

St. Bartholomew's Newsletter

June 2004

The Rector's Remarks

The Rev. David Pollock, Rector

Dear People of St. Bartholomew's

We are approaching the end of the program year. The month of June is in some ways the culmination of the year's ministry. It is especially so this year because we welcome The Right Rev. John Bryson Chane, the Bishop of Washington, for his official visit. This will be the first time that he has visited since becoming our Bishop and I look forward very much to your meeting him. He has done a good job in these few years expanding the assistance which the diocese has given to its parishes and we have benefited greatly, not only with financial help, but also with assistance in stewardship training and certainly with the consultation of Robert Franken. His visit will allow him to personally meet you and learn about the ministry we are sharing with him as our Bishop.

He will be here on Sunday June 20th at the 11:00 a.m. service and will stay for the Father's Day Picnic after the service. He will preach and celebrate and you will get to feel his compassion and dedication to the spreading of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the furtherance of justice in our world. I hope each of you will come to welcome our Bishop.

The week before the Bishop's visit, Robert Franken will return to the parish on Tuesday June 15th at 7:30 p.m., to report on his recommendations for us as we seek to grow as a Christian community. We really need as many of you as possible to hear and react to his report. The Vestry will then form a task force to take his recommendations and put them into programs for us to use to grow. The task force will work over the summer and report back through the Vestry to us at a meeting in August or September. I want to thank all of you for your cooperation with Robert Franken over this time.

Also, I remind you that we will gather at 9 a.m. on June 5th for First Saturday. This will be the last until the fall and we do have many things to work on such as welcoming signs and baskets, painting, bazaar preparations, local outreach meeting, and general fix up and clean up. If you can only give an hour that is very welcomed.

June promises to be wonderful time of fellowship and ministry. I will look forward to sharing these events with you.

Peace and love in Christ.
David

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Summer Service Schedule

St. Bartholomew's Church will be going to its Summer Schedule on June 27, 2004. Late service will be at 10:00 a.m. The 8:00 a.m. service will not be affected and will remain at 8:00 a.m.



St. Bartholomew's First Saturday

Our next "First Saturday Morning", will be June 5, beginning at 9:00 a.m.. It will be our last one until the fall. There has been great turnout for these days, and we look forward to a final chance to join in the work and fellowship before summer starts. Donuts and coffee will be available. Please come.



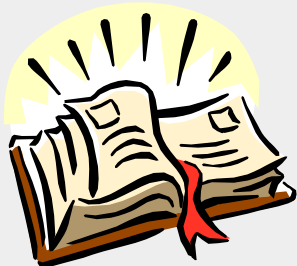
New Phone Number for Undercroft

To save money on our monthly phone bill, the number for the phone in the undercroft has been changed to 301-208-8497. Anyone who uses this phone should make a note of the new number. Incoming calls on the undercroft line will switch over to ring in the Parish Life Center office after 6 or 7 rings. The office phone number remains the same, 301-948-8201.



Bible Study

Bible study will resume in the fall.



Christmas Bazaar

Our next meeting is Saturday, June 5 at 9:30 a.m. Give us a call if you want information, or if you want to help. Sonja Elgin (301) 869-8332, Morna Golletz (301) 482-2345. Stay tuned for additional times during the summer

Sunday School Choir

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord! Eighteen members of the Sunday school, ages three through twelve, took this statement to heart as they made their singing debut on Mother's Day. The children spent several weeks practicing their Mother's Day song, rehearsing during Sunday school and before church. Our new Sunday school choir delivered an excellent musical offering, complete with their beautiful voices and big smiles. This was the first time many of the children have sung before an audience, and they all did a marvelous job. Thank you to all the children who participated, and to all the parents who brought them to rehearsal. I want to thank all of you for making the event such a success.

