

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ **TODAY, AUGUST 24, 2008, ST. BARTHOLOMEW THE APOSTLE Commemoration and Last Gospel of Pentecost XV.** You are welcome to a reception in honor of the Sisters of St. Thomas Aquinas after the 9 and 11:30 AM Masses. Sunday Vespers, Immaculate Heart of Mary Devotions and Benediction are at **4:45 PM**

✠ THIS WEEK

The Rosary will be prayed in reparation and to end abortion at the Auburn Ave. Abortion Clinic starting at 9:30 AM. Please join us in this act of penance.

✠ NEXT SUNDAY

Set your Missal, Pentecost XVI with the commemoration of St. Raymond, Preface of the Trinity (No Vespers).

✠ UPCOMING EVENTS

- † First Day of School: Sept. 3rd
- † Registration for Catechism: Sept. 7th
- † Nativity of Mary, **Birth Party** for "Baby Mary": Sept. 8th
- † Parish Picnic: Sept. 21st

MEDITATION OF THE DAY

A Spiritual Crop

Saint Theodore, abbot and eminent doctor, says, among other things, about this apostle: "Bartholomew, the blessed apostle of God, first preached in Lycaonia, later in India, and lastly in Albana, a city of Greater Armenia, where he was flayed alive and beheaded, then buried there. When he was being sent to preach, he had heard this, I think, from the Lord: 'Go, my disciple, go and preach, go out and fight, you are fit to face dangers! I accomplished my Father's works. I was the first witness. Now you fill up what is still needed, imitate your Master, emulate your Lord, put your blood with his blood, give flesh for flesh! What I have suffered and borne for you, suffer! Your weapons are good will in toil, gentleness toward those who wrong you, patience amidst the things that pass. The apostle did not refuse. As a faithful servant consenting to his master's command he went forward rejoicing, as

the light of the world to dispel the darkness, as the salt of the earth to preserve the insipid pagans, as a tiller of the earth to bring to fruition a spiritual crop. The apostle Peter does great prodigies: Bartholomew performs mighty miracles. Peter is crucified head downward; Bartholomew, after being flayed alive, had his head cut off. As clearly as Peter grasps the meaning of mysteries, so deeply is Bartholomew able to penetrate them. They both make the Church fruitful... All the apostles, dividing the world among themselves, were constituted shepherds of the King of kings. Armenia, from Eulath to Gabaoth, was Bartholomew's lot and portion. See him using his tongue as a plow to cultivate the spiritual soil, hiding the word of faith in the depths of hearts, planting the gardens and vineyards of the Lord, grafting on healing remedies for the sufferings of men, weeding out harmful thorns. He cuts down the forests of impiety, he builds fences of sound doctrine."

BLESSED JACOBUS DE VORAGINE

Blessed Jacobus (f 1298) was a Dominican friar, archbishop of Genoa, Italy, and an esteemed peacemaker and father to the poor.

PRAYER FOR THE EVENING

Blessed be God in all his saints!
Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.
Alleluia!

Servers

AUGUST 18 - AUGUST 24, 2008

- MON 8/25 5:00 PM LOW: G. Keaveney
- TUE 8/26 8:00 AM LOW: B. Lotarski
5:00 PM DISTRIBUTE HOLY COMMUNION: J. Bayer
- WED 8/27 6:30 AM LOW: C. & T. Simpson
5:00 PM DISTRIBUTE HOLY COMMUNION: G. Keaveney
- THU 8/28 8:00 AM LOW: F. Puglielli, T. Kunkel
5:00 PM DISTRIBUTE HOLY COMMUNION: C. Ritze
- FRI 8/29 5:45 PM LOW: G. Keaveney, C. Ritze, J. Bayer, J. Soli
- SAT 8/30 7:30 AM LOW: C. & T. Simpsons
- SUN 8/31 7:30 AM LOW: D. & S. Brueggemann
9:00 AM HIGH: MC: R. VandeRyt TH: J. Lotarski with T. Kunkel AC: FG. Wnek, B. Lotarski TORCH: P. Duff, J. Simpson, S. Phillips, D. Wnek
11:30 AM LOW: J & M Brugger
5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller

Ushers

AUGUST 24, 2008

- 7:30 AM John Wiesman, Kent Maki, Joe Andreotta, Jim Kolenich
- 9:00 AM Dale Wilker Richard Smith, Jim Gebel, Bernie Brueggemann
- 11:30 AM Bob Uhlenbrock, Dennis Hille, Kirby Bischel, Will Wiegand
- 5:45 PM John Seyfried

✠ POETRY CORNER

AT THE WEDDING MARCH

BY GERARD HOPKINS, SJ.

