

St. Bartholomew's Church



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15 Palmer Road
Yonkers • New York 10701

www.saintbartsparish.org

Rev. Raphael Ezeh, MSP, *Pastor*
Rev. Anthony Mbanefo, 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.

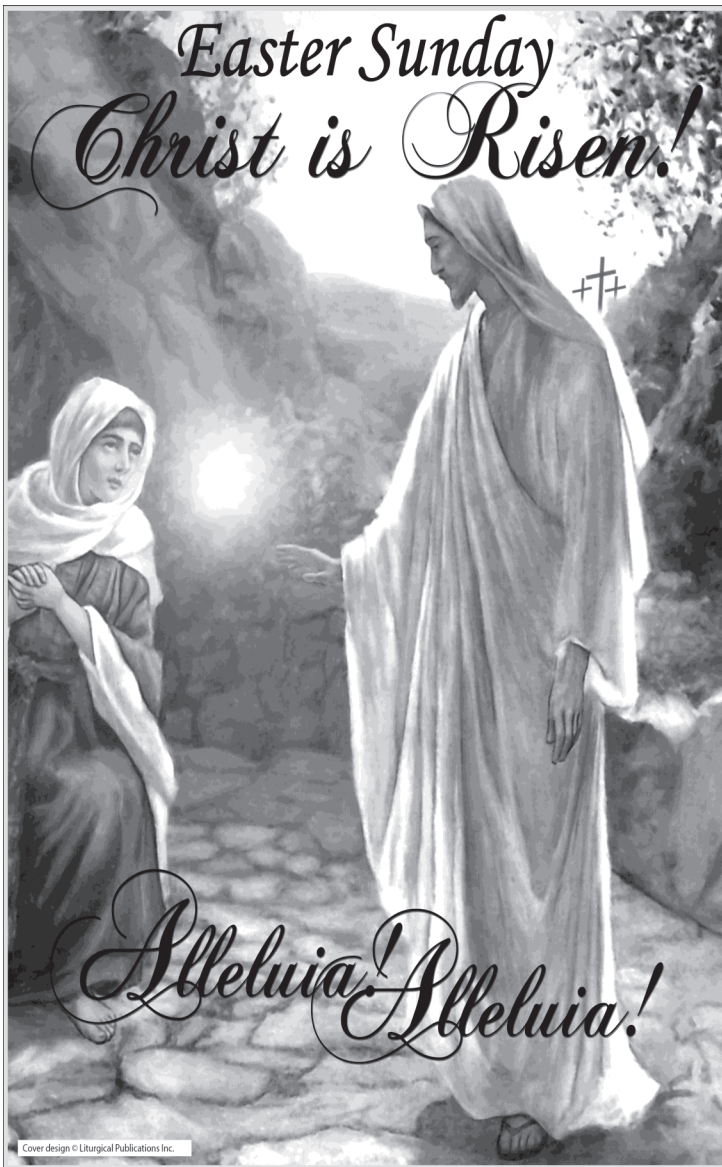
Parish Council: Meets on the Monday evening after the third Sunday of the month. Chairperson: Richard Califano

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. Co-Presidents, Carolyn Mesler, Frances Raffa

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.

EASTER: A HOPE-FILLED SEASON

As I read today's gospel (John 20:1-9) wondered what was going through Mary of Magdala's mind as she trekked to the tomb that early Easter Sunday morning. I presume people return to the grave of a loved one after a month or even a week, but not in less than 24 hours. We also know that none of Jesus' disciples or followers expected a resurrection, even though they all heard Jesus say several times, "... and on the third day rise again." On the contrary, some of the disciples gave up hope and returned to their homes and businesses. Some probably felt foolish for believing that Jesus was the Christ. I can visualize some of their friends who never believed saying to them: *Aha, I told you not to follow that man. I knew he was fake. The Scriptures bear evidence that the Christ will come from Bethlehem, not Galilee. But you wouldn't listen to me. Duh!* Some who followed Him probably thought it was good and worthwhile while it lasted. They must have enjoyed the miracles, free food, and the inspiring teachings of the One they once called Master.

While some gave up hope and the others were still reassessing their faith in Jesus or were still incredulous, Mary of Magdala woke up (if she slept at all) and headed to the burial site. There must have been some hope left in her; some hope that the Master was not just another fake messiah; some hope that there's more to Him; some hope that He's not dead. Probably, it was all these that made her wake up early and propelled her toward the burial site. And we know the rest of the story. We envy her. Surely, the apostles and other disciples envied her.

