

# 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 – Fifth Sunday of Lent:** We all enjoy it when the team that is regarded as having only a little chance to win it all emerges triumphant, particularly when it is our favorite team. In today's Gospel Jesus shows how the stories that some people told about the woman they claim to have caught in adultery was full of unanswered questions and gaping holes. Jesus shows this woman great mercy. Jesus also shows us great mercy when we are sorry for our sins.

**Thank you:** In recent weeks we have had many spiritually and socially enriching events. Last Saturday evening many attended a St. Patrick's Pizza Party and a good time was had by all. Much planning and hard work goes into each of these events. Thank you to all who have planned these events, worked hard on them and attended.

**Reconciliation and Welcoming Back:** Lent is an appropriate time to bring and welcome people back to church and Mass. If you know anybody who would like to talk about this or would like to return to church, please speak to Fr. Phil.

**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. In preparation for Easter, Confessions will be heard additionally on Wednesday, April 4, from 7 to 9 pm and on Saturday, April 7, from 1-2 pm.

**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.

**Practices for Holy Week Services:** It is imperative that all ministers assigned to Holy Week Services be prepared to attend the practice for the particular Holy Week Service they are assigned to. (You will receive a letter within the next few days with your assignment.) If you are not able to attend the practice or the Holy Week Service, please notify the rectory staff as soon as possible.

**CYO:** The new CYO will formally begin with a Sunday evening Mass tonight, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Church followed by a social in the O'Brien room in the rectory. 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.

**Easter Collection:** There will be only one collection taken up on Easter. The entire collection goes for the needs of the sick and retired priests of our Archdiocese. Please be as generous as you can be. Thank you for your help.

**The Next Scripture Class** will be held on Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, at 10 am in the O'Brien Room at the Rectory. Please read chapters 20 & 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.

**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.

**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.

**Position Available:** The rectory is looking for a cook/housekeeper. This is a part-time position (between 12-15 hours per week.) If you are interested in applying for this position, please call Fr. Phil or Barbara at the rectory, 781-444-3434.

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

*Mass Intentions*

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
Monday	March 26	9:00 am	Kay & Al Crowder
Tuesday	March 27	9:00 am	Sarah & Edward Dowd
Wednesday	March 28	9:00 am	Barbara Hurley
Thursday	March 29	9:00 am	William & Lillian Welsh
Friday	March 30	9:00 am	
Saturday	March 31	9:00 am	
Saturday	March 31	4:00 pm	David Connolly—2nd Anniversary
Sunday	April 1	8:00 am	
		9:45 am	Robert Savage, Jim Reagan and Eddie Reagan
		11:30 am	Joseph Cuddemi

*Scripture Readings*

- 25 Sun Is 43:16-21/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11
- 26 Mon Is 7:10-14; 8:10/ Heb 10:4-10/ Lk 1:26-38
- 27 Tue Nm 21:4-9/ Jn 8:21-30
- 28 Wed Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/ Jn 8:31-42
- 29 Thu Gn 17:3-9/ Jn 8:51-59
- 30 Fri Jer 20:10-13/ Jn 10:31-42
- 31 Sat Ez 37:21-28/Jn 11:45-56
- 1 Sun Lk 19:28-40 / Is 50:4-7/ Phil 2:6-11/  
Lk 22:14—23:56 or 23:1-49

*Collections*

**Weekend of March 17-18**

Amount collected	\$5,116.60
Amount needed	\$6,000.00
Amount over/under	(\$ 883.40)

**Catholic Relief Services Collection**

Amount collected	\$2,367.50
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**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 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.

**Youth Choir:**  
Our next rehearsal is on Monday, March 26th, from 5:00-5:45 pm downstairs in Ward Hall of the school. This will be our last rehearsal before singing at Mass on April 1st.

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

**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.)



**Classes:** On Monday, March 26th, there will be classes for grades K-6 only from 4:00-5:00 pm. Students should meet in the church before breaking into classes.

**The Confirmation Retreat** for 9th graders scheduled for March 25th has been cancelled. The students will instead participate in an in-class retreat.

### Parents of St. Bartholomew's Grades 6-12

**Students:** Please encourage your children to participate in the CYO Mass and meeting to be held at our parish on Sunday, March 25th, at 6:30 pm in the church. This is a perfect opportunity for kids to meet and socialize with members of their own faith community. Their input and enthusiasm will dictate the success of the experience. We hope they give it a try!

### Catholic Fun Facts:

Our evening program for the older students starts off with a communal prayer service. Often this includes Catholic news items or trivia that we come across during the week. Here's a statistic that you might find interesting from *America*, Vol. 196, No. 7: "The latest Vatican statistics confirm that the church's population and ministerial workforce are continuing to shift to developing countries, especially those in Africa and Asia. Figures released Feb. 12th showed that the overall number of Catholics increased to nearly 1.12 billion at the end of 2005—an increase of 1.5% from the previous year. The Catholic growth rate was slightly higher than the rate of overall population increase, which was 1.2%. Catholics now represent 17.2% of the global population. The church's population grew fastest in Africa where the number of Catholics increased 3.1% in 2005. In Asia, the number of Catholics was up 2.7%, and in the Americas up 1.2%. In Europe there was a very slight increase in the number of Catholics, the Vatican said."

We thank God that our faith continues to grow across the globe!

Peace to all,  
Elizabeth Healy and Maryellen Jennings



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

"...Let the one among you who is without sin, be the first to throw a stone at her.." Today's Gospel.

