



JUST A REMINDER
THE FIRST DAY OF
SCHOOL IS
AUGUST 27TH!!!

CONGRATULATIONS TO
FORMER ST. BART'S STUDENTS

EMILY GOLLING
Winner of Oakland Catholic
Carson Scholars for 2009

JULIANA FRATANGELO
National Spanish Exam Award 2009

We are all very proud of both you and
your accomplishments.



On Sunday August 2nd,
we welcomed into
Baptism
Delaney Ann Highland
&
Anna Mae Connors.
May God continue to bless you
and your families.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Don't be too proud. The wise
couple seeks help as soon as you
notice that something is amiss.
Whether it's counseling, a special
program, or seeking the support
of friends or a faith community,
it's a sign of wisdom to realize
that you can't do this thing
called marriage alone.

RESPECT LIFE MEDIATION

"God challenges us and I challenge you to stand up for the absolute sacred value of human life from the moment of conception to the point of natural death and every other point along that spectrum."

"When we stand up for the sacredness of life and boldly proclaim that truth, other people will recognize in our actions the very face of God."

—Bishop David Zubik

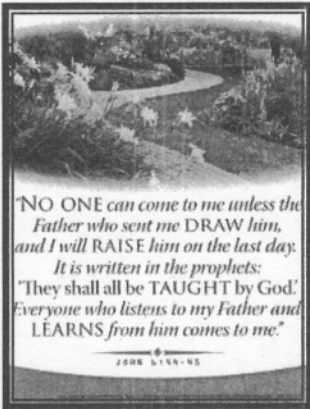


Today nearly everyone at Mass receives Holy Communion. Did you know that this was not always the case? In the beginning everyone present at the Eucharist received Holy Communion but this situation did not last. For a variety of reasons people began to receive communion less frequently until, at many Masses, only the priest received Communion. The Church tried to reverse this trend by laws. Thus in 1215 it was the law to receive Communion at least once a year at Easter.

It was Pope Pius X who strongly encouraged frequent Communion in 1905. In 1910 he lowered the age for first reception of Holy Communion. In 1953 and 1964 the laws requiring fasting from midnight were relaxed. In 1973 permission was given to receive Communion even more than once a day if a person participated in two Masses for different occasions.

Perhaps it is important to remember that the purpose of the Eucharist is not to change the way we worship so much as to change the people who worship. We who gather at the table of the Lord are called to eat and drink the Lord's Body and Blood so that we might be transformed into Christ.

20th SUNDAY—ORDINARY TIME
August 16, 2009



REFLECTION

The Bread of Life discourse in John's gospel builds to this proclamation of Jesus as bread broken and blood poured out for us. Today we are at the heart of this discourse in which Jesus says that his body must be eaten and his blood must be drunk. Crea-

tion itself, in the form of food and drink, provides the signs of his self-giving.

We live in a time when so many hunger for the basics, when millions are threatened with famine and even the lack of such a necessity as water. It takes no large degree of empathy to feel great compassion in the face of those images of gaunt-faced adults and children with swollen bellies. This common human experience of the importance of eating and drinking has also served as an image for the necessary nourishment needed for eternal life, for our ongoing life in God.

How does eating and drinking of the Eucharist call for a life given for others, poured out for others?

How is the Spirit leading you away from foolishness to a life of wisdom and understanding?

A few weeks ago I had promised to share with you some of the highlights from the Leadership Retreat that we held a few weeks ago for the Pastoral and Finance Council and Pastoral Staff. The retreat facilitator was Sister Michele Vincent Fisher, Csfm from Philadelphia. The first evening was a time of sharing by the staff of what their role consisted of here at St. Bart's. I can tell you I am very proud of the dedication and commitment to St. Bart's mission and the mission of the Catholic Church by each of the staff here. I believe that there were many eyes opened that evening.

Sister Michele gave us all an assignment that evening. She asked us to spend time in prayer asking God—What is it that

you desire for St. Bart's Parish and What would God like us to be about in the coming year? I will present some of the key responses this week and next week I will share with you the goals for the coming year.



