

# St. Bartholomew's Church



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our parish website.

15 Palmer Road  
Yonkers • New York 10701

[www.saintbartsparish.org](http://www.saintbartsparish.org)

Rev. Raphael Ezeh, MSP, *Pastor*  
Rev. Daniel Oghenerukevwe, MSP, *Parochial Vicar*  
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

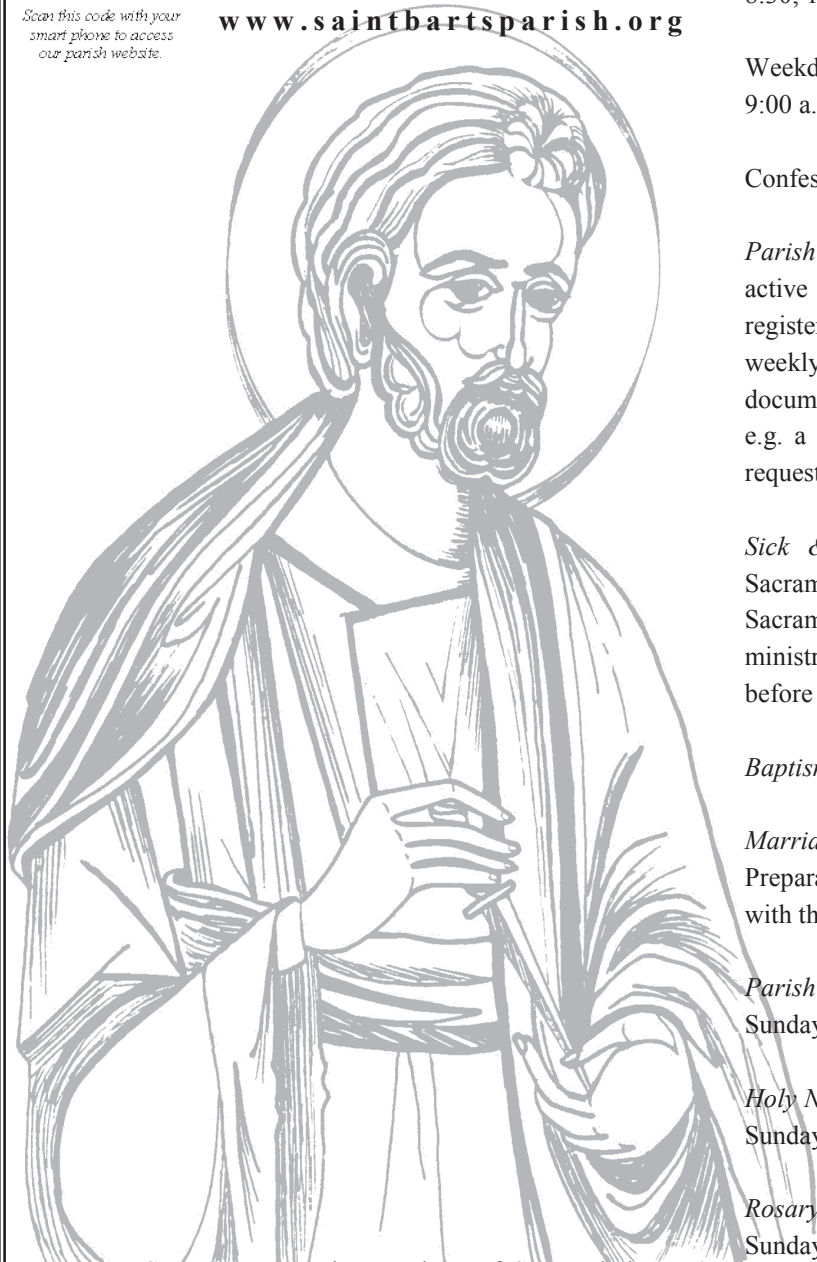
*Holy Name Society:* Meets on the Monday evening after the second Sunday of the month. President, Dan Panik

*Rosary Altar Society:* Meets on the Monday evening after the first Sunday of the month. President, Joan Liddell

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

*Trustees:* Catherine Hickey, Aureo Pinto

*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 and prayer for all.



**The Cross – Our Sign Of Victory**



This past Thursday, across the nation, various states, cities, organizations, and individuals marked the 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the attack on the WTC. Here at St. Bart's we remembered the victims and their families at our 9 a.m. Mass and also held a prayer gathering and procession in the evening, above all to pray for peace in the world. Needless to say, the hurt, pain, sorrow and agony have not been fully healed. On one of the memorial events shown on CNN, one man started crying as he read the name of his mother, along with other victims. Another man ended the list of victims' names with prayer to God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Trinity and then asked Our Blessed Mother to lead them to Her Son.

Do you recall the Miracle Cross found in the middle of the Twin Towers rubble? It became the symbol of comfort, hope, healing and resilience for the man that found it and for many Christians who went back and prayed and laid flowers at the foot of the cross. What better message was God giving His children? Only atheists will not see it so! Sadly, too. It's so fitting that we're celebrating the Triumph of the Cross this weekend. It reminds us of how we too, like Christ, will triumph. Christ defeated sin, evil and death through His Cross. We, as individuals, families, a nation, and God's beloved children will triumph! Amen! Amen!!

