

*Today we celebrate the 27<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday in Ordinary Time.*



*Wouldn't life be so much  
easier if we could earn our  
faith?*

To be able to quantify the amount of faith we have when and where we need it in my opinion would make life a whole lot easier. But we all know that is not how it works.

Faith is a gift, and I am pretty sure, an obligation. St. Luke writes about the discourse between Jesus and the disciples as they try to figure out what the gift of faith could really mean if they trusted in it.

Faith and the good works of a Christian, therefore, are a gift of God. Every follower of Jesus must be grateful rather than boastful.

I challenge all of us this week to reach out in faith to another, not looking for a reward, but expecting our faith to be challenged and increased.



## *Feast of St. Francis BLESSING OF PETS*

Please join us today at 12:30 pm for our annual blessing of pets as we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Fr. John will be blessing pets in the side parking lot (outside of the Sacred Heart Chapel).



## *ANOINTING MASS*

Next Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate our semi-annual anointing mass for the sick. If you or anyone you know is in need of healing of body, soul or spirit, please come and avail yourself to this sacrament of healing. If you have any questions, please call me at 412-242-3374.

## *NEW BEGINNERS*

Our New Beginners Group will be meeting on Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup> in the Pastoral Conference Room at 6:30 pm. If you have gone through our 7 week bereavement group, you are welcome to come and join us for some input, sharing and companionship. If your last name begins with A-G we ask you to bring a snack to share.

*Have a blessed week.*

*- - - Sister Dorothy*



**MASS**

Please join us, on Thursday October 11 at the 10:00 AM mass, as our second and third graders have planned our mass. Miss Begley has worked hard with the children to prepare for this special celebration.

**FIRE PREVENTION**

Penn #7 VFD will visit our school on Tuesday, October 9, to teach our students about fire prevention. Firefighters will be on hand to answer all student's questions.



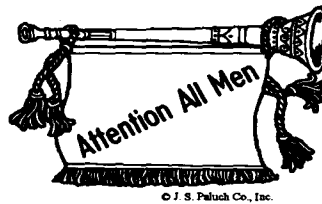
St. Bartholomew Student Council will sponsor their first dance of the school year on Friday, October 12 at 7:00 PM in the school gym.

**SBAA**

The SBAA will hold their general meeting Tuesday, October 9, at 7:00PM in the Conference Room

**2008 ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS**

Please stop by the scrip room to purchase either the "Pittsburgh" or "Pittsburgh East" editions of the 2008 *Entertainment Book*. The cost of the book is just \$20.00; all proceeds benefit the school. If you pre-purchased the *Entertainment Book* at this year's festival, feel free to pick up your book at your convenience. Thanks to everyone for your continued support of the school.



**ST. BART'S MENS CLUB**

The Men's Club will meet on Sunday, October 28 at 6:00 PM, in the school cafeteria. As always, there will be a light dinner and refreshments served. All men of the parish are invited to attend. Please watch the bulletin for further details.



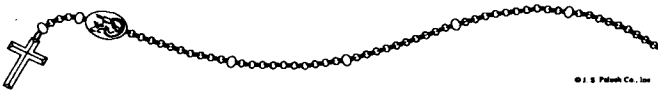
St. Bart's Women's Group is participating in the "Overseas Coupon Program." We have been assigned one of our military bases in the U.K. They are desperately in need of manufactures coupons with an expiration date of 2 months or more in the future. Please deposit your excess coupons in the marked box in the church vestibule.

**Holiday  
Sale**



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Don't look now but Christmas is less than 90 days away!! Our Woman's Group will be taking orders for fresh wreaths, roping, crosses, candy canes and poinsettia's, after all masses beginning next weekend thru the end of October. Orders will be ready for pick-up the weekend of November 24, & 25...just in time for holiday decorating or cemetery placement. You may pick-up additional order forms for friends, family and co-workers after all masses or at the rectory. For information call Denise at 412-251-1651



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## ***MASSES SENT TO SEMINARY***

***OCTOBER 2007***

Mr. & Mrs. Francesco DiNardo (Nino & Ida Sciulli)  
Arthur Mulach (Marie & Family)  
Elizabeth A. Massarelli (Family)  
Don House (Wife Rose)  
Harydzak Family (Lena Harydzak)  
Twila Mae Bishop (Karen & Joseph Knapp)  
M. Joseph Klocko (Tom Klocko)  
Edward King (Dick & Millie Welsh)  
Adam Valzeck (Lisa)  
Joseph Wagner (Karen Regan)  
Catherine Lotzmann (Virginia Fey)  
Rhea Pepper (Jean Vacchiano)  
Benjamin Connelly (Jim & Kathy Ciorra)  
Mrs. Gurski (Tom & Patty Klocko)  
Michael J. Vucci (Plusquellec Family)

### **MON., OCT. 8 WEEKDAY**

10:00 A.M., FRANK J. MORAN, JR.

