



Reflections

A publication from St. Bartholomew Catholic Faith Community

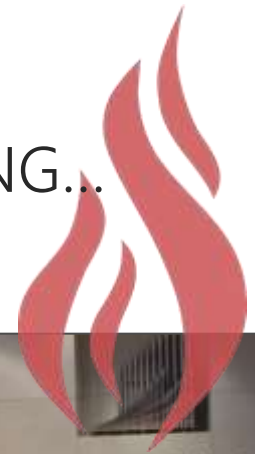
SUMMER 2018

HEADING INTO SUMMER WITH HYMNS OF PRAISE

After the 10:30 a.m. Mass on June 3 more than 200 parishioners took part in the Eucharistic Procession as part of the Solemnity of Corpus Christi. To honor our Lord's presence in the Blessed Sacrament, the many participants sang hymns of praise as they walked around the campus block, ending back at the church for Adoration and the Benediction. A special thanks to Dave Obermiller, Dan Delmore, and Andrew Allen (seen in the middle photo below along with Fr. Mike Van Sloun and Deacon Rick Witucki) who were instrumental in reviving this ancient Corpus Christi tradition at St. Bart's.



LET'S KEEP THE FLAME BURNING... Hotter, Higher and Brighter



It is fitting that we closed out our parish's two-year spiritual campaign, *Ignite Your Faith*, on Pentecost. During the closing Mass Fr. Mike noted that it's very obvious that our parish has made a lot of spiritual progress over the last two years. (Read "Our Flame Grows Brighter," on the back cover for self-assessment results.) Even though *Ignite Your Faith* is coming to a close, Fr. Mike stresses that we need to continue to pray, to study, to be generous and continue to share our faith individually and collectively as a parish community. "Our parish leadership and staff are going to be exploring more ways and better ways to take our flame of faith and have it be hotter, higher and brighter," he said.



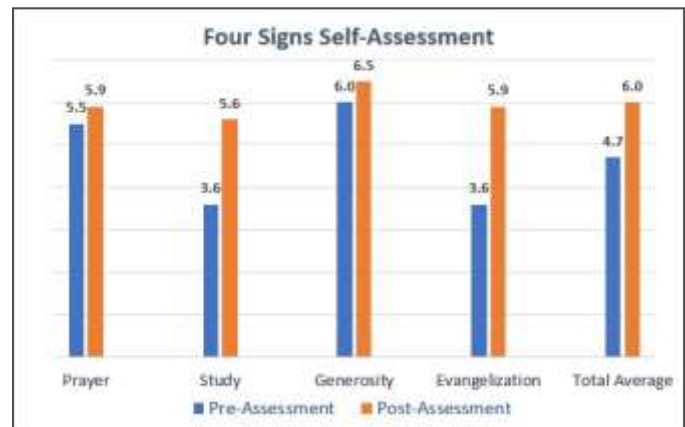
We closed in the same way *Ignite Your Faith* began in September 2016, with prayer and the lighting and distribution of the fire throughout the congregation—the flame symbolizing our parish's recommitment to be on fire for our Lord, Jesus Christ. *"Good and gracious God, help us to recommit to the four signs of a living faith. That we would pray each and every day, that we would reserve time to study and learn about our faith, that we would practice generosity cheerfully and joyfully and that we would look for opportunities to share our faith with others..."*

OUR FLAME GROWS BRIGHTER

By the Ignite Your Faith Team

While the *Ignite Your Faith* initiative wrapped up on Pentecost, hopefully the impacts will live on in our parish and within each of you who participated. When we kicked off this initiative in September 2016, we asked all members to complete an initial assessment, rating themselves on a scale of 1-10 for each of the essential Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic: Prayer, Study, Generosity and Evangelization (faith sharing). Then, at the conclusion of each phase, Fr. Mike introduced the post-assessment for that specific phase, where members again rated where they felt they were on that same 1-10 scale, and also offered the opportunity to provide feedback and identify which activities and resources had the most impact on their faith journey. The results of the initial self-assessment (BLUE bar) and each of the post-self-assessments (ORANGE bar) are highlighted to the right and the results are positive and exciting! The two areas that were initially self-rated as the lowest attributes, Study and Evangelization, are the ones where growth was most significant as a parish community. Even those

attributes that were already rated fairly high, Prayer and Generosity, saw increases too. The journey has just begun, and there is still much room for growth. Thanks to all for your participation, wonderful comments, and sharing of generosity and evangelization challenge experiences. And so the journey continues...



