



*Those who went ahead
and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna!"
"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"
Mark 11:9*

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

+++++

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 – Palm Sunday: When we hold high the palm branches we are saying that we wish to follow Jesus our King and God. We enter the most sacred of weeks in the Church’s liturgical year. I encourage all to take part in the liturgies and services of this coming week. Please if you can spend some extra relaxed time in prayer and reading Sacred Scripture. I would recommend chapters 13 to 17 of St. John’s Gospel for your spiritual reading.

CYO Thank You: To all who attended and participated in the opening Mass and worked behind the scenes of the new Catholic Youth Group here last Sunday evening—thank you. Another Mass for our youth group will be scheduled for April followed by a social.

CYO Basketball Thank You: A special word of thanks goes to all of the players, coaches, parents and other important people who made the recently completed CYO basketball season so wonderful.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: There will be additional times for Confession during Holy Week on Wednesday, April 4th, from 7:00-9:00 pm and Saturday, April 7th, from 1:00-2:00 pm.

Morning Prayer: The Morning Office of the Liturgy of the Hours will be prayed this week on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8:45 am.

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.

First Saturday Devotions: Since the first Saturday of April is the day before Easter, there will be no 9:00 am Mass. We suggest that you say the prayers at home.

Practices for Holy Week Services: It is imperative that all ministers assigned to Holy Week Services be prepared to attend the practice this Sunday for the particular Holy Week Service they are assigned to. If you are not able to attend the practice or the Holy Week Service, please call the rectory immediately.

Divine Mercy Sunday
St. Joseph’s Church in Needham has invited our parishioners to join them for their Divine Mercy Services on Sunday, April 15. They will begin at 2:30 pm with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed at 3:00 pm with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and concluding with Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 3:30 pm.
Come and give thanks to God for His great gift of Mercy upon the whole world this special day! Ask for Mercy. Receive Mercy. Be Merciful!

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

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.

PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN

Everyone who volunteers at St. Bartholomew, (or any other parish) in any capacity, is required by the Archdiocese of Boston to take the Protecting God’s Children Workshop.

We will be offering this workshop on Tuesday, April 10th, at 7:00 pm in the McCulloch Room of the school. If you are already a volunteer and have not yet taken this workshop or if you plan to become one, please plan on fulfilling this obligation on April 10th. Failure to take this workshop may result in dismissal from your ministry.

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 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
Monday	April 2	9:00 am	Natale Scarcella
Tuesday	April 3	9:00 am	James & Louise Barnes
Wednesday	April 4	9:00 am	Enrico DeSimone
Thursday	April 5	9:00 am	NO 9:00 AM MASS
		7:00 pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday	April 6	9:00 am	NO 9:00 AM MASS
Saturday	April 7	9:00 am	NO 9:00 AM MASS
Saturday	April 7	8:00 pm	Easter Vigil Mass
Sunday	April 8	8:00 am	Easter Sunday Mass
		9:45 am	Easter Sunday Mass
		11:30 am	Easter Sunday Mass

Scripture Readings

- 1 Sun Lk 19:28-40 / Is 50:4-7/ Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14—23:56
- 2 Mon Is 42:1-7/ Jn 12:1-11
- 3 Tue Is 49:1-6/ Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
- 4 Wed Is 50:4-9a/ Mt 26:14-25
- 5 Thu Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/ 1 Cor 11:23-26/ Jn 13:1-15
- 6 Fri Is 52:13—53:12/ Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/ Jn 18:1—19:42
- 7 Sat Vigil: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26□31a/ Gn 22:1□18 or 22:1□2, 9a, 10□13, 15□18/ Ex 14:15—15:1/ Is 54:5□14/ Is 55:1□11/ Bar 3:9□15, 32—4:4/ Ez 36:16-17a, 18□28/ Rom 6:3□11/ Lk 24:1-12
- 8 Sun Acts 10:34a, 37-43/ Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/ Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12

Collections

Weekend of March 24-25

Amount collected	\$6,122.15
Amount needed	\$6,000.00
Amount over/under	\$ 122.15

Thank you for your stewardship.

Community Sunday & Free Blood Pressure Screening will be held this Sunday, April 1, following the 8:00 & 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.

G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together): The next Prayer Group will be on Wednesday, April 4, 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, April 24, at 12:30 pm in the O'Brien Room at the rectory. The book to be discussed is The Life of Mary compiled by Raphael Brown.

Another suggestion for reading is Let Me Go to the Father's House (Pope John Paul II's final days' journey)

Youth Choir:
Our next rehearsal is on Monday, April 2nd,, from 5:00-5:45 pm downstairs in Ward Hall of the school. New choir members and instrumentalists 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!



Classes: On Monday, April 2nd, there will be classes for grades K-9:

K-6	4:00-5:00 pm
7-9	7:00-8:30 pm

All students should meet in the Church before breaking into classes. (Note: there is no class for the 10th grade Confirmation class. They will join the other grades for the closing Mass on April 9th.)

