



John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16

Readings for the Week of December 13, 2009	
Sunday:	Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18
Monday:	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday:	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday:	Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17
Friday:	Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
Saturday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
Next Sunday:	Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

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Faith Formation Question of the Week
Third Sunday of Advent
"The Joy of Kindness"

Key Passage Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. Philippians 4:4-5

Adult To whom have your past acts of kindness brought joy? What act of kindness could you do this week?

Child What kind thing have you done for someone lately? Whom could you make happy by your kindness this week?

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FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

..... Jim Russell, chairman 767-4398	
Weekly Goal	\$6,432
Offertory Collection Dec. 6, 2009	\$5,271
Weekly Electronic Giving	<u>825</u>
Total	\$6,096

Your donation to the Retirement Fund for Reliculous provides critical support to religious institutes in meeting the escalating costs of elder care. Please pray for all religious and give generously to today's special collection.

ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS: Signup sheets for the Christmas Masses are in the vesting sacristy. Note we will not need as many Eucharistic Ministers this year because we will not be offering the Eucharistic Cup at Masses.



Small Blessings

Parents with their infants and preschool children are invited to attend our **Nativity** gathering on **Monday, Dec. 14th from 10:00-11:00 a.m.** Our leader will be Julie Halter. If you want to join our group, please contact Emily Garvin at esgarvin@yahoo.com or just come to one of our gatherings!



Chester's Kids Children's Liturgy of the Word

Dec. 20th – 4th Sunday of Advent (C)
9 AM Prayer & Reader: Mollie Coburn
Homilist: Sue Guerette
11AM Prayer & Reader: Emily Mitchell
Homilist: Lynn Blank



Faith Friends Grades 2, 3, & 4

4:15-6 pm Dec. 15th Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal.
NOTE REHEARSAL RUNS TO 6 PM



GOOD NEWS DISCIPLES Grade 5 & 6
 Dec. 15th 3-6 pm

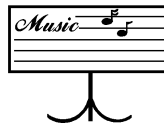
Permission slips for gift delivery must be signed in order for disciples to participate in the delivery of Giving Tree Gifts.



JrYM (Edge) and YM (Lifeteen) will help with the Christmas Prelude weekend Dec. 4-6th.

Dec. 13th: Jr. YM 1-2 pm. YM 1-2 pm Poor Me" Preferential Option for the Poor.

Dec. 20th Jr. YM Christmas Social with session to follow from 11-2 and YM Christmas Social from 11-2 with session to follow "Big Feet!" Charity and Justice.



If you would like to be a part of any of the choirs at St. Bartholomew at Christmas, it is not too late. AND looking for instrumentalists for all of the Christmas liturgies. No matter which

Mass you plan to attend on Christmas, if you would like to share your gift of music contact Irene (893-0329 or e-mail).

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, January 30, 2010
The Finance Committee is once again hosting the popular Italian Supper. Tickets will go on sale the beginning of January.

Third Sunday of Advent – December 13, 2009

“All were questioning in their hearts.” Are you considering a vocation as a priest, deacon or in consecrated life? Call Fr. Bob Vaillancourt @ 207-773-6471 / robert.vaillancourt@portlanddiocese.org or Sr. Rita Mae Bissonnette @ 207-773-6471 / ritamae.bissonnette@portlanddiocese.org.



BAPTISM

The following baptisms took place at St. Bartholomew Church. Welcome all!

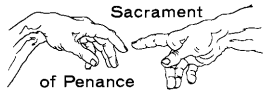
On Oct. 24th **Colford James Engle** son of Scott and Sarah Engle

On Nov. 8th **Edward James Garvin** son of James and Emily Garvin

On Nov. 21st **Nicholas Eamon Golden** son of Nicholas Golden and Sheila Murphy

On Nov. 22nd **Katherine Julia Halter** daughter of Jeffrey and Julie Halter

On Dec. 6th **Ava Lindsey Lewis** daughter of John and Neeburbunn Lewis



Jesus' work among us was a work of reconciliation and healing. When he walked among us, Jesus forgave sins and restored the health of numerous people whom he met. The healing now stretches out through the ministry of the Church, the body of Christ, to all who call upon Jesus. The children prepared for the Sacrament of Reconciliation: **Madeline Bauman, Finn Bowe, Bridget Brett, Mike Brooks, Rachel Conrad, Stephanie Derrig, Julie Derzawiec, Charlotte Emerson, Elizabeth Enna, Samantha Guerette, David Hare, Emily Healy, Tony Inhorn, Sarah Knupp, Elise Leary-Forrey, Emily Logue, Caroline Murphy, Cully Richard, Madison Sarka and Erin O'Rourke.** May God Bless you!



