

Fr. Dave's Den: **Keys**, where would we be without them? They open doors, start cars, and unlock safes. We do not usually appreciate keys until we lose them.

While keys give a sense of ownership and security, they also signify power, authority, and responsibility. Meanwhile in today's Gospel, after Peter professes his faith, Jesus says, "Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

The keys here refer to the authority of the Papacy. From Peter up until Benedict XVI, the Pope has held those keys. Today we behold this responsibility passed on by Christ to Peter and his successors and we pray for Pope Benedict.

Tuesday, August 23, we welcome to our Church Fr. Edward Yuhas and Sister Patricia Rogan who will be here to conduct a workshop for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. All of our Eucharistic Ministers are expected to attend this evening of enrichment which begins at 7:00 PM. Nearly 200 people will be in attendance.

Wednesday, August 24, is our patronal feast. Bartholomew was born at Cana. He was brought to Jesus by the Apostle Philip. After the ascension of the Lord, Bartholomew is believed to have preached the Gospel in India where he was subsequently martyred for his faith. Come and join us as we celebrate our patronal feast this Wednesday night, August 24, at 7:00 PM, with Mass. A reception will follow in the back vestibule.

Sometime this week our long awaited sculpture will arrive. This sculpture is based on the biblical phrase, "Come to me those of you who are weary and find life burdensome and I will refresh you." This sculpture will be blessed by Bishop Paul Bradley, auxiliary Bishop, on Sunday, September 25, during the 10:30 AM Mass. In anticipation of that

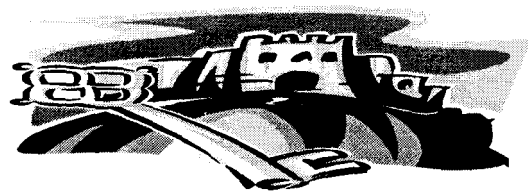
date, I invite everyone to this celebration. And please, I ask that we refrain from wearing shorts, tennis shoes, and jeans. Let's all put on our Sunday best and give thanks to God for his many graces and blessings.

As we prepare for this glorious day, we have begun to strip and wax the floor under the pews. Over the next few weeks as this work is being done the kneelers will be temporarily removed section by section to make it easier for the cleaning machinery to be used. This will allow us to fix and tighten the kneelers as well. If your pew is temporarily closed, please feel free to sit in another pew. Let us not stand in the way of progress.

Thanks to everyone who participates in our scrip program, we were able to purchase a new outside light at the corner of the rectory property and a new ice machine for the kitchen. I wish everyone would get on board with scrip. It is easy money for the Church.

Speaking of money for the Church, I want to thank everyone who contributed to the Stocking Fund. You are making a difference. What a joy it is to be able to use all of the entrances of our Church now. The railings will be painted this week. At the present time, we have collected almost \$60,000.00, but the project thus far because of overruns, etc. has cost \$75,000.00. We still need to purchase two lights for the new steps (\$1500.00 each) and two lights for in front of Church. If anyone would wish to remember a loved one by purchasing a light, please call me. In the meantime, because of the overrun we have received permission from the Diocese to raise our goal from \$70,000.00 to \$90,000.00 for the Stocking Fund. All of this money is exempt from Parish Share, so if anyone wishes to make donations in memory of or in honor of someone between now and the end of the year, please direct it to the Stocking Fund.

Have a glorious week!



School News with Mrs. Fleet

The first day of school is Thursday, August 25, 2005, and it is a half day.

Remember, we are still accepting registrations for preschool through eighth grade. Please call the school office at 412-242-2511 for more information.

Please continue to save all Campbell product labels, Box Tops for Education, and Shop n' Save receipts. Thank you for all that you do for our school family.

Vocation Awareness Retreat

An overnight retreat sponsored by the Greater Pittsburgh Serra Clubs and the Pittsburgh Religious Vocation Council will be held at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center on the South Side. If you are a single Catholic adult between the ages of 18 and 40 and question where God may be leading you in your life, this is a great opportunity to meet with others who are also questioning as well as to interact with vocation directors from various religious communities and to spend time in prayer and reflection (this weekend is free of cost). If you have any questions or would like a registration form, please contact Sister Dorothy or Fr. Dave at 412-242-3374.

Social Ministry Institute

Year of the Eucharist: Envisioning Mission and Ministry, the 16th Annual Social Ministry Institute, sponsored by Catholic Charities and the Secretariat for Pastoral and Social Concerns of the Diocese of Pittsburgh will be held on September 26, 2005 at the Holiday Inn, Greentree. This Institute provides an opportunity for those committed to the practice of Catholic Social Justice to participate in further education and to come away renewed and refreshed with a deeper sense of your own personal mission of service in the Church. If you would like further information or a registration form, please contact Sister Dorothy at 412-242-7357.

