

*To. Duca's Den:* As human beings we seem to have a fascination with "-est." That is, we talk about tallest and shortest, highest and lowest, deepest and widest. It should come then as no surprise that in today's Gospel a lawyer asks Jesus which commandment in the law is the greatest. Jesus responds by saying, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and the first commandment.

To love the Lord our God with all of our heart, soul and mind is to make Him number one in our lives. The world in which we live in, however, makes it increasingly difficult to make God first. One of the best ways to demonstrate our love for the Lord is to be faithful to prayer. Part of this fidelity involves finding the same time and station each day to be with the Lord.

The second greatest commandment according to Jesus is, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." When we hear the word "neighbor" we often think of the person next door or across the street. This week the Church reminds us that our neighbor is far beyond our locale. Our neighbor is our brother and sister in the Mission lands. On this Mission Sunday we show our love for our brothers and sisters through our prayers and financial generosity. The second collection today will be for the Missions. Thank you for your generosity.

What are you doing Saturday evening, October 29, 2005 after the 5:00 PM Mass? Why not join us for the St. Bartholomew Oktoberfest. Cabbage soup, bratwurst, kielbasa and sauerkraut by Chef Beck and beverages will be provided by the parish as well as a disc jockey. Side dishes and desert are to be provided by those who attend. Cost is \$5.00. While the evening is designed to be German in nature, your side dishes do not have to be German. Tickets are available after Mass and in the Rectory.

Tuesday, November 1, is All Soul's Day and a Holy Day of Obligation. There will be an anticipated Vigil on Monday, October 31, 2005 at 5:00 PM. Masses for the Holy Day will be 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM. Remember, if you are planning on coming to Mass on Monday evening, it is also Halloween.

Please exercise caution.

Wednesday, November 2, is All Soul's Day. This is a day the Church remembers our beloved dead. While there is no morning Mass scheduled for Wednesday morning, as is our standard practice, please know that there will be Mass that evening at 7:00 PM in lieu of Holy Hour. This is the annual Memorial Mass in which we call the names of those who died during the past year and light a candle in their memory. It is also a good time to pray for all of our deceased relatives, friends and benefactors. Afterwards the Ladies of Charity will sponsor a reception in the main vestibule.

Do not forget to attend the Living Will Seminar on Monday, November 7, at 7:00 PM in Church. Everyone should have a living will as well as a Last Will and Testament. And just as we remember Church in life with our Sunday contributions – it is just as appropriate to remember the Church in death. For more information on the seminar and to sign up, please call Sister Dorothy.

Finally, I hope everyone will make every effort to purchase scrip through our parish. For the sake of our parish I ask every family to utilize scrip. This is an alternative way for us to raise funds. Scrip is available before and after all Sunday Masses and during the week at the Rectory. Scrip can make a difference as we approach increasing fuel costs with a decreasing membership.

The process of envisioning ministry in our cluster has expanded to include envisioning Catholic education in our cluster. An initial meeting was held on Monday, October 17 to begin the discussion.

Have a blessed week!

### Duquesne Parish Scholarships

Duquesne University is again offering parish scholarships of \$4000.00 per academic year to academically talented high school seniors. To be considered, students must be a member of a parish in the Pittsburgh Roman Catholic Diocese, be recommended by their pastor, and be an honor student. Please note that submissions must be in to the rectory no later than Monday, December 19, 2005. For more information, please contact the parish office at 412-242-3374.

School News with Mrs. Fleet

All are welcome to join us at 9:00 AM on Wednesday, October 26, as Mrs. Smith and our seventh grade have planned a Rosary Prayer Service for us.

Hoagies will be delivered on Thursday afternoon, October 27, from 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM, in the cafeteria. Our monthly envelope is scheduled to go home on Thursday, October 27, as well.

Please join us for Mass on Friday morning, October 28. Mrs. Pricer and our eighth grade have helped to plan our liturgy.

Our Student Council, under the guidance of Mr. Heid, will sponsor a Harvest Dance for St. Bartholomew School students in grades five through eight on Friday evening, October 28, from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM in the school gym.

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.

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.

Religious Education News

We are off to a wonderful new year in CCD!

Our enrollment has now reached 110 students and 70 families. We have several new catechists and volunteers who have made the transition to the new year very smooth. Thanks to all!

A reminder that October is the month of the Rosary and a good time to review the prayers of the Rosary with your children. The Rosary also makes a wonderful family prayer.

Many thanks to Rob Lester who is heading up our Children's Liturgy of the Word. Thanks to his help and that of many volunteers we are able to offer the ministry at both the 5:00 PM and 10:30 AM Masses. If you have children ages 5 and up, they are welcome to join every Sunday at those Mass times.

St. Bartholomew's welcomes two adults who are in the phase of inquiry for the RCIA program, Scott Sheppard and Jennifer Mitcheltree. As they begin their journey of faith please remember to keep them in your prayers.

Anyone who is interested in the faith walk to join the Catholic Church is asked to call the Religious Education office.

Blessings to ALL!

A Respect Life Meditation

"The abortion debate has often been dominated by the phrase, "freedom of choice." As pro-life people we are called to show women facing problem pregnancies that there are life-giving choices available to them, one of which is adoption."

During this respect life month, we pray that through the intercession of Mary, our Mother, that all unwed mothers and adoptive parents will have the wisdom to make decisions based on the will of God.