WEDDING vows were exchanged between **James Lomac** of our parish and Sheila Ann Roy on Oct. 24th.

FUNERAL SERVICES were held at St. Bartholomew Church:

On Nov. 7th for **Michelle Lynn Stackpole**, daughter of Joanne Stackpole of our parish

On Dec. 6th for **Robert Packer**, husband of Margaret Packer and father of Robert Packer, Jr.

Please pray for their souls.

Continued from Dec. 6th bulletin: Our ongoing adult education focus presents a glossary of Catholic Words from the Catechism of the Catholic Church which has been composed with reference to the language of the Catechism itself: the numbers in parentheses refer to the number(s) in the Catechism where the term or concept is explained.

COUNCIL, ECUMENICAL: A gathering of all the bishops of the world, in the exercise of their collegial authority over the universal Church. An ecumenical council is usually called by the successor of St. Peter, the Pope, or at least confirmed or accepted by him (884).

COVENANT: A solemn agreement between human beings or between God and a human being involving mutual commitments or guarantees. The Bible refers to God's covenants with Noah, Abraham, and Moses as leader of the chosen people, Israel. In the Old Testament or Covenant, God revealed his law through Moses and prepared his people for salvation through the prophets. In the New Testament or Covenant, Christ established a new and eternal covenant through his own sacrificial death and Resurrection. The Christian economy is the new and definitive Covenant which will never pass away, and no new public revelation is to be expected before the glorious manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ (56, 62, 66). See Old Testament; New Testament.



“Giving Tree” Christmas 2009

This weekend St. Bartholomew Parish concludes its Giving Tree program. We appreciate your tremendous generosity.

Gifts are due by today – Sunday December 13th at noon! Please return the second half of the tag attached to your gift. If you have any questions please call Kate Stewart at 799-3903 or Nancy O’Sullivan at 767-5502.

Catholic Charities Maine Refugee & Immigration Services is in need of a large variety of donations to meet the resettlement needs for this year's projected 300 new arrivals. Since refugees arrive with very few belongings we need to help them get settled and find furnishings. The following items are needed: chairs, dining room tables, dressers, hangers, alarm clocks, sofas, love seats, twin and full beds, coffee tables/end tables, desks, linens (sheets and pillowcases, blankets, comforters, and towels). Please contact Tarlan @ 523-2729 to arrange for pick-up if you have any of these items to donate. Thank you for your support.



RETROUVAILLE.....a Lifeline

Rediscover a loving marriage with a Retrouvaille marriage is tearing the two of you apart, if there is little or no meaningful communication, if you are considering separation or divorce, we believe Retrouvaille can help you. The next New England Retrouvaille marriage renewal weekends will be held January 15-17, 2010, and April 16-18, 2010 in Massachusetts. To register for the weekend or for more information, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 1-800-470-2230.

Mass Intentions for the Week

INSERT MORNING CONNECTION

Monday, December 14

8:30 AM Eucharistic Service

Tuesday, December 15

8:30 AM †**Emery Nickerson**
Requested by John and Maura Kilgallen

Wednesday, December 16

8:30 AM Eucharistic Service

Thursday, December 17

8:30 AM †**Julia Van Veen**
Requested by Carl Maddaleni

Friday, December 18

8:30 AM Eucharistic Service

Sunday, December 20

9:00 AM †**Theresa Carey**
Requested by Bill and Sue L'Hommedieu

11:00 AM †**John Cross**
Requested by Eileen and Jim Totten

The sanctuary candle will burn for one week as a continuous prayer before God. If anyone would like to schedule the Sanctuary Lamp for an upcoming week, please call the parish office at 799-5528. Donation is \$10.

Servers

Sunday December 20

	<u>9:00 AM</u>	<u>11:00 AM</u>
Altar Ser	E.Dineen H.Dineen	L.Grassin-Drake C.Kelly
Euch Min	P.Dumont M.Gilchrest D.Maddaleni T.Meschinelli J.Meschinelli	L.Brennan D.Canarie M.FitzGerald K.Ornatek M.Rauth
Lector	P.Russell	L.Grassin-Drake
Ushers	L.Chace	M.Staszko

COFFEE AND DONUTS IN THE PARISH HALL



Coffee and donuts are served each week after Sunday Mass during the school year. Please stay. catch up with old friends, and meet new ones.

