

*Fr. Dan's Den:* Do you know the Lord? In today's first reading, the prophet speaks on behalf of God in an oracle and acknowledges his presence. Even though the Lord has called Israel by name they really do not know him. In fact, twice the prophet says, "Though you know me not, to know is to be one with me." As the Year of the Eucharist comes to a close we are reminded that the body and blood of Jesus affords us the opportunity to know and be one with God.

Enclosed within this weekend's bulletin is the annual financial report for our Parish and School for the fiscal year July 2004 to June 2005 as mandated by the Diocese. These reports have been reviewed and approved by myself, our bookkeepers, Anna Bell Shaner and Marianna Janaszek, and our Finance Council members, Tony Angiulli, Brian Butterfield, Doreen Casey, Stan Janaszek, Lisa Macioce and Tom Zullo.

While the parish showed a surplus of \$4651.00, the school ended with a deficit of \$13,441.00. Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners and great stewardship of our staff, we have been able to be solvent and make much needed improvements under some difficult circumstances. The circumstances include the current state of the economy and a continual decline in membership as a result of death and relocation.

The school is a growing financial concern. Even though we have trimmed the budget by cutting staff and expenses over the last three years, we continue to encounter a steady decline in enrollment. What is more, this year we were unable to hire three teachers until the day before the start of school because of a lack of a financial commitment from some families. Although families had registered their children for the new school year, they still had outstanding tuition for the previous year. Diocesan policy stipulates that no one can enter the new school year without having satisfied their balance from the previous year. This disparity made it impossible to sign three teachers' contracts until the eleventh hour. You see, once we sign contracts the union agreement holds that even if we do not use the teachers, we are responsible for a portion of their salary. While this situation created anxiety for many school families, not to mention the teachers involved, it was just as excruciating for the parish. I was not going to sign a blank check, so to speak, for money that was not mine nor money the parish did not have. Thankfully, we were able to collect every cent of out-

standing tuition, and with the existing enrollment numbers called back three teachers. For your information, last years enrollment was 214 and this year is 177. The decline in enrollment was offset by the departure of two teachers.

While we are meeting all of our expenses at the school, rising costs (utilities, health care etc.) a steady decline in enrollment, and a diminishing church membership create a complex situation. As we look to the future, I will continue to work with our principal, finance council and diocesan representatives to insure that we will have Catholic education in our area for a long time.

Finally, I want to say a word of gratitude to you parishioners for your support of our school. Thanks to your generosity our parish subsidizes 32% of a parish child's tuition. This figure is well over the diocesan expectation of 25%. Last year over \$200,000 from the parish budget went to the school. In recent years some school families, from my understanding, have objected to participate in the Scrip program because there is no dividend of sorts for them with the school. Well that is unfortunate considering that the parish is subsidizing students above and beyond the expectation. As we face an uncertain financial future – we are all in this together with the Church the school and our individual homes. Participation in the Scrip Program involves no extra money – just a little extra time standing in line. If everyone in this parish – and if every family in the school used scrip, it would make such a difference. Please use Scrip.

As our membership declines and costs increase I invite everyone to participate in the scrip program. While many parishes in the diocese are asking parishioners to increase their contributions, the scrip program provides a promising alternative without asking for more of your money. Please see the insert in this weekend's bulletin on scrip.

Do not forget to purchase your ticket for the parish Oktoberfest, Saturday, October 29, after the 5:00 PM Mass.

Have a glorious week!

### Ladies of Charity

There is a Ladies of Charity meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, 2005, at 6:30 PM in the Pastor's Conference Room. All ladies of the parish who are interested in finding out more about becoming a Lady of Charity are welcome to attend. Hope to see you there!

School News with Mrs. Fleet

All parents/guardians are invited to attend the Catholic Vision of Love presentation on Monday, October 17, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in Church.

Our hoagie orders are due back to school by Monday, October 17. If you are interested in ordering a delicious hoagie or two, please contact a St. Bart's School student or call the school office. Thank you.

Please keep our preschool and kindergarten students and their teachers and chaperones in your prayers. They will journey to Reilly's Pumpkin Farm on Monday, October 17.

The Market Day pick-up is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, from 5:15 to 6:00 PM in the gym. Thank you for your support of this school fund raiser.

