

Fr. Dave's Den: Today's celebration of Pentecost marks the birthday of the Church. We recall that day when the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Holy Trinity, descended on the apostles. After the outpouring of the Spirit the Church was born and the fears of the apostles gave way to faith, which we share in today.

Every Sunday in the Profession of Faith we profess our belief in the Holy Spirit. When Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to his followers, he called it the "Paraclete", which means "he who is called to one's side." The Catechism of the Catholic church notes that "Paraclete" is also translated as "consoler." The Holy Spirit, then, is that companion who travels with us throughout the journey of life.

The Holy Spirit is mentioned frequently in the Acts of the Apostles. St. Paul also speaks often about the Holy Spirit. In fact, St. Paul's letters contain many titles for the Spirit: Spirit of the Promise, the Spirit of Adoption, the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of the Lord, and the Spirit of God. In St. Peter we find the title Spirit of Glory. All of these titles point to the richness of the Holy Spirit.

One of the distinct features of the Holy Spirit is as a helper in prayer. The Catechism of the Catholic Church acknowledges this aspect in article 741. "The Holy Spirit, the artisan of God's works, is the master of prayer." St. Paul in his letter to the Romans 8:26 underlines this belief. "The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with sighs too deep for words." On this Pentecost Sunday, let us welcome the Holy Spirit and pray that it will not only help us in our weakness, but also our spiritual lives.

With an overwhelming sense of joy and genuine spirit of hope, I am delighted to announce to you that Mrs. Linda Pricer will be the new principal of St. Bartholomew School, effective July 1, 2006. Mrs. Pricer has been an integral part of St. Bartholomew School for many years. Not only is she an accomplished teacher and a Golden Apple recipient at that, but she exudes a professional and personal sense that will serve our school well. Mrs.

Pricer is respected by her peers, affirmed by parents, and loved by our students. I believe that she is the right person to lead our school into the future.

Mrs. Pricer will be a teaching principal. While she will not have a homeroom, she will be teaching five to six classes per day. Despite the fact that this is a new model for St. Bartholomew School, the search committee and I, in consultation with the Diocese, believe that this is the appropriate model for our school at this time. Such a model will allow us to employ a full teaching staff. Welcome aboard, Mrs. Pricer!

For your information, negotiations are on-going with Wesley Spectrum Services to lease 8000 square feet of our school. The respective lawyers are dotting "i's" and crossing "t's." Once a contract is signed we will need an army of volunteers to assist us in moving some of the rooms. Some of this work can be done now. If you are interested in lending a hand at a time convenient to you, please call me at 412-242-3374.

Finally, I want to remind everyone that because of the HIPPA Act, which was established a few years ago, we do not publish in the bulletin or announce from the pulpit the names of our sick parishioners. While this legislation ensures patient privacy, it makes it prohibited to speak publicly about the sick, and precludes us at times from obtaining patient information in hospitals. Please know that we remain committed to praying for and visiting the sick. If you or your loved one is hospitalized please call the rectory and Sr. Dorothy or I will do our best to be present to the situation. At the same time, it is important to note that every hospital has a chaplain on-call assigned to it by the Bishop. The hospital is their assigned ministry just as the parish is my assigned ministry. If you or your loved one need to be anointed, the proper protocol, if possible, is to be anointed prior to your hospitalization. In the hospital it is typically the responsibility of the chaplain to perform this ministry. In his absence, however, you can always call the rectory. Have a spirit-filled week!

A SIGNIFICANT DAY

“And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were” (Acts 2:2). The Holy Spirit’s arrival on that first Pentecost was signaled by a rush of wind. We all know what it’s like when our windows are open just as a summer storm rises up. Curtains fly, papers become airborne, house plants shudder, dust is scattered. A rush of wind disrupts the orderliness of our home. The coming of the Holy Spirit, as celebrated each year at Pentecost, can also disrupt ways that have become comfortable and orderly. The Church always needs Pentecost. We need the breath of God’s Spirit to blow away any complacency or malaise that has settled into our faith. Jesus breathes on his disciples and they receive the Holy Spirit. With that reception comes the power to share the Good News of salvation. Today, this is no less true for us. © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Treasures from our Tradition

A wedding celebrated in the Eastern Church has a form that was fixed a thousand years ago. In the West, our story is more complicated by constant change and variation. As the world’s structures tottered in the ninth century, bishops and priests stepped into the void left by collapsing civil structures. For the first time, marriage was referred to as a sacrament, and wedding ceremonies were to be in public (assuring the free consent of the bride) after an investigation of the couple by a priest. The custom of the blessing of the bridal room diminished, and was finally forbidden in 1012 by the Council of Rouen, although it continued for centuries. In the diocese of Perigueux in France, a ritual from 1827 had the parish priest clad in surplice and stole sprinkling the bridal couple as they stood modestly in their pajamas by the wedding bed. Next the bed and all those present were sprinkled, too! That’s a tradition that few Americans, either the betrothed or the clergy, are ready to revive! —James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Mass Intentions



