

Saint Joseph Parish

Needham, MA

Dear St. Bartholomew Parishioners,

As we approach July 1, when St. Bartholomew Parish will officially merge with St. Joseph Parish, our combined Parish Pastoral Councils (PPCs) would like to acknowledge the sense of loss and grief you may be feeling. For decades, St. Bartholomew's has been a cherished spiritual home. With humility and compassion, we invite you to find a new spiritual home at St. Joseph Parish.

As we often experience in our lives, when God closes one door, He opens another. We are excited about the future of Needham's Catholic community. Under the thoughtful and loving leadership of Father Bryan, Fr. Michael, Fr. Charles and Deacon Bob, we believe our combined parish will grow stronger and more vibrant.

Over the past year, the combined PPCs have worked to ensure a smooth transition. Many of St. Bartholomew's beloved ministries and traditions will continue at St. Joseph's, including Community Sundays and holiday gatherings, the Book Club, the morning Men's Group, and a daily 9:00 am Mass. In addition, you will see many familiar faces from St. Bart's continuing their ministries as ushers, lectors, choir members, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

St. Joseph's offers five weekend Masses, each with a unique profile so you can find the Mass that is right for you:

- Saturday 4:00pm - A traditional Saturday Vigil Mass
- Sunday 8:00am - A quiet, reflective Mass without music
- Sunday 9:30am - A Family Mass with a children's choir
- Sunday 11:00am - A more formal Mass with an adult choir
- Sunday 5:00pm - A contemporary Mass with a worship band

Additionally, St. Joseph has a vibrant parish community with an active Social Justice ministry, an evening Men's Group with speakers, and plans to start a Youth Ministry program. To learn more about St. Joseph ministries please visit: www.stjosephparishneedham.com.

All St. Bartholomew's parishioners are warmly welcomed at St. Joseph Parish. In preparation for your arrival, we are making parking and acoustical improvements. Additionally, an elevator was recently installed to improve accessibility. While the interior of the church may be different, the parish community is similar in that it is dedicated to deepening our love and faith for God and neighbor.

The clergy, staff and entire community of St. Joseph is ready with open arms to embrace our brothers and sisters in Christ. We look forward to coming together as one Catholic community at St. Joseph Parish, united and stronger together.

With gratitude and hope,
St. Joseph / St. Bartholomew Parish Pastoral Councils

Diane Brugger, Ted English, Chris Kenney, Nadine Kocho, Tom Langford, Nancy McCarthy, Jill Meyers, John O'Hara, Kathy Reilly, Meghan Sutherland, John Wallace, Cathy Zimmerman

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