AN INVITATION TO LASTING JOY

Isaiah 25: 6-10; Psalm 23:1-6; Phil. 4:12-14, 19-20; Matt. 22:1-14



Recently we concluded our *Annual Carnival*, and the verbal interim report I got from the organizers is that we made more profit on food compared to the games and the rides. "Food is always more popular," they

agreed. Sometime ago, one of the parishioners suggested to me that we organize a Food Fair as a fundraiser for the parish. Food is an essential part of our life - it nourishes the body, refreshes the mind and strengthens the soul. If one goes without food (and/or drink) for a day, he/she becomes weak and cranky. Food and drink are important to individuals, and especially so, at family gatherings and at parties. But more important than food and drink are the grandparents, parents, the uncles, the aunts, other family members and the friends we hope to meet at these gatherings. The thought of meeting special people at a banquet or party can often be the deciding factor in attending such a function in the first place. Parties or banquets can be the beginnings of beautiful friendships or they can seal and deepen existing human relationships since such parties or banquets enrich us as human beings. In a few weeks we will be celebrating Thanksgiving when we will get to meet many of our special friends and family members.

Eating or breaking bread with a person is a biblical and also a cultural sign of intimate friendship. Thus, in today's gospel, Jesus likens the Kingdom of God with a wedding banquet that a man (God) prepares for his son (you and me). God, the Almighty Father, has prepared a banquet for you and me – He has invited all the baptized – the learned and the unlearned – the poor and the rich to His heavenly Banquet. Sadly, you and I sometimes rationalize and justify why we cannot respond to His invitation for the Banquet. We often give excuses why we should/could not, and/or do not want to participate in the banquet of His love - the celebration of the Holy Eucharist at Mass. Like those in Jesus' parable, some people out of sheer ignorance, laziness or pride often ignore God's "invitation and went away." While on the other hand, others have legitimate reasons as to why they cannot respond to God's invitation - "One went to his farm, another to his business." Some Catholics are not able to respond to the invitation to the Banquet because the time for Mass conflicts with their time to go to the mall - the time to take their child to dance practice, basketball, football, baseball or a soccer game/practice.

It is very easy for you and me to be busy with the things of the *present*, so that the things of *eternity* are forgotten or ignored. We often fail to respond to God's invitation because we have some other "important engagements." The *tragedy* of life is that it is so often the *second bests* which shut out the *best* – it is things that are *good* in themselves which shut out the things that are *supreme*. Sometimes, you and I can be so busy making a *living* that we fail to make *life* – we can be so busy with the administration and the organization of life that we forget life itself. Our Christian calling is an invitation of joy. Whoever refuses this invitation (to the Banquet) misses the joy that comes with it. Do not let your dislike for a particular priest – your addiction to video games, Internet, TV, sporting activities – your laziness and indifference, be an excuse for you to stay away from answering God's invitation and sharing His joy at the banquet of the Eucharist at Sunday Mass.

Rev. Anthony Ita Bassey, MSP



THE NEW PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)

On Sunday, August 14, 2011, we distributed nomination forms and requested you, the parishioners, to nominate members you think should serve on our new Parish Pastoral Council (PPC). The response, though not very overwhelming, was encouraging. My thanks go to all those who participated in this process of choosing members for our PPC. I congratulate and thank the following members for accepting the call to serve as members of our Parish Pastoral Council: Nancy Arzola, Louise Bolduc, Richard Califano, Claire Campisi, Ellen Chimenti, Cheryl Duda, Kelly Foley, Joan Liddell, Fred Madera, Karen Maccia-McKenna, Sally Pinto, Jeanne Simmons, Alice Jacob (RAS representative) and Daniel Panik (HNS representative).

These members of the PPC will be inducted and blessed during the 11:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, October 16th. The first meeting of the new PPC is scheduled to take place on Monday, October 24th, at 7 p.m. in the School building.

MEETING: This Monday, October 10th, the Holy Name Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the McManus Parish Center. There will be a presentation on the



upcoming changes to the Roman Missal. All men of the Parish are invited to attend.



This Monday, October 10th, is a holiday. There will be only one Mass on that day at 9:00 a.m. The Parish Office will be closed in observance of the holiday.

Our PARISH BIBLE STUDY SESSION

takes place every Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the School. Make time to join your fellow parishioners to learn more about the many Books of the Bible in both the Old and New Testaments. Bring a friend! Come and have fun!





