



While my father did not have a vineyard, the parable of the two sons in this weekend's Gospel certainly applied to my brother and me. As we grew up, there were times in which we each acted as first one and then the other son from the parable. Sometimes I was the one who said, "No," and then changed my mind, and other times it was my brother who acted in that way. As we grew older, we came to see how our parents had guided us as we matured, and recognized that our father's will for us was to have a wholesome life, in which caring for others and helping those in need played a big part. It was something that our father had

learned from his own father, a gift I now realize that was passed down from one generation to the next.

It was only later in life that I began to hear the stories of how my grandfather had helped the poor in the city, and the ways his own mother had given away food from the family run store during the years of the Great Depression. Such family history goes a long way toward melting away any residual selfishness that may exist in one's heart.

The parable in this weekend's Gospel is about faith. Jesus cautions the chief priests and elders. He indicates that they should be careful about whom they judge, since tax collectors and prostitutes (i.e., sinners) are seeking conversion, but they are not. Jesus' words could well apply to us. Before we begin judging those who may not show up every Sunday, or who may be living in challenging circumstances, we might want to look at our own lives. A charitable heart and a kind word might go a long way toward helping someone become more faithful. What act of kindness on our part will help someone draw closer to Christ?

ST. BART'S  
FESTIVAL DATES  
OCTOBER  
6, 7, 8 & 9

**WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

WEEK OF 9-18-11 — \$7,249.50  
Budgeted Collection Amount \$8,100.00

**RAFFLE TICKETS**

Please return your tickets as soon as possible. Extra tickets available in the office.

**YOU MAY DROP OFF "WISH LIST" ITEMS AT THE RECTORY OR IN THE VESTIBULE OF THE CHURCH. BASKET DONATIONS MAY BE PLACED IN COLLECTION BASKET OR BROUGHT TO THE RECTORY.**

Order your ride all day wristband in advance and SAVE! There will be 7-8 rides again this year.  
*Ride all day wristbands are only \$12.00 in advance, compared to \$15.00 at the festival, or \$2.00 - \$3.00 per ride individually.*

**SOME OF OUR NEEDED ITEMS ARE**

12 OUNCE CANS OF PEPSI/COKE PRODUCTS  
HEAVY DUTY 55 GALLON TRASH BAGS  
WHITE DINNER NAPKINS—18 OUNCE PLASTIC CUPS, HEAVY DUTY ALUMINUM FOIL & PLASTIC WRAP 9 INCH HEAVY DUTY DINNER PLATES 1 GALLON OR LARGER PLASTIC ZIPLOCK BAGS PLASTIC SILVERWARE:  
FORKS KNIVES, SPOONS  
KETCHUP, MUSTARD, RELISH, HAMBURGER DILLS, MAYONAISE



**Festival Setup**

Setup will begin on September 24th and 25th at 8 AM and will continue on October 1 & 2 at 8 AM and October 3, 4, and 5 at 6 PM.

Any help will be very much appreciated. No special skills needed, there is always some way to help.

Any questions, please give me a call.

# ST. BARTHOLOMEW PARISH



## SCHOOL NEWS

### **PROGRESS REPORTS**

Progress reports will be distributed to all students on Monday, September 26, 2011. Parents are encouraged to visit RVS grade book to view their child's progress. All new parents should have received an access code and password. Grades can be viewed at [rvsgradebook.com](http://rvsgradebook.com).

### **EARLY DISMISSAL**

Students will have an early dismissal on September 28, 2011 at 11:15am. All students must be picked up in the rear of the school. Extended care will be offered. Students attending after school extended care must pack their lunch with a drink. Lunch is not provided on half days.

## **MASS**

Please join Mrs. Conn and the 4<sup>th</sup> graders for mass on Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 10AM. Mrs. Conn has worked very hard preparing her students.

### **8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS**

All St. Bart's 8<sup>th</sup> graders will attend Oakland Catholic and Central on Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. Students will have a chance to tour the school and ask questions. Please keep our students in your prayers.