God with honour hang your head,
Groom, and grace you, bride, your bed
With lissome scions, sweet scions,
Out of hallowed bodies bred.

Each be other's comfort kind:
Deep, deeper than divined,
Divine charity, dear charity,
Fast you ever, fast bind.

Then let the march tread our ears:
I to him turn with tears
Who to wedlock, his wonder wedlock
Deals triumph and immortal years.

HAWKESYARD

(House of Studies for Dominican Novices)

BY SISTER MARY BENVENUTA, O. P.

THIS is the mew of God set high
Beneath the heavens' windy rafter,
Whence all His falconry shall fly,
And, clean of wing and clear of eye,
Make sport to wake the angels'-
laughter.
Ah, birds of God,
What prey shall ye bring home
hereafter?

Here, hooded by His hand they sit,
Nor fear the due monastic jesses
That leash them to His wrist, and knit
Their wills to His, as should befit
The fledglings of His tenderesses,
Who shall repay
Some day, this spring-time of caresses.



Collection Report

Sunday, Aug. 15th.....\$2,314.00
Sunday, Aug. 17th.....\$4,458.38

*Thank you for your generosity!
Remember St. Gertrude's in your will!*

✠ THE CALENDAR

MON	8/25/08	ST. LOUIS, KING, C 5:00 PM Requiem High Mass <i>Purgatorial Society</i>
TUES	8/26/08	RESUMED MASS OF SUNDAY, ST. ZEPHYRINUS <i>Week 11 of the Thirteen Tuesdays in honor of St. Anthony follows both Masses.</i> 8:00 AM Low Mass <i>Special Intention for Beckie Mattingly (Cathy & Chelsea Merritt)</i> 5:00 PM Distribution of Holy Communion <i>St. Anthony Devotions</i>
WED	8/27/08	ST. JOSEPH CALASANCTIUS, C <i>Seven Joys of O. L.</i> 6:30 AM Low Mass <i>Bp Robert McKenna O. P. 50th Anniversary (Anne Hagerty-Smith)</i> 5:00 PM Distribution of Holy Communion
THUR	8/28/08	ST. AUGUSTINE, BPCD, ST. HERMES, M 8:00 AM Low Mass <i>Special Intention the Poeppelman Family</i> 5:00 PM Distribution of Holy Communion
FRI	8/29/06	BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, ST. SABINA, M 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:45 PM Low Mass <i>The Faithful Departed of Our Parish (Bernie Brueggemann)</i> Novena, Benediction, and Confessions
SAT	8/30/08	ST. ROSE OF LIMA, V, SS. FELIX & ADAUCTUS, MM 7:15 AM Confessions 7:30 AM Low Mass <i>Charles Simpson (Knights of the Sacred Heart)</i>
SUN	8/31/08	ST. RAYMOND NONNATUS, C, PENTECOST XVI, St. Aidan, BpC 7:30 AM Low Mass <i>For the Salvation of my Children's Souls (Regina Gilliam)</i> 9:00 AM High Mass <i>†William Bendel Month's Mind (Mike Briggs Family)</i> 11:30 AM Low Mass <i>Uhlenbrock Family (Mario Derksen)</i> 5:45 PM Low Mass <i>For the people of St. Gertrude the Great</i>

CHOOSING A STATE OF LIFE

O my God, who are the God of wisdom and of counsel, who reads in my heart the sincere will to please! You alone, and to govern myself with regard to my choice of a state of life entirely in conformity with Your most holy desire; grant me, by the intercession of the most Blessed Virgin, my mother, and of my holy patrons, the grace to know what state I ought to choose, and when known, to embrace it, so that in it I may be able to pursue and increase Your glory, work out my salvation, and merit that heavenly reward which You have promised to those who do Your holy will. Amen.

