

• All were amazed and asked one another, "What is this? A new teaching with authority. He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him." His fame spread everywhere throughout the whole region of Galilee.  
Mk 1:27-28

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass © 2007, 1988, 1972 CEB. Cover Design © Liturgical Publications Inc. | Photo © Shutterstock.com 12181208

A prophet is one who speaks in God's name. Moses was the greatest prophet, hating down all that he heard God say to the people God had brought out of Egypt. God's promise to raise up a prophet like Moses is fulfilled in Jesus, whose authoritative word elicits the obedience even of unclean spirits.

The first experience of Jesus as one whose word effects what he says occurs in the synagogue. Here Jesus encounters an unclean spirit. The spirit makes the first move, naming Jesus as the Holy one of God. In biblical thought, naming a person gave you some degree of power over that person. Not here. With a few quick words, Jesus asserts his authority.

How fitting that Jesus' first public act in the first Gospel to be written down is to free a human being from an evil spirit that has brought him chaos and destruction. This event reveals Jesus as one who came to free us from all that oppresses and beats us down. This liberation continues to be the work of all who follow Jesus.

Do you believe evil spirits continue to dwell in the human heart?

Does this mean we are not responsible but that "the devil makes us do it?"

Does this Gospel offer any hope to people today in the face of so much suffering and death in the world?

Jesus, you are revealed as one who has the power to cast out evil spirits who take up residence in our hearts. May your liberating word free us from all that brings harm and may we work to bring your healing spirit to touch our world. Amen.

**WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

**WEEK OF 1-22-12— \$6,466.42**  
**Budgeted Collection Amount \$8,100.00**

*End of Year Statements: If you need a copy of your 2011 statement for tax purposes, please call the office and we will send it out to you in the mail. We will only give statements to our parishioners who request them.*

*Requirements to be a sponsor/godparent: In order to receive a letter from St. Bartholomew's to be a sponsor and/or a godparent you must:*

- ◆ *Be a registered member of St. Bartholomew Parish.*
- ◆ *Be at least 16 years of age.*
- ◆ *You must have received Baptism, Communion and Confirmation.*
- ◆ *Presently practice your Catholic Faith by: attending mass on Sundays and Holydays of Obligation, be in a state of grace to receive Communion, contribute to the support of the Church, and be living a good and charitable moral life.*
- ◆ *If married, the marriage must be valid in the Catholic Church and must be raising any children as Catholics.*

*I receive a lot of requests that I am not able to process because one or more of these requirements are missing. Know that I do not make up the requirements, they come from the Church, I am just asked to uphold them.*

*Blessings, Sister Dorothy*

# ST. BARTHOLOMEW PARISH

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK AT ST. BARTHOLOMEW



### SCHOOL MASS

Students will be celebrating Catholic Schools week with an opening Mass on Sunday, January 29, 2012 at 10:30AM. Please join us as we celebrate the importance and benefits of Catholic education.

### SPECIAL PERSONS LUNCH

Students will be enjoying lunch on Monday, January 30, 2012 with their special person. Reservations were required for this lunch.

### ASSEMBLY

Students will be treated to an assembly by the Center of the Performing Arts on Tuesday, January 31, 2012.

### CAKE WALK



The annual cake walk is here again on Wednesday, February 1, 2012. Students are asked to provide cakes, cupcakes, cookies or brownies. The cake walk theme this year is "Faith".

### MASS

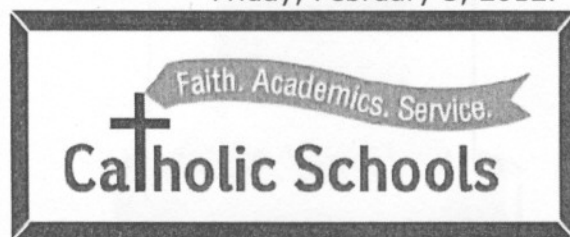
Please join Mrs. Biamonte and our 8th graders for mass on Thursday, February 2, 2012 at 10 AM. This mass will celebrate the importance of Catholic education in our children's lives.

### OPEN HOUSE

There is no better time to showcase our school than during Catholic School Week. If you are considering our school for your child's education and growth, then please join us on Wednesday, February 1, 2012 from 6:00 PM-7:30 PM and Thursday, February, 2, 2012 from 1:00 PM-3:00 PM. Parents and staff will be available to take you for a tour of our facility.

### MOVIE DAY

The finale to our week will be Movie Day. Students will be treated to popcorn and movies on Friday, February 3, 2012.



### Readings for the Week of January 29, 2012

**Monday:** 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Mk 5:1-20  
**Tuesday:** 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30--19:3/Mk 5:21-43  
**Wednesday:** 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Mk 6:1-6  
**Thursday:** Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32  
**Friday:** Sir 47:2-11/Mk 6:14-29  
**Saturday:** 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Mk 6:30-34  
**Next Sunday:** Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39

### ANNUAL MEN'S RETREAT

This year's men's retreat at St. Paul's Retreat Center will be held March 16-18. It's a great opportunity to do something special for lent. You will be spiritually enriched and enjoy the experience.

For more information, or to register please call Sam Manganello at 412-824-2526 or Tom Kmonk at 412-714-8847.

Car pooling will be available.

**JANUARY 29, 2012**

**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE**



Today's gospel reminds us "unclean spirits" still haunt our families. These "spirits" thrive inside our grudges, punishing silence, impatience and abruptness. Today Jesus offers you the "authority" to cast out these spirits from your life and your family.

**MARRIAGE MOMENTS**

I offer you this tidbit of wisdom to get your week started with a positive thought without clogging your e-mail. Read it, digest it, delete it. May it remind you of your marriage vows and why you chose to love your spouse forever. Such commitment and self-sacrifice are indeed a spiritual undertaking and cannot be done alone. May God who is love, support YOU. Susan Vogt

**PARENTING POINTERS**

Is it possible to over-compliment a child? Yes. Sure, praise your child when warranted but make sure it's true and specific. Too many loose compliments like "Good job!" (for merely showing up or doing what's expected anyway) can weaken the impact of the genuine compliments. Affirm effort, attitude, and virtue.



"Souper" bowl Sunday is coming up soon.

In the spirit of giving, the Life Teen group will be collecting donations after all the Masses on February 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds benefit the Jubilee Soup Kitchen.

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**



**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 2012**

**Weekday**

10:00 AM Marcella Maizie  
(Family)

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2012**

**St. John Bosco**

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

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2012**

**Weekday**

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

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2012**

**The Presentation of the Lord**

10:00 AM John E. Kotts (Gerry  
Gasperini)

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2012**

**St. Blaise**

10:00 AM Rose Bagnatto (Judy Brodt)

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2012**

**Vigil, Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time**

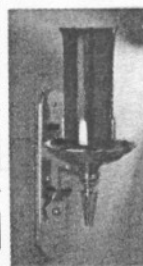
4:00 PM **Confessions**  
5:00 PM George K. Beck (Bill & Betty  
Brown)

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2012**

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM People of the Parish  
10:30 AM Jeanne Doyle (Husband, Don)

*The Sanctuary Candle is lit this week in*



*Memory of  
Jerry McCaffrey  
From his wife  
Bonnie & family.*