

**Fr. Dave's Den:** Today, August 8, 2004, parishes across the Diocese of Pittsburgh are celebrating "Young Adult Sunday". On this day we honor in a special way singles and couples in their late teens, 20s and 30s.

**In our own Parish** of St. Bartholomew we thank Almighty God for the gifts, talents and energy these young adults bring to the Church and our school.

**Jesus** lived out His entire ministry and redeemed the world as a young adult. As Pastor, I hope that all of our young adults feel welcomed and appreciated. I pledge my continued prayers and support as you live out your journey.

**For more information** on Young Adult Ministry, please contact Gary Slifkey at the Department for Youth and Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese of Pittsburgh at 412-563-6373.

**The second reading today** from the Letter to the Hebrews points to one of the keys that every person, young or old needs in the journey of life, namely faith. The author states, "Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen." As we live out our lives, may God deepen our faith in Him, the Church and one another. For as the song goes, "We walk by faith, not by sight."

**In recent weeks** so many people have commented on the beauty of our Church grounds. Everything from the grass to the shrubs, to the planters and the newly painted traffic lines looks just so beautiful. Thanks to our maintenance staff, landscapers (Vigliotti) and the Green Thumbs (Rose Marie Curran, Barb Fratangelo, Patty Lucchetti, Gloria Marano, and Victoria Pfauth).

**One of the goals** for the coming year is to work on enhancing the sanctity inside our Church. Sometimes in our busyness we forget that the Church is a holy place that commands a particular reverence and respect. Often times we fail to show the proper respect with our dress. Sunday Mass is not meant to be a casual event with tee shirts, shorts, and tennis shoes. Ideally, we are to wear our Sunday best because we are encountering a special guest – Jesus Christ.

**Another way** we show our reverence in Church is

through silence. Unfortunately we live in a society that is increasingly uncomfortable with silence. When we get in the car, we turn on the radio. When we arrive at home, we turn on the TV or reach for the telephone. And when we go to Church, we turn to our neighbor and catch up on the latest news. While it is healthy that everyone wants to talk with one another, this talking should not take place in the pews before Mass when people are trying to pray.

**Finally**, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is not meant to be a drive-thru event. Ideally we should arrive prior to the start of Mass for personal prayer and we should not leave until the Priest has exited the assembly. If all of us take time to address these areas, I know that not only will the sanctity of our Church be preserved, but also, our Church will be a more prayerful place.

**Festival teardown begins today.** If you can spare an hour or two, we would greatly appreciate it. The more people who offer assistance, the faster the work will be done.

**Have a beautiful week!**

### **St. Bart's Softball News**

St. Bart's softball season will soon be ending. Where has the summer gone? It's been a good year, but not a great one. Our record is 9 and 9 so far. However, it's been great for fellowship, having fun, and representing our parish in the men's East Suburban Church League. The league is comprised of sixteen teams from many different denominations.

This year we acquired two new players - catcher/outfielder Dave Bistarkey, and infielder/outfielder Bill Burke. Both are very good players, contributing on and off the field. We will finish our season with an annual play-off tournament on Saturday, August 14, at Friendship Park.

We appreciate and thank our 2004 sponsors which include the following: National City Bank, Fedele Insurance Services, Charles W. Trenz Funeral Home, Fox Chapel Giant Eagle, Douglas Borello, William Gross Funeral Home, Linda Calamarino, Penn Hills Foodland, Soxman Funeral Home, Renaissance Family Practice, Wexford Farms Home Grown Produce (available at all Giant Eagles), and Jerry Chiappinelli Insurance.

School News with Mrs. Fleet

Remember that though the school year has ended you can still register your children for preschool through eighth grade at St. Bart’s school. Also, please continue to save Campbell’s product labels, Shop N Save receipts, Box Tops for Education, and school friendly copy paper.

St. Bart’s School 50th Anniversary and PTG

Members of the PTG will be in the vestibule of the Church at all Masses this weekend to gather contact information for alumni to the upcoming celebration of the school’s 50th anniversary to be held in November 2004. The PTG will hold similar registration opportunities during the first weekends in September and October.

Mount Alvernia High School

Congratulations to St. Bart’s Mt. Alvernia honor students *Jessica Hon* and *Amy Yonick*, and high honor student *Julia Pavlovic*.

**BINGO**

St. Bart’s Bingo is held every Monday night in Helzlsouer Hall, starting at 7:00 PM. *Monday night Bingo resumes this week. Thank you for making Festival Bingo a great success!*

Religious Education News with Arlene Golden

The religious education office is closed for the summer. Classes for religious education will begin the third Sunday of September.

A Respect Life Meditation

(Cardinal Lopez Trusillo, Pontifical Council for the Family on “Family Law and Childrens’ Right, July 1993) “The first right of a child is to be born in a family within a marriage, as a stable and responsible union of love from a truly human act, and to be welcomed, loved, protected, and educated, and formed in an integral way.”

We pray that these basic, common-sense insights into the essence of a true family will be recognized, accepted, and put into practice by all members of the human family.

Life Teen - Leading Teens Closer to Christ

This is a test! Do the teens read the announcements in the bulletin or do the parents? If it’s the teens: we will see you again on September 11. If it’s the parents, this announcement is for you: We’re having a Parents Kick-off meeting on Saturday, August 14 at 6:00 PM in the Pastors Conference Room. You will see a formal invitation in the mail soon. Please RSVP to Colleen Ford at 412-242-3277.

