

St. Bartholomew's Newsletter

July 2001

The Rector's Choice

Rev. David Pollock
Rector

Dear people of St. Bart's:

As I write this I am finishing my second month as your rector. It has been a time of discovery and appreciation. Discovering all the aspects that make up this fine community and appreciation for the great lay leadership present in the parish. Because of your hard work over the years, the parish is poised to move ahead as a Christian community. The highlight for me so far has been the Sunday School graduation followed by the picnic June 17th. The church was full of children and the singing of the Junior Choir was a great Joy. Next year we should have even more children and an even better program. It has also been a joy for me to get to know the people selling azaleas over these two months. I was fortunate to come to the parish when I did because of the getting to know you conversations we had out under the tent on Laytonsville road. I cannot say enough about the hard work of the Vestry. From finance to property to Sunday school to outreach to parish life to worship, each person has worked hard to move the parish ahead. You will be hearing about these plans in this newsletter and the next as we prepare for the program year. Please mark your calendar's for Sunday September 9th, Homecoming Sunday. This is the time to invite all present, former or future members of St. Bartholomew's to come and see what is going on here.

Over the summer we will be preparing for the fall. I will be training Chalice Bearers to help me distribute communion and lead the prayers, the acolyte group will be expanded and I will be recruiting people for the choir. In the fall Penny Jansen, our organist choir director, is willing to work with those interested by rehearsing one night a week and on Sunday mornings to have an improved singing group. I hope all of you with the talent for singing will offer yourselves for this important aid for worship. The Bible study starting July 2nd at 7:30 in the library will lay a biblical groundwork to the direction of our ministry. I hope you will join us.

It is the summer and things are a little slower. Please take advantage of that pace and prepare yourself for the increased activity of the fall. We have a lot to share with ourselves and the community around us. Let our prayer be that God will guide us in our ministry.

Peace and love in Christ
David

Summer Schedule

It's summer and time and we are now on our Summer Schedule. **Service hours are at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.** We will return to our regular schedule on September 9, 2001. Take advantage of the earlier hours to go to church before your golf, swim, picnic, or do whatever you do in summer.

Homecoming and Celebration of our Patron Saint Bartholomew

We have big plans for the kick-off of our church year on **Sunday, September 9, 2001**. Over the summer individual committees and teams will be developing plans for the coming year. This will be the chance to see/hear what these plans are and for you to participate by joining an activity. There will be lots to hear about and do. It seems early — but it is only two months away. Plan to come! Plan to bring a friend!

Summer Recess Activities

Sunday School will not be in session this summer. However, we do have Summer Activities for Sunday School age children during the 10:00 service. So, you can attend church, as always, knowing your children are being taken care of. Contact Bill Fitts for details.

County Fair

The County Fair Food Booth project is here!. You can sign up to help at the sign up sheet in the church on the table as you enter the Sanctuary. We will have three shifts most days. Bring a friend or a relative with you. There are jobs for children and adults alike. No experience is necessary. You will arrive a bit early and receive on-the-job training.

Please call Barbara at (301)-258-9173 for information or to volunteer for one or more days. She will also give a daily Fair Pass for each one who works a shift.

Azalea Sale

The annual azalea sale is finished. The azalea sales group netted a total of \$4,714.00, selling 749 plants! This is the most ever. Thanks go to Dottie Tessier for chairing this event, and her many trips getting azaleas from White's Nursery. Also, thanks go to all the supporters.

Parish Membership Directories are available in the Church office or you can call the office to have one sent to you.

Parish Life Committee

The Parish Life Committee coordinates and develops group activities within the Parish. It is enthusiastic, positive, and always ready to help. It has already mapped out a schedule of activities for the remainder of this year.

September 9, 2001

Homecoming and celebration of our Patron Saint Bartholomew.

Between the 8:00 and 11:00 services there will be a breakfast and church "fair" where each organization (committee, task group, etc.) will have available information regarding the purposes of the groups.

