

St. Bartholomew's Church



Scan this code with your
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our parish website.

15 Palmer Road
Yonkers • New York 10701

www.saintbartsparish.org

Rev. Raphael Ezeh, MSP, *Pastor*
Deacon Robert A. Clemens
Cheryl Duda, *Religious Education Coordinator*
Erika Podoprigora, *Organist and Music Director*

Rectory/Parish Office : (914) 965-0566
Religious Education Office: (914) 476-6676

Sunday Masses: 5:00 p.m. on Saturday;
8:30, 10:00, 11:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Weekday Masses: 7:00 a.m. & 9:00 a.m. Monday through Friday;
9:00 a.m. Saturday.

Confessions: Saturdays 4:00 to 4:45 p.m.

Parish Membership: Every family and single adult to be considered active members of St. Bartholomew's Parish must be properly registered in the parish, receiving and regularly using the parish weekly donation envelopes. Only in this way can the parish issue documents attesting to parish membership and Catholic practice, e.g. a letter to be a Godparent or Sponsor. New parishioners are requested to visit the parish office.

Sick & Shut-ins: The priests are available to administer the Sacraments to those who are unable to come to Church. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is part of the healing ministry of the Church, and should be received early in an illness or before a serious operation.

Baptisms: Please call the parish office to make arrangements.

Marriages: In order to provide sufficient time for the Marriage Preparation Course, please call the parish office and ask to speak with the pastor at least six months in advance of the wedding.

Parish Council: Meets on the Monday evening after the third Sunday of the month. Chairperson: Richard Califano

Holy Name Society: Meets on the Monday evening after the second Sunday of the month. President, Dan Panik

Rosary Altar Society: Meets on the Monday evening after the first Sunday of the month. Co-Presidents, Carolyn Mesler, Frances Raffa

Bereavement Ministry: For information call (914) 965-0566,
Tina Falcone

Trustees: Catherine Hickey, Aureo Pinto



ADVENT

Mission Statement: We, the members of St. Bartholomew's Parish, will strive to work for a vibrant and loving Eucharistic community. In the spirit of Christ, we commit ourselves to the service of humanity - in our parish, neighborhood, archdiocese and the universal Church. We will strive to enrich our community spiritually, pastorally and socially, and to be a family of worship

CLOSE, BUT FAR AWAY?



We often talk about meeting someone halfway, mostly not literally. A movie came out in August called *The Hundred-Foot Journey*. It's a beautiful movie about a feud between two adjacent restaurants, one owned by a well-known French chef, and the other by an Indian man who had just moved into town with his family. He too, was an equally experienced chef. The restaurants are one hundred feet from each other. Inevitably, that is humanly, competition ensued from the very beginning, along with dirty tactics that escalated to the burning down of one of the restaurants (I'll let you find out which). The rest of the movie was about how both parties fought each other and finally made peace. They were physically separately by a hundred feet but they were miles apart in terms of being good neighbors to each other. It was a tough and torturous journey but they made it anyway. It took a lot of fight, humility, owning up to their mistakes, asking for forgiveness, and hard work to meet each other halfway.

Such a beautiful movie. Says a lot about how we could be so close physically and yet so far apart in just about every other way. Am sure you know neighbors who live next to each other and yet because of hostility, jealousy, hatred, competition, envy, anger, bias, petty conflicts, slander, gossip, etc, are unable to traverse the few yards that separate them from one another literally, not to talk of bridging the miles of differences that keep them separated. Sadly, sometimes people, Christians, live in the same space, for years, but remain apart.

The Prophet Isaiah calls us today, as we continue our Advent journey, to make straight those crooked or untraveled paths. Like the two restaurant owners in the movie, we must find ways to bridge our differences, close the gap of misunderstanding and strive to live in peace. We must do so in our families, work places, schools, and in our society. The recent wave of mistrust and violence between law enforcement officers and the public, especially, African American males, is one example of the distance that needs to be bridged.

Hopefully, Christians will hear the voice that cries out in the desert: Prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God" (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11), especially during these Advent and Christmas Seasons. I'm sure that you have some paths you need to straighten up in your life and in your family and workplace. If today you hear the word of God, harden not your heart" (Hebrews 3:7-8). Amen.

ANNUAL STATE OF THE PARISH REPORT

This Sunday we have the report available in the back of the church. Hopefully, you'll find it informative enough. Please take a copy as you leave the church. The Finance Council will briefly comment on a few of the items next Sunday.

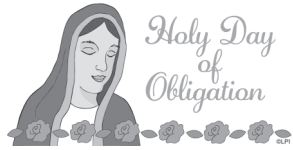
PARISH SURVEY

If you are not able to join in today's data collection or survey at Mass, please help us by completing one at home and bring it back next Sunday. We'll be catching up with other parishioners in the next couple of weeks.