Music Notes

Why This Music Now?

*The Acclamation before the Gospel*

“An acclamation of this kind constitutes in itself a rite or act, by which the assembly of the faithful praises and welcomes and greets the Lord who is about to speak to them in the Gospel and professes its faith in liturgical song. The Alleluia is sung by all standing, led by either the choir or a cantor, and if appropriate, it may be repeated. The verse itself is sung either by the choir or by a cantor.” (Paragraph 62, Chapter 2, General Instruction of the Roman Missal.)

During the season of Lent, the Alleluia is omitted due to the solemnity of the season. We still, however, sing an acclamation like “Praise and honor to you, O Lord.” The verse is almost always taken from the lectionary, however, a “general” verse may be also used, such as: *Speak Lord, your servant is listening, you have the words of everlasting life.*

It is interesting to note that many non-Catholics have said: “How come all the sitting and standing then kneeling - there is so much choreography in your church.” The Gospel acclamation is a perfect example of how we express our faith even with our actions during Mass. We praise Him with all of our being. In this case, we stand while the Gospel Acclamation is sung because God is about to speak to us through the Gospel about to be proclaimed. We stand when the bride enters the Church at a wedding, we stand when the President or a judge enters the room. We can certainly stand when the Word of God is proclaimed!

Correction to last week’s article:

The final quote, “How I love your teaching, Lord! I study it all day long,” comes from Psalm 119, verse 97.

## Preparation

Imagine the following scene: you sit down in your school desk. The teacher walks the aisle, placing the paper before you, face down. You set your watch. You will have exactly one hour to do the test. You turn the paper over. Then it hits you: you never took any notes. You never studied or did even one assignment. For a student, lack of preparation is the nightmare of nightmares. Jesus talks about the need for preparation in today's Gospel. God is pleased to give us the kingdom, Jesus says. "Gird your loins and light your lamps." See that you are prepared.

Jesus' teaching reminds us of the question once posed to St. Francis de Sales and his companions, who, according to the story, were playing billiards. "What would you do if you knew the end of the world was coming in one hour?" The friends of Francis shared various plottings of how they would get their affairs in order. Most mentioned prayer. Francis shrugged, "I would continue doing what I am doing." Are *you* ready to meet the Lord? © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

## Treasures from our Tradition

The wonderful diversity of life and worship among Roman Catholics of East and West is an example of God writing straight with crooked lines. The steady hand of the villainous Emperor Diocletian drew a line across Europe and Africa that split the empire in two divisions, and for the most part determined how Christians would worship two thousand years later.

Italy's heel and the far northern city of Trieste fell on the Eastern side, and have had a form of Eastern liturgy ever since. Constantinople, which soon became the seat of the Roman Empire, became a base for Christianizing the East up to Russia and Poland. Poland was on the Eastern side, but a series of wars and medieval mayhem pushed the religious boundary back to the Ukraine, and Poland remains an outpost of the Latin Church to this day.

An old rule of thumb declared that whatever religion was observed by the local prince, the people had to follow. This gave rise to persecution and migration as people sought toleration for their expressions of faith. In the United States, we are accustomed to peaceful collaboration among Christians of East and West, a situation that challenges Churches that still feel the pinch of age-old division.

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## Mass Intentions



### **MON., August 9 - Weekday**

10:00 A.M. Ralph & Mary Zattola (Laura - Daughter)

### **TUES., August 10 - St. Lawrence**

10:00 A.M. Stella Welgs (Family)

### **WED., August 11 - St. Clare**

2:00 P.M. Duff Manor: Communion Service

7:00 P.M. Holy Hour

### **THURS., August 12 - Weekday**

10:00 A.M. Thomas Dougherty (Margaret Dougherty)

### **FRI., August 13 - Weekday**

10:00 A.M. William J. Landy (John & Joyce, Loretta & Carl Rarden)

### **SAT., August 14 - St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe**

10:00 A.M. Dorothy Millinski (Marlene & Bill Maxim)

11:00 A.M. Confessions heard until 12:00 noon

5:00 P.M. Bauer Family (Gino & Mary Jean DeJuliis)

### **SUN., August 15 - Assumption of Mary**

8:00 A.M. People of the Parish

10:30 A.M. Bob & Betty Klaus (Family)

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

Prayers are also requested for the faithful departed:

**Angeline Liberi and William J. Hudaky**

Last weekend we welcomed in baptism:

**Rachael Marie McCann, Somer Meadow Serrao,**

**Dominic Spatolisano, and Lucca Spatolisano**

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Weekly Offering: Total: \$8523.50 Env. Dist.: 1753 Env. Used: 639  
Scrip Program Approximate Profit: \$268.74

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## VOCATION AWARENESS WEEKEND 2004



Have you been thinking about life as a Priest, Sister, or Brother? The Pittsburgh Religious Vocations Council and the Serra Clubs of the Pittsburgh Diocese are sponsoring a Vocation Awareness Weekend at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center on September 24 through 26, 2004.

The weekend is open to Catholic men and women, ages 18 to 40. There is no cost for participants. For information about registration, call the Office of Consecrated Life at 412-921-5800. Information is also available in the back vestibule of Church. Let us continue to work together to invite laborers into the service of the Lord's

