

**GROWING IN GOD'S WISDOM**

1Sam. 3:3-10, 19; Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1Cor. 6: 13-15, 17-20; John 1:35-42

People often asked me: "Did you always know you were going to be a priest?" "How did you know you were called to be a priest?" "What made you decide to become a priest?" The simple answer is that I did not always know that I was going to be priest. In fact, I never planned to become a priest. I decided to become a priest after my rector in Junior Seminary (High School) spoke to us in our senior year about the different groups of priests in the Catholic Church – the diocesan – the religious/consecrated – the society of apostolic life / missionary. He was our mentor! My encounter with him clicked-on the light bulb in my head about a vocation to the priesthood. To put it in proper perspective, I was just seventeen years old – ignorant, immature, innocent and timid. I may not have been aware or I may not have had the humility to admit it, but I needed some guidance. Don't we all? "Here am I, Lord; I come to do Your will."

This past Monday, we celebrated the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Jesus. Thus, it is not surprising that the scripture readings of this Sunday focus primarily on discipleship. It is a sign that our ordinary lives unfold as a following of Christ. Christ's Baptism reminds us of our baptism and the call to discipleship. The theme of call and response to discipleship permeates today's scripture readings – the first reading tells us of the young boy, Samuel, who was called while asleep. He did not realize Who called him. He mistook the caller for the priest, Eli. But it was indeed God Who called the boy. Guided by Eli, Samuel responded to the caller: "Speak Lord, Your servant is listening." With that response, the Bible tells us that: "Samuel grew up, and the Lord was with him..." Guided by the wisdom of a priest, led by the experience of an adult and tutored by the knowledge of a guardian, the little boy, Samuel, came to discover the presence of God. He came to realize that it was the Lord Who called him, and he responded positively.

The gospel reading also induces a call to discipleship. John the Baptist pointed Jesus out to his disciples who out of mere curiosity inquired of Jesus: "Rabbi, Teacher where are You staying?" Jesus said to them: "Come, and you will see." They were not satisfied that they had seen Him. They wanted to experience and to study Him – to be with Him – to learn from Him – to understand the demands of discipleship. Thus, they went and stayed with Jesus the whole day. After their encounter with Jesus, Andrew, sought his brother, Simon, and said to him: "We have found the Messiah!" And he later brought Simon and introduced him to Jesus. This year, is declared, "A Year of Re-evangelization" in our parish. You and I are tasked to reach out to lapsed Catholics – those who have left the Church because of one reason or another. We are urged to bring Christ to those who do not know Him. Last Sunday was "bring-a-friend Sunday" in our parish. Like Andrew, you who have experience Christ in the Eucharist – in the Word – in the Church, are asked to bring others to Him and to bring Him to others.

As leaders – priests, teachers, catechists, parents, and/or guardians, you and I have a responsibility just like Eli to direct and guide our young people to the Lord by our words and examples. Through the direction and wisdom of good role models, young people need to discover what the Lord is calling them to do in life; and we must help them respond to it positively. Since "the body is a temple of the Holy Spirit...from God," you and I have the responsibility to use it primarily in service of God. Parents should generously cooperate if their child feels he/she has received God's invitation to live a meaningful life of dedication in a vocation to priesthood or religious life. Ask the Lord to "Speak, for Your servant is listening!"

**Rev. Anthony Ita Bassey, MSP**

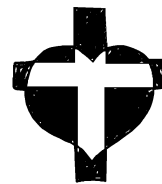
**PARISH NEWS**

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) will meet this Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the school. All members are encouraged to attend this meeting.



The **FINANCE COMMITTEE** will meet this Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7 p.m. in the Rectory. Members are asked to please plan on attending.

**CHILDREN'S MASS:** Please make it a point to bring your child to our Children's Mass the next two Sundays in January. 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 with other children at a designated place during the Mass.



**SOCIAL MINISTRY:** Our Food Pantry needs some restocking, **especially with rice, soup/broth, tuna fish, pasta sauces, cereals, canned fruit & juices.** Please keep this in mind when you see sales on your trips to the supermarket. Thank you for your continuing support!

**HOLD THE DATE**

**Carrie D'Angelo** who has worked in the Rectory Office for over 26 years has retired. The Parish Pastoral Council is planning a **Parish-Wide, Potluck Retirement Dinner for Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>**, immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass. Please see next week's bulletin for more information and plan on joining us as we thank Carrie for her many years of service.

*Until other arrangements are made, the Rectory Office will be open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.*

**ATLANTIC CITY TRIP**



The Rosary Altar Society is sponsoring an Atlantic City trip on Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, at 9 a.m. The cost is \$35 per person. For more information or reservations call Carolyn on 963-2622 or Dolly on 969-6575.

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'S BIRTHDAY:** This Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, is a legal holiday; the Rectory Office will be closed; and there will only be one Mass at 9 a.m. that day.





THE PROCESS OF BECOMING A TITHING PARISH BEGINS .....

This week you will receive a letter from our Pastor, Father Anthony Basse, MSP, informing you of our Tithing Program. Also, next weekend we will welcome two visitors,

Mary Kay Martin and Patricia M. O'Connor, from New Jersey, who will be sharing their experiences with us on tithing. As we move ahead on this important project, we are asking for your unqualified support and participation to make it a huge success for the viability of our Parish.

FREE and confidential HELP for all In a crisis pregnancy

LIFE OPTIONS Pro-Life Center

Call (914) 620-4464

ARCHBISHOP DOLAN IS CREATED A CARDINAL

The parishioners of St. Bartholomew's Church, Yonkers, NY, heartily congratulate our Archbishop, Timothy Dolan, on his elevation to the College of Cardinals, by the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI. We pray God to bless him and enrich him with wisdom and strength, as he assumes his role as one of the princes of the Church. We, the parishioners of St. Bartholomew's, together with all New Yorkers are proud to share in his achievements.

