

*THIRD SUNDAY—ORDINARY TIME*

*JANUARY 27, 2008*

Our first reading this weekend from the Prophet Isaiah and our Gospel from Matthew speak to us of "the people who walk in darkness have seen a great light." It is somewhat amazing that the same quote can be used so many hundreds of years from each other and still be applicable to the situation at hand.

I believe that as followers of Christ here in 2008 we can still find wisdom from these words. I believe that all of us still struggle and are a bit confused about where to find light in our darkness and more importantly how to be light for others. I have found that when I step outside of my own darkness and reach out to another the light of Christ has a better chance of finding me. How about you? What has been your experience?

How can the light of our light be relit? Is Christ still or has Christ ever been the light of your life? With so many things pulling at our attention, it becomes more and more difficult to see Christ. In the darkened landscape of our weakened faith, consumerism, our "me" society, our challenge becomes to curse the darkness or to light a candle. What is your choice? Will anyone be able to see from your face and your actions how you have chosen to live?

**Let us challenge one another to be the light of Christ to each other here at St. Bart's and to those we see in our travels.**

After the 10:30 am mass today, **Fr. John will be blessing the gym and the new gym floor.** Everyone is invited to attend. Punch and cookies will be served. You are also invited to stay for an afternoon of Bruin Basketball that will begin at 1 pm.

February 3<sup>rd</sup> will be **Fr. John Rushofsky's** last day with us. We are so grateful for the time he has been with us and for his willingness to share Christ's light with us as he celebrated the Sacraments and shared with us his love of God, life and his great sense of humor. We will have a farewell gathering for Fr. John on Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> after the 8 am and 10:30 am mass in the Church vestibule. Everyone is welcome.

**Protecting God's Children Seminar** will be held here at St. Bart's on Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 12-3 pm in the school cafeteria. Please call the rectory office to register. If you still need to take this Seminar as a minister/volunteer in the Church I encourage you to do so at this time. We will not be offering this course here at St. Bart's again in the near future.

*Have a Blessed Week.*  
- - - *Sister Dorothy*



## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS LIGHT THE WAY

During the week of January 27 through February 2, the Diocese of Pittsburgh celebrates **National Catholic Schools Week** with a variety of activities. St. Bartholomew school will be joining in the festivities. This year's theme is "**Catholic Schools Light the Way.**"

To keep the "light" of faith and knowledge burning, a lot of people must care and plan and sacrifice. Each year, we use Catholic Schools Week to say "thank you" to St. Bartholomew's Parishioners for your generous support.

You are part of a special partnership in the Catholic school tradition of success that we pass on to our youth: Spiritual Growth, Academic Excellence, Parent Involvement, and Community Service. St. Bartholomew School strives to "light the way" for our students and families enabling them to flourish in the 21st Century

We want to add a special note of thanks to Sister Dorothy our Parish Life Collaborator and all parishioners, because your willingness to share the resources of the parish helps keep the light burning brightly. Your generosity has helped to create the Catholic school success story.

Catholic Schools Week is also a time of celebration. This year at St. Bartholomew School we will have many activities to help us celebrate this special week. They are listed below.

### Special Person Lunch

On Monday, January 28, 2008, our students will be sharing lunch time with their special person. Times like these are when memories are made.

### Cake Walk

Students will be able to participate in our schools Annual Cake Walk on Tuesday, January, 29. Students are asked to bring in a cake, cookies or cupcakes to be awarded during the festivities.

## A Day at the Movies

All students will be treated to a movie at school on Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be popcorn and fun for all.

### Mass

Please join Mrs. Smith and the 7<sup>th</sup> grade students for mass on Thursday, January 31, 2008 at 10 am. The students have worked very hard to prepare for this mass.

### Open House

St. Bart's School will hold an Open House on Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup> from 1-3 PM. Our school is better then ever and we want everyone to know. Have you seen our new gym floor, brightly colored hallways, state of the art computer lab or our online grading system? These are some of the many things we are proud of at St. Bart's. Students in K-8<sup>th</sup> have the opportunity to study computers and Spanish on a weekly basis. Registration is now being accepted for 3yr and 4yr preschool, full day and half day kindergarten and 1st through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Stop in and share our excitement over the many positive changes.

### Early Dismissal

After a busy week, our students will have an early dismissal on Friday, Feb 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:15am. Extended care will be available for students this day.

## A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

When Jesus called his disciples, they came "immediately." Parents wish their children would respond as quickly, but they don't. Children slowly grow into responsibility. It is a process like walking, not done "immediately", but in small steps. *Parenting demands patient encouragement.*



## MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Listening is not the same as being quiet. After the quiet must come an effort to show your spouse you understand. If you tend to be the less verbal spouse make an effort to share your feelings and then show your partner that you understand his or her feelings and position.

### LADIES OF CHARITY

The Ladies of Charity have rescheduled their meeting for January 29th at 6:30 PM in the Pastoral Conference room.

### ATLANTIC CITY

#### TRIP

Mark your calendar!!! The Spring Atlantic City trip is April 2nd, 3rd, and 4th.

**LET'S GO!**  
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The trip includes round trip Myers Motorcoach transportation, two night accommodations at the Trump Plaza, one dinner buffet, and \$20 casino bonus. The price per person is \$155.00 double or triple occupancy. To reserve a spot on this trip a deposit is due at the rectory in the amount of \$55.00 by February 4th with the balance due by February 28th.

### The Golden Agers

Golden Agers Meeting will be held on Friday February 1, 2008 at 1:30 in Helzlsouer Hall.

Saturday February 9, following the 5 PM mass we will be holding a Night of Appreciation. Anyone who volunteers in any capacity throughout the year at St. Bartholomew's parish or school is invited to attend our Annual Appreciation Dinner. Please call the rectory to reserve your spot. This is an evening for adults

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**MON., JAN. 28 THOMAS AQUINES, PRIEST**  
10:00 A.M., RUTH PLUNKETT (PEGGY  
DONAHOE)

**TUES., JAN. 29 WEEKDAY**  
8:00 A.M., ST. IRENAEUS  
9:00 A.M., ST. GERARD MAJELLA  
ST. JOSEPH

**WED., JAN. 30 WEEKDAY**  
8:00 A.M., ST. IRENAEUS  
9:00 A.M., ST. GERARD, ST. SUSANNA  
7:00 P.M., HOLY HOUR

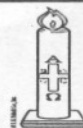
**THURS., JAN. 31 JOHN BOSCO, PRIEST**  
10:00 A.M., KAY DEUILIS ( ANN & GIL  
RUFFING)

**FRI., FEB 1 WEEKDAY**  
10:00 A.M., MARCELLA MAIZIE (FAMILY)

**SAT., FEB. 2 VIGIL, FOURTH SUNDAY OF  
ORDINARY TIME**  
4:00 P.M., CONFESSIONS  
5:00 P.M., BLANCHE BERGNER (YOLANDA  
CYPHER)

**SUN., JAN. 27 FOURTH SUNDAY OF  
ORDINARY TIME**  
8:00 A.M., PEOPLE OF THE PARISH  
10:30 A.M., JOHN & ANNA DAMICO 60TH  
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

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.



*The Sanctuary Candle this week  
is lit in in memory of the parents of Mr. &  
Mrs. Andrew Schilling*



*The altar flowers are in memory of Robert  
Carlini from Emma Carlini.*

*The Blessed Sacrament flowers are in mem-  
ory of Arthur Mulach from Marie & Family*