**GOD BLESS AMERICA!**

**OUR NEW PASTORAL PLAN**

For months now we have prayed for the success of our new Pastoral Plan and Goals. In that prayer we recall our past, acknowledge our present and look forward to a brighter future. Some days ago, after reflecting on the survey answers, Making All Things New and on the future of St. Bart's, I wrote down the following about what kind of parish we hope to become:

**A growing, spiritual, vibrant, traditional, multi-cultural, and evangelizing parish with burning zeal for, and great focus on rich and fulfilling liturgical and sacramental celebrations, life-long faith formation, family oriented ministries, community and social outreach, and exciting programs for the needs of parishioners of all ages and life situations.**

Now, this is just my way of articulating the goals we have set down which came from the surveys and Town Hall meetings.

This Sunday, we have final copies of the Pastoral Plan in the back of the Church for everyone. Please take a copy and go through it. It's a living document and we'll be reviewing it as we go along. We'll be explaining this more at each of the Masses. We need all hands on deck and hope that you'll be part of this new and exciting phase at St. Bart's. It will be labor & personnel intensive, we know. But isn't that how great things are accomplished? Isn't that how great parishes are built? We too can do that. I sincerely appeal to you and every parishioner to join hands with the various committees and ministries to transform St. Bart's into a greater and better parish. Before the year runs out some parishes will be closed and some will be merged with others in the Archdiocese. ST. BART'S IS NOT ONE OF THEM. In fact, we're nowhere near that category. Yet, we must begin now to work towards the next phase of closures and merges. We don't pray for it but if it does come to that, we don't want our children to be on that list! WE MUST KEEP GOING NORTH! NEVER SOUTH! BY THE GRACE OF GOD!

**Have a blessed week!**

~ Father Raphael Ezech, MSP

**PARISH NEWS**



HOLY NAME SOCIETY

**HOLY NAME SOCIETY MEETING:** This Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, the Holy Name Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the McManus Parish Center. All men of the Parish are invited to attend.

The **ALTAR FLOWERS, ALTAR BREAD AND WINE AND ALTAR CANDLES** were donated **LAST WEEK** in loving memory of Frances Nanoia and Violetta Morra by Louis and Angela Brusco



The **ALTAR CANDLES AND SANCTUARY LAMP** for this week have been donated in loving memory of Gbenga Timothy Obasa by The Obasa Family



**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES**

**It is not too late to register.** Classes are available for children in Pre K through High School senior year, including those with Special Education needs. Classes are available to prepare children of all ages for the sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation, regardless of any lack of previous instruction. **All Catholic children attending public schools should enroll in a religious education program.** Please call (914 476-6676) for more information.

Adults who are interested in preparing for First Communion or Confirmation should contact the Religious Education Office for more information.

**Next Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, the Church celebrates Catechetical Sunday. At the 10 a.m. Mass, our catechists will be commissioned to hand on the faith to the children, youth, and adults of our Parish. Please make an effort to attend the Mass and show your support to all our catechists.**

On Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. there will be a talk given on the Spirit of St. Francis at the Italian Cultural Center in Tuckahoe. The speaker will explore the Spirit of St. Francis and how his spirit lives on today in Pope Francis. Cost is \$15 per person if 20 parishioners register. Please call the religious education office by Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, if you would like to attend or see Cheryl Duda or Rich Califano if interested.

**MESSAGE FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR**



Welcome back from your summer break! We hope you bring renewed enthusiasm as we begin this new year of choir rehearsals this **Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> - children's practice begins at 5:45 p.m. and adult's practice begins at 6:45 p.m.**

We look forward to this wonderful opportunity to express our faith by singing the Lord's praises. Come join us!

~ Erika Podoprigrora

## The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

### THE HOMEBOUND

St. Bartholomew's Parish wishes to show our love and care for our members who for reasons of health or infirmity cannot be with us as we gather for Mass each week. Our aim is for all parishioners who are homebound, permanently or temporarily, to be visited by a Priest and/or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion on a regular basis.

Often we will hear of someone who is homebound and has not been receiving the Eucharist for a long time, although this individual may have been, during healthier times, a very devout Catholic. Often we will hear that the person didn't want to "bother anyone" or "put anyone out." Often these individuals become our "hidden Catholics" and we sometimes don't learn of them until years later when we celebrate their funeral liturgy.

We want our sick and homebound to know they are valued members of our parish and we want to bring Jesus to them. **However, we need your help.** These individuals are often hidden in our community and only a neighbor knows of their presence. Please help by personally contacting those homebound Catholics whom you know of and telling them of our availability and deep desire to bring the Eucharist to them. We are flexible and very willing to work around their personal needs and schedules. If you know of a homebound Catholic who would like to receive the Eucharist, please contact the Parish Office at 965-0566.

### CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

The Cancer Support group will meet this Wednesday, September 17th, at 7 pm in Room 111 at St. John's Riverside Hospital, 967 North Broadway, Yonkers, for education and support to help cope with cancer. Call 914 964-4441 for more information.