(LOLA MORAN)

### **TUES., WED., OCT. 9 & OCT 10**

8:00 A.M., ST. IRENAEUS

9:00 A.M., ST. GERARD'S, ST. JOSEPH

### **WED., OCT. 10 WEEKDAY**

7:00 P.M., HOLY HOUR

### **THURS., OCT. 11 WEEKDAY**

10:00 A.M., JOHN VACCHIANO

(WIFE JEAN)

### **FRI., OCT. 12 WEEKDAY**

10:00 A.M., ALBERT SR, JIM, DUANE

JOHN LAFRANCE (MUM & KAY)

6:00 P.M., REHEARSAL JONES/BARR

### **SAT., OCT. 13 VIGIL, 28TH SUNDAY**

#### **ORDINARY TIME**

3:00 P.M., WEDDING JONES/BARR

4:00 P.M. CONFESSIONS

5:00 P.M. SAMUEL F. BAGNATO

(WIFE, ROSE BAGNATO)

### **SUN. OCT. 7 TWENTY- SEVENTH**

#### **SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

8:00 A.M., MARCELLA MAIZIE

(HUSBAND)

10:30 A.M., P. J. BAUER (GINO & MARY

JEAN DEIULIIS)

12:30 P.M., ANNOINTING MASS

(PEOPLE OF THE PARISH)

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

Please remember in your prayers the departed  
members of our parish family, especially,

**Nancy Gazzo, John Conley**



Come, let us bow down in  
worship; let us kneel before  
the Lord who made us.

—*Psalm 95:6*

# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

October 2007

**St. Bartholomew Parish**

Sr. Dorothy Pawlus, CSFN, Parish Life Collaborator

## One Minute Meditations

### Practice gratitude

Make a list of all the ways God has blessed you. Carry it in your purse or wallet. When worried or discouraged, pull out your list and remember that God has provided for you in the past and promises to always take care of you..

### Trust God

Because he's perfect, God can't err. If we let him, God will work in our lives. When we trust him completely, we feel a sense of personal well-being, security, and peace.

### Share with two ... or more

It is hard to do difficult things alone and being faithful to God is hard work. As Catholics, we are never alone in our efforts. We are members of the Church, the body of Christ. Together with Christ we can make a tremendous difference.

*"Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them"* (Matthew 18:20).



## Three ways to be like Jesus

God's full nature is simply beyond our comprehension. We just can't imagine how wonderful he really is. That's why Jesus came to tell us about him and show us how to get close to him. Jesus hoped we would do what he did so we could know God as he does ...

### Serve with love.

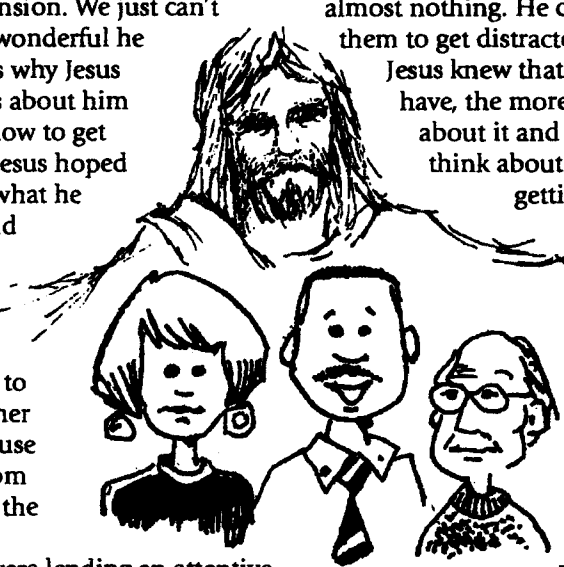
Jesus asked us to love one another as he did because love comes from God. Some of the ways Jesus showed love were lending an attentive ear, showing patience in irritating situations, helping people make good decisions. Try to show love in ways like these every day.