Palm Sunday: Children seem to love the pageantry often associated with Palm Sunday. By holding a palm leaf or participating in a procession they are able to actively take part in this special liturgy. Following is some information you may want to pass on to your families.

- Palm Sunday is usually now referred to as Passion Sunday because the theme of Jesus' suffering and death begins with the reading of the passion on this day. On this Sunday the church celebrates the beginning of Jesus' passage from life to death to new life: the Paschal Mystery.
- Tradition teaches us that the crowds shouted out "Hosanna" as Jesus entered the city and proclaimed Him their new King. As they did for royalty and heroes the people placed palm branches and clothing on the ground for Him to walk on. The priests wear red vestments on this Sunday to commemorate this adoration.
- In the early days of the church Christians literally retraced the events of Jesus' final days before Easter. By the 300's Palm Sunday processions started in the little village of Bethany and went into the city of Jerusalem. Soon the tradition spread throughout Europe where local versions of palms were used—willow branches, cedar branches, pussy willows and flowers. Today the "palm branches" most commonly used in the U.S. are ground palms from Texas.

Family Prayer for Passion Sunday: "Dear Jesus, today we remember your humble but triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. You truly are the Son of God, the Messiah. We will keep you in our hearts this week as we remember your Holy Week journey so many years ago. Hosanna, Hosanna to Jesus our King! Amen." (*From the Bib Book of Catholic Customs and Traditions for Children's Faith Formation, ed. By Beth Branigan McNamara.*)

We wish you all a blessed Holy Week,
Elizabeth Healy and Maryellen Jennings
Religious Education Coordinators

STEWARDSHIP: A WAY OF LIFE Sharing: Time Talent Treasure

PALM SUNDAY

"My face I did not shield from buffets and spitting, knowing that I shall not be put to shame."

How often have we changed our actions, speech, involvement because we were afraid of being embarrassed? Were we initially pretty sure that what we were doing or saying was the right thing to do; but still backed off when the public response was less than positive? What is the price we personally pay for not being put to shame? Maybe no one knows this price, but we do individually. As does our God as well. Have we intentionally put others to shame?

One of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit we are given in the Sacrament of Confirmation is courage. If you have been confirmed, you received this gift. Perhaps, we should review and remember these gifts and pray to the Holy Spirit to renew them in us, especially when we need them. Is your public face more important than your beliefs? Have you ever thought about how important your public persona is to you versus what you sacrifice in order to maintain it? What example do we set for our children when we back off from becoming involved when the consequences might be uncomfortable or embarrassing? How much are you willing to risk in this very short life we live? And for what or whom are you willing to risk anything?

Today is Palm Sunday. Today we read once again of the horrible road Jesus took on His journey to the Cross. All manner of pain and shame He bore without complaint. Did He need to do this? Absolutely not! HE DID THIS FOR US. HE DID THIS FOR ME. HE DID NOT HIDE HIS FACE OR BOW HIS HEAD IN EMBARRASSMENT OR SHAME. JESUS CHRIST, OUR SAVIOR. JESUS CHRIST, our example!

"...The Lord God is my help, therefore, I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.." (Isaiah 50:4-7)

As we hold our heads up high this day, may this glorious Palm Sunday be the beginning of the most important, life altering week in our lives. We're with you, Jesus, all the way. Lead on. We are and always will be your followers-"my face like flint" in your image.

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

The Meaning and Importance of Holy Week

During Holy Week each year we enter into the spiritual journey of Jesus in the final week of his life before His Death and Resurrection— from Palm Sunday through the Easter Vigil. In order to appreciate these events and their spiritual significance we need to reflect on them.

Palm Sunday:

With Palm Sunday the most sacred of weeks begins, when Jesus entered the holy city of Jerusalem to receive so much acclamation as the Son of David. Palm Sunday Mass when there is a solemn procession and blessing of palms has two gospels (the only Sunday that does) as we listen to the story of Jesus' entry into the holy city. In the Passion we hear how those same people who welcomed Jesus are now condemning Him a short time later. This is a good place to reflect upon the fickleness and sinfulness of human nature and our feelings. It is appropriate to place the palms in a suitable spot in our homes to be reminded of this day and the message. Carrying palms on this day recalls the victory that Jesus won for us, but only after great suffering and a great price.

The Easter Triduum is a time set apart for worship and prayer. The Triduum is made up of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday as these three days are the heart and core of the entire Church year and the message of salvation.

Holy Thursday:

This is the feast day of two great sacraments, Holy Orders and the Eucharist. The Triduum begins with the evening Mass which celebrates the Last Supper and the institution of the Holy Eucharist. At this Mass also is the washing of the feet which serves as a reminder to all of us that we should be willing to do everything with an attitude of loving service and forgiveness. The washing of the feet also represents Jesus washing the feet of His 12 apostles. The holy oils which were blessed by the archbishop at the Chrism Mass earlier in the week are also carried in procession. At the Chrism Mass the priests present renew their commitment to priestly service and all are asked to pray for them. These oils blessed by the Archbishop include; the Oil of Chrism used in the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and Holy Orders, the Oil of Catechumens or of salvation used to anoint people in baptism, and the Oil of Infirmitum or Oil of the Sick used in the sacrament of the anointing of the sick. At the conclusion of Mass there is a procession which takes the Blessed Sacrament to the altar of repossession to allow all of us to spend extra time in prayer before the Lord Jesus. How do we show gratitude to God?

