 5:31-47
- 23 Fri Wis 2:1a, 12-22/ Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
- 24 Sat Jer 11:18-20/ Jn 7:40-53
- 25 Sun Is 43:16-21/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11

Collections

Weekend of March 10-11

Amount collected	\$5,204.00
Amount needed	\$6,000.00
Amount over/under	(\$ 796.00)

Thank you for your stewardship.

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.

G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together): The next Prayer Group will be on Wednesday, March 21, 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, March 27, at 12:30 pm in the O'Brien Room at the rectory. The book to be discussed is Mister God, This is Anna by Anna Flynn, Ballantine Books. (Kathy has 3 copies of this book if anyone would like to borrow or buy one.)

Youth Choir:

Our next rehearsal is on Monday, March 19th, from 5:00-5:45 pm downstairs in Ward Hall of the school. New members are welcome at 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!

An Evening of Lenten Prayer & Reflection will take place at Corpus Christi-St. Bernard's Parish on Tuesday, March 20th, at 7:00 pm in Fr. Moore Hall of St. Bernard's Church, 1529 Washington St., Newton. The presentation "The People of God in the Season of Penance" will be given by Fr. William Clark, SJ from the Holy Cross College's Religious Studies Department. The reflections will focus on the difficulties Catholics face this Lenten Season and spiritual resources for growing beyond them to communion and cooperation.



Classes: On Monday, March 19th, there will be classes for all grades:

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.

Congratulations: We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the wonderful second graders who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time last Saturday. The children were attentive and receptive and the St. Bartholomew community is very proud of them!

Reconciliation: During class on the 19th all students in grades 3-10 will receive Reconciliation as part of our Lenten preparation.

For Your Consideration: Perhaps some of you saw the article on the subject of gossip and judging others in last week's *Pilot*. The article pointed out the damage that can be caused when we choose to speak ill of others or judge others' actions. It also included Bible passages that specifically addressed this type of behavior. Among them were the following:

Luke 12:2-3: "Nothing is covered up that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. Therefore, whatever you have said in the dark shall be heard in the light; and what you have whispered in private rooms shall be proclaimed upon the housetops."

James 4:11-12: "Do not speak evil against one another, brethren. He that speaks evil against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. There is one law-giver and judge, He who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you that you judge your neighbor?"

The article speaks to people of all ages and backgrounds, but is particularly relevant for parents of impressionable children. If our children hear us readily speak poorly of others, they will naturally think this is acceptable behavior. If, however, we deliberately avoid gossiping and passing judgment on others, we are acting as critical role models for our most cherished audience—our children. As we all know, children learn by observing us; and sometimes we're not even aware that they're listening in our conversations. This is a gentle reminder that we are our children's primary teachers and therefore need to always try to be at our best when we're with them — and when we're not, too!

Peace to all,
Elizabeth Healy and Maryellen Jennings

STEWARDSHIP: A WAY OF LIFE
Sharing: Time Talent Treasure

STATUS QUO

A little boy was overheard praying: "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

We have three weeks left in Lent. Are you still "having a real good time like I am"?

Today's Gospel, the parable of the Prodigal Son is Jesus' way of telling us just how perfect is God's forgiveness of us. The younger son's squandering of all that was given to him by the father, and the father's excitement and joy in welcoming him home when the son returned asking for forgiveness, is the answer we all desire. Caught up in the "joy of the material life", the son didn't think he needed the father or anyone else as he lavishly experienced life and all it had to offer. Too often we also get caught up in believing that those things around us are what bring us true joy. Momentary fun maybe, but true joy? God, in His divine wisdom, once again provides us with another opportunity to pause in time for self-examination and reevaluation---LENT.

The story of Lent is the story of our lives. If there are no Lenten events, Jesus' death on the Cross and His Resurrection, our faith is meaningless. But there were Lenten events! Jesus requires that we ponder these events, reestablish and strengthen our relationship with Him in prayer and sacrifice, and take these 40 days to reexamine our life style relative to what He has asked of us. Are we His disciples? Or are we not, because we don't have time right now. Do we need to "hit bottom" as the younger son did before we fall on our knees and beg for forgiveness? Or can we recognize now all the gifts we have been given, and fall on our knees in thanksgiving, not despair? "To whom much is given, much is expected.." Don't forget Jesus' other words.

PRAYER THANKSGIVING SACRIFICE
RECONCILIATION RELATIONSHIP

Or "God, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

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

Briarwood Outreach: Join members of the Knights of Columbus on Saturday, March 24, from 2-3 pm at Briarwood Nursing Home as they celebrate the March birthdays of the residents by singing old songs and serving cake and punch. The residents really appreciate these visits. You can have fun while doing good. For more information, call Marty Cunniffe at 781-444-9033.

LENTEN PROGRAMS

THE POWER OF SMALL CHOICES

In preparation for the ending discussion on Sunday, March 25, from 1:00-4:00 pm in the McCulloch Room we would like to consider this question. What were some of the major choices you made for Lent and what were the guiding principles behind these choices? We ask that you keep a journal of choices this week; every time you make a conscious choice, whether large or small write it down. Bring your journal next week along with your reflections on choice.