YOU SHOWED UP AND ST. BART'S WON!



This year's *Images of Spring* was an opportunity for parishioners to "Win, Place, and Show-Up for St. Bart's." Donned in derby hats, guests arrived for "A Night at the Races" at the Minneapolis Marriot West on Saturday, May 5, for an evening of fun and fundraising.

The annual fundraising gala, which generates funds for ongoing operations and parish ministries, raised more than \$54,000 for our parish. In addition, attendees generously gave \$68,550 to support two causes: an update for St. Bart's youth room and new doors for our sister parish, Holy Rosary Church.

Special thanks go to event co-chairs, Lee Glover and Mary Ortizcazarín, the committee members, volunteers, and the gracious donors who made this year's *Images of Spring* a success.



CONGRATULATIONS FIRST COMMUNICANTS

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 5:00 P.M. MASS



Alexander Bortolon
Makai Brassington
Olivia Brinza
Claire Britton
Liam Curry
Megan Eichler
Samuel Hagen
Adalyn Koch

Finnegan Kolar
Reese Nick
Willow Nick
Charles O'Connell
Lucas Paul
Charlotte Shafer
Kittson Wock

SUNDAY, MAY 6
8:30 A.M. MASS

Samuel Dittrich
Olivia Knight
Lia Mack
Peony Miller
Madison Robbins
Bode Sarsland

Emma Schroeder
Jackson Underwood
Oliver Villar
Blake Winkels
William Wittenborg



SUNDAY, MAY 6, 10:30 A.M. MASS



Violet Agar
Sophie Anderson
Emery Badger
Samuel Corbett
MacKenzie Felton
Madison Felton
Dylan Frank
Sofia Gonzalez
Olivia Good
John Hable
Zaira Jenkins
Pepper Kell
Alexander Knorp
Grace Lajoie

Oliver Lamparske
Lukas Meyer
Lucy Moore
Sophia Ourada
Vincent Pellegrine
Katherine Peterson
Vivienne Phillips
Zeilyn Rico
Ethan Riggle
Michael Riggle
Snyder Rodrigues
Tej Shirole
Cooper Sinning

CONGRATULATIONS CONFIRMANDI

MONDAY, APRIL 30

This year we welcomed Bishop Andrew Cozzens as we celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Bartholomew. Typically, we are one of five parishes to receive the sacrament at the same Mass at the Basilica of Saint Mary; however, this year it was a great honor to be selected by the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis to host our own Confirmation.



Mitchell Adams
Audrey Anderson
Nina AuBuchon
Isabella Bellini
Gavin Brass
Rachael Brooks
Ava Cortright
Julia Dailey
Charlie Damberg
Harrison Dau
Andrew Day
Zach Ferry
Shawn Forest

Joanna Funk
Cooper Gay
Nicholas Gebhart
Andrew Goetz
Grace Gondeck
Eva Gureghian
Ciera Hanson
Maria Hasper
Greta Herbeck
Claire Hering
Caroline Hess
Blake Hibbs
Max Ingram

Kyle Johnson
Cole Judickas
Matthew Jungmann
Audrey Ketcham
Franklin Koch
Ryan Kraemer
Owen Larson
Genevieve Leali
Luke Liberko
Grace Lira
Nick Marinaro
Connor McDonough

Gavin McDonough
Rhynn Paulsen
Jack Prince
Samantha Prodahl
Cecelia Roth
Carolyn Seran
Aidan Sheehy
Cole Straszewski
Jack Strommen
Aiden Sussner
Jenna Swisher
Michael Wojciechowski

A Twitch Upon the Thread

By Andrew Allen, Director of Children and Adult Faith Formation



In the book *Brideshead Revisited*, Evelyn Waugh borrows an image from G. K. Chesterton's writings to describe how God works to bring people

back to himself. In the novel, the young faith-filled girl Cordelia explains to the older and self-professed agnostic, Charles Ryder, that God uses "an unseen hook and an invisible line which is long enough to let one wander to the ends of the world and still to bring him back with a twitch upon the thread."