Good Friday:

The central act of worship today is the Lord's Passion. In addition to listening to the Passion on this day, we pray for the needs of the Church and the world, we venerate the Cross and receive Holy Communion. The service ends in reverential silence as this is the day Our Lord died on the Cross for each of us. We venerate and kiss the Cross out of reverence for Jesus. To follow Jesus we must follow the way of the Cross, ever mindful of the extent of pain that Jesus underwent to save humankind. On Good Friday there is no celebration of Mass.

Holy Saturday:

During this day, the church is quiet and the altars are bare. The tabernacle is empty as we wait in silence for the Lord's Resurrection. A spirit of prayer and reflection is most necessary at this time as we prepare for Easter. In the Easter Vigil we experience the completion of this week and the victory of Jesus over sin and death. The Easter Vigil begins at the door of the Church with the lighting of the new fire. The newly lit Paschal Candle is carried into Church. When "The Light of Christ" is sung we are listening to all of the ages of Christian history and we sing "Thanks be to God". From the Paschal Candle other candles are lit which reminds us that the light of Jesus dispels the darkness of sin. The Exultat is sung, the first "Alleluia" in a long time is sung and a special joy is present. The readings from the Liturgy of Word invite all to reflect upon and experience all of the wonderful things that God has done for us. The Liturgy of Baptism welcomes new members into the Church and invites all of us to renew our baptismal promises. The Liturgy of the Eucharist calls all of the faithful to the table of the Lord as we celebrate the great night that recalls and makes present the events of our salvation. This is truly a time to rejoice in the Lord. "This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!!!"



Palm Sunday, April 1

Community Sunday & Blood Pressure Screening-
following 8:00 & 9:45 am Masses
Easter Egg Hunt—following 9:45 am Mass
Practice for ministers assigned to
Holy Thursday Mass—7:00 pm
Practice for ministers assigned to
3:00 pm & 7:00 pm Good Friday Services—7:30 pm
Practice for ministers assigned to 8:00 pm
Easter Vigil Mass—8:00 pm

Monday, April 2

Mass—9:00 am & 5:30 pm

Tuesday, April 3

Morning Prayer—8:45 am
Mass—9:00 am

Wednesday, April 4

Mass—9:00 am
Confessions—7:00 to 9:00 pm

Thursday, April 5

Morning Prayer—8:45 am
Altar server rehearsal—6:00-7:00 pm
Mass of the Last Supper—7:00 pm

****Friday, April 6**

Morning Prayer—8:45 am
Altar server rehearsal-1:00-2:00 pm (both groups)
Passion of the Lord—3:00 & 7:00 pm

Holy Saturday, April 7

Morning Prayer—8:45 am
Confessions—1:00 to 2:00 pm
Altar server rehearsal-6:00-7:30 pm
Easter Vigil Mass—8:00 pm

Easter Sunday, April 8

Masses—8:00 & 9:45 & 11:30 am

****Please note that Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence.**

Passion of the Christ

by Dr. Scott Hahn

What is written about Me is coming to fulfillment," Jesus says in today's Gospel (see Luke 22:37).

Indeed, we have reached the climax of the liturgical year, the highest peak of salvation history, when all that has been anticipated and promised is to be fulfilled.

By the close of today's long Gospel, the work of our redemption will have been accomplished, the new covenant will be written in the blood of His broken body hanging on the cross at the place called the Skull.

In His Passion, Jesus is "counted among the wicked," as Isaiah had foretold (see Isaiah 53:12). He is revealed definitively as the Suffering Servant the prophet announced, the long-awaited Messiah whose words of obedience and faith ring out in today's First Reading and Psalm.

The taunts and torments we hear in these two readings punctuate the Gospel as Jesus is beaten and mocked (see Luke 22:63-65; 23:10-11,16), as His hands and feet are pierced (see Luke 23:33), as enemies gamble for His clothes (see Luke 23:34), and as three times they dare Him to prove His divinity by saving Himself from suffering (see Luke 23:35,37,39)

He remains faithful to God's will to the end, does not turn back in His trial. He gives Himself freely to His torturers, confident that, as He speaks in today's First Reading: "The Lord God is My help...I shall not be put to shame."

Destined to sin and death as children of Adam's disobedience, we have been set free for holiness and life by Christ's perfect obedience to the Father's will (see Romans 5:12-14,17-19; Ephesians 2:2; 5:6).

This is why God greatly exalted Him. This is why we have salvation in His Name. Following His example of humble obedience in the trials and crosses of our lives, we know we will never be forsaken, that one day we too will be with Him in Paradise (see Luke 23:42).

*A service of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology
www.SalvationHistory.com*