The Sunday school choir is now practicing a song for Father's Day, which will feature a great group of singers, as well as a guest instrumentalist. The children want their Father's Day offering to be a surprise, and are making sure that none of their fathers hear the song before the performance. Security is very tight at rehearsals! The choir is practicing before church on Sundays at 10:40, in the education building. All members of the Sunday school and their friends are welcome to join in anytime. We'll continue to have rehearsals through June 20th, and I hope that we'll continue in the fall.

I've enjoyed working with our Sunday school choir. We are thankful for all the children who give their time and talent to sing to God.

-Lauren Fisher



Our Growth Consultant — Robert Franken

In April, Robert Franken, our growth consultant, held private individual meetings with several parishioners, as well as met with the Vestry at its April meeting. He will return to St. Bartholomew's on Tuesday, June 15th, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. to report on his recommendations for us. Every one is invited and encouraged to come to hear and react to his report.



Welcoming Newcomers and New Members

We all know that growth is a priority for Saint Bartholomew's. This is something we can all work towards and a great way to do this is by welcoming the Newcomers who come to our services. Please seek out Newcomers and New Members after the services and take a minute or two to say hello and welcome them to Saint Bartholomew's. Invite them downstairs for coffee and treats, and introduce them to other members. Inform them of various church activities and invite them to participate. Of course be sure to invite them back to another service. We need everyone's help, so please whenever you can, reserve a few minutes after church service for a few minutes of time you will enjoy!

Sunday School News

Well it's June and school will be out soon. At St. Bartholomew's we are wrapping up the regular Sunday school year. On June 13 during the 11:00 service we will be conducting our annual celebration of our Sunday school. During this service we take the opportunity to acknowledge each member of the Sunday school and the special gifts they bring to St. Bartholomew's. We also thank all of those who have faithfully worked to make this another successful year.

Just because school is out doesn't mean church stops and it also doesn't mean that Sunday school stops. We just begin our summer session. There will still be lessons and activities for the children. We know how difficult it is for children to sit still through a service, especially when the weather is nice. So you now have no excuse for not coming to church. Your children can recess during the service and you can too if you volunteer to supervise a summer lesson. Call Mary Grabau 410-795-2426 to volunteer before she calls you. The Sundays are filling fast and if everyone does their part it will only be one or two each.

The Mother's Day Tea was again a wonderful event the undercroft was beautiful and everyone who attended had their fill of fine food, punch and tea. It was again a very nice tribute to mothers of all ages and was open to all. If you were one of the 70 plus people who attended it was a real treat. If like Dr. Pollock you missed it (attending his daughter's graduation) you have to wait a whole year for before you get another opportunity. Congratulations to Andre, Elisabeth and Mariel.

The mothers have had their day and their tea and now its dads turn. In case you forgot, June 20th is Father's Day. We don't need any fancy teas and food just put a burger on a bun and we're happy. We also will be having our annual youth vs. dad's basketball game. We have heard some talk that the youth may bring in a ringer or two. I don't care! I am sure that the dad's have been training for months and practicing in the driveways preparing for this game. We are on a one game-winning streak and are feeling confident of a repeat going into this game. Bishop Chane will be in church on Father's Day and may play on the father's team. The dad's self appointed team captain wants to see him shoot and dribble before he'll consent to his playing on the dad's team. There's a lot riding on this game -- bragging rites for the entire year.

"We are all children in the eyes of God"

Sunday School All Summer

Our "SUNDAY SCHOOL ALL SUMMER" program begins June 27, at 10 a.m. We are asking the parents of each Sunday school child/children to sign up for one of the Sunday sessions. This will enable St. Bart's to offer Sunday school during the summer months as well as giving our teachers a much needed break. Please sign up for one of the following dates still open, if you can. The dates are: July - 4 - 11 - 18 - 25 or August - 22 - 29.

To sign up and/or ask questions please call Mary Grabau at (410-795-2426). Your support will be much appreciated. Thank you on behalf of the Sunday school staff.



