



Persevere

*Let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us
and persevere in running the race that lies before us
while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus.*

Hebrews 12:1-2

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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
Fr. Thomas O'Malley, S.J.

Important Numbers & Addresses

Parish Office: 781-444-3434
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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 5:00 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 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Following Jesus is very challenging at times. What would Jesus like to say to each of us? We know that when we choose to put the words of Jesus into action that sometimes a conflict arises with the wishes of society. By virtue of our Baptisms we become part of the struggle to live and proclaim the message of Jesus Christ. We are invited and even challenged to be open to hearing God's word and seeking ongoing conversion to God's kingdom of love, justice, and mercy.

Coming in September: The scripture course this fall will be Women in the Bible. This will include both the Old and New Testament and hopefully will help all of us have a new awareness of the many wonderful ways and the wonderful contributions that women have made in biblical times. This promises to be an enriching time for all who attend.

Importance of Renewal in Liturgical

Ministries: Taking time to renew makes a major difference in energy level, attitude and quality of work. In time of renewal we can always experience so many ways that God blesses us. In the fall there will be times of renewal for all ministries in this parish. We are preparing for this now. As we approach a milestone in the history of this archdiocese may each of us be open to the Holy Spirit and to renew the inner spirit for the good of all those we serve.

2nd Collection: There will be a second collection taken up at all the Masses this weekend for the Catholic Home Missions. This collection helps to support and strengthen communities where the number of Catholics might be low and pastors are struggling to keep mission parishes afloat. Part of the money from this collection also helps in the military services so that Catholics may receive the sacraments, counseling and comfort on military bases throughout the world.

Faith In Myself

Marjorie Holmes

God gave me faith in myself, not only on days
when I'm going great and winning
and nothing seems impossible
but on days when the whole world
looks lousy and I'm losing and
the road ahead seems too hard.
When I wonder if I'm brave enough, smart
enough
and I must be crazy to try,
don't let me quit Lord, not ever.

Let me keep the faith in myself.
No matter how many people
discourage me...
doubt me...
laugh at me...
warn me...
think me a fool...
Don't let me listen.

Let me hear another voice telling me,
"You can do it and you will!"

If nobody else in this world gives a darn or
believes in me, let me believe in myself.
I know there'll be times when I will
doubt my own abilities,
when I'll be discouraged and
on the verge of despair,
don't let me give up,
hang onto me.
Fan the fires so that I'll try even harder.
Give me more faith in myself.

Dear Lord, you are the source of life and power.
You are the source of my abilities and my faith.
Thank you for reinforcements.
I know that you will give me for what I ask...
Faith in myself.

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday	August 18	4:00 pm	Robert & Beatrice Sheedy
Sunday	August 19	8:00 am	John Schortmann, Jr.
		9:45 am	Joseph Sullivan
		11:30 am	
Monday	August 20	9:00 am	
Tuesday	August 21	9:00 am	
Wednesday	August 22	9:00 am	
Thursday	August 23	9:00 am	Ernestine Mulkern
Friday	August 24	9:00 am	
Saturday	August 25	9:00 am	
Saturday	August 25	4:00 pm	Lawrence McNamara
Sunday	August 26	8:00 am	
		9:45 am	
		11:30 am	Charles & Vlasta Diamond

Scripture Readings

- 19 Sun Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Heb 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53
- 20 Mon Jgs 2:11-19/Mt 19:16-22
- 21 Tue Jgs 6:11-24a/Mt 19:23-30
- 22 Wed Jgs 9:6-15/Mt 20:1-16
- 23 Thu Jgs 11:29-39a/Mt 22:1-14
- 24 Fri Rv 21:9b-14/Jn 1:45-51
- 25 Sat Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Mt 23:1-12
- 26 Sun Is 66:18-21/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30

LIFT—Catholic Worship for a NEW Generation:

Join us for LIFT—an exciting new monthly worship event which includes vibrant praise and worship music, dynamic, challenging speakers and Eucharistic Adoration. LIFT is for all ages—from young adults to adults to teens to entire families. Be with us on Tuesday, August 21st, as we welcome Fr. Martin Hyatt as our speaker. The evening runs from 7:00-9:00 pm at Fontbonne Academy, 930 Brook Rd., Milton. Come join in worship with hundreds of Catholics from around the Boston area! For more information, visit the website at www.liftedhigher.com.

