



ST. BEDE THE VENERABLE

Faith • Service • Family

ESTABLISHED 1965

1071 Holland Road • Holland, PA 18966

Web Site: www.st-bede.org

Archdiocesan Shrine of St. Padre Pio



Pastor

Rev. Monsignor John C. Marine

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Brendan R. Zehner

Weekend Assistant

Archbishop Edward J. Adams
(Retired Vatican Diplomat)

Parish Office

215-357-5720

Fax Number

215-396-0704

Office Manager

Barbara Rogowski

Communications/Scheduling

Patrick McNally

Secretaries/Receptionists

Kathleen Mercurio

Kathleen Nachtman

Safe Environment

Cathleen M. Lynskey

Music Director

Susan DiFlorio

Facilities Manager

Richard Bergen

Parish Pastoral Council

Email:

pastoralcouncil@st-bede.org

Religious Education/C.C.D.

215-357-2130

Director of Religious Education

Shawn Tobin

Administrative Assistant

Rose Nolan

Sacramental Prep/CCD Assistant

Lisa Cassidy

Adult Faith Formation Coordinator

Kathleen Tobin

Parish Youth Ministry

215-357-5113

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Maritza Carmona-Kelly

Parish Outreach Ministry

215-357-4113

Parish Nurse:

Kris Ingle

St. Katharine Drexel

Regional School

215-357-4720

Principal

Laura Clark

Advancement Director

Alicia Figueroa

Grade School Secretaries

Debra Guarino, Kathleen Young

NOTICES FOR THE BULLETIN (SUBJECT TO SPACE AVAILABILITY) MUST BE AT THE RECTORY BY MONDAY, 12:00 NOON.



Eucharistic & Devotional Celebrations

Vigil Mass (Saturday Evening): 5:30pm

Sunday Masses:

7:30, 9:30, 11:00am, 12:30pm

Weekday Masses

(Monday through Friday):

6:30 & 9:00am

Saturday Mass

& Miraculous Medal Novena: 8:30am

Holy Days

(Except Christmas & New Year's)

Vigil Mass: 5:30PM

Holy Day Masses:

6:30, 9:00am, 5:30pm, 7:30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

(Saturday): 4:00 to 5:00pm

(or by appointment with a priest)

Parish Rosary (Tuesday) 7:00pm

Perpetual Adoration Chapel:

7:00am to 9:00pm (open to all)

9:00pm to 7:00am

(During this time period, only members of the Adoration Society who commit to the late night and early morning hours for adoration will know the combination to the new door lock)

Sacramental Sponsorship - For letters of eligibility, one must be a registered member of the parish for six months or more (a reference letter from your previous parish will be accepted). Please contact the Parish Office five days in advance.

Baptism - Usually celebrated on 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, at 1:30pm. MANDATORY Pre-Jordan Classes are held on the 2nd Sunday of the month, at 12:15pm. PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED - please call the Parish Office to make arrangements (215-357-5720).

Marriage - Saturday weddings are 10:00AM, 12:00 Noon, & 2:00 PM. It is Diocesan policy that arrangements must be made AT LEAST 6 MONTHS prior to the wedding. Information on Marriage Instructions can be obtained from the priests. For information on music, call Susan DiFlorio at 215-891-0869.

Anointing of the Sick - In case of serious illness (or advanced age), please call the priests.

Hospital cases should contact the Chaplain, but the Parish Office should be notified so one of the priests may visit the patient.



4th Sunday of Advent December 22, 2024



*"Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."
(Luke 1: 42)*



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PASTOR

My Dear Parishioners,

Back in 2018, our former parochial vicar Father O'Donald and I led a group of 70 pilgrims, mostly from our parish, on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. One of the places we visited was the cave where Jesus was born. It was fascinating to see with our own eyes the very spot where Jesus was born. Christmas now takes on a whole new meaning for me.

For being there, I kept thinking about the mysterious ways of God. Of all the different ways God could have allowed His Son to enter this world, it was in a cave. Yes, a dark, cold cave, to two peasant people named Mary and Joseph.

And the first humans to be told of His arrival were not priests, prophets or kings. No, it was to shepherds, who because they never left their flocks and therefore never attended synagogue, were considered unclean by the religious elite of their time.