Have a blessed week!

~ Father Raphael Ezeh, MSP

PARISH NEWS



HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION: This Monday, December 8th, we will celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a Holy Day of Obligation for all Catholics. The Masses for the Holy Day are 7 a.m., 9 a.m., 12 noon, and 7:30 p.m. The 5 p.m. Mass on Sunday **does not** fulfill the obligation for the Holy Day.

OUR PARISH GIVING TREE

In keeping with the true spirit of Christmas, we have the opportunity to share our resources with several charities who serve the disadvantaged (Immaculate Conception's Needy Families, Richmond Hill, Westchester Living Center, and the Central Committee of Veterans Org.). Please take an ornament(s) from the tree in the back of the church. **It is important that this ornament, indicating gender and gift specific information, be securely attached to your wrapped package.** Please return all packages to the church by next Tuesday, December 16th. Thank you for your continued support in this very special season of giving.



The **SANCTUARY LAMP** for this week is lit in loving memory of Joseph Pietropaolo by Mary DeSantis.

SENIORS GROUP OUTING: This coming Tuesday, December 9th, the Seniors Group will be viewing the large Nativity display at the Westchester Italian Cultural Center in Tuckahoe, following the 9 a.m. Mass. Anyone in the community is welcome to join them. See the flyers posted on the Church bulletin boards for more information.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
DECEMBER 12TH

Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Patroness of the Americas. We are going to have prayers and traditional hymns in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the church at **6 a.m.** this Friday, December 12th, followed by the 7 a.m. Mass and a reception in the McManus Parish Center.



CHILDREN'S MASS: Please make it a point to bring your child to our Children's Mass for the remaining Sundays in December. The 10 a.m. Mass will focus on our children. The Parish Children's Choir will sing the Mass. The children are encouraged to sit together during the Mass.

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 8th, for the Holy Day, the Immaculate Conception of Mary.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PRAYER FOR ADVENT



Dear God,
As an Advent candle is lit
In joyous anticipation of Your Son's nativity,
Remind us always of the reason for our joy.
As the purple of the candles stands for both
penance
And atonement for sin,
Give us the grace to do penance for our wrongs,
And to love Christ,
Whose sacrifice atoned for the sins of the whole world.
But just as the rose candle stands
For joy in the midst of suffering and expectation,
Give us the joy of Your Son, Jesus Christ,
Who came into a world that had so longed for its Savior,
And made the angels themselves sing with joy at His birth.
Amen.

OUR CHRISTMAS "WISH LIST"

As has become a tradition here at St. Bart's during this season of giving and sharing, I share with you the things that would enhance our sacred worship, devotion, and environs. Your generosity over the past years has made many improvements, especially here in the Church building.

We are in the throws of major improvements in the Rectory to take the barely usable basement and turn it into more functional, safe space. Also, in preparation for our expected, new Associate Pastor, the 3rd floor which has been damaged by leaks, needs work, too. Some of our parishioners have generously volunteered their expertise to undertake the needed improvements and work is under way. This year's Wish List reflects these pressing needs:

- 4 Christmas Wreaths** **\$115 each**
- Lectionary for Sunday Mass (used for readings)** **\$100**
- Advent & Christmas Candles** **\$100**
- Donations toward the Basement & Third Floor Renovations**

Thank you in advance for any help you can offer.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, especially Rosalind Mariani and Mary Theresa Laccetti.

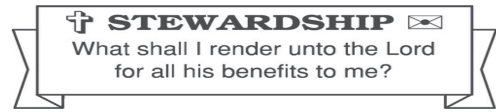
The **YOUTH GROUP** meets on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass in the school building. There will be a meeting this Sunday, December 7th. All youths age 13 and up are invited.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA: Held after the 9 a.m. Mass on Mondays.

EUCCHARISTIC DEVOTION: Held the First Friday of every month at 1 p.m. Please join us when you are able.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION: Held the First Saturday of every month at 3 p.m. All are encouraged to participate.

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY: Join your fellow parishioners in praying the Rosary after the 9 a.m. Mass on weekdays and Saturdays.



TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING
Last Weekend's Contribution Comparison

	12/1/13	11/30/14	Difference
Adults	\$5,652.90	\$4,836.15	-\$ 816.75
Children	\$ 204.20	\$ 170.85	-\$ 33.35
Total	\$5,857.10	\$5,007.00	-\$ 850.10

Our Thanksgiving Collection totaled \$1,635.00.

Next Sunday, December 14th, there will be a second collection to help support the retired religious of our Archdiocese.

