

ST. BARTHOLOMEW
AUGUST 10, 2025
19TH SUNDAY OF
ORDINARY TIME



FATHER CODY'S NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Calling all parents! I am holding a meeting for all parents who want their children to participate in RE this next year on Sunday, August 17th after Mass. I want to hear from you on how we can make RE a positive experience and hear the challenges you face.
- The funeral for Jay Leonard will be on Wednesday, August 13th at 11 am.
- No Wednesday Mass on Wednesday, August 20th
- The St. Bartholomew Day BBQ is quickly approaching! Our BBQ is on Saturday, August 23rd starting at 5pm. I am encouraging all parishioners to come and bring a side. Additionally, please take some save the date cards and pass them out to people you know.

If you have anything to add to the announcements or bulletin please reach out to Father Cody.



VOCATIONS PRAYER

Lord Jesus, we ask your special blessing on those preparing for the priesthood in our seminaries. We pray that they will grow in faith, hope and love. Give them courage and perseverance and be their constant companion as they prepare to serve you and your people with the fire of your love. Make them holy as you are holy. Amen.

Seminarians

John Cooney, Kaleb Mitchell, Riley Helgoe, Brett Rotz, Jamie Severson, Anthony Olmes, James Semling, Carter Anderson, Shae Bills, Matt Keck, Carson Gorton, and Jake Smith.

St. Bartholomew Calendar	
Sun. 8/10/25	Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time The Rosary: 8:30—9am Confession: 8:30—8:50am Mass: 9:00 am
Mon. 8/11/25	
Tues. 8/12/25	
Wed. 8/13/25	Jay Leonard Funeral Mass—11:00am
Thurs. 8/14/25	
Fri. 8/15/25	
Sat. 8/16/25	
Sun. 8/17/25	Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time The Rosary: 8:30—9am Confession: 8:30—8:50am Mass: 9:00am

Basics of Catholicism Part 95—The Sacrament of Holy Orders

The 2nd Vatican Council was one of the most extensive and innovative councils of the Church. Its goal was to return to the early church, draw upon its wisdom, and apply it to the modern Catholic Church. Although it has become rather controversial, most of the controversy is in interpretation or practice not doctrine. The 2nd Vatican Council wrote an entire document on the priesthood with some very clear aims.

The first aim was to establish the priesthood within the context of the Church. Priests were not meant to be held above the rest of the Church but within her. Priests are collaborators with their bishops and with the people of God. They work under the authority of their bishops to celebrate the Sacraments with and for the people. As collaborators with the people of God, they share the mission of caring for the church and evangelization. Therefore, everyone's role is to evangelize, teach, care for the Church, and bring people to Christ.

The priesthood is a brotherhood. For many centuries the priests acted like lone wolves continuing their work and providing the sacraments. The Church has been clear since the beginning: there is no such thing as a lone Christian. Christians are always meant to be in community where they are challenged, they grow in faith, and find support. Priests are not exempt. Priests are part of a brotherhood, a common community, which supports, strengthens, and challenges the priest.

Priesthood and marriage are both divine calls through which a person can achieve holiness. As I mentioned in the last part, many throughout the Middle Ages assumed that priesthood and religious life are the only ways through which a person can be holy. The 2nd Vatican Council clarified that all vocations are an equal path to holiness and are held in equal dignity. Thus, the 2nd Vatican Council elevated the Sacrament of Matrimony to its rightful place as an equal calling.

Finally, the 2nd Vatican Council's greatest desire was to make the Church whole again. Part of making the Church whole was to bring the priest and the people together as the Church manifest. The priest is not the sole representative of the Church. The people and the priest, together, manifest the Church. Therefore, the Council gave the people parts and roles during the Mass and required them to be active and informed participants in the Mass. No longer is the Mass solely about the priest. Instead, the fullness of the Mass is the Church coming together to worship God, the head, priest, and the body, the people.