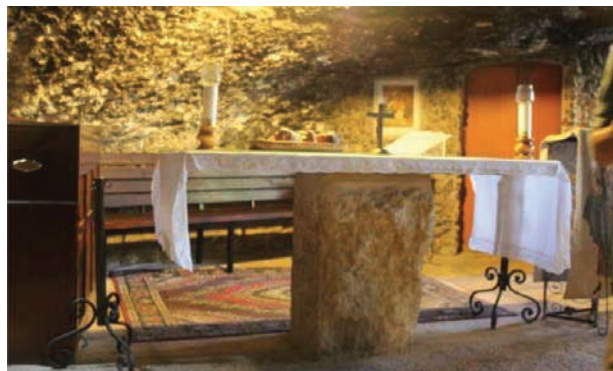
There, in that Shepherd's Field where the angels appeared, God showed humanity that His Son was here to embrace all people, saint and sinner, rich and poor, young and old. There is room in God's heart for all of us. Our world as we know is in a very restless time. People are searching for peace and happiness, and love. But often, it is in the wrong places. And because it is in wrong places, we experience division, alienation, and suffering.

This Christmas, the angels are announcing to us, as they did to those shepherds: "Your searching is over. Come to Jesus and find all the answers to life. Find in that humble cave, in that simple manger, on a bed of straw, what true wisdom is all about."

You know, in Italy, they have the custom at Christmas of setting up in their churches a Nativity scene, but on a much grander scale, called a



A traditional Neapolitan Presepio display.



At left, The altar in the cave at Shepherd's Field. At right, Monsignor and Fr. O'Donald kneel at the star, the exact spot where Our Savior was born. (Photos by Joe Albert)

"Presepio." The word Presepio means "cave." It is a huge village, with people working at a farm, ladies washing clothes, and everyone] going about the daily chores of life. And you have to look through the whole village until you find that cave where Jesus is resting. There you find him, in the midst of people living their everyday lives.

So remember – search for Jesus in your life, but do not look far. Yes He is here, in this church and in the Eucharist most especially. But Jesus is in a friend, an enemy, a spouse, a neighbor, a co-worker, a stranger. A

family member from whom we have been estranged. He waits for us to recognize Him and accept Him as those shepherds did. Then, like them, we will return to our lives with what we have been searching for in our restless hearts: the gift of real peace, and lasting happiness.

On behalf of Fr. Zehner and our parish staff, I wish you and your family a joyous and Happy Christmas!

Monsignor Marine

Christmas Table Blessing

Dear Heavenly Father, love brought Jesus to the earth, and love brings us to this **Christmas table**. Today as we share this holiday feast, may we also share with one another a joyful heart and a warm smile. May our **Christmas** dinner be filled with kindness. And may the memories of today warm our hearts for years to come. Amen.



Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God (A Holy Day of Obligation)

December 31, 2024
Vigil Mass at 5:30pm

January 1, 2025
**Masses at 7:30, 9:30,
11:00am, 12:30pm**



**In celebration of Christmas, the Parish Office will be closed
At NOON on Tuesday Dec. 24, and ALL DAY on Wednesday
and Thursday, Dec. 25 and Dec. 26**

We will re-open on Friday December 27, at 8am.

Merry Christmas!



Perpetual Adoration Chapel Altar Candle Dedication

Dec. 23-29, 2024

**In loving memory of Grant McDermott
(Req. by his family)**

2025 dates are now available! Just come into the Parish Office.
Candle dedications are a \$30 donation for the week.

Scripture Readings for Next Sunday

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 29, 2024

Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14
or 1 Samuel 1: 20-22, 24-28
Psalms 128: 1-5 or 84: 2-3, 5-6, 9-10
Colossians 3: 12-21 or 12-17
or 1 John 3: 1-2, 21-24
Luke 2: 41-52



When you look at them one way, the readings given to us are less about the Holy Family than they are about living one's life doing the work of the Lord. Clearly, both Samuel and Jesus have their lives dedicated to the Lord at a very young age. Saint Paul also call us children of God and gives us instruction in how to live as God's children: keeping God's commandments and doing what pleases God. As you listen to the readings, what can you learn about belonging to God?