CHILDREN'S MASS: Please make it a point to bring your child to our Children's Mass next Sunday and the rest of the Sundays in October. The 10 a.m. Mass will focus on our children. The Parish Children's Choir will sing the Mass. The children are encouraged to

sit with other children at a designated place during the Mass.

Registration for **Religious Education Classes** for public school children is open.
Classes are available for children in Pre-K
through High School, including those with



Special Education needs. **All Catholic children attending public schools should enroll in a religious education program**. Please call (476-6676) for more information.



St. Bartholomew's Church 3rd
Annual Carnival was fun for young and old. The Carnival Committee worked tirelessly to ensure an enjoyable family outing to support our Parish. The committee headed

by Louise Bolduc was comprised of Angela Brusco, responsible for the banners and other contingencies; Alice Jacob, who organized the many volunteers; Paul Capuano & Mike Schettino, who headed up the food contingent, with the additional expertise of Lou Brusco; Joe Chimenti handled the financial juggling to make everything happen; Gina Tummolo, who arranged for the vendors, and the parishioners who provided wonderful desserts to sell. As a Parish, our sincerest thanks go out to the many volunteers who generously gave of their time. Also, we truly appreciate our parishioners and friends who supported the Carnival with their attendance and made our 3rd Annual Carnival an event to remember! Thank you all, and may God Almighty bless you and your loved ones for all your sacrifices for our beloved parish.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

The feast is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy to come. God invited us to make our sacrament of Matrimony worthy to come to the feast. Enrich your marriage to make it what God wants it to be. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is November 5th & 6th. For more information call toll free 877 697-9963, ext. 3 or visit www.wwmearchny.org for more information.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter's mission of renewal in the Church and change in the world is to assist couples and priests to live fully intimate & responsible relationships by providing them with a Catholic experience and ongoing community support for such a lifestyle.

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The first Sunday evening of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass, our Youth Group meets in the McManus Parish Center. All youths age 13 and up are invited.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA: Held after the 9 a.m. Mass on Mondays.

EUCHARISTIC DEVOTION: Held the First Friday of every month at 1 p.m. Please join us when you are able.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION: Held the First Saturday of every month at 3 p.m. All are encouraged to participate.

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY: Join your fellow parishioners in praying the Rosary after the 9 a.m. Mass on weekdays and Saturdays.



LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

- The <u>budgeted</u> Collection for last Sunday was \$7500.00.
- The actual Collection for last Sunday is \$4623.35.
- Collection in support of our buildings and grounds totaled \$1561.40.

We thank everyone for their generosity to St. Bartholomew's Church. May God bless and reward all your sacrifices for the Parish! As St. Paul says, "Each of you should give as you decided...not reluctantly as if obliged. God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to fill you with every good thing, so that you have enough of everything at all times, and may give abundantly for any good work" (2Cor. 9).

LORD give strength to your people

Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Ethel Thomas, Aldina Pereira, Rebecca Conroy, Alejandra Santander, Amadeu Amorim, Grace Raguso, Andy DeFabritis, Maryann Tolli, Maria Marte, Ed Carpenter, Barbara Rup, Jule Yaskovic, Rosalie Heit, Dolores Santamorena, Florence B. Swetz, Clare Yaskovic, Neil Caruso, Raymond Fitzpatrick, Sr., Deacon James Byrnes, Andrea Objay, Carmen Torres, John Esposito, Francis Farrell, Mark Baum, Frank Marra, Christine Bellino, Deacon Patrick Troy, Josephine Apuzzo, Edith Dugan, Gary Roth, Joyann Allan, Anna Rita Morgante, Lois Burton, Mary DeStefano, Dan Seratto, Mark Cianfaglione, Shawn Colon, Margaret Maccia, Nicole Ryan Betancourt, Anthony Spinner, Audrey & Alfred Falcone, Kathleen Hayes, Marge Muraik, Eve Gammino, Stan Buoninfante, Donna Vasconez, Mary Ann Berengur, Gene DelBene, Angelina Brusco, Mary Romanchik, Nicole Pisani-Frame, and Alice Hefler.

REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES, LIVING AND DEAD

The Mass Books for both 2011 and 2012 are open and have availability. Consider giving a loved one the graces associated with having a Mass offered on their behalf. Also, you may consider offering the Altar flowers, Altar bread and wine, Altar candles, or lighting the Sanctuary lamp for a week for your intention. Come to the Rectory Office, **Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.** to make arrangements or to inquire about the availability of a particular date.