Coffee Servers

Dec. 13	9 Mass	Joe and Bobbi Rosolino
	11 Mass	Capobianco family
Dec. 20	9 Mass	Dineen family
	11 Mass	—NO COFFEE AND DONUTS—Jr.
YM and YM Christmas Social		

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Christmas Hide and Seek Pageant Sunday Dec. 20th at 10:15

St. Bartholomew parishioners are invited to stay after the 9 Mass or come early for the 11 Mass to learn that Christmas is more than just presents.

Advent Prayer Services with Holy Cross School **Every Tuesday** during December, Holy Cross Students will gather in the church at **9:00 for an Advent Prayer Service**. Please feel free to join us.



Free Advent Resources are located on the tables at the back of the church.

*St. Bartholomew Christmas Prelude Summary
With Thanks and Gratitude*

St. Bartholomew Parish would like to thank all the crafters who participated in this year's craft fair. Special thanks to those on the Christmas Prelude Committee: Gail Atkins, Marie and Gregory Corsello, Kathy Jalbert, Patrice Leary-Forey, Gwyneth Maguire, Gerry Martin, Toni Meehan, Trish Morin, Heather Mullen, Gail Prince, Joe and Bobbie Rosolino, Kate Stewart, Liz and Kelly Sullivan, Mike Lotfey, Faith Formation Committee, Parish Life Committee, the Women's Group and Heidi Czerkes and Youth Ministry.

THE SILENT NIGHT RAFFLE WINNERS ARE POSTED ON THE PARISH EVENTS BULLETIN BOARD IN THE NARTHEX. (YOU MIGHT **NOT** WANT TO READ THE LIST IF YOU THINK YOU MIGHT BE THE RECIPIENT OF THE GIFT THAT WAS WON BY A FAMILY MEMBER.)

Income from Christmas Prelude	
Rental by crafters	\$1,250.00
Bake Sale	324.64
Pictures with St. Nick	50.00
Silent Night Raffle	579.15
Snack Bar	189.00
YM Pancake Breakfast and Wiseman's Treasure Chest	574.46
Pointsetta Sales	120.00
TOTAL	\$3,087.25
Fun and comraderie among parishioners PRICELESS!	

The **Women's Group** meets every **Tuesday at 10:00 am**. All women of the parish are invited to show up and have a good time.

My Sister's Keeper needs all sizes of boots. Thank you.

Cluster Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve December 24th

4 pm Holy Cross
4 pm St. John the Evangelist
4 pm St. Maximilian Kolbe
4 pm St. Bartholomew
6 pm St. Maximilian Kolbe
7 pm St. Bartholomew
7 pm St. John the Evangelist
9 pm St. Maximilian Kolbe
10 pm St. Bartholomew

10 pm Holy Cross

Christmas Morning December 25th

9 am St. John the Evangelist
10 am St. Maximilian Kolbe
10 am St. Bartholomew



Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God, Friday, Jan. 1st is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Cluster Masses are as follows:
Dec. 31st 6:30 pm St. John the Evangelist
Jan. 1st 9 am St. Bartholomew
10:30 St. Maximilian Kolbe
9 am Holy Cross



FOOD CUPBOARD

Evergreen Credit Union has very generously raised \$4,500 for us. This comes at a critical time as our grocery bills are close to that amount these past few months. We are very grateful for their support.

St. Bartholomew's grades 5 & 6 students collected bags and bags of specifically needed food items for us. Every year St. Bart's does the best food drives ever. They collect the items we request, sort them in bags and deliver. **Way to Go girls & boys. Thank you!**

Other food collections were done by Snap Fitness, Money Market Management, Bridgeway Restaurant, and more on the way.

A special food drive was held by Meredith Willard and her friend. They celebrated their birthdays by requesting specific food items for the Cupboard. Meredith not only brought them into the Cupboard (volunteering with her Mom, Carolyn, and sister, Adrienne) but marked them and put them on the shelves. **Pretty special Meredith, thank you!**

December numbers of visitors to the Cupboard are high too, 63 families the first week. If it were not for the support of so many people, businesses and very thoughtful organizations we would not be able to serve so many, so our gratitude goes to all of you! God Bless!