[300 days, R. 711]



✠ BISHOP'S CORNER

Today I extend a grateful welcome to the entire community of the Sisters of St. Thomas Aquinas, and thank them for their presence with us this past week for the Girls' Camp. Fortunate young ladies to know such fine Sisters and have their guidance these days!



I also welcome their chaplain, Fr. Joseph Selway, who is speaking to us this morning on the important subject of vocations. Please hearken to his words, and pray God to inspire one of your sons for the seminary, or daughters for the convent. The importance of praying for vocations, as well as working for them, could hardly be exaggerated. Souls, immortal souls, depend upon our answer to the Divine Call. As all benefit, all must be concerned; support, and encourage vocations. The soul that is one day saved may be your own.

Many of us sensed a wonderful, enthusiastic spirit on the part of all, young and old, as we prepared for and then participated in the beautiful and truly Holy Day of Our Lady's Assumption. The light, white bouquets in the sanctuary stood for the clouds on which our glorious Queen was assumed into Heaven. The children, of course, stood for the angels who accompanied her, and filled her sepulchre with flowers. Thanks to many of you for your presence and assistance, both for the Assumption and the Girls' Camp. May Our Lady reward you, and her blessed flowers and herbs protect you all the year long.

Fr. Cekada and I have departed for a few days of needed rest, and will return after Labor Day. Others, including our new Fr. Ramolla, will be laboring on here as we prepare for a new school year.

I send a blessing

In St. Bartholomew,

—Bishop Dolan

✠ VOCATIONS

THE PRIEST

To live in the midst of the world, without wishing its pleasures; to be a member of each family, yet belonging to none; to share all sufferings, to penetrate all secrets, to heal all wounds; to go from men to God and offer Him their prayers; to return from God to men and bring them His pardon and hope; to have a heart of fire for charity and a heart of bronze for chastity; always to teach and to forgive, to console and to bless. Merciful God, what an exalted life! And it is yours, O Priest of Jesus Christ!

Lacordaire



Nervous Diseases
St. Bartholomew the Apostle
Feast Day: August 24

One of the Twelve Apostles, it is believed Bartholomew was introduced to Jesus by his very close friend Philip. He is mentioned along with Philip in the Gospels. He became one of Jesus' disciples and traveled throughout Asia Minor, Ethiopia, Armenia and India spreading the Lord's Word. He endured a horrible death at Albanopolis in Armenia, where he was skinned alive. A patron saint of leather workers, tanners and cobblers, he is also considered the patron saint who is most helpful in praying for those with nervous disorders.

In His glorious and loving name,
I ask God for a healing, a blessing, and another day of strength.
St. Bartholomew, please pray for this poor soul who needs God's attention.
Ask that the suffering be lessened and the volatile situations be abolished.
Pray for the family and friends of the afflicted
That they may continue to help, love and survive this ordeal.
Amen.

Priestly and Religious Vocation

The long tradition of the Church teaches us that dedicating one's life completely to the service of God is the most perfect way of life. There are two main ways of serving God in this life of dedication: either as a member of a religious order or congregation or secular institute, or as a member of the diocesan priesthood. The vows of religion are poverty, by which an individual gives up the right to independent use of material goods; chastity, by which a person promises not to marry; obedience, by which a person binds himself to obey the commands of his superiors. The diocesan priest takes a vow of chastity.

Every call, therefore, to this more perfect way of life is not a call to the same type of life. For instance, a Jesuit lay brother is a religious but not a priest; a Jesuit priest is a religious and a priest; a diocesan priest is a priest but not a religious. All, however, serve the same Master. All embrace an exalted vocation. All have accepted Christ's invitation, "Come, follow Me."

Not everybody is called to this life, nor is everybody fitted for it. Those aspiring to the priesthood must meet certain requirements. They must have normal good health and ability to learn; they must be of good moral character and truly desire to be a priest of Christ. A vocation is not a matter of feeling, it is a calling of grace. God freely gives to certain men the invitation to keep alive the precious heritage of the Sacrifice and the sacraments. God also gives the grace to accept the invitation He has offered.