MON., June 5 - St. Boniface
10:00 A.M. Maria & Louis Longo (Family)
TUES., June 6 - St. Norbert
10:00 A.M. Concetta Mancini (Pat Nigro & Nancy Gazzo)
WED., June 7 - Weekday
7:00 P.M. Holy Hour
THURS., June 8 - Weekday
10:00 A.M. Rose Antonucci (Paul Antonucci)
FRI., June 9 - St. Ephrem
10:00 A.M. Henry & Rose Ditillo (Son Ronnie)
SAT., June 10 - Weekday
10:00 A.M. David Slattery (Wife)
11:00 A.M. Confessions
5:00 P.M. Ellen Jane Myers (George J. Myers)
SUN., June 11 - Most Holy Trinity
8:00 A.M. Deceased Members of the Byrnes Family (Cheryl & Ray Byrnes)
10:30 A.M. People of the Parish

Please remember in your prayers the sick, shut-ins, and hospitalized members of the Parish.

Prayers are also requested for the faithful departed.

Ruth Plunkett and Mary Godsell

Late Nite Catechism

The Women’s Group is planning an outing to City Theater’s production *Late Nite Catechism 2* on Tuesday, June 20, 2006, at 7:00 PM. We need to have at least 10 people signed up for the group rate of \$30.00 per person. The deadline to sign up is Monday, June 12, 2006.

Recipes

The St. Bartholomew Women’s Group will continue to collect your favorite recipes to be included in a cookbook that the Women’s Group will publish at a later time, depending upon the number of recipes we receive. Recipes can be dropped off in the Sunday collection or at the rectory.



School News with Mrs. Fleet

Our last day of school is June 7, with a 10:15 AM dismissal. You are welcome to join us in Church at 9:00 AM for a closing prayer service. This prayer service will be planned by Mrs. Smith and our seventh graders.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you for sharing so many beautiful memories with me over the past four years. You have touched my spirit and my heart in a special way. Please know that I will always keep you in my prayers. May the good Lord continue to bless you always and in all ways.

St. Bart's School continues to save Campbell product labels, Shop N Save receipts, and Box Tops for Education. Every bit of help is greatly appreciated.

Registrations are 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.

Masses Sent to the Seminary

The following mass intentions were sent to the Seminary to be said during the month of June 2006:

Andrew Lew (Dee Deluca)
 Elizabeth McClelland (Alice Neal)
 Deceased of the King & Brutscher Families (The King Family)
 John Gilmartin (Family)
 Louis Longo (Family)
 Ruth Ruppel (Husband John)
 John & Anna Sorbach (Daughter Joanne)
 Michael Moore (Bill & Cathy Camp)
 Frank B. Thomas (Daughter Marie & Family)
 Debbie House (Dad & Rose)
 Patricia Helbling (Mr. & Mrs. James DiPiero)
 James J. Reilly, Sr. (Mary Cl. Knaus)
 Gloria Miller (Betty Belschner)
 Anthony Benedict (Shirley Shilling)
 Cecelia Dugan (Ann & Gil Ruffing)
 John Helbling (Rosella Linder)
 Joanne Varassi (Angelo)
 Sean McCoy (The Tomer Family)
 Dolores Garzotto (Elena Strangis)
 Bud Ley (Dolores Huber)

BACCALAUREATE 2006

You, your family, and friends are cordially invited to attend Baccalaureate 2006. The Penn Hills Association of Christian Clergy is sponsoring a Graduation Worship Service, *Walk by Faith*, Monday, June 5, 2006, at 7:00 PM at the Penn Hills High School Auditorium, 12200 Garland Drive, Penn Hills. A reception will follow immediately afterward. Seniors are asked to wear their cap and gown. For additional information, please call 412-793-7000, extension 208 or 205.

Upcoming Local Parish FestivalsWord of God Parish

The annual Word of God Parish Festival will be held from Wednesday, June 14, through Saturday, June 17. Available each evening will be delicious food, games, raffles, bingo, entertainment, a bake sale, plus a great flea market and games for children. Come join the fun from 7:00 PM until 11:00 PM, at the Word of God School playground, 7436 McClure Avenue, Swissvale. For more information on scheduled nightly events, please call 412-241-1372.

St. Bernadette Parish

St. Bernadette Parish, 245 Azalea Drive, will hold its summer parish festival from Thursday, June 15 through Saturday, June 17, 2006, from 5:30 PM to 10:30 PM each night. The festivities will include amusement rides, kid's games, a food tent, a Monte Carlo tent, bingo, and a Big Money raffle. For further information, please contact St. Bernadette Parish at 412-373-0050. They hope to see you there!

Golden Agers

The St. Bartholomew Golden Agers are going to St. Vincent, Latrobe, to see a play on Wednesday, July 5, 2006. Lunch will be at Mountain View Inn. If interested, please contact Lois Ferla at 412-371-9174. Car-pools can be arranged.