HAVE YOU PRAYED YOUR ROSARY TODAY? This month of October is the "Month of the Holy Rosary!" We are encouraged to say at least a decade of the Rosary in honor of our Blessed Mother, Mary, requesting her intercession for our needs and the needs of the whole world. If you do

need literature on how to pray the Rosary or you need a Rosary, please feel free to call our Religious Education Center for help at (914) 476-6676.

CABRINI CAREGIVER'S SUPPORT GROUP will hold a *Mini Elder-Law School Seminar* this **Thursday, October 13**th from 6 – 7:30 p.m. at St. Cabrini Nursing Home, Msgr. Terence Attridge Day Care Center. Please R.S.V.P. no later than this Monday to (914) 693-6800, ext. 850.



Twenty- Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Saturday, October 8 (Vigil Mass)

5:00 PM Pete & Helen Pietrowski +

Sunday, October 9

8:30 AM Giulia Marchionno + 10:00 AM Richard Jacob +

11:30 AM Caroline Longobardi +

5:00 PM All the People of Our Parish

Monday, October 10

Weekday - Columbus Day

9:00 AM Marcello Barcello +

Tuesday, October 11

Weekday

7:00 AM Anne Frischman +

9:00 AM Frances & Anthony Parinello +

Wednesday, October 12

Weekday

7:00 AM Deceased Members of Bolduc & Savard Families

9:00 AM Margaret Vetrano +

Thursday, October 13

Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Christopher & Raef Fraih (living)

Friday, October 14

Our Lady of the Rosary

7:00 AM Patrick & Marion Keane +

9:00 AM Helen Maffei +

Saturday, October 15

Weekday

9:00 AM Frances Nanoia +

Saturday, October 15 (Vigil Mass)

5:00 PM Ann & Joseph Frischman +

Sunday, October 16

Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time

8:30 AM All the People of Our Parish 10:00 AM Maria & John Spagnola +

11:30 AM Living Members of Legio & Terrusa Families

5:00 PM William Mitchell +

CHANGES TO THE ROMAN MISSAL



On November 27th, the First Sunday of Advent and the beginning of our liturgical year, English-speaking parishes in the United States will begin to use a new translation of the Mass. Pope John Paul started this effort years ago, realizing that the 1970 translation of the Mass prayers

from Latin could and should be improved. Both Pope John Paul and Pope Benedict after him wanted everyone to have the beauty, dignity, biblical imagery, and theological richness that exist in the original Latin.

Our new English translation of the Mass will mean that some of our prayers and responses will be changing slightly. For example: We will begin to use a more accurate translation for the Latin phrase *Et cum spiritu tuo*, which is used four times in the Mass as the people's response to a greeting by the priest. Instead of saying And also with you, we will say: And with your spirit. During the Confiteor in the Penitential Act. we will say Through my fault three times, and strike our breast as a sign of real sorrow for our sins. The Gloria and the Creed will have more complete and precise translations of what appears in the Latin texts. At the Consecration, the words of Jesus about shedding His blood, For you and for the many, have been restored to that translation, as it was kept in every other language. The acclamations after the Consecration will begin with the priest saying, The Mystery of Faith. The three responses all address Jesus with reference to His death and resurrection for us: We proclaim Your Death, O Lord, and profess Your Resurrection, until You come again; When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim Your Death, O Lord, until You come again; Save us, Savior of the world, for by Your Cross and Resurrection, You have set us free.

Change is never easy, but these improvements are intended to help us to pray in a more theologically precise and beautiful manner. Various aspects of the new translation will be explained over the next weeks and even more after we begin to use these prayers on November 27th.

For more reading, we invite you to go to look for our inserts in our Parish bulletin and go to our Parish website, www.saintbartsparish.org, and click on the ADULT FAITH FORMATION tab on the right at the top of the page, just above the words, Saint Bartholomew's Parish.

ROSARY ALTAR BUS TRIPS

To Reading, PA for Shopping the Vanity Fair Outlets Saturday, November 5th

The price is \$35 per person. For information and reservations, call Joan (476-6860) or Dolly (969-6575)

and

To Radio City for the Christmas Show Wednesday, December 7th

The package includes the bus, lunch & an almost all new show. For information and reservations, please call Nancy on 376-2025.