Students in grades three, four, and five will attend a learning presentation entitled TAR WARS. This program teaches them about the dangers and hazards associated with smoking. This event will occur on Tuesday, October 18.

Your prayers are requested for our eighth grade girls as they venture to Mt. Alvernia for a Day of Peace on Wednesday, October 19. Please keep them and their chaperones in your thoughts.

On Thursday, October 20, we will have a Chimbote Mission optional dress-down day. Faculty, staff, and students are asked to donate one dollar or more toward this worthy cause. Bishop Wuerl has a tremendous connection to this diocesan sponsored mission.

There is no school on Friday, October 21 due to the Total Catholic Education Conference. Also, Extended Day services are not available either.

Our St. Bartholomew School Bruins are scheduled to play at home on Sunday, October 16, at Friendship Park. Why not come out after 1:15 PM to catch some exciting St. Bart's football. All are welcome.

Registrations are still open for all students in grades three-year-old preschool through eight. We do offer half- and full-day kindergarten sessions. For more information please call the school office at 412-242-2511.

Please continue to save all Campbell product labels, Box Tops for Education, and Shop n' Save receipts. Thank you for all that you do for our school family.

Correction

Please note that the correct date for the Blood Drive is Sunday, October 23, from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Religious Education News

Supplies are always needed for the classrooms. Things like glue sticks, crayons, pencils, craft paper and the like are greatly appreciated. You can bring the supplies to the office on Sunday mornings or leave at the rectory marked for the attention of CCD. Thanks so much in advance.

A Respect Life Meditation

(Jerome Lejeune, MD, PhD, Professor of Genetics, University of Parish—Discovered the cause of Downs' Syndrome) "In biology we recognize the symphony of life by its first movements. The unborn child cannot yet speak, but we feel and he is already living his own personal life. He is like a little cosmonaut living in a kind of space capsule (the womb) which protects him from the outside world."

We pray that during this Respect Life month, our heavenly Father will protect all the unborn that He has called to life and who can love and serve Him for a lifetime and for eternity.

Men's Club

The St. Bart's Men's Club wishes to thank all those who made the Afternoon with Rocky Bleier a huge success. The winner of the autographed football was Jerry Cano. Special thanks to Ginny and George Beck and Frank DeFulius for the delicious food!

Advance Directives for Healthcare

On November 7, 2005, at 7:00 PM, in St. Bartholomew Parish, the parishes of St. Bartholomew, St. Gerard Majella, St. Irenaeus, St. Joseph, and St. Susanna will host a presentation on advance directives for healthcare decision-making, ethics of decision making, making healthcare decisions in advance, and the importance of designating financial decision makers. Forms will be available. Completing an advance directive involves designating a healthcare decision maker, as well as alternate decision makers. If you wish to complete an advance directive on that day, please bring names, addresses, and phone numbers of the people you would rely on to speak for you in a healthcare setting, when you are not able to speak for yourself. All parishioners are invited to attend this very informative program.

## **OKTOBERFEST**

The Second Annual St. Bartholomew Parish Oktoberfest will be held on Saturday, October 29, 2005, from 6:00 to 11:00 PM in the St. Bart's School Cafeteria. We will provide bratwurst, kielbasa, and drinks. We would like to do the same as last year: each person brought their favorite German main course, side dish, or dessert. We had a real smorgasbord of items. If you make a dish for our gathering, please bring your recipe with you. Last year we had so many requests for recipes, but did not know who brought the items. Tickets are \$5.00 a person and will be sold after all Masses and at the rectory. Come join the fun!

### *Treasures from our Tradition*

Sadly, one of the most difficult reforms of the Second Vatican Council for the Church to embrace has been one of the most thorough and beautiful: the sacrament of penance. Because it is individual and private, it has been difficult for the changes to take root. Sometimes a priest may be grounded in the earlier form, and at other times the penitent may resist the priest's attempt to blend in the proper texts and rituals.

Perhaps because the new form is almost identical in structure to the old, it has been difficult to insitute. It may also be true that with the liturgy in English now, it is far more clear that the Eucharist, too, is a "sacrament of reconciliation."

