



# Reflections

A bimonthly publication from St. Bartholomew Catholic Faith Community

ST. BARTHOLOMEW CHURCH  
**ADULT SOCIAL**  
fun · food · fellowship

## FEAST of ST. NICHOLAS

*What:* COCKTAIL HOUR & LIVE MUSIC  
FOLLOWED BY SIT DOWN DINNER

*When:* SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> AT 6:30PM, FOLLOWING 5:00PM MASS

*Where:* ST. BART'S FELLOWSHIP HALL

*Cost:* \$15 PER PERSON

**E**scape from the hustle and bustle of holiday preparations! It's time for our adult only event, hosted by the St. Bart's Social Committee. Please plan to join us for the Feast of St. Nicholas, St. Bart's style! The Feast of St. Nicholas is typically celebrated on December 6th, but we will be celebrating this famous saint on the 3rd.

St Nicholas is known for helping others, especially those in need, so celebrating St. Nicholas and his good deeds seems only natural. Please plan to join us for an evening of fun, food, and fellowship! RSVP by Monday, November 28. Register online at our website, [www.st-barts.org](http://www.st-barts.org), Events & News or return the recently mailed registration form to the parish office. **We'd love to see you there!**

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# Families Helping Families

by Stephen Imholte and Rachael Scherer

“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’” This passage from Matthew 25:40 is one of our favorites. Nothing speaks more about the humanity we can show one another than this simple twenty-seven word verse. Matthew’s words are also most reflective of the Families Moving Forward mission—one which has provided a joyous volunteer experience for many St. Bartholomew’s families.

Families Moving Forward (FMF) is a one-of-a-kind program designed to keep homeless families together while they seek jobs, housing and a whole new life. Churches throughout the metro host these families in parish facilities overnight (dinner through breakfast) for one to two weeks at a time. During the days the adults in the families partner with case workers and FMF volunteers to stabilize housing issues and find employment, while the children attend school. FMF attempts to minimize the disruption in the lives of these families by keeping the kids in the same schools they are attending and assisting the parent(s) with transportation to their job(s) if they are fortunate enough to have them.

One of the churches that houses families on a regular basis is St. Bart’s neighbor, Wayzata Community Church (WCC). Approximately every three to four months, two to five FMF families will spend a week or two living on the third floor of WCC as part of the FMF program. St. Bart’s volunteers partner with WCC to feed and entertain the families during the Friday evening and through the Saturday morning that they live at WCC. The remaining six mornings and evenings are covered entirely by Wayzata Community Church members.

## A Glimpse of the Experience

Two weeks in September best illustrate a typical St. Bart’s FMF experience and will also allow us to recognize a few of the fantastic St. Bart’s families who volunteer for Families Moving Forward. From September 3-17, Wayzata Community Church hosted four FMF families, including 13 children and 5 adults. (One family was comprised of a single mother with six children under the age of 8!)

Typically, various members of the St. Bart’s FMF “crew” will prepare and serve dinner

on a Friday night and entertain children following dinner, allowing the parents to relax for a few hours. St. Bart’s chaperones will then spend Friday night sleeping at WCC, waking the families up to a hearty Saturday morning breakfast prepared by other St. Bart’s volunteers.

The first weekend, Rob and Laura Hirschberg and Peter and Geri Scherer and their families served a delicious dinner of pork, fettuccini, vegetables and dessert. Susan and David Crist and family volunteered to entertain the children Friday evening (we won’t go into details here, but we know that a popcorn fight ensued!). On September 9, Susan and Rachael slept-over, giving them a chance to catch up—this was a tradition initially started by Jill Kohler and Mary Conklin. For breakfast on September 10, Janelle Petrusa joined us in preparing a very hearty pancake, eggs, bacon and fruit breakfast. One of the little boys told us it was “the bomb.”