September 10, 2001

Annual Bazaar Workshops

These workshops are held weekly for fellowship and the creation of the many crafts to be sold at the Annual Bazaar. (See below.)

September 29, 2001

Costumed Dog Show

This will take place in the parking lot and will be open to the community. Watch for further news!

October 21, 2001

Stewardship Dinner

The Annual Stewardship Dinner is to thank all those who have pledged their support of St. Bartholomew's. We are planning a catered dinner this year so everyone can take part. We need all of you to participate.

November 30, December 1 – 2, 2001

Annual Bazaar

The highlight of our holiday season. The Bazaar is a three day festival of crafts and foods for people to get the things they need (or want) to decorate or give for Christmas.

December 2, 2001

Visitation by Bishop Dixon

Bishop Dixon will be coming to St. Bartholomew's for the installation of the Rev. Doctor Pollock as Rector of St. Bartholomew's Church. This service is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. It will be followed by a tea.

This is a busy and full schedule. There is something for everyone. If any of these activities appeal to you, please call Judith Schneider. Our Administrative Assistant to participate

**Joyce Hatter
Chairperson**

Wardens Words

Last month I wrote about the Vestry Retreat with our then new Rector. We established a number of Task Groups. These Groups are far reaching in their scope. They include long range planning, budget, parish communications, encouraging new members, church activities, Sunday school programs, adult Bible study, and all other aspects of St. Bartholomew's. The seeds have been planted. They are now germinating and the plants are starting to grow.

I have had the opportunity to attend many of the initial organization meetings and I am excited that the attitude has changed from "somebody should" to "lets do it." The attitudes are positive. People are volunteering and are working together. In September we will show our results at the St. Bartholomew's Homecoming

If you wish to participate, contact the group chair-person or call the church office for further information.

Harry Bennett



Library

The Parish Life Center library is now in operation. We are upstairs (above the Rector's office). We are still accepting books. Books may be dropped off at the Parish Life Center from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Monday

Flowers on the Altar Giving Memorial Flowers

The flowers on the altar Sunday by Sunday add a great deal to the beauty of our worship. For many years one of our dedicated couples, Frank and Janet McMurtray have been providing them from their florist business, Gaithersburg Floral Arts. From time to time parishioners have donated money to pay for the flowers in memory of loved ones but usually the McMurtrays donate the arrangements to the Church. We owe them great thanks for their generosity.

I found all this out as I was asking how I would go about giving flowers in memory of my parents. As a result of that discussion, the McMurtrays and I, with the approval of the Vestry, want to suggest this process. If you wish to give flowers in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for a wedding anniversary or a birthday, the cost would be \$50 a Sunday. Please send to the church office a check for that amount by the Sunday before you wish to give them and how you would like the memorial or thanksgiving to read. We will list that under the prayers for that Sunday and pray for them aloud. The McMurtrays will then provide the beautiful flowers. If you have any questions, call the office at 301-948-8201.

David S. Pollock

Summer Bible Study

Summer Bible Study will begin Monday, July 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Life Center and continue weekly thereafter. We will study the Book of Acts which chronicles the growth of the early Church by the power of the Holy Spirit through the disciples, how the Church was organized, and how, on a personal level, we can turn to the Holy Spirit for strength and guidance in God's will. Study guides will be provided. Everyone is invited., welcome, and encouraged to attend. Please contact Lee Briggs (301) 840-9893 or Rev. Pollock for more information. (Or just show up.)

Scheduled Activities

July 2 Start of Weekly Bible Study (Book of Acts)
Parish Life Center 7:30 p.m.

July 4 Independence Day

July 18 Vestry Meeting 7:30 p.m.

August 10-18 Montgomery Fair Week — Food Booth

Sunday Service Schedule

8:00 a.m.

The Holy Communion

10:00 a.m.

The Holy Communion — on first and third Sundays

Morning Prayer — on second, fourth and fifth Sundays

Youth Summer Activities are held during the 10:00 service

Sunday Fellowship Coffee Hour follows both Sunday services



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