TRADITIONAL LITURGIES – Penance Service

Have you ever heard the common adage – confession is good for the soul? One of the things which distinguish the Catholic Church from other Christian denominations is the Sacrament of Reconciliation. All Christians believe in God's forgiving mercy and love but only the Catholic Church has the beautiful liturgy of confession, an opportunity to unburden ourselves of whatever it is in our lives which keep us away from God, and the opportunity to receive the grace that this sacrament brings. Join us Friday night, March 23rd, for a parish Penance Service followed by the opportunity for the individual reconciliation.

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.)

*The items must be new because of state regulations. We are investigating places to bring the used 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 sales receipts to the rectory.



"THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST"

Please join us on Tuesday, March 20th, at 7:00 pm in the McCulloch Room of the school where we will walk with Jesus as He begins His journey to Calvary. The movie "The Passion of the Christ" is so powerful in its depiction of how Jesus suffered and died...for us.

"Come and watch with Me."

**April 1—Palm Sunday
A Children’s Journey**

After the 9:45 Mass on Palm Sunday we invite all the children of the parish through Grade 6 to meet downstairs in Ward Hall to share a donut and then join us as we remember Jesus’ journey. The children will follow our “Palm Path” to an Easter Egg Hunt. Parents and children—join us on our first Palm Sunday Journey.

Please RSVP by March 25th so we can be properly prepared. Please call Jeanne D’Alleva at 781-400-5083 or email to jeannedalleva@comcast.net with the number of children you wish to join the “Journey”. Also please call if you have questions or wish to help.

Stewardship Thank You: Recently, two events have taken place which could not have been as meaningful and successful without the help of many volunteers. The present Confirmation Class held their annual Retreat here at St. Bartholomew’s. We thank Elizabeth Healy, Religious Ed Coordinator, Fr. Phil, and the teachers for their year-long efforts in preparing the students for this special sacrament. We concluded our program with a delicious dinner served by volunteers. We thank them, too, for their time and efforts—giving up a Sunday evening to assist our program.

The other event was our Meager Meal—planned, cooked and served by volunteers on a recent Lenten Friday evening. It was very successful, adding to our spiritual Lenten journey. Thank you one and all. God Bless.

CYO Basketball: Our 5 & 6 girls and 7 & 8 girls teams were both eliminated from the CYO Tournament. Both teams played valiantly but in the end they lost to two excellent teams. Thanks you for a wonderful season.

Don’t forget the banquet on March 24th at 5:00 pm. Families and siblings are invited.

St. Patrick’s Dinner /Dance...A Week Late!

The Needham Knights of Columbus presents a St. Patrick’s Day Dinner & Dance...a week late...on Saturday, March 24, at the K of C Hall, 1311 Highland Ave. The social hour begins at 6:00 pm with dinner following at 7:00 pm. For a donation of \$25 you will enjoy a corned beef and cabbage dinner with all the fixings, cash bar, Irish music, dancing, raffles, door prizes and a good time. Call Paul Whyte at 781-444-9632 or Dan McGrory at 781-449-4380 to buy tickets. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

March Parkway Voice Meeting: The March meeting of Parkway Voice (VOTF) will be held on Monday, March 26, at St. John Chrysostom Parish Hall at 7:00 pm. The guest speaker will be Sr. Nancy Braceland, CSJ., Director of Casserly House in Roslindale. As part of their mission, the Sisters conduct neighborhood cleanups, assist with immigration referrals and serve on collaborative efforts with other local organizations to meet neighborhood needs. In addition, they provide after school tutoring. Sr. Nancy will speak to the topic: “The Gospel Value of Walking with the Poor.” All are welcome. Refreshments will be served. Please bring a non-perishable item for a local food pantry.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Mon., Mar. 19 Bible Study-10 am-O’Brien Room
- Tues., Mar. 20 Morning Prayer-8:45 am
- Tues., Mar. 20 Movie Night : “The Passion of the Christ-7:00 pm-McCulloch Room
- Wed., Mar. 21 Prayer Group-10 am-O’Brien Room
- Fri., Mar. 23 Stations of the Cross-following the 9 am Mass
- Fri., Mar. 23 Penance Service-7 pm
- Sun., Mar. 25 “Power of Small Choices”-1 pm-McCulloch Room
- Sun., Mar. 25 CYO Mass & Social-6:30 pm-Rectory Chapel
- Mon., Mar. 26 Bible Study-10 am-O’Brien Room
- Tues., Mar. 27 Morning Prayer-8:45 am
- Tues., Mar. 27 Book Club-12:30 pm-O’Brien Room
- Tues., Mar. 27 Finance Council-7 pm
- Wed., Mar. 28 Prayer Group-10 am-O’Brien Room
- Fri., Mar. 30 Stations of the Cross-following the 9 am Mass

Breakfast at Briarwood

Come for breakfast and meet their special guest, Anurag Das, MD, Professor of Urology, Harvard Medical School; Surgeon at BIDMC and BID-Needham. Learn about bladder problems that interfere with a person’s ability to enjoy daily activities, and hear about available treatments. The breakfast will be held on Thursday, March 29, from 9:00-10:00 am. Please RSVP by calling 781-449-4040. Briarwood is located at 150 Lincoln St., Needham.

The Parish Nurse Ministry is pleased to have Christy Pitts, a Clinical Exercise Physiologist, come on Thursday, March 22, at 9:30 am to speak and demonstrate healthful and beneficial exercises. This will be held in the Linse Room at St. Joseph’s Church in Needham.