Pastoral Care

Dr. Pollock is available for pastoral visits and care. Although the office hours are 12 noon to 3 p.m., Dr. Pollock's practice is to be in the office from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, unless he is visiting or has a meeting. Please call (301) 948-8201 to talk to Dr. Pollock during those times, or leave a message and he will return it by the end of the day. In case of emergencies outside of office hours, please call Dr. Pollock at home.

Jackline

Jackline Vuguza is one of our Mirembe girls, an AIDS orphan rescued by Father Sosiness and Mary Demo from the Nairobi slums. She is now enrolled in high school and supported by St. Bartholomew's sponsors. We received this letter from Jackline, handwritten on lined notebook paper, in April 2004. In it, she tells something of her story, and describes receiving St. Bartholomew's 2003 Christmas card to her.



Correspond with the Girls of Mirembe

Would you like a "pen pal" in Kenya? Write to one of the girls of Mirembe. They are so appreciative of the support we are providing to them and they are writing to us. We can make it more personal if you would write to them.

We can use more correspondents! Please let Margaret know if one of them will be you.

Letter from Mirembe

Jackline Vuguza

ABOUT MYSELF

For many years I thought I was alone with a lot of problems around me, but when I grew up, I came across many stories from people. School boys and girls started to tell me sad stories of how they lost their parents and how life was hard for them. I thought I was alone who had such experience, but later on I came to discover that death had visited many homes and taken away the people in those homes with kids left alone. The same enemy visited our home too. It took my mother, my youngest sister and later took my father. We were left without parents.

I was about eight years old when all this happened. What was left was for us to go and live with relatives who mistreated us and never cared at all about us.

When I was 12, I had lived with four families and all mistreated us badly. They never cared if we went to school or not, and that was not their problem. What they wanted to see us do was to work hard at home.

When I was in class seven, my teacher who was kind to me took me to see Pastor Demo, and he promised to look into my problems. A week later, he visited my school and talked to me. He assured me that he will look for a place for me to go and live so that I can be able to study well.

I was taken to live with a very good single mother of two children. This lady had lost her husband four years ago due to kidney failure. She is a kind and humble mother. I still stay in her house.

I was very happy when I was told that I will move to a new home soon and there will be other girls who will live in that home with me.

I am the only one in the family who was lucky to go to school. My brothers and sister never had that chance. They work for people and are paid very little money.

May God take care of those church people in America who have been paying for my fees. I will do my best not to let them down. Thank you for a nice card I got during Christmas.

I know my parents died of AIDS and I promise to be faithful to myself. I don't want to die because of AIDS. I will stay away from sex. God first, school second and the rest last.

I hope the church people in America will remain my friends for ever and I know they will help me until I finish school.

Thank you and God bless.

I am
Jackline Vuguza

Mirembe Report

The Rev. Margaret Pollock

Dear Friends of Mirembe,

I spoke today to Fr. Sosiness Demo, and he reported that three letters have been received by our Mirembe girls, sent by St. Bartholomew's correspondents. Our five correspondents are:

Brent Grimes (Hellen Oyondi)
Leila Moran (Mildred Awour)
Lonnie Pera (Jackline Vuguza)
Cynthia Phillips and Goddaughter Michele (Roseline Otiya)
Anne Wasson (Lillian Murekani)

Sosiness was effervescent about our letters. They were so encouraging, so lovely, he said. The girls were so thrilled, and the letters gave him strength to move ahead. Many thanks to our St. Bartholomew's correspondents!

One disappointing note: Fr. Demo said that each of the three letters received had been opened. Any enclosures (such as photographs) had been removed. My suggestion for dealing with this in the future: try sending your letter (and any enclosures) by registered mail, return receipt requested. This should provide reasonable protection against invasion of the privacy of our correspondence.

The specific reason I called Sosiness was to request a photograph to accompany an article that will be forthcoming on our Mirembe ministry, in the diocesan newspaper. Over a month ago, Mary Demo sent us a collection of photographs and a tablecloth decorated by the girls -- but the package hasn't arrived yet (and we may never see it). So the Demos will take some new photographs and send them to us. I expect that Sosiness will also send one by email (only one, because this is expensive to do), to illustrate the diocesan news report.