For those who might desire to serve God as a Brother or a Sister, the requirements, in general, are similar to those for the priesthood, but frequently less stringent. Each order, congregation, or institute will have different requirements depending on its particular purpose. It should be noted that there are certain things which might render the religious life too difficult for some people. For example: habits of sin which are not sufficiently overcome, extreme nervousness, moods of depression, and so forth. Hence, it is extremely important that anyone who feels that he or she has a call to serve God in this special way should discuss the matter with a priest, in the confessional or at a private interview.

The life is not easy, but God has told us that His grace is sufficient for us. He has told us that we too must take up our crosses if we wish to merit heaven, that He will reward us for this heroic act of love.



✠ PRAYERS FOR VOCATIONS

O Lord Jesus Christ, who didst take to Thyself a body and soul like ours, to teach us the glory of self-sacrifice and service, mercifully deign to instill in other hearts the desire to dedicate their lives to Thee. Give us **PRIESTS** to stand before Thine altar and to preach the words of Thy Gospel; **BROTHERS** to assist the priests and to reproduce in themselves Thy humility; **SISTERS** to teach the young and nurse the sick, and to minister Thy charity to all; **LAY PEOPLE** to imitate Thee in their homes and families. Amen.

7 year indulgence each time recited; a plenary indulgence if recited daily for an entire month

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

O GOD Who wills not the death of a sinner but rather that he be converted and live, grant, we beseech Thee through the intercession of the Blessed Mary, ever Virgin and all the saints an increase of laborers for Thy Church fellow laborers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, world without end.

"Amen I say to you . . .
everyone who has left house,
or brothers, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife,
or children, or lands,
for my name's sake,
shall receive
a hundredfold,
and shall possess life everlasting"
(Matthew 19:28-29).



PRAYER FOR RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS FOR GIRLS

Dearest Mother, my mother, I come to you today with a mind and a heart full of need. Tell me, Mary, what does God want of me? As you once called yourself His "handmaid," and He made His will known to you, so, too, do I call myself today His handmaid. Will you beg Him then, to make His will clear for me as well? Is He really asking me to become His bride, to assist in the spreading of His kingdom? If so, then I want to follow Him. Please, dear Mother, ask Him to clear my mind of doubt and hesitation so that I might be able to walk along the path He points out for me.

I know well that if mine is the grace of a special vocation it will cost. But I am willing and eager to do everything I ought to pay the price. He may be asking me to give up many things that a woman holds dear, but I know that in return I will receive a hundredfold. I will have Him; I will have the house of God for my own. I will have children of the spirit: those children whom I will teach, counsel, encourage, reprimand, and soothe; all those for whom I will pray and suffer and for whom I will spend my life. I plead now for only this, Mother: to be given the insight to know His will, the will to accept it, and then the strength to live always as one who has given herself-body and soul, heart and mind to her Lord, her God, to her Jesus and yours. Amen.

**ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Building Campaign Office
4900 Rialto Road • West Chester OH 45069**

August 16, 2008

My Dear Faithful:

Our building crew this past month, as you have noticed, has been doing extensive work on the site and grounds — more on that next month, especially on the Lourdes Grotto.

I thought this would be a good time to give you a quick report on some costs.

The final figure for the building itself was \$265,000. Excluding \$9K for the basement finishes, that brought it in at a cost of \$127 per sq. ft. This would be a terrific deal even for middle to low end construction in this area — but we got a high quality building for this price, one that will serve several generations of priests in the future.

The price is all the more astounding because, while a regular new house has only one HVAC system, the new rectory has three. (I know what you're thinking, but there is no EPA regulation governing the ratio of sermon-writers to forced hot air systems...)

One or two cost details are particularly noteworthy. The total cost for the three full bathrooms and one half bath was \$15,000, or \$3750 apiece. This is half to a third of per bathroom cost in typical new construction. The kitchen cost, too was astounding: \$6,000, vs. the normal \$15-20,000.

We are grateful to all those who worked so hard to make this possible: Eldon Neukam, Steve Wiegand, Will Wiegand, the McConnell brothers, Phil Gatto, his brother, Denis Vander Putten and above all, Gino Vander Putten, who kept the whole project on track, did most of the finish work himself and saved our little parish another small fortune in the process.

God bless you all for your generosity towards this phase of our building project.

We count on your continued support for the next phases: the Lourdes Grotto, the completion of work on the grounds, and of course, the construction of the convent.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Cekada