A Sincere Thanks to all the people who donated money to the SMA Jeep Fund. Because of your generosity **\$8,000** additional dollars was collected!! This amount added to what was already given will now enable Fr. Francois to purchase the Jeep!! He was recently elected Provincial of the SMA Fathers in Africa which will entail extensive travel. Thank you St. Bart's parishioners!!

Collections

Weekend of August 11-12

Amount collected	\$4,401.36
Amount needed	\$6,000.00
Amount over/under	(\$1,598.64)

Thank you for your stewardship.

Amy's Book Club: The Book Club will begin on September 25th and every fourth Tuesday thereafter at 12:30 pm in the O'Brien Room at the rectory. The summer reading assignment was for everyone to read books of their own choosing. Please bring to our first meeting the names of the books read that you feel other book club members will enjoy. We look forward to hearing about new authors and books that we might not have read and would make for good reading during the year.

Summer Reading Club for Children

Amy's Book Club invited our children to join its summer reading group. We hope those who participated enjoyed the adventure! There will be a picnic for book club members and the summer readers in early October on a date to be announced. There will be a prize for everyone who participated!

Please call Debby at the parish office (781-444-3434) to sign up so we know how much food to buy.

Religious Education

World Youth Day is a gathering of thousands of teens and young adults from all over the world who gather to share a variety of prayer experiences along with His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI July 15- 20, 2008, in Sydney, Australia. World Youth Day is open to students 16 years + (by July 12th 2008) Information session for teens & parents **Sunday, Aug 26th, 11:00 am** at the School.



Back to School Drive for Supplies – All children need the right supplies for a successful school year. We are collecting school bags & supplies for the Needham Community Council to benefit local children in need. Donations may be dropped off in the green bin in the vestibule of the Church until August 30th.



Pediatricians, Nurses, LICSWs, or Childhood Educators: The Religious Education program is looking for parish professionals to assist with the presentation of our personal safety program. This requires only a limited time commitment, all training and materials are provided.

Adult Volunteers: Please consider sharing your time in one of the following capacities:

- Catechists & Catechist Aides
- Substitute Catechists
- Craft and Activity help
- Occasional office help
- Chaperoning events
- CYO Basketball administrator
- Retreat planning
- Religious Education Board

Teen Ministry: In addition to classes our parish has begun offering teen activities for all students in 6th grade and up but we are looking for ideas from Middle School and High School students:

1) Be a part of our YOUTH BOARD – anyone in 6th-12th grade – share your talents & ideas, and help make things happen that are fun, interesting, and different!

2) DO SOMETHING –In every community people depend on food pantries for survival. Most of the food distributed through food pantry is canned, so some local farms grow fresh vegetables which are given to food pantries to supplement the canned food. Come join us at the Waltham Community Farm Sunday, Sept 23rd. to help with the harvest. Be prepared to get dirty! Meet at St Bart’s at 1:00 pm to “caravan” to the farm, pick up at the farm at 4:00 pm. Open to all students 6th grade and up.

If any of these interest you, contact Melisa Hughes melisamelnyk@comcast.net or by phone 781-444-4343 for more information.

PRAY for Conversion of America and World Peace

We invite family and friends to join together for the **Public Rosary Rally** to be held on Saturday, October 13, 2007 on the Needham Town Common from 12:00 pm—2:00 pm

Each one of us has an obligation as a Catholic to further the cause of Conversion and Peace in the world. PRAYER AND ACTION is the way! The recitation of a public Rosary combines both to form a most powerful weapon against the evils of today’s world. The presentation of the Mysteries as proclaimed before each decade of the Rosary unites us with Christ in His journey of love—from His conception in the womb of Mary to His Glorious Ascension into heaven.

We must act now, as good Christians and citizens, to demonstrate our faith in God and Country. Mary leads us to Jesus, and Jesus listens to Mary as He did at Cana, His first public miracle.

**Please make the commitment now to attend.
Mark your calendars for October 13th.**

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

"FULL REDEMPTION" (Luci Swindoll)

Save the Earth! Do your part! Keep the waters clean! Don't pollute! ETC. The list goes on --that's the hard part. The good news is that we are finally aware that some things need doing.