**"WHAT WE HAVE DONE FOR OURSELVES ALONE
DIES WITH US; WHAT WE HAVE DONE FOR OTHERS
AND THE WORLD REMAINS AND IS IMMORTAL."**

~ Albert Pike



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Ethel Thomas, Aldina Pereira, Rebecca Conroy, Andy DeFabritis, Maria Marte, Rosalie Heit, Florence B. Swetz, Clare Yaskovic, Deacon James Bynnes, Andrea Objay, Carmen Torres, Frank Marra, Deacon Patrick Troy, Josephine Apuzzo, Gary Roth, Joyann Allan, Lois Burton, Mary DeStefano, Mark Cianfaglione, Shawn Colon, Margaret Maccia, Nicole Ryan Betancourt, Anthony Spinner, Audrey Falcone, Kathleen Hayes, Marge Muraik, Nicole Pisani-Frame, Louis Petrulo, Cynthia Swiatkiewicz, Jimmy Maimone, Roseanne Mercandetti, Louis Brusco, Josephine Daniele, Jennifer Dorsey, Valerie Riccardi, Fatima Panik, Marian Fletcher, Anna Bonacci, Minerva Hernandez, Paula Parente, Bridget O'Malley, Anna Brucculeri, Gerald Mazzerese, Jr., Patricia Keane, Carol Stola, Amada Ortiz, Karen Aprea, Stephen Sarich, Neil Cawley, Barbara McCormack, Josephine Lehotyak, Lawrence Girsch, Fran Romano, Joe Forlini, Rosemarie Petti, Marie Murtha, Mary Walsh, Natalie Marrero, Richard Meyers, John Palermo, Carlo Gentile, Angelo Gianfrancesco, Vince Delgado, Charles Wighton, Michael Tomanelli, Daniel Pezzola, Steven Colon, Daniel DeRosa, and Louis Loscalzo.

Thank you to the 106 donors who came to our Friday, November 28th Blood Drive and also to the 14 high school students and 7 parishioners who volunteered to help. If you were unable to participate that day, you can still do so at your convenience by calling the Hudson Valley Blood Service (800 933-2566) and crediting your donation to St. Bartholomew's Church, Group # 7747.



In the 79 Blood Drives we have held since 1981, we have collected 5,981 units of blood that have potentially saved 18,000 lives! Our next Blood Drive will be the Friday after Easter, April 10th.

DECEMBER 7, 2014

Mass  for the
Intentions Week

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 6 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

Sunday, December 7

8:30 AM Oscar Starkenberg +

10:00 AM Joseph Prior +

11:30 AM Josephine Giuriceo +

5:00 PM Miguel Angel Ocasio +

Monday, December 8

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 AM Deceased Members of Lucchetti & Capuano Families

9:00 AM Raymond Shannon, Jr. +

12 Noon Rev. Anthony Bassegy's Intention

7:30 PM Donato Sacchetta +

Tuesday, December 9

Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Rita Bolduc +

9:00 AM Blasie DeRosa (living)

Wednesday, December 10

Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Corazon & Benjamin Sotto +

9:00 AM Marcello Barcello +

Thursday, December 11

Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Rev. James F. McNamara +

9:00 AM Gene DelBene +

Friday, December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:00 AM Gloria Bassegy +

9:00 AM Helen & Pete Pietrowski +

Saturday, December 13

Saint Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

9:00 AM Lucy DeMartino +

Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 13 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Anthony Joseph Fontanello, Sr. +

Sunday, December 14

8:30 AM Adolf Steffens +

10:00 AM Ethel Castagnozzi +

11:30 AM Frank & Carmela Legio +

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH FAMILY



Our warmest welcome to our visitors! We are glad you came to celebrate the Eucharist with us today. We thank God for you! Do not hesitate to let us know how we may serve you.

Every family and single adult to be considered an active parishioner of St. Bartholomew's Parish must be properly registered in the Parish, receiving and regularly using the Parish Weekly Collection Envelopes. Only in this way can the Pastor issue documents attesting to Catholic practice of the faith and Parish membership, e.g. a letter to be a Godparent or Sponsor. For further information call the Parish Office at (914) 965-0566.

If you have not registered or need to correct some of the information in our file, please fill out this form and check (X) the appropriate box below, or you may also use the complete Registration Form found on the table at the rear of the Church; and drop the completed form into the collection basket or drop off/mail it to the Rectory. Thank you!

Name:

Address:

City/Zip:

Telephone:

Comment:

- I am a visitor.
- I am interested in parish membership.
- Change of Address / Telephone Number.
- I am moving out of the Parish.
- I am going to the hospital.
- I would like to be visited by a priest / minister.
- Please send me the *Catholic New York*.
- I would like to learn more about the Catholic Faith.

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Besides those of you who contribute throughout the year, the Social Ministry Committee would like to thank all our parishioners and friends who contributed to the Food Pantry for our Thanksgiving Drive. May God continue to bless the very special people of St. Bartholomew's Parish and our generous friends!