Our girls are in an exam period now, so we can support them by prayer, and hope to receive new letters after their exams are over.

Peace and love in Christ,

Margaret+

Mirembe Child Sponsors

We now have many parishioners and others outside of the parish who are sponsoring a total of ten girls, of the twelve the home is designed to house. If you are one of these wonderful people, please check to be sure that your contribution is up to date. Every penny is needed.

If you would like to become one of the supporters of our Girls, please contact Margaret or the church office.

Worship Committee:

The Worship Committee met on April 29 to plan services for May and June. On June 27, the 11 a.m. service will move to its summer schedule time of 10 a.m. The Rev. Larry Donathan will be here on July 18 and 25 while Dr. Pollock is out of town. Mark Cook will be working with the choir to prepare for the Bishop's visit on June 20. Dr. Cook will not be able to commit to regular choir rehearsals, but will work with the choir from time to time.

Anne Wasson



Did You Know?

The Feast of Pentecost (50th day) is the end of the Easter season. As discussed in Acts 2:1-11 it is the time when the believers were all "filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them." About three thousand were added to the number of believers that day.

For more information, see Acts 2 and the fulfillment of the prophecy of Joel (Joel 2:28-32).

Local Outreach

The Local outreach Committee met on May 16th at 9:30 to discuss continuing and new activities. We are still supporting the Hernandez, Howard and Velazquez families at Gaithersburg Elementary School. These families are headed by a single parent or grandparent because of the loss of one or both parents. The principal of the school, Ms. Sharon Jones, has invited our committee and Father Pollock to attend the Annual Appreciation Breakfast at the school on May 27th at 9:30 a.m. This was an opportunity to meet the students involved and to see some of their work.

As members of the Montgomery County Community Ministry (CMMC) we decided to support Sophia House, a women's shelter, by providing the entire and breakfast for the 30 residents on July 5th at 6 p.m. If any parishioner wishes to join us in this activity, please call Judy Docca, 301-977-7591 or Kathy Cousins, 301-869-6836 for details or meet with us on June 6th at 9:15 in the undercroft.

The Local Outreach Committee will be working with the senior warden and with vestry member Cynthia Phillips to prepare and deliver baskets to new families in the church.

The men's and women's shelters of CMMC have need for donations below:

- *1. Table top copier for Sophia House
- *2. Gently used high speed floor buffer for all shelters
- 3. Laundry detergent
- 4. Twin bed sheets
- 5. Towels and washcloths
- 6. Pillows and pillowcases
- *7. Working treadmill
- *8. Patio furniture
- *9. Good working computer (Windows 98 or better)
- *10. Printer

Items with asterisks should not be brought to the church. Please contact Judy Docca, 301-977-7591, to arrange for transport of these items. The other items may be brought to the church on June 6th, 13th or 20th and placed in the entry of the church. Or, you may wish to drop the items off directly at the Upcounty Clothing Center, 620 E. Diamond Avenue, Gaithersburg, Suite M, on Monday, Thursday or Saturday from 10 AM to 3 PM. Tax forms for donations are available in the church office, or call Judy Docca (301) 977-7591.

We received a thank you note from one of our new families for the "Welcome Basket". Here are some of the contents:

- "The chocolate bar was really good!"
- "I liked the chocolate bar, too!"
- "That was very thoughtful.
- The African violet is just lovely.
- You are very kind!"