**Lighten your load.** Not only did Jesus have few material goods, he sent

his disciples out to preach with almost nothing. He didn't want them to get distracted.

Jesus knew that the more we have, the more we'd think about it and the less we'd think about God. Consider getting rid of what you don't need, and buy only items that replace what is worn out or broken. Don't value a possession so much that you can't do without it.

**Visit often.** Jesus often went off to be alone with God. Take some time each day just to keep company with God. Even as few as 10 minutes will help keep you connected to your loving Father.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

## Why do we confess sins to a priest?

Sin is not a private act. When we sin, we put ourselves before God or anyone else. Very often someone else gets hurt by our sin, too. That weakens the entire Body of Christ.

When we confess to a priest in the



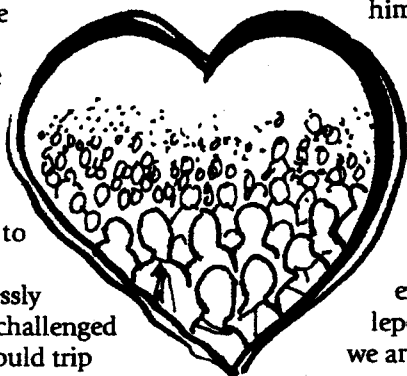
with our Church community.

Sacrament of Reconciliation, we are forgiven by those we hurt. Jesus has empowered the priest to convey God's forgiveness (see John 20:22b-23). And by helping us perform penance, the priest helps us reconcile

## The difficult task of loving others

Jesus made enemies of the leaders in the Jewish community. He accused them of acting without love for God or the people they served. That made them angry.

So the Pharisees tried to get Jesus to publicly say something illegal. They asked him which of the Jewish laws was most important. If he encouraged people to disregard any of the laws, he could be punished. Generations of Jews had fruitlessly debated the question, so the lawyer who challenged Jesus only asked in the hope that Jesus would trip



himself up.

Jesus silenced all by saying everything starts and ends with love – love for God and each other. To love God is to love one another. They are as inseparable as the beams of the cross.

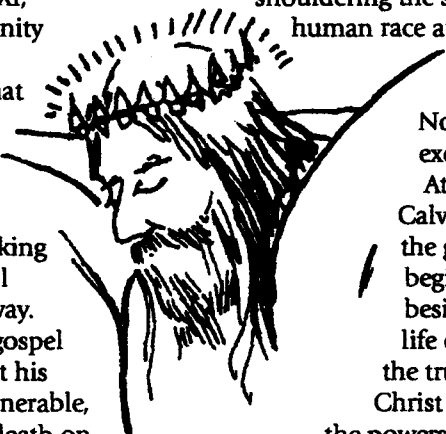
True love of neighbor is measured by how we treat those outside our circle. It means including people we may be tempted to exclude or avoid. Jesus loved prostitutes, thieves, lepers, even Pharisees. This is how God loves and we are to do no less.

### from Scripture

#### Luke 23:35-43, the true King

In 1925, Pope Pius XI, established the solemnity of Christ the King to remind the Church that our ultimate allegiance is to Jesus, the true king of our hearts and minds. In fact, Jesus is the only king still in power while all others have passed away.

At first glance, this gospel reading shows Jesus at his weakest and most vulnerable, moments before his death on the Cross. Yet it is at that moment when Jesus is actually at his strongest. It is at that moment when he is



shouldering the sins of the entire human race and restoring God's grace to each one of us then and now.

No king could do that except Jesus.

At that moment on Calvary, Jesus opened the gates of Heaven, beginning with the man beside him who led a life of sin but recognized the true King.

Christ is our King so that the powers of this world cannot hold us in their grip. With Christ as our King, we will never be consumed by the world.

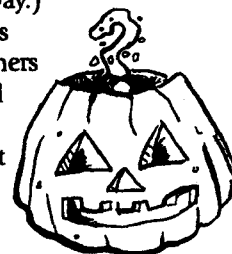
### Q Is Halloween a pagan & holiday? Should Catholics avoid it?

In fact Halloween has Christian origins.