It is certainly true that there are different skills and gifts in ministry, and experienced penitents know that not all priests are equally at ease in this sacramental encounter. Sometimes a difficult experience can drive people away from a liturgy that is spiritually rich and rewarding. Yet we know that one bad meal seldom puts people off restaurants forever: the dinner gong tends to dispel bad memories, and so we try again. Individual confession and absolution is for us both treasure and tradition. If you haven't been for a while, consider coming back to praise God for this gift of mercy. —James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

### **Mass Intentions**



**MON., October 17 - St. Ignatius of Antioch**  
10:00 A.M. Audrey Ruefle (Gil & Ann Ruffing)

**TUES., October 18 - St. Luke**  
10:00 A.M. Ruth Ruppel (John Ruppel)

**WED., October 19 - St. John Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues, & Companions**  
7:00 P.M. Holy Hour

**THURS., October 20 - St. Paul of the Cross**  
10:00 A.M. Mary Ann Werner (Family)

**FRI., October 21 - Weekday**  
10:00 A.M. Francesco & Nicoletta DiNardo (Nino & Ida Sciulli)  
6:00 P.M. Rehearsal: Helsel-Pusateri

**SAT., October 22 - Weekday**  
10:00 A.M. Frances & Joseph Triolo (Family)  
3:00 P.M. Wedding: Joseph Helsel-Maureen Pusateri  
5:00 P.M. Hugh, Helen, & William Lavery (Mary Ellen & John Kendgia)

**SUN., October 16 - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
8:00 A.M. People of the Parish  
10:30 A.M. William DeSantis, Sr. (Helen DeSantis)

Please remember in your prayers the sick, shut-ins, and hospitalized members of the Parish.  
Prayers are also requested for the faithful departed.  
William Vollmer and Joseph Badger  
We welcome in baptism:  
Vitaliano Pizzonia III and Elizabeth Margaret Deighan

### **Masses Sent to the Seminary**

The following mass intentions were sent to the Seminary to be said during the month of October 2005:

Teresa Pizzonia Hawkins (Family & Friends)  
Michael Moore (Robert & Shannon Henninger)  
Mary Moliterno (Rossi Family)  
Carmen Manella (Women's Group)  
William DeSantis, Sr. (Women's Group)  
Robert Glasstetter, Jr. (Gil & Ann Ruffing)  
Richard Chasko (Patricia Lloyd)  
Mary Catherine Frey (Virginia J. Fey)  
Carmela Massarelli (Family)  
John K. Massarelli (Family)  
Eileen Fitch (Sal & Connie Ortenzo)  
Elizabeth Rauso (Enise Kosczyk)  
Dolores Sutton (Virginia Fey)  
Oliver Christie (Jim & Kathy Flaherty)  
Elizabeth Posch (Prayer Partners in Christ)  
Carmela Bonaventura (Betty Manzo & Family)  
Martin White (McLaughlin Family)  
Mario & Frank Santa Maria (Maria Santamaria)  
Jack Steinkirchner, Sr. (Stan & Marianna Janaszek)  
Katherine Kisic (Grainger House Staff)

**ST. BARTHOLOMEW PARISH**  
A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust  
**Annual Financial Statement**  
Fiscal Year July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005

**Operating Income:**

Offertory Collections	\$538,691
Donations and Bequests	45,218
General Fund Raising	32,700
Investment Income	3,407
Other Operating Income	<u>19,853</u>
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>\$639,869</b>

**Operating Expenses:**

Liturgical Expense	\$ 62,782
Administration Expense	122,005
Operation and Maintenance	126,031
Rectory Expense	46,559
Interest & Assessment Expense	-0-
Property and Liability Insurance	23,120
CCD Program – Net	23,057
Youth Ministry Program	1,871
Adult Education Expense	289
Social Services Program	22,039
Community Programs/Donations	268
Social Activities	3,346
Other Parish Programs	11,964
Rental Property Operations	<u>&lt;11,501&gt;</u>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$431,830</b>

<b>Net Surplus (Deficit) Before Subsidy</b>	208,039
School Subsidy Expense	<u>203,388</u>
<b>Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b><u>4,651</u></b>

**ST. BARTHOLOMEW SCHOOL**  
**Annual Financial Statement**  
**Fiscal Year July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005**

**Operating Income:**

Tuition and Fees	\$513,710
Donations and Bequests	14,741
General Fund Raising	57,982
Food Service Program	1,507
Student Activities Program	< 389>
Bookstore Operation	2,159
Preschool Program	<3,181>
Extended Day Service Program	10,184
Investment Income	<u>572</u>
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>\$597,285</b>