Ladies Guild Report

At the May meeting the Guild reviewed their accomplishments since September 2003. With the successful Azalea Sale, Lion's Club Dinners, and Sale of Spices and Knives, the following contributions were possible:

Gas & Tank Rental for kitchen stove		\$929.83
Donation toward heating oil		300.00
Kitchen Supplies		279.95
Repairs-		
Jack's Roofing	124.80	
Benson Door	35.00	
Kitchen repairs	64.95	
Kitchen Counter Top	1,491.00	
Gas Stove	180.09	
Harne- Church Sign	1,100.00	
Church sign flowers	<u>290.00</u>	3,284.84
Care Package + Postage		50.18
Memorial Scholarship Fund		70.00
Christmas Baskets (shut ins)		228.00
Church Dinners		540.64
Christmas wreaths & flowers		<u>310.00</u>
Total		5,993.44

The Azalea Sale is going Great. Sales are good and plants are beautiful. A donation of 8 large plants is being given to the Elaine Schouten Kirchoff Foundation for their Annual Golf and Auction Event on June 11th. Proceeds from this event go to Hospice Caring and The Hope Lodge in Baltimore, MD.

The Guild thanks Charley and Barbara White for the use of the "Corner Lot" for the Azalea Sale and the extra space for parking. To Dottie Tessier, many thanks for driving her brown antique truck hauling the many azaleas, to all the Guild Members for selling, and helpers Bill Tait, Ray Amor, Charley White, Jim Tessier, and James Shelton.

To everyone – Stop to Shop, Sit and Chat

The Guild Door is Open to all Ladies of the Church. Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of most months at 12:30 p.m. in the church undercroft.

Coffee Hour

Stop in the undercroft following the 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. services for some snacks, coffee and juice. This is a good way to meet members in the church and learn about activities that might be of interest.

I'd like to thank all those who have provided such wonderful coffee hours this year. These weekly gatherings have provided many fun and entertaining opportunities for us to get to know other parishioners. If you haven't made it yet to a coffee hour, please stop by after either service.

Deborah Turton



**Congratulations
Confirmands**

On May 15, 2004 at the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul (the National Cathedral), the following adults received the Laying On of Hands from the Bishop: Rand Golletz was received from the Roman Catholic Church, Morna Golletz reaffirmed her faith, Jamie Kaufmann was confirmed, and John Kaufmann reaffirmed his faith. We have been meeting together since the beginning of the year in the Adult Inquirer's class. Another class will be forming next year.

Scheduled Activities

Upcoming Events

- June 5 St. Bartholomew's "1st Saturday Morning" — 9:00 a.m.
June 13 Sunday School Graduation
June 15 Preliminary report on growth by Robert Franken -
7:30 p.m.
June 20 Bishop's Visit & Father's Day Picnic
June 27 Summer Schedule begins, services at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.
Sunday School is held during the 10 a.m. service

Sunday Schedule

- 8:00 a.m. The Holy Communion
9:15 a.m. Adult Inquirers Class
10:10 a.m. Junior Choir Rehearsal
11:00 a.m. The Holy Communion - first, third and fifth Sundays
Morning Prayer - second and fourth Sundays

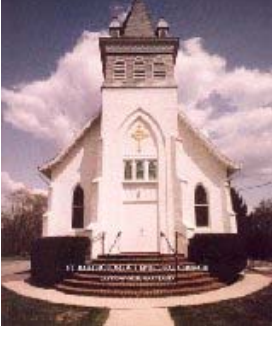
Sunday School Activities are held during the 11:00 service
2nd & 4th Sundays J2A meets in the PLC (during Sunday School)
Sunday Fellowship Coffee Hour follows both Sunday services

Regular Weekly Schedule

- Mondays The Monday evening Bible Study has ended for
the summer, It will resume 9/13/04.
Wednesdays The Wednesday morning Bible Study and
Holy Communion service have ended for the
summer and will resume 9/15/04.

St. Bartholomew's Church
P.O. Box 5005
21611 Laytonsville Rd.
Laytonsville, MD 20882
Office Hours:
12:00 – 3:00 p.m.
weekdays

Phone Numbers:
Office: (301) 948-8201
Church: (301) 948-8202
Fax: (301) 990-7787
Web Address:
www.saintbartholomews.org
E-mail: stbart@comcast.net



St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 5005
21611 Laytonsville Rd.
Laytonsville, MD 20882