

SAINT BARTHOLOMEW PARISH

2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER
May 1, 2011

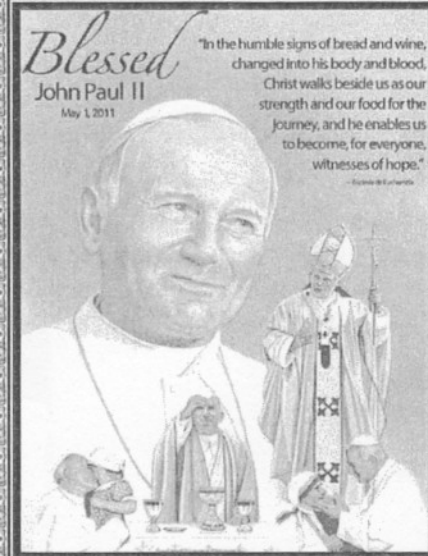


It is pretty likely that while growing up many of us knew a set of twins. In North America roughly one out of every eighty live births is a set of twins. And we are familiar with the similarities and differences between identical and fraternal twins. Social scientists and medical researchers love to

study twins because they can ferret out key data with fewer variables that need explanation. What is often most intriguing to researchers is the parallelism that may occur in following a set of twins until a certain event or experience sets the individuals off on different paths. Twin studies have proved valuable over the years in areas such as drug dependence, learning disabilities, geriatric medicine, and depression.

We may miss it in the reading of today's Gospel, but Thomas, the protagonist of the story, is a twin. The Greek word "Didymus" and the Aramaic "Thomas" both mean twin. So where is the other half? We are never introduced to Thomas' brother (or sister for that matter) in John's Gospel. Did he (or she) die? Was he (or she) a follower of Jesus? The fact is, we just don't know.

What is clear in the Thomas story is that the appearance of Jesus after his resurrection shows the two faces of believers, categories that are a matched set just like a pair of twins. There are the believers who have seen the risen Lord: Mary of Magdala, Simon Peter and the rest of the Twelve, and of course, Thomas. And then, like Thomas' unknown twin, there are all the rest of the believers who have never seen the risen Lord. We, and every generation of Christians since the apostles, fall into that group. We have not seen, but we still believe. And, according to Jesus, we are just as blessed and just as much a part of the family as those who have seen and touched the One who is risen from the dead.



Today people from around the world will gather in Rome, Italy for the Be- atification of Pope John Paul II. Let us remember in a special way the holiness of John Paul

as he ministered to all of God's people. If you ever had the opportunity to be in his presence, you are sure to recall the sense of "awe" that exuded from him.

Thank You!

....to everyone who helped to make our Tridium and Easter Celebration such a spirit filled celebration. The Church looked beautiful, music was inspiring, Fr. Thom's homilies were truly thought provoking and everyone else who added to the celebration, my deepest gratitude. May you all be blessed for what you do in God's name.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

WEEK OF 4-17-11—\$8,134.37

WEEK OF 4-24-11 \$7,943.95

Budgeted Collection Amount \$8,100.00

† STEWARDSHIP ✉

Count your blessings, acknowledge God's gifts to you and express thanks to Him in praise.

Have a Blessed Week
—Sister Dorothy

SCHOOL NEWS



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



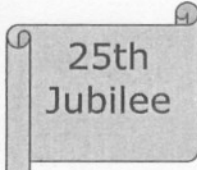
Our 2nd grade students will make their First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 1st at 10:30 AM mass. We are so proud of all of our students.

PTG MEETING

Our PTG will meet on Tuesday, May 3rd at 6:30 PM in our school library. Plans will be discussed for end of year activities. All are welcome to attend.

WRITING ASSESSMENT

Please remember our students in grades K-8th on Wednesday, May 4th. All students will be participating in a writing assessment.



SISTER DOROTHY

Please join the students for the school's celebration of Sister Dorothy's Silver Jubilee. The mass will take place on Thursday, May 5th at 10 AM. All classes will celebrate Sister Dorothy and all of the wonderful things she has done for our school.

THANK YOU

On behalf of the PTG and all of our students, we would like to thank all of our Church family for supporting our Fish Fry. This year's Fish Fry was our most successful. The PTG will be able to fund many projects for the upcoming school year. Thank you again, and see you next year!

*St. Bart's Women's Group
Invites you to join them Sunday,
May 15th, 2011 for our
Communion Breakfast. Mass will
be at 10:30 AM. The brunch will
be immediately following, at the
Comfort Inn on Rodi Road.*

*Guest speaker will be
Sister Geraldine Wodarczyk, Csfm
Office for Consecrated Life
Diocese of Pittsburgh
Tickets are \$17.00 and are available
after all weekend masses.*

*This event is open to all women and
men of the parish.*

*For more information please call
Katherine Abriola at
412-798-9819*



A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

"Whose sins you forgive, are forgiven" means the grudges we carry only make us miserable. The Kingdom of God begins in your home where children learn the paths to peace promised in today's gospel through merciful and forgiving demonstrated by their parents.

MAY 1, 2011

SPRING EVENING OF REFLECTION FOR SEPARATED/DIVORCED

On May 12, 2011, at St. Bernard Parish, Mount Lebanon, there will be an Evening of Reflection for those who are separated or divorced. The topic is "Annulments in the Catholic Church: the Why and the How." Our presenter will be Fr. Brian Welding. The evening will be from 7-9 PM. There is no charge. A free will offering will be taken. This event will take place at Clairvaux Hall (lower church). Anyone interested in learning about the Annulment Process, in the Catholic Church, is welcome to attend. It is a good opportunity for adult faith formation.

On Sunday April 3, 2011 we welcomed into Baptism Aidan Benson.

On Saturday April 23, 2011 we welcomed into Baptism Tina Marie Aquiline and Antonio Dino Aquilino.

Also on Saturday, April 23, 2011 Tina Marie Aquiline made her Profession of Faith into the Catholic Church.

May God Bless them and their families.



MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Ever wish you married a movie star, Miss America, or a sports hero? Don't wait for fame to strike.

"Be presidents of each other's fan clubs." (Tony Heath) Fame is fleeting but an in house cheerleader can keep you going even when your ratings falter.



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, MAY 2, 2011

Saint Athanasius

10:00 AM Mary DeFinis (Sister, Pat)

TUESDAY MAY 3, 2011

Saint Philip & Saint James

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2011

Easter Weekday

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus

9:00 AM St. Gerard, St. Susanna

1:30 PM **QUEST BIBLE STUDY**

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2011

Easter Weekday

10:00 AM Deceased Members of the Secola & Ioli Families (Rita Secola)

6:30 PM **QUEST BIBLE STUDY**

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2011

Easter Weekday

10:00 AM Leslie Kensinger (Ethel Cerra)

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2011

Vigil, Third Sunday of Easter

5:00 PM Sister Dorothy, on the occasion of her 25th Jubilee (Parishioners of St. Bart's)

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2011

Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM Living & Deceased Mothers & Grandmothers

10:30 AM Living & Deceased Mothers & Grandmothers



Our Sanctuary Candle is lit this week in memory of Jennie Ricciuti from her family.