The Catholic Widows and Widowers of Yonkers will hold its next meeting on Thursday, September 18th, at 1 p.m. at St Ann's Church, Fr. Anthony Hall, 31 College Place, Yonkers, NY 10704 For more information please call 914 423-5331.

**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

### SAVE THE DATE



Oktoberfest, Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> sponsored by the Holy Name Society in honor of Steven Hickey. See the flyer in the bulletin for further details.

**Come join us and have some fun!!!**

### STEWARDSHIP

What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits to me?

### TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

#### Last Weekend's Contribution Comparison

	9/8/13	9/7/14	Difference
Adults	\$6,762.50	\$6,107.60	-\$ 654.90
Children	\$ 95.35	\$ 42.00	-\$ 53.35
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,857.85</b>	<b>\$6,149.60</b>	<b>-\$ 708.25</b>

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for the maintenance of our buildings and grounds totaled \$1,507.00

### 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!

**"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, Jule Yaskovic, Rosalie Heit, Florence B. Swetz, Clare Yaskovic, Deacon James Byrnes, 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 Swiatkowicz, 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, Michael Treacy, Rosemarie Petti, Marie Murtha, Mary Walsh, Natalie Marrero, Richard Meyers, John Palermo, Carlo Gentile, Angelo Gianfrancesco, Vince Delgado, and Charles Wighton.

**The Mass Book for 2015 opened** on Ash Wednesday and there are still some dates open in this year's Mass Book, as well. Consider giving a loved one or someone (living or deceased) 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 sanctuary lamp for your intention. Come to the Rectory Office, **Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.** to make arrangements or to inquire about the availability of a particular date.

September 14, 2014

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Mass  for the  
Intentions Week

**Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

**Saturday, September 13 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM Frank & Carmela Legio +

**Sunday, September 14**

8:30 AM For All the People of Our Parish  
10:00 AM Frank & Angela Nanoia +  
11:30 AM Gene Del Bene +  
5:00 PM Rafael Vazquez & Luis Mercado +

**Monday, September 15**

**Our Lady of Sorrows**

7:00 AM Stephen Hickey +  
9:00 AM Antoinette & John Izzo +

**Tuesday, September 16**

**Saints Cornelius, Pope, & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs**

7:00 AM Antonio Natalio Calara +  
9:00 AM Concepcion Ocasio +

**Wednesday, September 17**

**Weekday**

7:00 AM Anna Baumeister +  
9:00 AM Deceased Members of Joseph Family

**Thursday, September 18**

**Weekday**

7:00 AM Deceased Members of Bolduc & Savard Families  
9:00 AM Jameel Fraih +

**Friday, September 19**

**Weekday**

7:00 AM Frank Marx +  
9:00 AM Gene Del Bene +

**Saturday, September 20**

**Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest, & Paul Chong Ha-sang and Companions, Martyrs**

9:00 AM Robinson Family

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**Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday, September 20 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM Deceased Members of Pragana Family

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**Sunday, September 21**

8:30 AM Joanne Di Paolo Moscarello +  
10:00 AM Lawrence Tiplady +  
11:30 AM Maria & Carmelo Terrusa & Family +  
5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

**September 14, 2014**

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**TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS  
(September 14<sup>th</sup>)**



Early in the fourth century, Saint Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Savior's tomb, and her son built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher over it. During the excavation, workers found three crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman.

The cross immediately became an object of veneration. At a Good Friday celebration in Jerusalem toward the end of the fourth century, according to an eyewitness, the wood was taken out of its silver container and placed on a table together with the inscription Pilate ordered placed above Jesus' head. Then "all people pass through one by one; all of them bow down, touching the cross and the inscription, first with their foreheads, then with their eyes; and, after kissing the cross, they move on."

To this day the Eastern Churches, Catholic and Orthodox alike, celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on the anniversary of the Basilica's dedication. The feast entered the Western calendar in the seventh century after Emperor Heraclius recovered it from the Persians, who had carried it off in 614, fifteen years earlier. According to the story, the emperor intended to carry the cross back to Jerusalem himself, but was unable to move forward until he put off his imperial garb and became a barefoot pilgrim.

COMMENT: The cross is today the universal image of Christian belief. Countless generations of artists have turned it into a thing of beauty to be carried in procession or worn as jewelry. To the eyes of the first Christians, it had no beauty. It stood outside too many city walls, decorated only with decaying corpses, as a threat to anyone who defied Rome's authority—including the heretic sect which refused sacrifice to Roman gods. Although believers spoke of the cross as an instrument of salvation, it seldom appeared in Christian art unless disguised as an anchor or the chi-rho until after Constantine's Edict of Toleration.

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**COUNTY FAIR**

Maria Regina High School will host a Country Fair on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m., October 4<sup>th</sup>, from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. and October 5<sup>th</sup>, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. on the school campus located at 500 West Hartsdale Avenue in Hartsdale, NY. This family-friendly weekend will include rides, games, pumpkin painting, food stands, live entertainment, a classic car show, boutique and much more. For additional information or to purchase tickets, please call 914 761-3300.