It is so much easier to judge than be judged. Don't you agree? We almost always know what is right or wrong for others. Unfortunately, rarely do we put the same level of critical attention to ourselves. Her clothes, his attitude, their behavior, etc. are all things we feel quite qualified on which to pass judgment. And we often do just that. Why do we feel such a vicarious pleasure in the criticism of others? (sometimes silently to ourselves; sometimes to others about others.)

The adulterous woman in today's Gospel was "caught in the very act..". She wasn't just suspected of her actions, but "caught in the very act.". This was a truth as witnessed by others. Apparently, there was no question about her guilt. And still Jesus said "Let the one among you who is without sin, be the first to throw a stone at her."-- stoning being the punishment for such an act. When the crowd dispersed with no stone thrown, Jesus asked the woman, "Has no one condemned you?" She replied, "No one sir." Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin any more."

Two of many things come to mind when reading this passage. The first thought is that this is another example of God's extraordinary willingness to be a forgiving God, just like in last week's reading of the return of the Prodigal Son. The second is the crowd's reaction to Jesus' teaching. Was anyone willing to say that he/she was without sin? No. And so they went away. How often do we think of ourselves as the sinners, when we are so ready to make judgments about others?

God so thoroughly understands human nature that He made two of His Commandments (not suggestions!), that we not covet our neighbors' possessions or "wife". Wanting what others have or an unhealthy wish to share in another's gifts, instead of thanking God for all of our own, is a great temptation that we all are guilty of on occasion. Being critical, making judgments about others, whether they were "caught in the act" or not, is God's job, not ours. Guilt or innocence, snide comments, gossip, no matter how justified we think it is, is what God was asking us. "Let him/her who is without sin cast the first stone." If we love one another as He loves us, our behavior will follow His. Let this Lent be the one that we become sensitive to our "casting stones." Ask God for forgiveness for past transgressions, and listen for Him to say "Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more."

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

## LENTEN PROGRAMS

### THE POWER OF SMALL CHOICES

We will meet once again this afternoon (Sunday) in the McCulloch Room of the school from 1:00 to 4:00 pm for a discussion on the role that our choices play in bringing us to spiritual maturity.

### TRADITIONAL LITURGIES – TENEBRAE

The word “Tenebrae” is Latin for shadows. We have chosen the last Friday before Holy Week to celebrate this beautiful service in order that it may help us prepare for this most important week in our Liturgical year. The purpose of the Tenebrae Liturgy is to recreate the emotional aspects, the betrayal, abandonment and agony, of the passion story. The Tenebrae service ends unfinished in silence and darkness because the story isn’t over until Easter. This is a beautiful, sad, emotional and thought-provoking service and is a meaningful precursor to the beautiful services of the Holy Triduum.



## 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.

**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](mailto: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.

**Thanks to All** who helped make the St. Patrick’s Day Pizza Party a great success once again. Special thanks to the Hansen-Keohane Irish Dancers of West Roxbury and Joe Fasciano and Charley Lampman and their staffs at St. Sebastian’s. Thanks also to the



entertainers and all involved in planning and running the evening including Bill Cummings, Marianne Germano, Kathy & Bill Whitney, David Angney, Ed Donnelly, Sean Reardon, Jane & Marty & Ellen Cunniffe, Katharine Nedder, Maureen Martin, Anne Carey, Tom Milek, Kara Schoepfer, Joan O’Brien,

Peggy Powers, Peg Coles, Rosemary Reddington, Phil Beranger, Barbara Dury, Tony Crugnola, Fr. McGaugh and Judy Staszkesky. Thanks to Matt Ellison and all the kids who sold raffle tickets as well as those people who donated prizes.

**Women’s Retreat: Friendship**

Glastonbury Abbey in Hingham, MA is having this retreat on April 20-22. The gift of friendship is needed in our troubled world now, perhaps, more than ever before. We will explore this topic of friendship through prayer, poetry, reflection and discussion. You will be invited to share insights on this theme as we consider relationship with God, with others and with the world.

The presenter will be Sandra DeRome, Obl.S.B. The suggested donation is \$160.00. For more information and to register call the Retreat House at 781-749-2155, Ext. 200.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- Sun., Mar. 25 “Power of Small Choices”-1 pm- McCulloch Room
- Sun., Mar. 25 CYO Mass & Social-6:30 pm- Church
- 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
- Fri., Mar. 30 Tenebrae Service-7 pm
- Sun., Apr. 1 Community Sunday & Free Blood Pressure Screening-following the 8:00 am & 9:45 am Masses
- **Sun., Apr. 1 Children’s Mass-9:45 am followed by the Easter Egg Hunt**
- Mon., Apr. 2 Bible Study-10 am-O’Brien Room
- Tues., Apr. 3 Morning Prayer-8:45 am
- Tues., Apr. 3 Parish Pastoral Council-7 pm
- Wed., Apr. 4 Prayer Group-10 am-O’Brien Room
- Wed., Apr. 4 Confessions-7 to 9 pm
- Thurs., Apr. 5 Morning Prayer-8:45 am
- Thurs., Apr. 5 Mass of the Last Supper-7 pm
- Fri., Apr. 6 Passion of the Lord-3 & 7 pm
- Sat., Apr. 7 Confessions-1 to 2 pm
- **Sat., Apr. 7 Easter Vigil Mass-8 pm (Please note the change in time.)**

**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.

**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.