The following weekend, the Chris and Sheila Jones, Jodi Ertmer and Kris and Georgy Scherer families joined us in a repeat of all of these activities. After each Saturday breakfast, around 9:00 a.m., the FMF families are picked up by bus and taken back to the FMF’s center where they resume their search for work and housing.

The Families Moving Forward program has been quite successful. A typical length of stay for a family is 66 days. To move out of the program, both housing and employment must be obtained as the family works towards a more secure future.

## Never Enough Help

Many St. Bart’s families have supported the Families Moving Forward mission. We would like to profusely thank all of the volunteers. They lighten our hearts with both their dedicated help and friendship.



Rob and Laura Hirschberg and Peter and Geri Scherer and their families spend an evening helping out Families Moving Forward.

We also ask you to assist us in this mission. There is never enough help. One of the unique benefits is that FMF is a volunteer activity in which all members of the family can participate. “Play” is universal, and the FMF children love to play with St. Bart’s children. Evening playtime, whether on St. Bart’s Friday evenings or during the week when WCC hosts, is an activity where FMF could use more teenage helpers. Many of the weekends these families need our support are in and around holidays when many of our volunteers may be out of town. The deeper the volunteer pool the greater the opportunity to continue to service this mission and its participants.

The work is deeply satisfying, knowing you are helping a family get back on its feet, have security and strengthen family bonds while witnessing the smiles and joy of the children as they take pleasure in even the simplest of things. For example, someone playing games with them for even a few hours or the best hot breakfast they’ve had in a long time.

If you have limited time to volunteer, please consider making a financial contribution to FMF. You can send a check directly to Families Moving Forward, 1808 Emerson Avenue North, Minneapolis, MN 55411. Thank you for taking the time to read about this mission of St. Bart’s and how it benefits the “least of these brothers and sisters...”

## The Gathering

by Tammy Ochs

St. Bartholomew Catholic Faith Community hosted our sixth annual outdoor festival, *The Gathering*, on September 9 and the evening was nothing short of fantastic. With hundreds of community members participating, *The Gathering* provided great food, wonderful music and fun games for all ages. The tradition of going to *The Gathering* for some means eating your way through “Bull Dog Bites” to dancing the night away to the band Red Dot Garage. This year we also welcomed Irish Dancers to our entertainment listing.



The timing of our festival is one that brings a great feeling to this family-friendly event. After a summer of vacations and activities, it provides an excellent venue in which to relax and reconnect. *The Gathering* truly has an old-fashioned festival atmosphere. It started with a simple goal to create an evening of camaraderie and extending that invitation to the greater community and continues to build upon that mission.

## Larry LeJeune Honored for Leading with Faith

by Kathy Salman

Parishioner Larry LeJeune was one of 12 individuals, business and community leaders, who received the Archbishop's Leading with Faith Award for 2011 at a luncheon on September 15.

*The Catholic Spirit* initiated the Leading With Faith Awards in 2002 to affirm Catholics whose business practices and work habits are guided by their Catholic values and reflect the teachings of Jesus Christ and his church. Those receiving the awards were nominated for bringing their faith to the workplace and sharing their gifts with the community.

“I don't wear my faith on my sleeve,” LeJeune said. “I just try to look myself in the mirror and try to do the right thing.”

Jon Hansen, president and COO of LeJeune Investment Inc. wrote in his nomination form, “Larry's core values of integrity, honesty and kindness remain constant and consistent.”

Larry is a member of the University of St. Thomas board of trustees member, UST

Law School board of governors chairman, and the Lundstrum Center for the Performing Arts board chairman.

He and his wife Jean have five grown children, 14 grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. Many of these family members are also St. Bart's parishioners and, following in Larry's footsteps, serve the parish as lectors, ushers, greeters, Eucharistic ministers, altar servers, youth and children's ministers, and school volunteers.



Parishioner Larry LeJeune recently received a Leading With Faith Award from Archbishop John C. Nienstedt. Photo by Dave Hrbacek, The Catholic Spirit.