Blessing of the Family Christmas Tree

Introductory Rites

A lay leader (father or mother perhaps) greets those present in the following words:

Let us glorify Christ our light, who brings salvation and peace into our midst, now and for ever.

R). Amen

In the following words, the lay leader prepares those present for the blessing.

My brothers and sisters, amidst signs and wonders Christ Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea: His birth brings joy to our hearts and enlightenment to our minds. With this tree, decorated and adorned, may we welcome Christ among us; may its lights guide us to the perfect light.

The lay leader says the prayer with hands joined.

Lord our God,
we praise you for the light of creation:
the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night.
We praise you for the light of Israel:
the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures. We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son:
He is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace,
who fills us with the wonder of your love.

Lord God,
let your blessing come upon us
as we illumine this tree.
May the light and cheer it gives
be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.
May all who delight in this tree
come to the knowledge and joy of salvation.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R). Amen

The candles or lights of the tree are then illuminated.

During the illumination of the tree, the lay leader leads the family in saying

Lord Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary.
R). We welcome you, O Lord.
Lord Jesus, hope of the shepherds and the poor.
R). We welcome you, O Lord
Lord Jesus, glory of the angels.
R). We welcome you, O Lord

Concluding Rite

The lay leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the sign of the cross and saying:

May the God of glory fill our hearts with peace and joy,
now and for ever.

R). Amen

Celebrating Bambinelli Sunday

Christmas 2024



Christmas Masses

Tuesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

4:00pm: Mass in Gym

(Music by Piano and Cantor)

4:00pm: Mass in Church

(Music by the Parish Teen Choir)

6:00pm: Mass in Church

(Music by the Parish Guitar Group)

9:00pm: Solemn High Mass, with procession

of Infant Jesus in Church

*(Music by the Parish Choir,
and Brass Ensemble)*

**** Pre-Mass Concert at 8:15pm**

Midnight: Solemn Mass in Church

(With organ, violin & trumpet music)

Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas Day

7:30am, 9:30am, 11am and 12:30pm

(Music by Organ and Cantor)

New Year 2025

Solemnity of Mary, Holy

Mother of God

(A holy day of obligation)

Tuesday, December 31, 2024

Vigil Mass at 5:30pm

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

Masses at 7:30, 9:30, 11am, 12:30pm



For the second straight year, our parish celebrated a Mass for “Bambinelli Sunday.” Monsignor blessed the Jesus figurines that parishioners brought from their homes.

New Banners



Just in time for Christmas, new banners were hung in the parking lot, welcoming all to St. Bede Parish.

Religious Education

Dear Missionary Disciples,

Merry Christmas! Happy Christmas! I wish you all the best! Consider celebrating the entire Octave of Christmas this year as a family! Check out this QR Code from Focus for some ideas (below). Here is a great resource to give you some ideas.



Mr. Shawn Tobin

Christmas is so important, like Easter, we celebrate it over 8 days! There is simply not enough time in one day to appreciate all the beautiful gifts and give thanks to God for His generosity of sending His Son to us! Remember some great ways to thank God for all the great things he has done for you is to spend some time with

Him in Adoration and at Holy Mass.

Story of Mary- Mary Mother of God: Since we are coming up on Christmas, I thought it would be fitting to write about Mary Mother of God. The beginning of the Church was a time when many doctrines had to be determined in the Church. It took until 431 A.D. and the Council of Nicaea for the Church to confirm that, yes, Mary is actually the Mother of God. This is not to say that she was some type of goddess or simply not a woman, but that she was the woman picked by God himself to bear his only Son. She could accurately be called Mary Mother of God because she gave birth to Jesus, the Son of God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, and had no relations with a man. The Council of Ephesus in 431 A.D., insisted "If anyone does not confess that God is truly Emmanuel, and that on this account the holy virgin is the "Theotokos" (literally= God bearer in Greek- for according to the flesh she gave birth to the word of God become flesh by birth) let him be anathema." Anathema means to be cut off from the Church. As always, Mary always brings us back to Christ and the truth of God, just like she did at the Wedding Feast at Cana, when she told the servants to listen to whatever Jesus told them to do.