### **SCIENCE CENTER**

St. Bart's students in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade through 7<sup>th</sup> grade will attend a field trip at the Carnegie Science Center on Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Readings for the Week of 9-25-11**

Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt  
Monday: Zec 8:1-8/Lk 9:46-50  
Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23/Lk 9:51-56  
Wednesday: Neh 2:1-8/Lk 9:57-62

Thursday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Jn 1:47-51  
Friday: Bar 1:15-22/Lk 10:13-16  
Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Lk 10:17-24  
Next Sunday: Is 5:1-7/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43

### **OAKLAND CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

On Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, Oakland Catholic will hold its annual 8<sup>th</sup> grade visitation day from 9:30 am until 1:30 pm. This day is designed to introduce students to Oakland Catholic and high school life. Over 400 girls participate in a mini-day filled with demonstrations by our outstanding faculty, presentations by our students in the OC chat rooms, and enjoy a complimentary lunch with fellow 8<sup>th</sup> graders from the surrounding Pittsburgh Area. This day is for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students only. **Please call to make a reservation 412-682-6633 X 253.** For additional information regarding our **Open house on October 23<sup>rd</sup>** and **our Entrance Exam on November 12<sup>th</sup>**, please visit our website at <http://www.oaklandcatholic.org/admissions/dates-deadlines/>.

### **Religious Education News**

Preparations are beginning for the start of our **fall CCD** program here at St Bartholomew. Registration forms will be sent out this week to families with children who attended the program last year. Classes are set to begin on September 25<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. Registration forms will also be available at the rectory. Stay tuned for updates coming soon!

We are always in need of those adults who hear the call to share the faith. Please call the rectory for more information about this unique and rewarding opportunity .

### **RCIA—RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS**

Do you know anyone who is an adult and in need of sacraments? Do you know someone who is interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic Faith?

RCIA is the place to begin. Our RCIA Program is run as a Cluster Program. Denise Verosky and Colleen Ford manage the program and arrange for speakers/teachers for each session. The classes are held at St. Joe's in Verona.

If you have any questions or are interested, please contact Sister Dorothy at 412-242-3374.

**SEPTEMBER 25, 2011**

**Help for Grieving Singles Widowed, divorced or separated?**

Beginning Experience offers help to hurting "single again" folks. The weekend and optional post weekend sessions focus on a personal inward journey to begin a new life with renewed courage and hope. Grief, regrets, confusion, self doubt? You don't have to go through this alone. There are others walking this hard road. We know the pain. Come to a safe place. Travel from heartache to hope.

The next weekend will be held October 14-16, 2011 at the Gilmary Center in Moon Twp, PA. Payment arrangements and possible financial assistance are available. For more information: [www.BeginningExperience.org](http://www.BeginningExperience.org) or make a confidential call to Lyn at 412-448-9019 or Steve Smith at 412-367-4948 or 412-720-8694

**FAMILY PERSPECTIVE**

In today's gospel Jesus asked, "What is your opinion?" Why do we think our opinion is dogma or fact? An opinion is only how we perceive a situation or how we feel comfortable doing something. Don't argue over or become divided by "your opinion."



**PARENTING POINTERS**

Next Monday is National Family Day. The focus is on eating together with your children. If your children are young, this is easy. They need you to cook. If they are older, make an effort to eat together - if not Monday, one day next week

**MARRIAGE MOMENTS**



When good secretaries take a message they always repeat the telephone number and summarize the message. Your spouse deserves similar service. "Now you said ... Did I get it right?" Saves a lot of misunderstandings and mix-ups.

**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME**

***MASS SCHEDULE***



**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2011**

**Saint Cosmas, Saint Damian**

10:00 AM

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2011**

**Saint Vincent de Paul**

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus

9:00 AM St. Gerard, St. Joseph

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2011**

**Weekday**

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus

9:00 AM St. Gerard, St. Susanna

1:30 PM **QUEST BIBLE STUDY**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2011**

**Saint Michael, Saint Gabriel, Saint Raphael**

10:00 AM Ferla & Henninger Families

(Lois Ferla)

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2011**

**Saint Jerome**

10:00 AM Thresa Vidovich (Betty

Milburn )

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2011**

**Vigil, Twenty-Seventh Sunday**

**Ordinary Time**

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM Helen Molchan (Patti

Diamond)

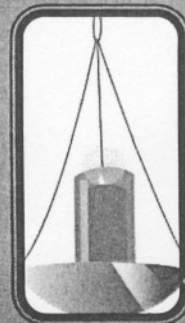
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2011**

**Twenty -Seventh Sunday**

**Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM People of the Parish

10:30 AM George W. Nichols (Family)



*The Sanctuary Candle is lit this week in memory*

*of*

*Bill Maiers*

*From his daughter*

*Wilma Maiers*