Ad multos annos! Ad maiorem, Dei glorium!

IONA GRAMMAR SCHOOL, a private Catholic boys school for Grades K-8 at 173 Stratton Road, New Rochelle, invites all interested parents and their sons to an OPEN HOUSE on Sunday, January 29th, from 10 a.m. to Noon. For additional information call John Morash, Director of Admissions on (914) 633-7744, ext. 18 ore-mail jmorash@ionagrammar.org.

The CANCER SUPPORT GROUP will meet this Wednesday, January 18th, at 7 p.m. in Room 111 of St. John's Riverside Hospital, 967 North Broadway, Yonkers, for education & support to help cope with cancer. Call (914) 964-4441 for information.

The first Sunday evening of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass, our Youth Group meets in the McManus Parish Center. All youths age 13 and up are invited.



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

EUCCHARISTIC DEVOTION: Held the First Friday of every month at 1 PM. Please join us for this most efficacious prayer.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION: Held the First Saturday of every month at 3 PM. 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.



LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

- The budgeted Collection for last Sunday was \$6550.00.
The actual Collection for last Sunday was \$5582.85.
The Collection to support Catholic Communications and the Catholic University of America totaled \$1619.40.

We thank everyone for their generosity to St. Bartholomew's Church. May God bless and reward all your sacrifices for the Parish!

REMEMBER YOUR BELOVED PARISH

Remember, 'We make a living by what we earn. We make a life by what we share.' Please remember our Parish in your Will as a lasting and loving gift to your parish family. Thank you!



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Ethel Thomas, Aldina Pereira, Rebecca Conroy, Alejandra Santander, Grace Raguso, Andy DeFabritis, Maryann Tolli, Maria Marte, Ed Carpenter, Barbara Rup, Jule Yaskovic, Rosalie Heit, Dolores Santamarena, Florence B. Swetz, Clare Yaskovic, Neil Caruso, Raymond Fitzpatrick, Sr., Deacon James Byrnes, Andrea Objay, Carmen Torres, John Esposito, Francis Farrell, Mark Baum, Frank Marra, Christine Bellino, Deacon Patrick Troy, Josephine Apuzzo, Edith Dugan, Gary Roth, Joyann Allan, Anna Rita Morgante, Lois Burton, Mary DeStefano, Dan Seratto, Mark Cianfaglione, Shawn Colon, Margaret Maccia, Nicole Ryan Betancourt, Anthony Spinner, Audrey & Alfred Falcone, Kathleen Hayes, Marge Muraik, Stan Buoninfante, Donna Vasconez, Mary Ann Berengur, Gene DelBene, Angelina Brusco, Mary Romanchik, Nicole Pisani-Frame, Louis Petrulo, Cynthia Swiatkowitz, Rose Botcheller, Silvia Georgi, and Jimmy Maimone.

REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES, LIVING AND DEAD

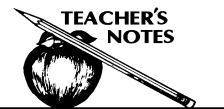
Consider giving a loved one or someone who has a special place in your life the graces associated with having a Mass offered on their behalf. You may have a thanksgiving Mass offered for your loved ones or for yourself on such occasions as birthdays, wedding anniversaries, etc.

Also, you may consider offering the Altar flowers, Altar bread and wine, Altar candles, or lighting the Sanctuary lamp for a week for your intention. Come to the Rectory Office, Mon. - Fri., 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. to make arrangements or to inquire about the availability of a particular date.

Public School Teachers' Appreciation Breakfast


The Catechetical Office of the Archdiocese of New York invites all Catholic teachers in public schools to the Sixth Annual Communion Breakfast for Catholic Teachers in Public Schools. It will take place on Saturday, January 28th, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Riverview Caters, Hastings-on-Hudson. Join Catholic teachers from across the Archdiocese for Eucharist, sharing, and breakfast. A donation of \$20 is suggested.

For more information, contact Helen Doon at (646) 794-2822 / Helen.doon@archny.org or Sr. Zelide Ceccagno at (914) 965-0490 / cswestchester@nyfaithformation.org.



JANUARY 15, 2012

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Mass  for the  
Intentions Week

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Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Saturday, January 14 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM Rita Hoos Hoffmeister +

**Sunday, January 15**

8:30 AM Frances Starkenberg +

10:00 AM Arlene Tiplady +

11:30 AM Ernie & Irene Russo +

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

**Monday, January 16**

Weekday – Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday

9:00 AM Marcello Barcello +

**Tuesday, January 17**

Saint Anthony, abbot

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Mary DelVecchio +

**Wednesday, January 18**

Weekday

7:00 AM Denise Lavalley +

9:00 AM Murrell Dilts +

**Thursday, January 19**

Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Louise Forcella +

**Friday, January 20**

Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Agnes Oroffa +

**Saturday, January 21**

Saint Agnes, virgin & martyr

9:00 AM Agnes Oroffa +

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**Saturday, January 21 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM Joseph & Lucy Laudadio +

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**Sunday, January 22**

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Mary & Nicholas Maccia +

10:00 AM Josephine & Anthony Brucculeri +

11:30 AM For All the People of Our Parish

5:00 PM Dorothy Grubiak +

JANUARY 15, 2012

**WELCOME TO OUR PARISH FAMILY!**

**We  
Love  
To  
Serve  
You!**



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 (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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**PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**

Dear Lord,  
Now more than ever,  
Your Church is fragmented throughout the world.  
In our search for You  
We have divided ourselves  
Rather than seeking You  
As one united people on our pilgrim way.  
Help all those who call upon Your name  
To show Your light to the world as one family,  
One holy nation,  
One royal priesthood,  
And united as one, holy, catholic and apostolic church. Amen.

