

“Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

— Mt 18:19-20



Example Photo for Liturgy for Mass 01051, 1998, 1910 CCB
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One of the more successful processes of reconciliation was the Truth and Reconciliation Commission established in 1995 in South Africa after the abolition of apartheid. Its mandate was to bear witness to, record, and in some cases grant amnesty to the perpetrators of crimes relating to human rights violations, as well as reparation and rehabilitation. The commission looked at violations committed by all sides during the apartheid years, a balance that helped establish its reputation for fairness and equality. Still, there were many who criticized the effort and some who found it ludicrous. What is clear from reports about the commission's activities is that its greatest impact was in small rural towns in which a large amount of the population was involved in the process. In the larger cities, where the commission's work touched only a few people, its success was far more muted.

The process of reconciliation that Jesus outlines in today's Gospel is similar to the path followed by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Try to be reconciled through a one-on-one conversation. Then go with another. And then bring the matter to the whole community. It is a process that reminds us that reconciliation and forgiveness is hard work, and not easily accomplished. And, it is a process. While the sacrament of penance can take place in a few minutes, the actual time needed for reconciliation can be weeks, months, or even many years.

As the church goes through its own difficulties these days in trying to be reconciled we must recognize that hurts inflicted long ago still need to be healed. We can never walk away from the task of reconciliation as difficult as that might be. Our Teacher and Lord gave his life on the cross to reconcile us to the Father. Every Christian is called to participate in that work of reconciliation even if it might take our whole life to see it accomplished.

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

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION
WEEK OF 8-28-11 — \$6,792.61
Budgeted Collection Amount \$8,100.00

Diocesan Collection
For Propagation of Faith
\$626.50

On Labor Day, we honor the worker and the role of labor in the social and economic development of our country. What does the church say about labor?

Labor has been the cornerstone of the social justice teaching of the church. At the very beginning of the labor movement, Pope Leo XIII wrote an encyclical letter called *Rerum Novarum*. In it, he discusses the right to private property and the rights of workers. It was seen for many years as a masterpiece of work, bringing traditional Catholic teaching to the new problems that the Industrial Revolution brought to the workplace. In fact, this document was so significant that later popes issued encyclicals on its anniversary: Pope Pius XI wrote *Quadragesimo Anno* and John XXIII, *Pacem in Terris*. Paul VI issued *Octagesima Adveniens* while John Paul II wrote *Centesimus Annus*. Pope Benedict XVI added his voice with *Caritas in Veritate*.

These documents all furthered the teaching of the church concerning the dignity of workers, the right to a fair wage, the importance of housing, and the need to take care of those who were in need. In 1967, Pope Paul VI wrote in *Populorum Progressio* that work "is something willed and approved by God." God gave people intelligence, sensitivity and the power of thought-tools with which to finish and perfect the work God began. Every worker is, to some extent, a creator—whether artist, craftsman, executive, laborer or farmer (#24-25).



Cluster Mass

9-5-11

9 AM

St. Bart's Parish

Have a Blessed
Week

Sister Dorothy

ST. BARTHOLOMEW PARISH



SCHOOL IS IN SESSION

The 2011-2012 school year is in full swing. Please be cautious in the parking lot with students, and school buses.

PTG MEETING

The PTG will have their first meeting of the school year on Tuesday, September 6th at 6:30 pm. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to see what is happening in our school. It is a great time to learn about upcoming events and make new friends. Everyone is welcome. The meetings are held in the library.

MASS

Please join our 7th grade students on Thursday, September 8th at 10 AM for mass. The students work very hard to make all of our school masses special.

NEW WINDOWS

If you haven't noticed, we have new windows in part of our school. They look beautiful. At this time we would like to thank Sr. Dorothy and Mrs. Pricer and all who assisted in this project, for all of their hard work in obtaining these windows.

Every school organization has worked hard to raise the money necessary for this project. We hope to raise the remainder of the money to finish the other side of our school soon.

OFFICER PHIL

Officer Phil will be at our school on Friday, September 9th at 2 PM. Students in K-3 will learn about safety.

Readings for the Week of 9-5-11

Monday: Col 1:24-2:3/Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday: Col 2:6-15/Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday: Col 3:1-11/Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: Rom 8:28-30/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Lk 6:39-42

Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Lk 6:43-49

Sunday: Sir 27:30-28:9/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

Registration Opens for Catholic Women's Conference

The inaugural diocesan "Catholic Women's Conference: A Caring Quilt" will take place on Saturday, October 22, at the Marriott City Center, Pittsburgh. Keynote speaker is Immaculée Ilibagiza, survivor of the Rwandan genocide and renowned speaker on faith and forgiveness.

The day includes five workshops from which to choose and concludes with Mass with Bishop Zubik. Registration opens August 8, by mail only. The registration form will be available on the diocesan website: www.diopitt.org. Registration brochures for the conference are also available by calling 412-456-3129.



The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth will host their 6th Annual Grateful Gathering on Saturday, October 1 from 5-10 PM at Mt. Nazareth Center on Bellevue Road in Bellevue. Enjoy an evening of music and dancing, wine/chocolate & hors d'oeuvres, as well as an opportunity to win from a raffle of several exciting theme baskets, cash raffle, grand raffle and a silent auction.

Tickets for the Gathering are \$40 and can be obtained by calling Sr. Catherine Fedewa at 412-931-4778, ext. 2180. Seating is limited. All proceeds benefit the Sisters and their family ministry.

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 25th 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 4, 2011

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME



Summer is ending—the students are heading back to school, so that means—the St. Bartholomew Adult Choir will begin rehearsing special music for our masses.

Singing is a wonderful way to give glory to God and praise Him for all the many blessings He has given to all of us. The first choir rehearsal will be held on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 at 7:00 PM in the choir room.

Please consider adding your voice to ours, as we begin another choir season on September 7th.

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

The key word in today's gospel is "listen." We cannot change another person; not alone, not with others and not with a whole Church. All we can do is state our position and "if he listens to you" then he/she can take the steps necessary to change themselves. Change comes from within.

PARENTING POINTERS



As school starts, it's helpful to have routines. For example: Set out school supplies and clothes the night before. No "screen time" till after homework is done. No cell phones after bedtime. What are your family rules?

MARRIAGE MOMENTS



(Labor Day) "Come to me, all you who labor and are overburdened and I will give you rest." (Mt. 11:28). For those who have full time jobs (whether paid or in the home) this is a comforting scripture. Unemployment, however, can be a stress on marriage. Pray for those who need money but can't find work. Maybe it's you.

MASS SCHEDULE



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2011

Labor Day

9:00 John Stack (John Slatery)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2011

Weekday

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus

9:00 AM St. Gerard, St. Joseph

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2011

Weekday

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus

9:00 AM St. Gerard, St. Susanna

1:30 PM **QUEST BIBLE STUDY**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2011

Weekday

10:00 AM Jean West (St. Bart's Ladies of Charity)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2011

Weekday

10:00 AM Ursula Solomon (Mary Curley)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2011

Vigil, Twenty-Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time

4:00 PM Confessions

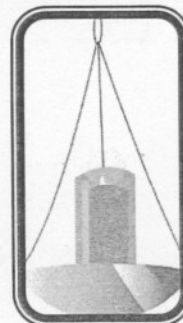
5:00 PM DeWitte Family (Mary Margaret & Debbie)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2011

Twenty -Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 AM People Of The Parish

10:30 AM Robert D. Harris (Donna, Frank, Stacey Lamanna)



The Sanctuary Candle is lit this week in memory of Robert D. Harris from his daughter Donna Lamanna