My interested focuses on the fact that it all happened because she had enough hope left in her. And the Risen Lord and Master did not fail her. He did not fail them.

We have journeyed through our 40 days of Lent and then Holy Week. We have fasted, prayed and given alms. We have abstained from some sinful tendencies and habits. We have worked on acquiring some virtues. Or probably we started and stopped long before Lent got to the half way mark. Maybe we didn't even begin at all. Whatever the case is for you and for me, the Good News is that for those who hold out hope, Jesus never disappoints. He may delay, but He's always right on time.

Easter is a season of hope. If you still feel like the disciples, wondering where the Lord is, or whether He's alive, or whether your faith and hope in Him is in vain, I invite you to follow in the footsteps of Mary of Magdala. CNN is running a program called *Finding Jesus*. I always thought to myself: I found Him already! He's alive! What about you? Have you found Him? Is He alive for you? If you or someone you know is not so sure that He's alive, tell them to seek, and that they too will find Him (Matt 7:7). He's not really hard to find, if we look in the right place.

THANKS & PRAISES

**To each of you, our beloved parishioners for being part of the entire Lenten & Holy Week & Easter celebrations. Your presence helped others in their own journey - definitely helped me.

**To all our Liturgical Ministers, Choir, Hospitality, Lectors, Altar Servers, Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Arts & Environment, for making our worship and worship space extra memorable and fruitful. Thanks to the Liturgy Commission members who coordinated all these and the parish mission.

**To our Theatre Troup for bringing the Passion story alive for us.

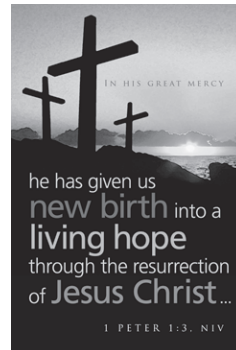
**To our Social Ministry for the refreshments that helped kept body and soul together.

**To all who donated towards the Easter Wish List and towards our Easter collection.

Easter Blessings on you and your loved ones.

~ Father Raphael Ezeh, MSP


PARISH NEWS



My dear friends, Rejoice, for the Lord has truly risen!

The Pastor, the Pastoral staff, and the Administrative staff wish you and yours a Happy and Blessed Easter!

The **ALTAR BREAD & WINE, ALTAR CANDLES, and SANCTUARY LAMP** for this week have been donated for the intentions of the Brusco and Nanoia families by Lou and Angela Brusco.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION - RCIA



Adults interested in learning more about the Catholic faith or wishing to prepare for Confirmation should contact the Religious Education Office for information about the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. (RCIA) Call 914-476-6676 for further information.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: There **will be** Religious Education classes this week on Tuesday, April 7th.

FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Register **now** for next year's Religious Education program. Children in public school who will be entering First Grade through High School in September are eligible for these evening classes. Besides grade level classes, instruction prepares children for Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation. Call Cheryl Duda (476-6676) for information.



CALLING ALL SENIORS! CALLING ALL SENIORS!



Join fellow seniors for a Mass and Gathering Thursday, April 9th

9 a.m. Mass with a Special Blessing, followed by light refreshments and gathering at the McManus Parish Center.

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. and **DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION:** Held the First Saturday of every month at 3 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY JUBILEE MASS



Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2015 are invited to attend the Annual Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass with Cardinal Dolan at the Cathedral of St. Patrick, Saturday, June 20th or Sunday, June 21st, at 2 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Please contact your Parish Office for registration. The closing date to register for the Mass is Tuesday, May 19th. This event is sponsored by the Family Life + Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of New York.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10TH

1:30 – 7:30 PM

MCMANUS PARISH CENTER

St. Bartholomew's will be conducting its 80th Annual Blood Drive the **Friday** after Easter. St. Bart's parishioners and friends have made **5981** donations to date. We run drives during holiday periods when the need for blood is great and donations are usually down. If you can donate, please call Tony Sciacca (423-3592) for an appointment; and please spread the word to your family and friends, too.



Give Thanks - Give Blood !!!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION TRIP: *Joseph*

An all day excursion to the Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA, to see *Joseph* on Friday, July 31st, is planned. The bus leaves from Murray's Skating Rink, Tuckahoe Road, at 9 a.m. The cost is \$154 per person. **Seating is limited; reservations are required now.** For information and reservations, call Cheryl Duda (476-6676).