Christian Initiation-OCIA (previously RCIA): Anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, please contact me and come out to our OCIA meetings. Our first public Rite will be on Sunday 1/5 at the 11 am Mass, The Feast of the Epiphany. At the 11 am Mass, the Candidates and Catechumens, with their sponsors, will be participating in the Rite of Welcoming and Acceptance.

CCD: Thanksgiving is something Christians are called to do each day! To be thankful for all that God has given us and even taken away from us. Check out these pictures from Thanksgiving of Mrs. Galleli's 6th grade class helping out Mrs. Ramp's 1st grade class make a craft for Thanksgiving (below).



CCD Upcoming Events: Christmas Holiday: Dec 22 & 23- NO CCD; New Year Holiday: Dec 29 & 30- NO CCD; CCD restarts January 5 & 6, 2025.

All families new to the parish please contact me to discuss your child's religious education. I may be contacted at 215-357-2130 or stobin@st-bede.org. May St. Bede the Venerable, St. John Paul II and St. Teresa of Calcutta bless and pray for you!

Shawn P. Tobin, MAPS
Director of Religious Education

Join the St. Joseph Men's Faith Sharing Group!

Happy 4th Week of Advent. Men, come out and encounter Jesus in His Word and in our community of every day guys just trying to do the next right thing and try to learn how to love and protect those around us. **Our next meeting is Saturday, January 11 2025, at 7 am in Drexel Center- Room A. Merry Christmas! Meetings are every Saturday, except holiday weekends. Feel free to just show up!** Please reach out to Shawn P. Tobin in the Religious Education Office (215-357-2130) or by email at stobin@st-bede.org for more information.



December 22, 2024

2025 Calendars Now Available

The 2025 Calendar highlights **Places of Pilgrimage for the Holy Year.** December 2025 focuses on The Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City.



We thank the Joseph Fluehr III Funeral Home for providing our families with this calendar. Please take one home with you at the church or our Parish Office.



The beauty of Christmas is not in the presents but in His Presence.
Matthew 1:23

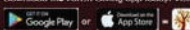
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Cornerstone for Life



Feast of the Holy Innocents
Saturday Dec. 28, 2024

At Our Lady of Guadalupe Church

5194 Cold Spring Creamery Rd, Buckingham, PA

The Feast of the Holy Innocents will be celebrated with the Bucks County Pro-Life Coalition, joining with the parishioners of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish.

The Feast Day will begin with 8:00am Mass at the church, followed by a light reception. We invite you to pray with us and join us for the reception as we reflect on the sacrifice of Holy Innocents and ask God to strengthen us in this pro-life mission.

St. Bede Women's Club

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The Women's Club hosted a wonderful Christmas Luncheon at Spring Mill Country Club last week. Thanks and Merry Christmas to everyone who participated!



Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Doylestown



Come to me.

Matthew 19:14



Sensory Friendly Mass

Christmas Eve

December 24

6 PM

Mass will also be Interpreted in American Sign Language
parishengagement@ourladymtcarmel.org

L.E.A.D. NIGHT

SPECIAL YOUTH NIGHT (FOR YOUTH IN GRADES 7-12)



SUN JAN. 5
@ 6:30PM

CAFETERIA

**THE NIGHT INCLUDES: GAMES,
MUSIC, FOOD AND EUCHARISTIC
ADORATION WITH LIVE MUSIC**

Join the March for Life in Washington, DC!



Please join us on Friday, January 24, 2025 for the annual MARCH FOR LIFE in Washington D.C. Let us continue to speak for voiceless children and to support their mothers. St. Andrew Respect Life Ministry has reserved two 54-passenger buses for parishioners. Our day begins with a 7:00am Mass at St. Andrew, followed by bus departure to the National Mall, Washington, DC for the concert, rally, and THE MARCH. We will return to St. Andrew by 8:00pm.