In 835 Pope Gregory IV moved the commemoration of martyrs (later All Saints Day) from May 13 to November 1. The night before became known as All Hallow's Even or "holy evening," and eventually Halloween. (November 2 became All Souls Day.)

Hundreds of years ago in Ireland, farmers prepared for the All Saints Day and All Souls Day the night before by going door-to-door collecting food and goods for a village feast and bonfire. Those who contributed were promised prosperity; those who didn't received threats of bad luck. The Irish Catholics who immigrated in the 1800s brought this practice of "trick-or-treating" with them.

Halloween can be a good chance to focus on the three holidays as celebrations of the communion of saints. It's a time to remember the believers who have gone to Heaven before us and the hope we have of joining them.



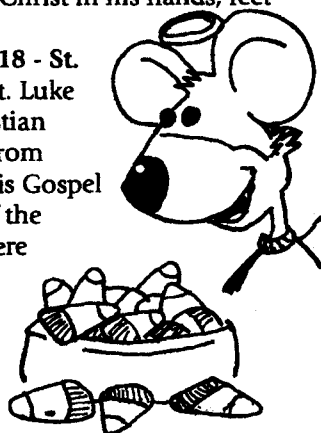
### Feasts & Celebrations

In October we celebrate the Rosary. We take time to us meditate on the mysteries of our salvation – Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection. And we also ask for Mary's intercession – the most powerful of all the angels and saints.

October 1 – St. Therese of the Child Jesus (1897). At the age of 15, Therese Martin became a Carmelite nun in Lisieux, France and served others with "quiet acts of love." Her autobiography, *The Story of a Soul*, is still read and loved throughout the world.

October 4: Saint Francis of Assisi (1226). St. Francis took the gospel literally and followed all that Jesus said. Two years before his death, St. Francis received the stigmata, the real wounds of Christ in his hands, feet and side.

October 18 - St. Luke (?). St. Luke was a Christian physician from Antioch. His Gospel and Acts of the Apostles were probably written between 70 and 85 A.D.



#### Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.  
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**MASS REQUEST FORM - 2008 - LIMIT TWO (2) REQUESTS PER FORM**

**Mass Requested For**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Day/Date – 1<sup>st</sup> Choice

\_\_\_\_\_  
Day/Date – 2<sup>nd</sup> Choice

\_\_\_\_\_  
Day/Date – 3<sup>rd</sup> Choice

**Mass Requested By**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Time

\_\_\_\_\_  
Time

\_\_\_\_\_  
Time

**Mass Requested For**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Day/Date – 1<sup>st</sup> Choice

\_\_\_\_\_  
Day/Date – 2<sup>nd</sup> Choice

\_\_\_\_\_  
Day/Date – 3<sup>rd</sup> Choice

**Mass Requested By**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Time

\_\_\_\_\_  
Time

\_\_\_\_\_  
Time

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR OFFICE USE: Date Received _____ Check # _____ Amt. Pd. _____
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**ALTAR FLOWER AND SANCTUARY CANDLE REQUEST FORM - 2008**

**TWO MAIN ALTAR ARRANGEMENTS (\$80.00)**

**BLESSED SACRAMENT ALTAR (\$40.00)**

**In Memory Of or In Honor Of** (please circle one)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Flowers Donated by**

\_\_\_\_\_

Weekend of – 1<sup>st</sup> Choice

\_\_\_\_\_

Weekend of – 2<sup>nd</sup> Choice

**In Memory Of or In Honor Of** (please circle one)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Flowers Donated by**

\_\_\_\_\_

Weekend of – 1<sup>st</sup> Choice

\_\_\_\_\_

Weekend of – 2<sup>nd</sup> Choice

**MARY'S ALTAR ARRANGMENT (\$40.00)**

**SANCTUARY CANDLE (\$10.00)**

**In Memory Of or In Honor Of** (please circle one)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Flowers Donated by**

\_\_\_\_\_

Weekend of – 1<sup>st</sup> Choice

\_\_\_\_\_

Weekend of – 2<sup>nd</sup> Choice

**In Memory Of or In Honor Of** (please circle one)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Candle Offered by**

\_\_\_\_\_

Weekend of – 1<sup>st</sup> Choice

\_\_\_\_\_

Weekend of – 2<sup>nd</sup> Choice

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR OFFICE USE: Date Received _____ Check # _____ Amt. Pd. _____
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