

Fr. Dan's Den: "*The Inviting Jesus*." That is the name of the new sculpture of Jesus that now hangs above the tabernacle. The sculpture is based on Matthew 11:28, "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest." Every time we gaze up at this beautiful sculpture there is an invitation for us to bring our struggles and burdens to the Lord. As we do so, the Lord promises us his rest and refreshment.

Bishop Paul Bradley, auxiliary Bishop, will be here on Sunday, September 25, at the 10:30 AM Mass to bless this sculpture. As Pastor, I am grateful to the sculptor, Duncan MacDiarmid for sharing his giftedness with us. What a beautiful piece of art! I also wish to thank the anonymous couple in the parish who underwrote the entire expense (\$16,000.00) in memory of their child who died on his fifth day of life. It is evident that this loving couple went to the Lord many years ago and gave to him the burden of their loss. And I want to thank parishioner Mary Lois Verilla, who identified the sculptor and worked with me in developing the concept.

In the coming weeks, we will provide more information on the symbolism and design of *The Inviting Jesus*. In the meantime, how blessed we are to be recipients of such an awesome gift!

Today, we welcome to our parish Fr. Tommy Rodrigues. Father will preach at all the Masses about the missions. The second collection at all the Masses will be for the missions. Thank you for your generosity.

Thanks to everyone who came to celebrate our patronal feast. Special thanks to the ladies who assisted with the reception. And in that same spirit of gratitude, I wish to thank all of our Eucharistic ministers who attended the diocesan workshop this past week. Over 300 people attended the deanery-wide enrichment program at St. Bartholomew Parish.

The school bells at our parish school have been ringing since Thursday. We welcome back all of our students, old and new. And we wish all the best to our principal, Mrs. Fleet, and our dedicated

faculty. This year we have 178 students enrolled at school.

Meanwhile, our CCD program will begin the first Sunday of October. Once again, congratulations to Denise Verosky, Program Manager, and Colleen Ford, Assistant Program Manager, who have been officially approved by the Diocese. Please be sure to register your child. We wish all of our CCD students a blessed year. And we thank the men and women who teach in our CCD program. May God reward you for your kindness.

The Festival Appreciation Dinner will take place on Saturday, September 17, 2005, at 6:00 PM. This dinner is for all of those parishioners who worked before, during, or after the Festival. Please call the rectory to make your reservation.

Holy Hour resumes this Wednesday at 7:00 PM.

Monday, September 5, is Labor Day. There will be Mass at 9:00 AM at St. Bartholomew Church.

Have a glorious week!

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.



School News with Mrs. Fleet

Welcome back to school! We are very excited to begin our 51st year of academic excellence in Penn Hills.

Registrations are still available for Preschool, half-day or full-day Kindergarten, and all grades one through eight. Please call the school office for further information.

All are welcome to join us on Friday, September 2, 2005, at 10:00 AM for our opening school Mass. Mrs. Pricer and our eighth graders will help to plan our liturgy.

Volunteers are always needed to help out in the library, cafeteria, or office. Again, please call the school for more information.

We continue to save all Campbell product labels, Box Tops for Education, and Shop n' Save receipts. Thank you for your help!

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!

Choir Practice

Choir practice will begin on Thursday, September 1, 2005. Cantors are asked to come at 7:00 PM and choir members at 7:45 PM. All are welcome to join in this ministry. No experience is needed, just a desire to praise God with your whole being!

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!

Duquesne University

Duquesne University is pleased to announce the date, time, and location of our 39th Annual College Fair: Sunday, September 18, 2005, from 1:30 to 4:00 PM, in the A.J. Palumbo Center. This Duquesne tradition offers local high school juniors and seniors an opportunity to meet with representatives from over 150 of the best colleges and universities in the country. In addition, a financial aid officer will be available for questions. Duquesne University's College Fair is the largest fall event of its kind in the Pittsburgh area. It is our way of helping regional high school students plan for college. Every year, our college fair attracts thousands of students who visit Duquesne's campus to learn more about the admissions process. If you have any questions, please contact Duquesne's Office of Admissions at 412-396-6222.



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 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.

Treasures from our Tradition

We know for certain that the sacrament of penance was a fairly rare event in the life of a Christian in the early centuries, but that everyone had a duty to admit their sins and ask forgiveness before giving thanks in the Sunday Eucharist and receiving Christ's body and blood at the table. Everyone today is familiar with this same ancient pattern. We also know about Lent and its journey of renewal, and even those who are returning from summer vacations may speak of a fresh perspective on life and a resolve to do better. St. Augustine spoke of a third kind of penance, beyond the turning of the catechumens to a different life, beyond the normal everyday fresh starts, to a form that is severe and serious. Certain sins broke faith with the community: the sinners were obliged to give their names to the bishop and were barred from participation in the Eucharist. Augustine mentioned sacrilege, adultery, and murder as the culprits, great wounds for the perpetrator, wounds that were serious, deadly, mortal. Penance was such a frightening prospect that many people delayed their baptism for fear that they would sin, a practice with which Augustine was well acquainted. Pastoral need would call the church to reconsider its practice.

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Mass Intentions



MON., August 29 - Martyrdom of John the Baptist
10:00 A.M. Joseph J. Capobianco (Capobianco children)

TUES., August 30 - Weekday
10:00 A.M. Donato DiNardo (Nino & Ida Sciulli)

WED., August 31 - Weekday
7:00 P.M. Holy Hour

THURS., September 1 - Weekday
10:00 A.M. Stephen J. Tierney (Lois Tierney)

FRI., September 2 - Weekday
10:00 A.M. Jenny Gabriel (Daughter)

SAT., September 3 - St. Gregory the Great
10:00 A.M. James Meehan (Jean Vacchiano)
5:00 P.M. Richard Capone (Mr. & Mrs. Gil Ruffing)
6:00 P.M. 50th Anniversary Renewal of Vows:
Carole & Tony Mazzenga

SUN., September 4 - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 A.M. People of the Parish
10:30 A.M. 50th Wedding Anniversary: Paul & Ann Soisson

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

Prayers are also requested for the faithful departed:

Elizabeth Banas, Andrew Kruper, and Margaret Beck

READING GROUP

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.

GOLDEN AGERS

The St. Bartholomew's Golden Agers will meet Friday, September 2, 2005, in Helzlsouer Hall. Let us start the season off right! Please come.