



Dear Families,

It's that time of the year again! On Sunday, September 21 at 9 am and 11 am, Buddy will be [blessing backpacks](#) and I will be handing out backpack tags with love from all of us at St. Bart's. At 10 am, we warmly invite all kids, youth and parents to the Third Floor for breakfast treats and Biblical storyteller Rebecca King's exciting presentation, *Called by God*. This kicks off a special 4-week program to begin the Sunday School year, *Open the Bible!*



***The Blessing  
of the Backpacks!***

*Open the Bible!* begins Sunday, September 28 at the 10 am Education hour. It is designed for kids in PreK through 5th grade as a creative introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament. We welcome and encourage parents to attend these sessions with their kids. Through this program, we'll introduce the curricula we are using this year: *Godly Play*, a Montessori-based method, and *Building Faith Brick by Brick*, a new approach to engaging Bible stories using LEGO bricks.

At the conclusion of the 4 week program, all participants will be presented with a Bible of their own in Church, and we'll continue to explore sacred story and liturgical moments in Sunday School each week at 10 am with our wonderful Sunday School teachers, alternating between the two methods.

Do you have LEGO bricks to donate to this great cause? We can use all colors and sizes, and we particularly need mini-figures and base plates. Please bring your donations to the CYF table on Sunday mornings or drop them off at St. Bart's Central during the week marked CYF. We'll be most grateful!



***Building Faith  
Brick by Brick***

**Please save these dates for these other fun fall festivities:**

**October 5:** Blessing of the Animals at 9 am and 5 pm.

**October 13:** Youth Group and Choristers Picnic in Central Park 10 am-12 noon.

**October 18 (Saturday):** Urban Prayer and Meditation Day for Youth and Adults.

**October 26:** Bibles presented at 9 am and 11 am to participants of *Open the Bible!* program.

**November 2:** All Saints Family Day at 12:30 pm. Please join us for lunch and a screening of the Academy Award-nominated animated film, *The Secret of Kells*.

***Blessings,***  
**Wendy**



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