Please consider bringing your whole family! So many schools and children join in the March for Life! The cost is \$40 per person or \$80 max per family. Signups will close on Dec. 20 – reserve your seat now and help us fill the buses! Checks payable to “St. Andrew Respect Life Ministry” can be dropped off at the Rectory Office. For more information and to reserve your seat, call Mike Phillips at (267) 797-0186 or email at mikeflips@yahoo.com

BEDES TEENS
A NEON
LOCK-IN

WHO:
9TH-12TH GRADE
WHEN:
FRIDAY - SATURDAY
DECEMBER 27-28
TIME:
8:00PM-8:00 AM
WHERE:
ST. BEDE GYM & CAFETERIA

THE NIGHT INCLUDES:

**MASS • SERVICE PROJECT • TALKS • MOVIE • GAMES • FOOD
FRIDAY MORNING BIG BREAKFAST**

BRING:

\$8.00 REGISTRATION FOR FOOD & SERVICE PROJECT

**“ADVANCE SIGN UP REQUIRED”
CALL 215-357-5113**

***CHAPERONES NEEDED:
Even if you can help for two hours, it's a big help!**

Contact Maritza Carmona-Kelly at 215-357-5113 or youthminister@st-bede.org



Mass Intentions This Week

6:30am weekday Masses are in the Lower Chapel.
The Sunday 9:30am Mass will be livestreamed, and also available to view online all day Sunday, and throughout the week. Find the link on our website: st-bede.org (*Living intentions in italics*)

Monday, Dec. 23

+ 6:30am - Vito Canuso-23rd anniversary (Req. by son Tony Canuso, Sr.)
+ 9:00am - Michelle Lancellotti, Cristina & Carmine Orazio (Req. by John Lancellotti)

Tuesday, Dec. 24

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES:

4:00pm (in church & gym), 6:00pm, 9:00pm (in church)

Wednesday, Dec. 25

CHRISTMAS MASSES:

Midnight, 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 12:30pm (all in church)

Thursday, Dec. 26

+ 6:30am - James Gilbey (Req. by the Kane family)
+ 9:00pm - Margaret Hibbert (Req. by Joanne Gelb)

Friday, Dec. 27

+ 6:30am - Rose Colozzi-30th anniversary (Req. by daughter Joan Canuso)
+ 9:00am - Harry Lawall, Jr. (Req. by Rosemary Lawall)

Saturday, Dec. 28

+ 8:30am - Grant McDermott (Req. by his family)
+ 5:30pm - Peter & Doris Mack, Francis & Elizabeth O'Donnell (Req. by Dorie O'Donnell)

Sunday, December 29, 2024

+ 7:30am - Thomas Martin Lynskey (Req. by his sons)
9:30am - For the People of the Parish
+ 11:00am - Special Intentions
+ 12:30pm - Lois Reso (Req. by Kathy Nachtman)

"Lest We Forget"

Let us keep our brave young men and women who serve our country both here and abroad in our prayers:

SN Angela Barber, USN	BM-2 Kirsti Mendez, USN
Pvt. Evan John Barker, USMC	Maj. John Nachtman, Jr., USAF
Cpl. Dolores C. Bowers, USMC	ENS Jessica L. Nangle, USN
Lt. Col. Anissa Buckley (RN), US Army	Sr. Airman Sean Olah, USAF
Senior CPO James Buckley, USN	LCDR Parker Pouser, USCG
Col. Charles B. Chalfont, US Army	Maj. Valerie K. Pouser, USMC
PO3 Jonathan Chisholm, USCG	1st Lt. Thomas C. Reilly, USMC
Capt. James Devlin, US Army	2Lt. James Reitter, US Army
SSG Matthew DiFlorio, US Army	Maj. Allison Riley, USAF
Col. Michael Erlandson, US Army	SGM Steven Rodriguez, US Army
Lt. Col. Stephen Finn, USAF	SrA Alicia Sabatini,
Lt. Thomas Gaus, USN	USAF-National Guard
TSgt. Scott Grove, USAF	SPC Matthew Sawaya, US Army
TSgt. Timothy Harman, USAF	Capt. James Edward
MSgt. Austin Heacock, USAF	Stepenosky MD, USN
LCDR Jenny Held, MD, USN	Pfc. Austin Sypek, US Army
Capt. Craig Hensel, USCG	ENS Harry F. Theurer, IV, USN
Cpl. Ethan Himes, USMC	LCpl. Matthew Thibault, USMC
SN R.J. Johnson, USCG	2ndLt. Daniel Wood, USMC
CDR Keith Krouchick, USN	Maj. Jacqueline
Col. Anthony Kurz, US Army	McDermott-Wintch, USAF
Capt. Luke Ledva, USMC	Lt. Col. Timothy Wintch, USAF
Maj. Daniel Andrew Lusardi, USAF	SGT Charles Wood, US Army
Maj. Crystal Lusardi, USAF	PO-2 Frank Young, USN
MSgt. David Marcella, USAF	