# Esta es la juventud del Papa!

by the World Youth Day Pilgrims

**World Youth Day 2011 in Madrid Spain, August 10-24, were days that changed all of our lives. Here is just a taste of our incredible journey.**

## Valencia

After 10 hours of flight, we arrived in Madrid in the morning and took a bus to Valencia where we were welcomed by the parish in Tavernes Blancas (which is a suburb of Valencia). They graciously hosted us for five days. During that time we participated in many Masses, prayers, vigils and customs with the Spaniards and were able to connect with the locals spiritually.

Within the city of Valencia, we enjoyed beautiful scenery and sightseeing but more importantly Mass on an international level with people from all over the world for the first time. Highlights from this part of the trip included swimming in the Mediterranean Sea, playing wiffle ball and soccer on the beach, spending time with the locals and eating the native dish Paella. Lowlights included the same bag lunches we ate every day; they created food, which can be preserved without being refrigerated so we sustained with warm milk, warm salami sandwiches, and warm yogurt every meal for five days. These sacrifices that we made helped us be humble pilgrims.

## Madrid

We arrived in Madrid after a four-hour bus ride from Valencia. Our days in Madrid were filled with adventure, prayer and experiencing the cultural life of Spain. Every morning we went to the Love and Life Center for Catechesis where we listened to many speakers including Archbishop Dolan and Jason and Crystalina Evert who are nationally-known chastity speakers. There was also praise and worship music. We ended catechesis with Mass where more than 100 priests, bishops and archbishops concelebrated. After catechesis we visited and toured places such as the Prado Museum, the Cathedral and the Plaza Mayor.

A highlight of our time in Madrid included the Papal welcoming. We waited for several hours and were within seven feet of the

Esta es la  
juventud  
del Papa!

"This is the  
youth  
of the Pope!"



Pope as he drove by in his popemobile. The most significant experience of our pilgrimage was the evening that we shared with our Holy Father.

Our journey began with a six-mile walk to an old airport tarmac, Cuatro Vientos. We arrived in anticipation as we received all the food that we would need for lunch and dinner for that day—and breakfast and lunch for the next. Needless to say, we learned to unite our sufferings with those in the world who have limited or no food. As we prepared to make our campsite our home for the next 12 hours, we endured over 110 degree heat, praying mantis, and thorns that covered the ground.

We spent most of our time in the field taking turns walking to get water which was about a quarter of a mile away, confessing our sins to priests, and encouraging each other to stay positive. We rejoiced as the sun set because the temperature dropped, and we prepared for night prayer and adoration with the Holy Father.

Just as the Pope started prayer, lightning, straight line winds and sideways rain began to take over the night. Pope Benedict stayed with us, and later we found out that he told his security guards, "If they stay, I stay." One of the most amazing things that happened that night was when the

*Above Top: St. Bart's World Youth Day pilgrims at Cuatro Vientos in Madrid. Above: An aerial shot of the crowd of 1.7 million people. Left: A photo of Pope Benedict as he arrived in Madrid taken by one of the St. Bart's pilgrims.*

Eucharist was brought out for adoration, the winds and rain died down. After the Pope left for the night we tried to catch some sleep; some of us were not prepared for the quick temperature drop to 50 degrees, due to the storm, or the swarm of ants on the ground. The morning came and the sun warmed us up quickly. We then celebrated Mass with the Pope and more than 1.7 million other Catholics! That is an experience that none of us will ever forget.

## People

We were so fortunate to meet the people we did during this experience. It is eye opening to see that although we attended WYD with people from all over the world, we share the same beliefs. Everyone from other countries was so interesting and nice. We met people from over 100 countries, and although there was a language barrier, we were able to connect and communicate with them since we all were there for the same reason.

# ...excel in this grace of giving...

(2 Corinthians 8:7)

by Shelly Dau



Through your generosity,  
we are changing lives  
every day!