♦ St. Bart's be recognized as a parish with a Parish Life Collaborator and not as a parish without a priest. (This statement has had a very profound impact on me and my prayer life.)

- ♦ Help people to feel welcome in our parish and celebrations. Know people's names. Discover ways to help people feel welcome
- ♦ Focus on Eucharist—within and outside of parish.
- ♦ Bridge gap between "getting" and "giving".
- ♦ Focus attention of the youth/teens—assist current youth leaders. Pour time, energy and resources into this.
- ♦ Reach out to the community to increase attendance and invite people into our midst.
- ♦ Need to work together as a parish family.
- ♦ Strive to live as GOD wants us to live.
- ♦ Think outside of the box.
- ♦ Think about being a Catholic 24/7. More individual responsibility.
- ♦ To continue to be there for all people in new intergenerational ways.
- ♦ We must stand for something or we will become worthless.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Weekend of August 16, 2009

Offertory Collection — \$8,359.75

Budgeted Collection Amount \$8,100.00

Thank you for your sacrificial offering to your parish.

*Have a Blessed Week.
Sister Dorothy*

AUGUST 16, 2009

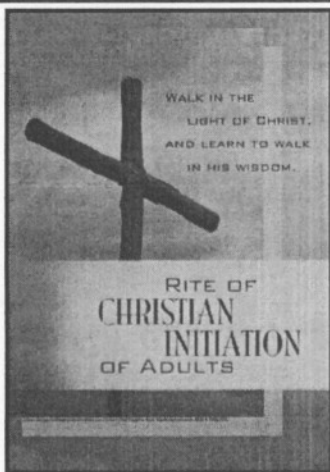
TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PARISH SPIRITUAL TRIP

We have scheduled our fall spiritual pilgrimage, at the request of those who made the trip in the spring. September 22, 2009 we will leave from St. Bart's bright and early on a motor coach which will take us to our first destination, boarding Amtrak's Pennsylvanian and traveling by train to Altoona where we will be met by our motor coach to continue our journey to the Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel, Mount Assisi Sunken Gardens, and various Marian Shrines.

The cost of this trip is \$79 per person and includes all motor coach and rail transportation, group luncheon, all sight-seeing, entrance fees, shrine donations and is fully escorted from St. Bart's.

If you would like additional information, please stop by the rectory for a flier or call Bess Biamonte at 412-242-3374.



A Cluster RCIA meeting was held last week to plan for this year's classes for those interested in becoming Catholic or would like to know more about your faith. Classes are scheduled to begin on September 22, 2009. They will be held at St. Joseph Parish in Verona and will be coordinated by Denise Verosky and Colleen Ford, our Religious Education Coordinators. Should you have any questions or if you would like to register, please call Denise or Colleen at 412-242-7207. If I can help in any way, please do not hesitate to contact Sister Dorothy at 412-242-3374.



MONDAY, August 17, Weekday

10:00 AM Maria & Joseph DeBellis (Family)

TUESDAY, August 18, Weekday

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus

9:00 AM St. Gerard Majella, St. Joseph

WEDNESDAY, August 19, John Eudes

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus

9:00 AM St. Gerard Majella, St. Susanna

7:00 PM **No Holy Hour**

THURSDAY, August 20, Bernard

10:00 AM John Vacchiano (Wife, Jean)

FRIDAY, August 21, Pius X

10:00 AM Louise & Harry Lagan (Rosemary Kietter)

6:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal

SATURDAY, August 22, 21st Sunday Ordinary

3:00 PM Wedding Rossi/Brooks

4:00 PM Confessions

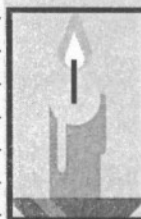
5:00 PM Eugene Sartoris (Wife, Mitzi)

SUNDAY, August 16, 21st Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Herbert Moran, Jr. (Wife, Coletta)

10:30 AM People of the Parish

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



The Sanctuary Candle is lit in memory of Deceased Grandparents of Kristen Tolino and R. J. Nelis