Religious Education News

Registration forms were mailed to families of students who attended CCD this past year. Additional forms are available in the rectory if needed.

We are in need of CD players that are gently used and in working order. Music is essential to our faith; we would like to be able to share this with the children. If you would be able to help, or if you have music to contribute, please call the CCD office.

We are still in need of those who are feeling the call to teach our young ones, experience not necessary! Please call the CCD office or rectory.

Blessings to all!

A Respect-Life Meditation

(Psalm 139:13-16) "Truly you have, formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb, I give you thanks that I am fearfully, wonderfully made; ... My soul also you knew full well; nor was my frame unknown to you when I was made in secret, when I was fashioned in the depths of the earth. Your eyes have seen my actions; in your book they are all written; my days were limited before one of them existed." We pray that each of us will realize that God alone has the right to determine who will be conceived, who will be born and the number of days each will be granted to work out our salvation.

Mandatory Workshop for Eucharistic Ministers

The Institute for Ministries and Department for Worship will be hosting a deanery enrichment evening for all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion on August 23, 2005, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, here at St. Bartholomew Parish. All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion from St. Bartholomew Parish are expected to participate. Please call the rectory to register. If you are unable to attend this date, please see the notice in the back of Church for other dates and locations.

Quilting and Card Party

Quilting class will begin on September 13, 2005, at 7:00 PM in Helzlsouer Hall. Please call Sue Luxbacher at 412-731-9281. Sue will be able to give you the details and sign you up for the class. Also, the Fall Fantasy Luncheon and Card Party is scheduled for Saturday, September 24, 2005, from 12:00 noon to 4:00 PM, in Helzlsouer Hall. The ticket price is \$8.00. There will be a silent auction and raffles, too. For reservations, call Katherine at 412-798-9819. We are also asking for donations of unused door prizes, if you have any to give, please call Joan at 412-731-2655 for pickup. Thank you!

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

A new Reading Group is forming! The #1 Best Seller, *The Purpose Driven Life*, is the selected book for study and discussion beginning Sunday, September 11, at 7:00 PM in the school library. Registration is \$15.00 and includes your copy of this power, life enriching best seller! Group size is limited, please register early by calling Sister Dorothy at 412-242-7357, or Denise Ludovici at 412-371-3715. Remember, this Group is also open to men.

Bereavement

A seven-week Bereavement Program is scheduled to begin on Thursday, September 15, 2005, in the Pastors Conference Room at 7:00 PM. For additional information, or to register, please contact Sister Dorothy Pawlus at 412-242-7357.

Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh

Make plans now for the Fall Craft Festival hosted by the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh. Saturday, September 10, 2005, from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM in St. Benedict Hall, 4530 Perrysville Avenue in Pittsburgh. Spaghetti dinners will be served from 3:00 to 7:00 PM, the cost of the dinners is \$8.00 for adults or \$4.00 for children under 10.

Mass Intentions



- MON., August 22 - Queenship of the Blessed Virgin**
10:00 A.M. Theresa Molchen (Husband, Matt Molchen)
- TUES., August 23 - Rose of Lima**
10:00 A.M. Tom Zacchia (MacDonald Family)
- WED., August 24 - St. Bartholomew**
7:00 P.M. People of the Parish
- THURS., August 25 - St. Louis of France**
10:00 A.M. Gliatta Family (Gliatta Family)
- FRI., August 26 - Weekday**
10:00 A.M. Albert, Sr., John, & Duane LaFrance (Kay LaFrance Wharton)
- SAT., August 27 - St. Monica**
10:00 A.M. Audrey Ruefle (Gil & Ann Ruffing)
5:00 P.M. Vingenza & Angelo Zallo (Family)
- SUN., August 28 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**
8:00 A.M. George J. Walters (Wife & Children)
10:30 A.M. Bill Maiers (Maiers Family)

Please remember in your prayers the sick, shut-ins, and hospitalized members of the Parish.

Prayers are also requested for the faithful departed:

Frank Macioce, brother of J.D. Macioce

Lancaster Bus Trip

It may be a little early for Christmas shopping, and it would certainly be early for giving a Christmas gift, but it is never too early for the Christmas Spirit! Now is the time to sign up for the St. Bart's Women's Group bus trip to Lancaster, Pa. We will be going on an over-night trip to see a performance of *Miracle of Christmas* at the Millennium Theatre. The bus will leave St. Bartholomew's parking lot at 7:45 AM on Friday, November 18, 2005 and return on Saturday, November 19, at 8:00 PM. Reservations are now being accepted until August 20, 2005 and must be accompanied by a \$50.00 deposit. Oh yeah, the cost of this momentous excursion is a price of \$195.00 per person, double occupancy. Gentlemen are welcome on this trip as well. If you have any questions, please contact Sister Dorothy at 412-242-7357 or Jessica at 412-242-3374.