Every year in RCIA something like this "twitch upon the thread" happens to those who come to begin the process of full initiation into the Catholic Church. The twitch of God that pulls on that unseen hook of the soul might be a fiancé. It might be one's child receiving Baptism or receiving First Holy Communion. Or, it might be something more personal—a quiet voice inside, the sense of a calling, or the desire to be closer to God. Whatever the reason, those who come knocking, have the door opened to them. Those who come seeking, find. And what do they find?

At this year's Easter Vigil, nine people found that thin place where God comes to meet us. They found God in the sacraments of the Church. Those privileged places where he heals and forgives us, where he gives us his grace, and where he calls us to a life of Faith, Hope, and Love unto eternity.



Here is what a few from the group had to say about their experience of RCIA:

Trevor Knight

My wife Sarah, who was raised Catholic, and I were looking for churches after we got married. We decided on St. Bart's because of the community and welcoming environment. We became members of St. Bart's 11 years ago and have four wonderful children who have all been baptized here. As they progressed through faith formation, I asked myself, since I identify as a Catholic, why wouldn't I make it official? I have grown as a Catholic and this experience has brought more to me than I thought possible. I have been able to create new relationships with the other RCIA candidates in our St. Bart's community and deepen my faith. In addition, my wife and kids were able to share in the Easter Vigil and witness my official entry into the Catholic Church.

Weston Birnbaum

I was raised Lutheran and practiced my faith for most of my life but drifted away during my college years. After college, I started attending church more with my family. After getting engaged to my fiancé, I told her I'd be willing to explore the Catholic faith and convert so we could be united in faith and have a Catholic wedding. Immediately after we discussed it, I started searching for places and we found St. Bart's. The group at St. Bart's was fantastic. The instructors knew their stuff and were willing to research any questions they didn't know. Also, the RCIA team was very good at guiding discussions and cracking open the Scripture and Church teachings throughout the year. I never doubted the decision to do RCIA at St. Bart's. It was an extremely well-done program.

Trinity Anderson

This is not a simple paragraph for me to write. Many people's conversion stories include another person—perhaps a wife or a devout parent. But for me the journey to Catholicism, what nudged me in the direction of the Church, was not a person. I was not knocked off my horse like St. Paul nor did I receive some miraculous vision. Rather, it was a series of little events, small nudges towards the Church, which seemingly inconsequential at the time, led to me sitting in Andrew Allen's office to discuss the RCIA process.

Some of these things from my life include a beautiful bible, living near Notre Dame as a child, and visiting the Vatican two years ago. These experiences together with how my mother has taught me philosophy, history,

everything necessary for developing a thoughtful and spiritual mind, and the freedom to choose the religion to which I felt called, have led me to the Church.

Through it all though, it is clear that the main architect of my path is God. It's hard for me to come up with the exact reason I joined the Church; however, I take that as a testament to God's ability to do miraculous things. With me He worked subtly. I went through RCIA and though questions and conflicts always arose, I knew that this was the right thing for me to be doing. This is exactly where I belong. I am here because God asked me to be here in the mysterious way in which He works. Honestly, I think I can accurately say that it is a true miracle that I am here.

TO INQUIRE MORE
ABOUT THE CATHOLIC
FAITH OR THE RCIA
PROCESS...

Visit our website, www.st-barts.org, or
contact Andrew Allen, aallen@st-barts.org,
952-473-6601.

JOIN US...

FOR PARISHWIDE FUN!

FEAST OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW
ICE CREAM SOCIAL
SUNDAY, AUGUST 26 AFTER 10:30 AM MASS

THE GATHERING
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

SCHOLARSHIP SCRAMBLE GOLF TOURNAMENT
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

STAY UP TO DATE ON EVENTS, VOLUNTEERING AND
HAPPENINGS AT WWW.ST-BARTS.ORG.



St. Bartholomew Catholic Faith Community

630 E. Wayzata Boulevard
Wayzata, MN 55391

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

REFLECTIONS is a publication of
St. Bartholomew Catholic Faith Community,
630 E. Wayzata Blvd., Wayzata, MN 55391
Phone: 952/473-6601, Fax: 952/473-0980
School Phone: 952/473-6189
Email: stbarts@st-barts.org. Website: www.st-barts.org
Pastor: Fr. Mike Van Sloun

REFLECTIONS MISSION: To reflect parish life through writings
which educate, inform and inspire the actions and teachings
of our Catholic community.

Comments/suggestions are welcome.
Communications Director: Kathleen Salman, ksalman@st-barts.org