In her essay, "Full Redemption", Luci Swindoll talks about reading a booklet on saving the earth and decided that it was time to participate. So she began by returning her cans and bottles. At the recycling machine she was amazed at all the instructions for dropping in her cans. So after reading all the info, she started feeding the "hungry monster." Soon a very distinguished gentleman arrived, cans neatly organized, and off he went depositing his cans very efficiently. She asked, "You come here often?" He replied "Yeah, all the time. Gotta follow these instructions, though, or there's no redemption." She responded with "You're tellin' me!" "Funny thing...", he said, "these kids drink the drinks and want the money, but I do the redeeming. Everybody wants something for nothing, don't they?" "For sure," she replied, "especially those who don't do the work."

She writes, "That little exchange took place ten years ago, but I've never forgotten it. We all want something for nothing. Even spiritual redemption. But rarely do we remember the tremendous cost: Christ's death in our place. He paid the price; we get the benefits." She continues, "A personal relationship with God becomes yours when you trust in the redemptive work of His Son. Jesus said, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'" (John 14:6)

We have all been given the instructions. We hear them repeatedly in the Gospels and Readings. But do we follow or even pay attention? We may not be throwing our rubbish out the car windows any more; but how much work are we really willing to do to save the earth or our souls? Or are we still trying to get something for nothing?

"With the Lord is unfailing love, and with Him is full redemption." (Psalm 130:7)

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

Consuming Fire *By Dr. Scott Hahn*

Our God is a consuming fire, the Scriptures tell us (see Hebrews 12:29; Deuteronomy 4:24).

And in this week's Gospel, Jesus uses the image of fire to describe the demands of discipleship.

The fire he has come to cast on the earth is the fire that he wants to blaze in each of our hearts. He made us from the dust of the earth (see Genesis 2:7), and filled us with the fire of the Holy Spirit in baptism (see Luke 3:16).

We were baptized into his death (see Romans 6:3). This is the baptism our Lord speaks of in the Gospel this week. The baptism with which He must be baptized is His passion and death, by which He accomplished our redemption and sent forth the fire of the Spirit on the earth (see Acts 2:3).

The fire has been set, but it is not yet blazing. We are called to enter deeper into the consuming love of God. We must examine our consciences and our actions, submitting ourselves to the revealing fire of God's Word (see 1 Corinthians 3:13).

In our struggle against sin, we have not yet resisted to the point of shedding our own blood, Paul tells us in this week's Epistle. We have not undergone the suffering that Jeremiah suffers in the First Reading this week.

But this is what true discipleship requires. To be a disciple is to be inflamed with the love of the God. It is to have an unquenchable desire for holiness and zeal for the salvation of our brothers and sisters.

Being His disciple does not bring peace in the false way that the world proclaims peace (see Jeremiah 8:11). It means division and hardship. It may bring us to conflict with our own flesh and blood.

But Christ is our peace (see Ephesians 2:14). By his cross, he has lifted us up from the mire of sin and death—as he will rescue the prophet Jeremiah (see Jeremiah 38:10).

And as we sing in the Psalm this week, we trust in our deliverer.

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



FAITH FACTS A cistern from Biblical times

A man drawn to the same scale

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

In Biblical times, rainwater was collected during the rainy seasons for use during the dry seasons. The water was collected in cisterns, like the one shown above. The best cisterns were carved out of rock. They would have a sloping pavement above, from which water would drain into the cistern. Cisterns could be very large. The dimensions given above are those of a real ancient cistern, excavated by archaeologists.

CODE -- BREAKER!

The sentence below is to be found in one of today's readings. Can you break the code and write in the sentence? Here are two clues: D = I, and Z = E.

Crossword solution from last week

F	O	E	S		S	T	A	R	S
A		E			E				O
I	S	A	A	C		N			O
T	L			R	E	T			N
H	O	L			S				
	P			L		T			K
S	E	A	T		A	P	R	O	N
O	N		H		M		U		E
N		H	E	L	P		S		W
		M		S		T			

D CVQZ XJHZ OJ NZO

OCZ ZVMOC JI ADMZ,

VIY CJR D RDNC DO

RZMZ VGMZVYT WGVUDIB.

ANSWER

I have come to set the earth on fire, and I wish it were already blazing.