Usher's Request

In order to avoid confusion during the offertory, the ushers ask that anyone who wishes to bring up the offertory gifts, because the Mass intention is for their loved one, to please notify an usher before Mass. If no one comes forward, it is the usher's discretion to ask someone else. There is a pew reserved for "Gift Bearers."

### Angel's Closet

Once again the Christ Child Society is offering winter coats for children 15 years of age and younger. If you or anyone you know is in need of a winter coat, please contact Sister Dorothy at 412-242-7357.

### Memorial Mass

Our Annual Memorial Mass is scheduled for Wednesday, November 2, at 7:00 PM in our church. We will remember all those who have been buried from St. Bartholomew's during this past year. All parishioners are invited to attend and pray for and with the families who grieve the loss of someone they love. There will be a reception after Mass with refreshments provided by our Ladies of Charity.

### Prayer Service of Remembrance

On Sunday, November 6, 2005, at 3:00 PM, Catholic Cemeteries Association is sponsoring a Prayer Service of Remembrance at Mt. Carmel Cemetery. Everyone is invited. Prayers will be led by Deacon Joe Kosko, Sister Dorothy Pawlus, and our Ladies of Charity. Come join with us in remembering those who have gone before us.

### Ladies—Mark Your Calendars!

Plans are underway for the Parish Woman's Group Christmas Party to be held on Tuesday, December 6, in Helzlsouer Hall, starting with hors d'oeuvres at 6pm. A catered dinner will begin at 6:30 PM. There also will be Raffles, Christmas Carols, Door Prizes, a Cookie Exchange and Christmas Theme Grab Bag (for those wanting to participate). Members are invited to bring a guest. If your guest enrolls in our Woman's Group, you both will be entered into a special prize drawing! Mark your calendars and make your reservations early by calling Katherine at 412-798-9819. The cost of this festive evening is \$10.00.

### Mass Intentions



**MON., October 24 - St. Anthony Mary Claret**  
10:00 A.M. Marcella Maizie (Husband)  
**TUES., October 25 - Weekday**  
10:00 A.M. Frank R. Rauch (Family)  
**WED., October 26 - Weekday**  
7:00 P.M. Holy Hour  
**THURS., October 27 - Weekday**  
10:00 A.M. Bernard Filipich (Wife, Joan)  
**FRI., October 28 - Sts. Simon and Jude**  
10:00 A.M. Nicolina Callahan (Son & Family)  
**SAT., October 29 - Weekday**  
10:00 A.M. Armand Sciuolo (Daughter)  
5:00 P.M. Tony Giuliano (Daughter Mary Grace Giuliano)  
**SUN., October 30 - 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
8:00 A.M. People of the Parish  
10:30 A.M. Loretta Zimmerman (Sandra Kataniak)

Please remember in your prayers the sick, shut-ins, and hospitalized members of the Parish.  
Prayers are also requested for the faithful departed.  
Elizabeth Masarelli and Flora Greco

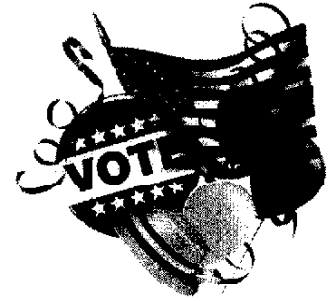
### OKTOBERFEST

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!

### Advent

It seems so far away, although it really is not. There will be an Advent Retreat here at St. Bartholomew's on Saturday, December 3, 2005. Please mark your calendars. More information will be forthcoming.

**COME OUT AND CAST YOUR VOTE ON  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2005**



**THEN STOP BY THE ENTRANCE TO  
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S GYM  
FROM 9:00 AM UNTIL 7:00 PM  
(OR UNTIL THE SOUP RUNS OUT)**

**AND ENJOY SOME HOMEMADE SOUPS  
BY CHEF BECK**



**WE WILL BE OFFERING  
WEDDING SOUP  
AND  
GROUND BEEF VEGETABLE SOUP**

**\$1.75 FOR A BOWL**

**\$3.50 FOR A PINT**

**\$6.50 FOR A QUART**

**TO GUARANTEE THE SOUP YOU WANT WILL NOT  
RUN OUT, PRE-ORDERS WILL BE TAKEN—TURN IN  
THE BOTTOM PORTION OF THIS FLYER TO THE  
RECTORY BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2005**



**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_ WEDDING**  
**\_\_\_ bowl \_\_\_ pint \_\_\_ quart**

**\_\_\_ VEGETABLE**  
**\_\_\_ bowl \_\_\_ pint \_\_\_ quart**



**GOOD FOOD!!  
GOOD COMPANY!!  
GOOD TIME!!**



**Oktoberfest**

**JOIN IN THE FUN AT  
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S**

# **OKTOBERFEST**

**TO BE HELD  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2005  
FROM 6 PM TO 11 PM**

**FOR YOUR LISTENING AND DANCING  
PLEASURE, MUSIC WILL BE PROVIDED BY  
DC SOUND**

**TICKETS ARE \$5.00 EACH AND ARE  
AVAILABLE AT THE RECTORY**



**MENU INCLUDES:  
BRATWURST WITH SAUERKRAUT  
HOT DOGS, KOLBASSI  
CABBAGE SOUP  
BREAD AND BEVERAGES**

**THE REST IS UP TO YOU, BRING YOUR FAVORITE  
GERMAN DISH (OR IF YOU ARE NOT INTO GERMAN  
COOKING, ANY APPETIZER, MAIN DISH, SIDE DISH,  
SALAD, OR DESSERT WILL DO)**