"You will witness Joseph through his life's journey, from his role as the youngest of Jacob's sons, to his trials in the house of Potipher, and up to his role as Pharaoh's second in command. You will get to see the hard times in Canaan, and how Joseph's gift from God allowed him to forgive and work for the benefit of others." Dine at the famous Miller's Smorgasbord prior to the show.



The **YOUTH GROUP** usually meets on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass in the school building. Because Easter falls on the 1st Sunday of April, the next meeting will Sunday, April 19th. All youths age 13 and up are invited.

Our priests will be heading out to Texas for the Annual MSP meeting early this week. Therefore, there will only be one Mass at 9 a.m. this Tuesday through Friday, April 7th to 10th. Also, the Parish Office will have shortened hours this week. Office hours will be from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. This will allow our Parish Administrative Secretaries, Loreen Ryan & Karen McKenna, to attempt some much needed office reorganization. Please leave any non-urgent business until the following week.

✠ **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*

	3/30/14	3/29/15	Difference
Adults	\$6,153.80	\$5,983.50	-\$ 170.30
Children	\$ 132.55	\$ 171.00	+\$ 38.45
Total	\$6,286.35	\$6,154.50	-\$ 131.85

PARISH SUPPORT: Next Sunday, April 12th, we will take up a second collection in support of our Parish buildings and grounds. Please endeavor to donate generously.

***"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 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 Murai, Nicole Pisani-Frame, Louis Petruolo, 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, Gerald Mazzerese, Jr., Patricia Keane, Carol Stola, 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, Carlo Gentile, Angelo Gianfrancesco, Vince Delgado, Charles Wighton, Michael Tomanelli, Steven Colon, Louis Loscalzo, Gina Obalde, Ann Lackner, Ariella Castillo, Brian Detz, John Marietti, Dominick Gravino, Angelica Blanco, Joseph Melillo, Gail Chappory, and Rev. Anthony Basse, MSP.

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

THE CARDINAL'S APPEAL—SHARING GOD'S GIFTS

To date our parish has received \$28,509.95 in pledges/gifts toward the 2015 Cardinal's Appeal, from 128 families. For this Appeal to be truly successful, we must have support from all of our families. It is not too late to make your gift. Thank you for your kind support.

APRIL 5, 2015

Mass  for the
Intentions Week

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Saturday, April 4 (Vigil Mass)

8:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish +

Sunday, April 5 (Easter Sunday)

8:30 AM Deceased Members of the Brusco & Nanoia Families

10:00 AM Deceased Members of the Lucchetti & Capuano Families

11:30 AM Deceased Members of the DiVenuto Family

Monday, April 6

Monday within the Octave of Easter

7:00 AM Reverend William B. Duggan +

9:00 AM Carmela Pisacreta +

Tuesday, April 7

Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

9:00 AM Carol Swetz +

Wednesday, April 8

Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

9:00 AM Daniel DeRosa +

Thursday, April 9

Thursday within the Octave of Easter

9:00 AM Antonio Marchetti +

Friday, April 10

Friday within the Octave of Easter

9:00 AM Marcello Barcello +

Saturday, April 11

Saturday within the Octave of Easter

9:00 AM Pasquale Alessi +

Second Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy

Saturday, April 11 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Lucille & Carl Rossi +

Sunday, April 12

8:30 AM Deceased Members of the Lucchetti & Capuano Families

10:00 AM Joseph Paul Prior +

11:30 AM Anthony Giuriceo +

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

APRIL 5, 2015

Welcome to St. Bartholomew's Church

Happy Easter to all our visitors! Our warmest welcome to you! 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.

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, and drop the completed form into the collection basket or drop off/mail it to the Rectory. Thank you!

Name:

Address:

City/Zip:

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.



On Easter we celebrate love,
love coming down from heaven,
love blanketing the earth
in a transforming embrace;
unique and infinite love,
giving more than we can imagine
for us, to cleanse our sin,
a perfect sacrifice, Lamb of God,
the walking, talking Word.
He is teacher, role model, friend,
this God in human form,
dying, then rising from the dead,
proving all who believe will also rise
to have eternal life, with Him, Lord of all.
Oh, Happy, Happy Easter!

By Joanna Fuchs