**F**r. Michael often talks about stewardship — being good stewards of the many gifts we've been given. Stewardship is a lifestyle. It encompasses not only our financial gifts, but how we spend our time and share our talents as well. Stewardship encompasses everything that God has entrusted to us. We are called to be good stewards of God's many blessings.

Our mission at St. Barts, "...to celebrate Jesus Christ in the Eucharist; to form disciples through faith formation and education; to provide care and support to those in need; to seek justice for all God's children..." is being realized every day at St. Bart's. But, we cannot do it without your support.

The Stewardship of Treasure renewal brochures were recently mailed. Please

prayerfully consider your financial commitment to the St. Bartholomew Catholic Faith Community and return your pledge card.

The stewardship committee challenges the membership at St. Bart's to 100% participation. We want to hear from you no matter your gift. There is no more worthy recipient of your giving than the church.

Through your generosity, we are changing lives every day! Please help us by making a financial commitment to that mission!

Questions? Contact Cindy Schriever, [cschriever@st-barts.org](mailto:cschriever@st-barts.org), 952/473-6601.



**Return Pledge Cards by Nov. 13**

As part of our 2012 Stewardship of Treasure Strategic Plan, we are asking EVERY household to please return a pledge card by November 13. We truly need to hear from you! Pledge cards are available in the pews, at the information desk or online at [www.st-barts.org](http://www.st-barts.org).

## Notice! IRA Rollover Benefits Expiring!

You Only Have Until December 31 to Take Advantage  
of this Special Tax Benefit!

On December 31, 2011, the special tax-code provision that allows donors to make a tax-free gift from their IRA account to not-for-profit organizations will expire.

This special tax break allows you to make a direct distribution from your IRA account to a qualified charity - tax free. By taking advantage of this opportunity before the end of the year, you can fulfill your obligation to take an IRA distribution, avoid taxes you would otherwise have to pay AND

make a generous donation to the non-profit of your choice - hopefully St. Bartholomew Parish.

Here are two of the primary provisions:

- You must be 70½ years of age or older
- You may give up to \$100,000 (married couples can give \$200,000)

Please consult your tax advisor.

## Memorials and Legacy Gifts Are Tributes...

.... to those whose love and memories we treasure, the people who touched our lives. Gifts received "in memory of" from June to October 2011:

*Claire Corrigan*

*Margaret Simmons*

*Lowell Berchtold*

*Ken Wolford*

# Don't Be Frightened by Change

by Deacon Rick Witucki

There was a popular comedy movie in the '90s in which one of the characters, told that he had to make modifications in his life, said, "We don't like change. Change frightens us!"

There is a truth in that line. As a counselor, I have spoken with countless people who wanted their lives to be better, but refused to make the changes necessary to bring about their goals. We are creatures of habit. Our routines are comfortable-like a pair of shoes that we have broken in to fit just right. My wife can tell you what I will order when we go to a Chinese restaurant. Cashew chicken. Every time. I know what I like and what I do not like. I do not like surprises. Especially unpleasant ones.

So when I learned that the Catholic Church was modifying parts of our Mass to bring us into greater uniformity in our liturgies, I thought, "Oh, great. More change. Why fix it if it ain't broken?"

I remember the changes to the Mass in the 1960s. That was monumental. The priest would now face us instead of having his back to us most of the Mass. We would speak in English instead of Latin. Lay people could do more than usher or take up collection. We were actually allowed to hold the Holy Eucharist in our hand rather than on our tongues.

And, perhaps, hardest of all for those sweet Polish farmer-bachelors was the practice of shaking hands with the people around you during the Sign of Peace. If that happened to be "Loretta" who was the woman you had had a crush on for the last forty years but who you were too shy to declare your love for, you simply had to clasp that hand briefly and blush through the remainder of the service.

Change frightens us.

