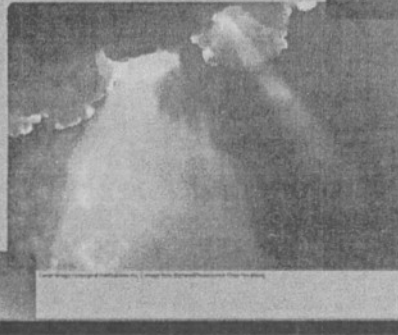


# SAINT BARTHOLOMEW PARISH

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
JANUARY 30, 2011

"Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven." -Mt 5:10-12a



One of the units in junior high social studies curriculum is learning how a bill becomes a law. Basic governmental literacy rests on an understanding of the process, from the bill's introduction, through amendments and votes, to its final disposition for a signing or veto. We can all probably picture the chart that was in our textbook with the arrows that led the bill on different paths depending on the result of each step in the process. Even then, that chart was a simplified version of how things actually take place in the present legislative process.

The laws we're presented with in today's Gospel have very little in common with the laws that are enacted through legislation. The lawgiver in today's text is Jesus. He presents the beatitudes (and other laws, which we'll hear in the coming weeks) in the Sermon on the Mount. Matthew presents Jesus as the new teacher and lawgiver, now standing in the place of Moses who brought the tablets of the law—the Ten Commandments—down from Mt. Sinai. Jesus now gives the Eight Beatitudes as the law for the Christian life, a way of acting in the world. You'll hear a lot of people talk about the Ten Commandments as a basis for law. Even some Christian preachers will speak out about the necessity of having them posted in public places. Yet the New Testament, in Matthew's Gospel, makes it clear that there is a new law, a new dispensation, ushered in by Jesus who begins his own catalogue of commands with, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Mt 5:3).

Like the recollection of that chart from junior high social studies, I suspect that most of us could get through reciting the Ten Commandments, at least by naming the subject of each one even if we couldn't recite them word for word. But how many of us can recite the Christian law: the Eight Beatitudes?



Today during our 10:30 am mass we kick off Catholic Schools Week for St. Bart's School. Our children will help lead us in worship as together we pray for God's continued blessing on Mrs. Pricer, our principal, our teachers, students and their families.

## MANIFESTING THE KINGDOM AWARD

This afternoon at 3 pm at St. Paul's Cathedral Dottie Craver will receive the Manifesting The Kingdom Award from Bishop Zubik. I will be there with Dottie, representing each of you. Please join with me in praying for Dottie, her husband Bill and their family for supporting Dottie in being such an awesome witness to each of us of how to live out one's baptismal promises.

Blessing  
of  
Throats

We will have blessing of throats during the 10 am mass on Thursday, February 3rd unless we have a funeral.

**WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION**  
**WEEK OF 1-23-11—\$6,774.70**  
**Budgeted Collection Amount \$8,100.00**

There is a wide choice of things that you can do for God and neighbor, in and through your church community--if you have the good will. With good will you also find the necessary time for such projects, even though you may have to cut and pare in other directions.

*Have a Blessed Week*  
*—Sister Dorothy*

# ST. BARTHOLOMEW PARISH



*This week we join with all Catholic Schools across the country in celebrating our unique presence. Please pray with and for us as we continue to spread Jesus' message to all the children we serve. Below is a schedule of events that our children and faculty will participate in this week. Again, we thank you for all you as a parish do for our school.*

## **Sunday, January 30, 2011**

Catholic Schools Week Opening Mass  
10:30

## **Monday, January 31, 2011**

Student Council Teacher Appreciation  
Breakfast

+++++  
Special Person Luncheon  
11:30—1 PM

## **Tuesday, February 1, 2011**

Student Assembly:  
"Opening Doors"

## **Wednesday, February 2, 2011**

Musical Cake Walk  
Time to be announced for each grade.  
+++++  
Open House — 6—7:30 PM

## **Thursday, February 3, 2011**

Mass in Church 10 AM  
Blessing of Throats for Feast of St. Blaise  
+++++  
Open House — 1—3 PM  
+++++  
Student Assembly:  
Carnegie Museum of Natural History

## **Friday, February 4, 2011**

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon  
+++++  
Movie Day: students will be treated to movies and popcorn. Each student will be able to relax and enjoy time with their friends.

