



Jesus said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. - Lk 2:49-50

Readings for the Week of December 27, 2009

Sunday: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52
Monday: 1 Jn 1:5---2:2/Mt 2:13-18
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18
Friday: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

©Liturgical Publications Inc

Faith Formation Question of the Week

Holy Family

"Respect for Elders"

Key Passage Jesus went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. Luke 2:51a

Adult What does your family do to honor and respect its older members?

Child Why did Jesus leave the temple? How can Jesus be an example for you?

Reprinted with permission from Heritage of Faith, by Jo Rotunno. Copyright ©2004; all rights reserved. Published by Twenty-Third Publications, Mystic, CT 06355; (800) 321-0411.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

..... Jim Russell, chairman 767-4398

Offertory reports for December 20th were not available in time for publication in this weekend's bulletin.



The office will be closed Friday, Friday January 1st.

STRUGGLING WITH ALCOHOL/DRUG ISSUES?

Catholic Charities Maine Counseling Services offers confidential substance abuse and mental health counseling for those experiencing problems and/or family members needing assistance. Immediate appointments available. Walk-ins welcome. Mon-Fri. 10 am-4 pm@250 Anderson St., Portland. Call 775-5671



Small Blessings

Parents with their infants and preschool children are invited to attend our Epiphany/Kings gathering on Monday, Jan. 4th from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Our leader will be Emily Garvin. 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

Jan. 3rd - Solemnity of the Epiphany (C) 9 AM Prayer & Reader: Jennifer Haines

Homilist: Nancy O'Sullivan

11 AM Prayer & Reader: Emily Mitchell

Homilist: Mary Ellen Carignan



Faith Friends Grades 2, 3, & 4

Jan. 5th NO SESSION FOR CHILDREN. Faith Friends planning session 4-5:30 pm. Next session for children will be Jan 12th.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Sat. Jan 23 from 9:30-11:30 am

(Snow date: Sunday Jan. 24th 1-3pm)

This retreat will include workshops on the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. A parent or sponsor must attend with the child. Baptismal information and sponsor name are due at this retreat. Also, please bring a memento from your child's baptism to be shared during the retreat.



GOOD NEWS DISCIPLES Grade 5 & 6

Jan. 5th NO SESSION FOR CHILDREN. Good News Disciples planning 4-5:30 pm. Next session for children will be Jan 12th.



JrYM (Edge) and YM (Lifeteen)

Dec. 27th 5:30-7:30 Service Project-help at Soup Kitchen

January 3rd Noon-2:00 pm Sledding party



Please help cook and serve at the Wayside Evening Soup Kitchen at the corners of Preble and Oxford Streets in Portland on December 27th. Cooks should arrive at 4 pm and servers at 5:30 pm. FMI contact John Koller at 885-5236 or Jim Huebener at 767-1754. It is a cold and dark time of year to be hungry. Please share your time and energy to bring light into someone else's world.

New Year/New Start!

Holy Cross School has limited openings in grades Pre-K through 8. If your child needs a fresh start with the start of the New Year, please call Sister Theresa at 799-6661 to discuss if Holy Cross might be right for your child. New enrollments may begin at any time.

Our Pre-K has a new session beginning in January. We accept 4 and 5 year olds into our program with a focus on Kindergarten readiness. Our schedule is flexible, with 3 and 5 day programs, either half or full day available. (Before and After Care is also available from 7:00 am-5:30 pm.) Our Pre-K is fully integrated into the rest of the school, with our Pre-K students enjoying art, gym, and music classes, as well as weekly meetings with their 4th Grade Prayer Partners for reading, projects and fun! For more information, please call Mary Anne Landry at 799-0702.

CATHERINE MCAULEY

Catherine McAuley High School will be holding its final **High School Placement Test** for the class of 2014 on **January 9, 2010**. Students who take this exam will be eligible for two Academic Scholarships. These scholarships are for the 8th grade students who have shown academic excellence by being the top ranking students, placing in the 97th percentile or higher nationally on the exam. Registration for the exam begins at 8:20am and the exam will end at 11:30am. For further details, call the admissions office today at 797-3802. Walk-ins are welcome.

Holy Family – December 27, 2009

“He gave power to become children of God.” If you think you may be called to share the Father’s love as a priest, deacon, sister or brother, call Fr. Bob Vaillancourt @ 207-773-6471 / robert.vaillancourt@portlanddiocese.org or Sr. Rita Mae Bissonnette @ 207-773-6471 / ritamae.bissonnette@portlanddiocese.org.

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, loveseats, 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.

Continued from Dec. 20th 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.

COVETOUSNESS: A disordered inclination or desire for pleasure or possessions. One of the capital sins, it is proscribed by the ninth and tenth commandments (2514, 2534).

CREATION: The act by which the eternal God gave a beginning to all that exists outside of himself. Creation also refers to the created universe or totality of what exists, as often expressed by the formula “the heavens and the earth” (290).



Prayerline requests

St. Bartholomew Parish offers participation in a “prayer line” for special intentions. **If you have an illness, unemployment, safety issue, etc. for which you would like prayers, please call Ted Dalton at 767-3469. All intentions can be kept confidential.** Also call Ted if you would like to join this ministry and share **your devotion to the “power of prayer.”**



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.