Fr. Michael brought together a group of parishioners and staff to examine the changes and help St. Bart's through this transition. I think our discussions have



mirrored what our parish reactions will be on the First Sunday of Advent when the changes will be put into operation.

Some members of our group have embraced the changes, enjoying the beautiful words of the Eucharistic Prayer. Others, like me, miss the cashew chicken. I liked responding to the prayers the way we do today. I liked knowing that when Fr. Michael says, "The Lord be with you," I will automatically respond, "And also with you" instead of the new "And with your spirit." But then I remember a time when Fr. Ed said "Dominus vobiscum" and I responded "Et cum spiritu tuo" which, amazingly, translates to "And with your spirit."

And, I start thinking that those changes might be interesting. And, I appreciate that we have videos that teach us not only the changes, but also the richness of the Mass itself. And, I start getting excited because sometimes change is a really good thing and becomes routine after a very short time.

And, I remember that, although I love cashew chicken, it is nice to sometimes get the moo goo gai pan.

## Resources to Help You Prepare

The Roman Missal will be implemented in the United States of America on the First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2011.

We have several resources to help explain and prepare for the upcoming changes :

### Resource Guide

A guide to the new translation, with a pull-out reference card, can be found at the information desk. A more detailed guide can also be found in the church library located off the north entrance near the parking lot.

### Webpage

We have created a webpage on the St. Bart's website, with general information and links to additional resources at [www.st-barts.org/worship/newromanmissal.asp](http://www.st-barts.org/worship/newromanmissal.asp)

For several weeks, Fr. Michael's bulletin column has contained informative, educational articles reprinted from Loyola Press. You will find all these articles housed on the above webpage of our website.

Please take advantage of these resources to prepare for the implementation of the new translation of the Missal to refresh your understanding of the Mass and develop a deeper appreciation for the history of our Eucharistic celebration and our faith.

***May the Lord be with your spirit!!  
Can't wait for Advent!!***

# SCHOOL NEWS

## Making the Grade

by Lynn Volkenant, Principal

The 2011-12 school year is off to a fantastic start at St. Bartholomew school! In the last *Reflections* you learned about our new staff members. This issue we would like to take the opportunity to help you learn more about our new, standards-based report cards.

For over a year, the St. Bartholomew teachers and I, under the wise leadership of our 4th grade teacher Caryn Wickland, researched, read, observed and even argued about designing and using a standards-based report card with our students and their families. We all came to the table agreeing that letter grades/percentages for broad categories without definition, such as Reading or Math, were out-dated and so subjective as to be almost worthless. It was simply imperative that we find a way to document student progress in more specific and relevant ways. We also knew that our school families, going back generations, were accustomed to the A-F scale, and that our changes would need much explanation and education to support them. We are proud of the progress we've made and the recognition from the Archdiocesan Schools Office, who will soon require standards-based reports in all schools. Following we share some national research in an excerpt from the book *Developing Standards-Based Report Cards* by Guskey and Bailey, 2010.

### Why Standards Instead of Letter Grades?

“Occasionally parents express skepticism about standards-based report cards. They believe that a traditional letter grade or percentage grade for each subject area on the report card works just fine, and they see no reason to change. Parents also understand letter grades, or at least believe they do, because letter grades were used when they were in school.

As part of their improvement efforts, educators need to pay special attention to helping parents understand the problems associated with traditional letter grades, as well as the benefits of moving to a standards-based system. Specifically, they need



to help parents understand that when teachers assign a single letter grade or percentage to students for each subject studied, they must combine many diverse sources of evidence into that one mark. This results in what researchers refer to as a hodgepodge grade that includes elements of achievement, attitude, effort, and behavior. Even when teachers clarify the weighting strategies they use to combine these elements and employ computerized grading programs to ensure accuracy in their computations, the final grade remains a confusing amalgamation that is impossible to interpret and rarely presents a true picture of a student's academic proficiency.