Weekly Stewardship Report

(Week of Dec. 8, 2024)

FIRST COLLECTION / ENV. AND LOOSE BILLS:	\$16,492.00
FIRST COLLECTION / E-GIVING:	\$11,929.00
TOTAL FIRST COLLECTION:	\$28,421.00
Last year's First Collection Total:	\$33,746.00
FIRST COLLECTION AVG. (includes e-giving):	\$25,085.00
SECOND COLLECTION: Retired Religious	\$4,394.00
STEWARDSHIP, THUS FAR (including e-giving)	\$94,820.00
Stewardship 2023 Final	\$129,320.00

Welcome Our New Parishioners

Mary Lou Citron

New parishioners can register by seeing one of our priests after Sunday Mass. Or call the Parish Office at 215-357-5720 to speak to a priest.

Remember The Deceased

Jean Connolly, Dr. Jamie Dorotan

We are united in prayer with their families and with one another as we and all the faithful departed await our rising with the Lord.

Food for the Soul

We welcome the Son of God as our Savior. Most of us use many words to say nothing, but God speaks One Word and says everything. Merry CHRISTmas!

Pray for the Sick

A name will stay in the bulletin for FOUR WEEKS. The contact person must notify the Parish Office if the person needs to stay on the list, or they will be removed. Names can be put on the prayer list by contacting the Parish Office in person, by phone (215-357-5720) or by email (pmcnally@st-bede.org).

Zoe Weschler	Ellen Hardy	Lonnie Lonergan
John Unger	Catherine Pistelli	Anne Flanagan
Barbara Popielarz	Marcia Smith	Julia Pirolli
Michael Hajdak	Wendy Harper	Chuck Webster
Alice Kempter	Frances Osiecki	Tony Canuso
Joseph Brusco	Chuck Hahn	Stella Pettinelli
Jackie Russo	Connie Colantuono	Jennifer Shultz
Bob Russo	Frank Colantuono	Ron Kaufman
Mark Montieth	Lucy Zyry	Sean Marriott
Judy Green	Baby Mallory	Shirley Blackburn
Judy Connolly	Brenda	Sheila Connors
Erin Ramp	Brooke Cheney	Johari Crews
Marielle Ramp	Erich McBerke	Andrew Lis
Aaliyah Henry	Patricia Zararis	Nicholas Viola
Carolyn Graff	Jackie Murtaugh	Mary Higman
Kellie Martin	Mary Kraft	Kadence Lawson
Ambrose Dempsey	John Kraft	Gene Lyczynski
Fred Schweitzer	Rita Chmielewski	Hugh McConville
Christine Maloney	Michael Long	Jill Bell
Frank Tuohy	Mandy Di Fede	Annette Lynch
Catherine Russell	William J. MacIntyre	Dan Martarano
Steven Woolman	Sutton Strawn Bullard	Paul Sabina
William DeHaven	Richard Dobson, Sr.	Maryann Duval
Lionel Busschaert	Gerry Ryan	Mary Thoma
Ed Nowicki	Rowan Ryan	Eleanor Geisheimer
Charles Branson	Catherine Russell	Eileen Finnerty-Smith
Carolyn Baxter	Antonio Santilli	Marie Szczesniak
Wanda Sarson	Adele Boylin	Cookie Fulham
Terry Thompson	Cody Kearns	Nyak Longsdorf
Peg Purcell	Tim Ward	Mila Szyaniak



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Karen M. Quinn, Esquire
Attorney at Law
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kquinn@kquinnlaw.com
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