**Operating Expenses:**

Instructional Expense	\$595,756
Administration Expense	126,478
Operation and Maintenance	149,628
Property and Liability Insurance	<u>22,252</u>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$894,114</b>

**Net Surplus (Deficit) Before Subsidy** <296,829>

Parish Subsidy	203,388
Subsidy from Diocese	<u>80,000</u>

**Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)** < 13,441 >

Tuition: Own Parish Student – 1 <sup>st</sup> Child	\$2,350
Own Parish Student – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Child	\$1,460
Own Parish Student – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Child	\$1,145
Non-Subsidized Student – 1 <sup>st</sup> Child	\$3,750
Non-Subsidized Student – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Child	\$3,650
Non-Subsidized Student – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Child	\$2,800

Cost per Pupil: **\$4,249** (Full Day Kindergarten – Grade 8)

# What is SCRIP?

When Saint Bartholomew Parish purchases scrip, we are purchasing negotiable gift certificates that are used just like cash. The scrip is issued by the national and local retailers where many of you and your family members already shop. These merchants want to support non-profit organizations, and in return ask you to support them by shopping with scrip at their stores. Saint Bartholomew Parishioners can use scrip to purchase everyday expenses like food, clothing, gasoline, and other essentials. Now the exciting part; with every purchase, we all contribute (with little effort) earning revenue for our Parish.

**How scrip generates revenue.**

The Great Lakes Scrip Center is acting on behalf of numerous non-profit organizations to purchase large amounts of scrip from grocery stores, department stores, and other retailers. Because the scrip is purchased with cash up front, the participating retailers offer a substantial discount. We buy the scrip from Great Lakes Scrip Center at a discount, and sell the certificates to you for full face value. The bulk of the discount - from two to fifteen percent or more - is retained by Saint Bartholomew as revenue.

**Scrip is "shopping cart fundraising".**

The reason for the effectiveness of scrip is simple: families generate revenue through purchases "we would make anyway." Please note "through purchases we would make anyway." Groceries, clothing, toys, gifts, even gasoline can be purchased with scrip. For example; 150 families easily spends between one and two million dollars per year on food, clothing and other essentials. If these families use scrip for these purchases, we would have the potential to raise as much as \$40,000 to \$80,000 per year -without spending any additional money.

**Estimated Annual Scrip Program Revenue based on a fiscal year. If 400 families participated in this program we would generate an estimated \$146,880 annually. If 750 families participated in this program we would generate an estimated \$275,400 annually. Now, if 1500 of our Saint Bartholomew Families participated in the Scrip Program we have the opportunity to generate \$550,880 annually.**

**Retailers love Scrip!! Families who purchase Scrip certificates actively support the retailers who participate in this program. The reason is simple...they know that buying from a Scrip participating retailer provides a steady source of revenue for Saint Bartholomew. Is this a gamble? You decide.**

**Thank you in advance for your participation,**

MeganShanley

  
412-951-6886

Estimated # of Participating Families		<i>Estimated Annual</i>	<i>Revenue</i>		
		Average Family Expenditures	Projected Annual Family Revenue	Projected Annual St. Bart's Revenue	
Families Participating	400				
		Groceries	\$250	\$120	\$48,000
		Gasoline	\$100	\$30	\$12,000
		Dining Out	\$100	\$120	\$48,000
		Clothing	\$50	\$36	\$14,400
		Entertainment/Video	\$40	\$43.00	\$17,280
		Home Repair/Improvement	\$75	\$18.00	\$7,200
			\$615	\$367.00	\$146,880
Families Participating	750				
			\$250	\$120	\$90,000
			\$100	\$30	\$22,500
			\$100	\$120	\$90,000
			\$50	\$36	\$27,000
			\$40	\$43.00	\$32,400
			\$75	\$18.00	\$13,500
			\$615	\$367.00	\$275,400
Families Participating	1500				
			\$250	\$120	\$180,000
			\$100	\$30	\$45,000
			\$100	\$120	\$180,000
			\$50	\$36	\$54,000
			\$40	\$43.00	\$64,800
			\$75	\$18.00	\$27,000
			\$615	\$367.00	\$550,800