## **THE GOLDEN AGERS**

The Golden Agers will hold their next meeting on Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM, in Helzsouer Hall. New members are always welcome.

**A special blessing of throats occurs on the feast of St. Blaise, February 3. What is the origin of this?**

St. Blaise, Biagio in Italian, Blasco or Blas in Spanish, was a bishop of Sebaste, Armenia, in modern Turkey, who was martyred for witnessing to the faith. He was tortured and beheaded for his beliefs by the local Roman governor around AD316. This is all that is known about him, the rest being legend. We know much more about devotion to and the popularity of St. Blaise than historical facts.

The special blessing of throats associated with St. Blaise is due to a miracle attributed to him. While in prison, he miraculously saved a boy choking on a fish bone. Early in the sixth century, evidence exists in the Eastern Church that Blaise was prayed to for ailments of the throat. To this day, his feast is a holy day in the Eastern Church. In the ninth century, veneration of St. Blaise came to the Western church and became very popular. Blessing of the throats with crossed candles began in the 1500s, the height of devotion to St. Blaise, and that blessing is still part of the devotion of the Catholic Church.

No matter what the facts are, St. Blaise is a constant reminder to us of God's care and concern for us in our weakness, sickness, and limited human existence. God's healing touch is with us always. St. Blaise's celebration is one of the ways in which we highlight and thank God for that care and concern.

## **MARRIAGE MOMENTS**



Babies are cute and cuddly - when they are sleeping. When they're not, they can put a damper on a couple's life and just plain tire you out. It takes two to conceive a child. It takes both of you to raise your child. Help each other out.

**JANUARY 30, 2011**

**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE**



It is in our family where we learn to be merciful and comforting to others.

The Beatitudes of the Kingdom of God begin at home and depend on you. Parents lead the way.

**"SOUPER BOWL OF CARING"**



Life Teen will be taking part in the "Souper Bowl of Caring" after all Masses on Super Bowl Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. Please be as generous as you can. All donations will benefit the Jubilee Soup Kitchen.

**ANNUAL MEN'S RETREAT**



This year's men's retreat at St. Paul Retreat Center will be March 18-20, 2011. Plan to attend. It's a great opportunity to do something special for Lent.

You will be spiritually enriched and enjoy the experience. For more information, call Sam Manganello at 412-824-2526 or Al Pugliese at 412-371-4074. Car pooling will be available.

**Registrations For New Families**

New families can register at any time by calling the rectory (412-242-3374) and speaking with Sister Dorothy, Parish Life Collaborator. Members of the parish who reach the age of 18 should register separately as adults. If you have recently changes your status, married, moved out of your parent's home or graduated from college you need to re-register.

If you move, we would also appreciate a call to the rectory so that our records will be in order.

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



**MASS SCHEDULE**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2011**

**Saint John Bosco**

10:00 AM Helen Frieland  
(Patricia McMullen)

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2011**

**Weekday**

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus  
9:00 AM St. Gerard Majella, St. Joseph

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2011**

**The Presentation of the Lord**

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus  
9:00 AM St. Gerard Majella, St. Susanna  
1:30 PM **QUEST BIBLE STUDY**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2011**

**Saint Blaise**

10:00 AM Frank Porco (Marie Ciccotelli  
& Family)

6:30 PM **NO QUEST BIBLE STUDY**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2011**

**Weekday**

10:00 AM George K. Beck, Jr. (Rosemary  
Lew)

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2011**

**VIGIL, 5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

4:00 PM **CONFESSIONS**  
5:00 PM Anthony Petrone (Family)

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2011**

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

8:00 AM People Of The Parish  
10:30 AM Betty McDermott (Dolly  
Clougherty)



The Sanctuary Candle is lit this week in memory of Thomas Jugovic from his Daughter Patti Heyl.