OR

Your marriage is important to you, your family and the Church. Spring sure seems a long way off right now. But with families, busy jobs and schedules, long term planning is important. Your marriage is important. We have two Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends planned for the upcoming spring. The first is **March 19-21 at the Lewiston Ramada Inn**, primarily for the convenience of those living in the southern part of the state, and a weekend scheduled for the Bangor Ramada Inn for those in northern part of the state. The weekend is designed as a private experience between husband and wife that develops deeper communication, restores hopes and dreams, renews passion, affirms the uniqueness of each couple and inspires good marriages to grow into even better marriages. Plan now to join us for an amazing 44 hours of renewal - all sacramental relationships deserve such a treat. The registration fee is \$50 and a freewill donation will be accepted at the end of the weekend. For more information or to register contact Dave & Ellie at 207-933-4237 or go to www.womenewengland.org

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, December 28

8:30 AM Eucharistic Service

Tuesday, December 29

8:30 AM †Sally Felbaum

Requested by Barbara Jordan

Wednesday, December 30

8:30 AM Eucharistic Service

Thursday, December 31

8:30 AM †Dr. Raymond Lucien Lebel

Requested by Shirley and Eileen Dunfey

Friday, December January 1

9:00 AM †Robert King

Requested by Carl and Denny Maddaleni

Sunday, January 3

9:00 AM †James L. Ryer, Jr.

Requested by the Guerette family

11:00 AM Intentions of Cluster 22 Parishioners

Servers

Sunday January 3

	<u>9:00 AM</u>	<u>11:00 AM</u>
Altar Ser	C.Coburn P.Coburn	E.Canarie L.Grassin-Drake
Euch Min	G.Atkins J.Boyington E.Dunfey T.Meschinelli J.Meschinelli	K.Ornatek B.Pesirla M.Pesirla M.Rauth C.Reid
Lector	P.Russell	V.Herrick
Ushers	J.Koller	J.Herrick

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. 27 NO COFFEE AND DONUTS

Jan 3 9 Mass Willitts family

11 Mass David Mitchell family



Thank you to the small group leaders who have answered the call to lead the faith-sharing groups starting in Lent 2010. This year our goal is to see how our church community, and each of us as members of this community, can transform society or serve the society in which we live in order to support everyone in their call to holiness and to live a God-centered life. In short, "God's Love Changes Everything." In January, we will share with you more about this program, and you will have the opportunity to sign up for a faith-sharing group, which will meet six times during Lent and once during Easter. Participating in these activities is a great way to make Lent an enriching spiritual experience. You will learn more about Scripture and how group members apply it to their lives. Be ready to sign up in January!

CATHOLIC TRAILBLAZERS

In 4-sessions, Laurel Grassin-Drake will lead us on an exploration of four Catholic Trailblazers who have shaped Western Christianity throughout the years. Come find out how the works of **St. Augustine, St. Albert the Great, St. Theresa of Avila, and St. Alphonsus Liguori** have helped us in our understanding of God and in our relationship to God and the church. We will meet on **Thursday evenings from 7-8:30 pm starting Jan. 21st and ending on Feb. 11th**. Signups start in January - look for the signup sheet in the Narthex.

Confirmation Preparation for Adult Catholics

In Lent 2010, we will be offering a program for adults who have been baptized in a Catholic church, but, for one reason or another, have never received the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you fall into this situation, please contact Kathy Williamson for a personal interview and to signup for this preparation program. Receiving the Holy Spirit in a public ritualistic ceremony is so moving and deepens your relationship with the Holy Spirit abiding within you. Please join us for this wonderful encounter with the Divine that is life-changing.



join us as we adore our Lord.

Please join us at Saint Max for a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament every Wednesday morning immediately following Mass (from 8:30 til 9:30). The first ten minutes consists of a led vocal prayer for vocations and the remainder of the hour is for quiet prayer and reflection. We invite you to



THE SANCTUARY LAMP WILL BURN THIS
WEEK December 27-January 2
For Herbert G. Miller
Requested by David and Patricia Dawes

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.



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

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.

DESPERATE NEED

My Sister's Keeper needs outerwear including coats, boots, hats and gloves of all sizes. Drop off at St. Bartholomew. Thank you.



The social event of the **St. Bartholomew Parish year is approaching. On Saturday evening, January 30th we will hold our annual Italian Dinner.** This is not some typical parish spaghetti supper but a marvelous true multi-course Italian feast and it has been loads of fun every year. **Msgr. Henchal** is warming up his vocal chords to lead us in a few Italian songs of yesteryear and even the year before that. **Tickets are \$30 per person, but \$200 for a table of 8.** Save the \$40 and find yourselves a table full of amici to sit with. Tickets will go on sale the first weekend in January after the Masses. Grazie

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

For many years, St. Bartholomew Church has been relying on **Joe Bieber** as our one and only acolyte. (An acolyte is an adult altar server used primarily for funerals.) Joe has done an exceptional job in this ministry. Grieving families appreciate a well run funeral service. We need a few people to step forward and train to become acolytes. There are anywhere between 10-20 funerals per year at St. Bartholomew Church so this is not a huge commitment but you must be available on weekday mornings. Please contact Gail Atkins at 799-5528 if you would like to be trained for this ministry.