This isn't to imply that student's effort, responsibility, participation, punctuality, and other work habits are unimportant. Teachers at all levels generally recognize the value of offering students, as well as parents, specific feedback in these areas. A standards-based report card allows teachers to do precisely that by reporting on these non-academic elements separately. As such, it provides parents with a clearer and more detailed picture of their child's academic performance in school along with information on other important school-related behaviors.

Furthermore, a standards-based report card breaks down each subject area or course into specific areas of learning. The “standards” within each subject area offer parents a more thorough description of their child's achievement. A single grade of C, for example, might mean a modest level of performance on each of five different learning goals or excellent performance on three goals but dismal performance on two others. Without the breakdown that standards-based reporting offers, this difference would be obscured. Standards-based grading provides a more comprehensive picture of students' academic progress by identifying specific areas of strength, as well as areas where additional work may be needed. It thus facilitates collaboration between parents and educators in their efforts to help students improve their performance.”

Our grading practices are in place and we will begin using the new report cards this trimester. St. Bartholomew School maintains a rigorous and relevant curriculum and regularly updates print and technology based resources. Only the way in which we report student progress has changed, not our expectation of academic excellence. Parents, students, and teachers will all benefit from the increased specificity in our reporting. Individual student needs will be met as each of them moves toward mastery of the learning targets and beyond.

### Preschool - Grade 6 Open House!

Monday, December 5  
5:30-7:00 pm

Join us for an evening of family fun! Meet our outstanding school staff, tour the school, meet the St. Bart's Bulldog, talk to current school families, and enjoy light refreshments.

For more information, contact Krystal Schultz in the school office at 952-473-6189 or at [kschultz@st-barts.org](mailto:kschultz@st-barts.org). For more information about St. Bart's School, visit our website, [www.st-barts.org/school](http://www.st-barts.org/school).

# Upcoming Events

## November

- Thursday, Nov. 10, 10 a.m.  
Heart of the Matter
- Sunday, Nov. 13, 3 p.m.  
Magnum Chorum Concert
- Thursday, Nov. 24, 9 a.m.  
Thanksgiving Day Mass

## December

- Thursday, Dec. 1, 7:00 p.m.  
Advent Penitential Service
- Saturday, Dec. 3, 6:30 p.m.  
Parish Adult Social Event (see cover)
- Monday, Dec. 5, 5:30 p.m.  
St. Bart's School Open House
- Thursday, Dec.. 8, 10 a.m.  
Heart of the Matter

You'll find the latest information about St. Bart's events and much more on our website, [www.st-barts.org](http://www.st-barts.org), under Events & News.

# Member Update

## Baptisms

Howard Griffin Johnson  
David Heath Hutchinson  
Anna Finley Winter  
Shay Kaitlyn Nolan  
Sawyer Jameson Meis

## Marriages

Michael John Crotteau &  
Jessica Lee Brooks

John Paul Carroll &  
Sarah Ann Laufenberg

## Deaths

Mike Urbanic  
Mabel Claire Patnode  
Marland "George" Rhoe  
Mary Ann Bjorlin  
Kenneth E. Keiser

## New Members

Jake Wegleitner  
Tara Wright  
Karolina & Kavow Kasbi  
Jeff & Kari Ament  
Brent Vollbrecht  
Jill Hoffer  
Richard and Heather Mattera  
Barbara & Raymond Zehr  
Kara Landon  
Michael Busha  
Marc and Jennifer Hartle  
Devon & Casey Kirschner  
Erin & Troy Hutchinson  
Thomas Ressemann  
Suzanne Wortham-Ressemann  
Andrea Miron  
Ryan Koch  
Mike & Kathy Dougherty  
Steve & Landyn Hutchinson  
Robinson & Ana Zamorano  
Elda Fairchild  
Lorraine Spencer  
Charlie & Deanna Bever  
Susan Joyce  
Mary Jeanne Bowen

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