The 2nd Vatican Council greatly reshaped the priesthood and returned it to its proper role within the context of the Church. The priest retained his role as Sacramental minister as the exemplar of ministry and the guide for the ministries. He is a priest among the baptized priests of the New Covenant. He is pastor who leads his flock under the authority of the bishop and with the people of God. He is the Vicar of Christ and a sign of the good things to come but also a man who is striving for holiness.

Basics of Catholicism Part 96—The Diaconate

The Sacrament of Holy Orders has three rungs: deacons, priests, and bishops. These three rungs build upon one another both sacramentally, practically, and theologically. The first step or rung in the Sacrament of Holy Orders is the diaconate. Once a man is a deacon, he could become a priest. Likewise, once a man is a priest, he could become bishop. Before I move on from this topic, I want to point out that both cardinals and popes are not on this list. Cardinals are an honorary title given to a person whom the Pope has called to advise him on matters of the church. The Pope, although the highest person in the physical church, is a bishop. The Pope is elected from amongst his fellow cardinal-bishops to become their leader.

Throughout the next several parts of this series, I want to take some time to explore each of the rungs of the Sacrament of Holy Orders, how they apply to the church, their ordination rites, and their functions starting with the deacons.

The diaconate, aka the Order of Deacons, began very early on in the church. After several years of preaching the Gospel and creating many converts, the Apostles realized that the work entrusted to them was too much for them to handle. Therefore, they decided to ordain men to help serve the church in a sacramental role. These early deacons were responsible for caring for widows and orphans, bringing Communion to the sick, and assisting at the Sacraments such as baptisms and the Mass.

A deacon is ordained to serve. Their principal roles include sacramental assistance at baptisms, funerals, and weddings, distributing Communion to the faithful both during Mass and those who are sick, preaching, and administration. Notice a few key aspects of their role. Each of the Sacraments they can celebrate are either necessary for salvation or they act as a witness. Funerals are not sacraments but rites. The celebrants of the Sacrament of Matrimony are the couple. The priest, deacon, or lay person simply witnesses to the exchange of vows. In all of these sacraments and rites, the deacon serves as a witness or leader in the rites.

On a final logistical note, deacons can be married. Often those called to the diaconate choose to be ordained later in life after their kids are grown and the family has settled down. In order to be ordained a deacon the man must apply for the diaconate training program through his diocese, complete the formation to the diaconate, and then be called to the diaconate by his bishop. A deacon must be married before he is ordained a deacon. Once ordained he cannot be remarried even after the death of his wife.

The formation program for deacons varies depending on the diocese. Usually it takes between 3-5 years and his wife must accompany him through the classes and agree to this new role. Throughout the process, they are taught theology on a master's degree level. They also spend those years discerning and listening to God's invitation as the church also discerns this call. After the process is complete, the bishop can call the man to the diaconate and then he is ordained.

PARISH INFORMATION

Pastor: Fr. Cody Williams

Email: stbartholomew@gmail.com

Website: stbartholomewmt.org

Phone Number: 406-547-3737

Father Cody's Cell: 406-465-7895

Baptism: Contact Parish Office

Weddings: Contact Parish Office **at least 6 month advance notice is needed to complete marriage preparation.**

Scripture Readings

19th Sunday of Ordinary Time
August 10, 2025

Reading 1: Wisdom 18:6-9
Resp. Psalm: 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22
Reading 2: Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19
Gospel: Luke 12:32-48

MASS SCHEDULE

Confessions on Sunday from 8:30—8:50 am
or by appointment

Sunday Rosary: 8:30 am
Sunday Mass: 9 am

Wednesday Mass: 11 am

This year we approved a budget that requires a much higher amount of income than we have budgeted for many years. This increase in income was due largely to the increasing costs of basic needs like insurance premiums and the costs of running a parish. Each week I will include in the bulletin the amount of money we brought in through the offertory as well as the amount we are above or below our goal for that point in the year. The annual goal is \$51,000 with a weekly average need of \$1000.

Weekly Collection totals:

7/6/25—\$1907.00
7/13/25—\$969.00 with a \$3000.00 grant
7/20/25—\$1241.00
7/27/25—965.35

Thank you for your generous support of
St. Bartholomew!