

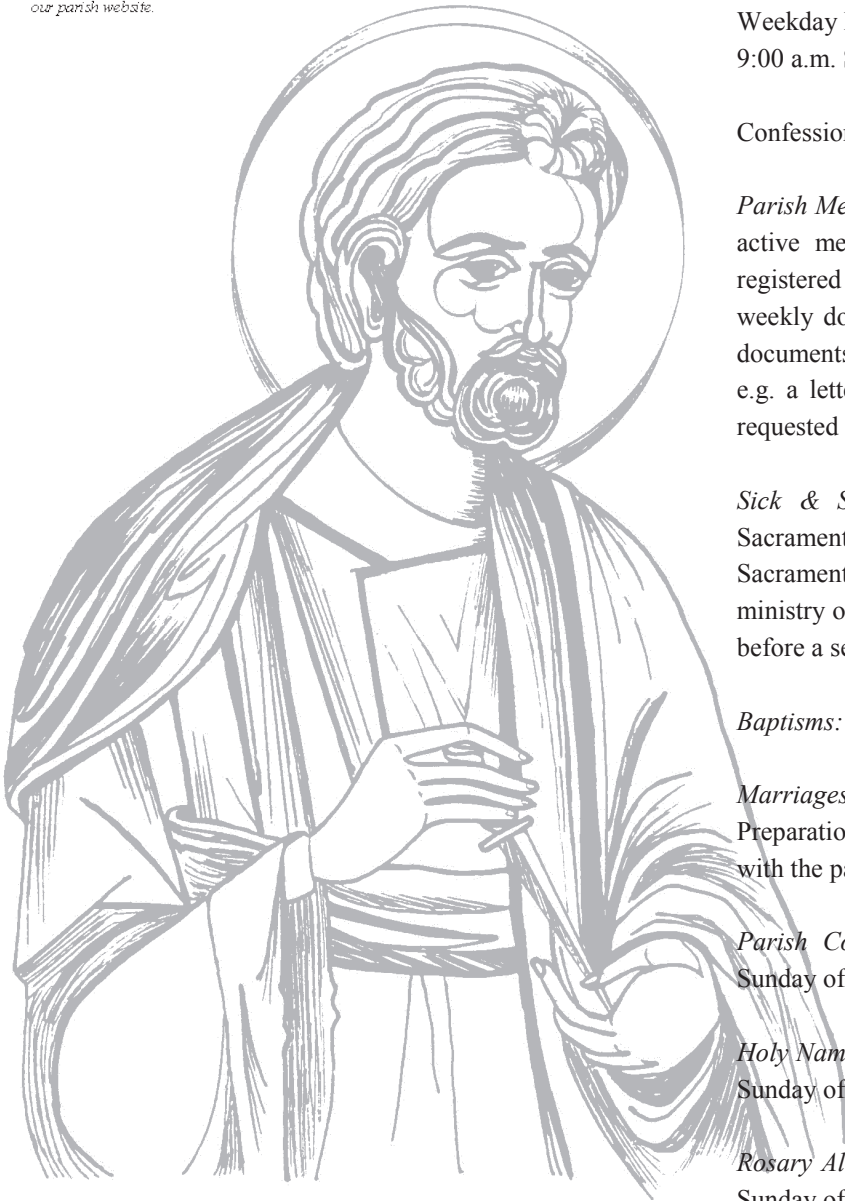
St. Bartholomew's Church



Scan this code with your
smart phone to access
our parish website.

15 Palmer Road
Yonkers • New York 10701

www.saintbartsparish.org



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.

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

PARISH NEWS

YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH



There are some Sundays that the readings complement each other so well, and this Sunday is one of those. As Jesus summons YOU and ME to be salt of the earth in the Gospel (Matthew 5:13-16), Isaiah the Prophet breaks it down for us in the first reading (Is 58:7-10). You might call it "How To Be Salt Of The Earth For Dummies." We are to be generous and share with those who are hungry. We are to welcome the homeless and fight for those oppressed. We are never to turn

our backs on the needy.

Two Sundays ago, Fr. Felix spoke to us about answering God's call to evangelize. He invited us to help MSP priests continue their ministry to the poor and less privileged. We watched clips of poor kids in classrooms being empowered to make a difference in the future; villagers fetching water from newly constructed reservoirs, etc. Being salt of the earth does not begin and end with such deeds as these. Isaiah exhorts us that when we desist from false accusations and malicious speech and gossip, we are being salt of the earth.

Here at St. Bart's part of the reason for the Pastoral Plan we're currently working on is to make sure that we not only continue to be a welcoming and caring community (salt of the earth to all) but to make every effort to be better at it so as to draw even more people to Christ. **May the Lord continue to help us to be salt of the earth and bless our efforts. Amen.**

PARISH PASTORAL PLAN

The Committee working on the Pastoral Plan has been meeting and going through the survey results. It's a beautiful process of listening to what each parishioner said and finding common threads. Recurrent requests, suggestions, recommendations and desires are turned into goals. We will identify the people/groups that will be responsible for helping us realize each goal. Once done, we'll bring them to you to prioritize, add timeline, and add any other goal(s) you feel is missing. Of course, we'll not include every possible goal or need, but will focus on the ones that will best serve our parish and help us to better fulfill the mission Christ has entrusted to us.

After you finish your part, the committee will go back to work and finalize the document, present it to the Pastoral Council, Finance Council, and the Parish Trustees for approval. Once approved, we'll get to work. Before then, we'll address the issue of stewardship of time and talent and how we can use them to continue to serve God here at St. Bart's, at home, and everywhere else.

YOUTH WEEK – FEBRUARY 16-23

Thanks to Fr. Daniel, Ellen Chimenti and some parents who help them to coordinate our youths. I'm excited about the upcoming activities and hope to be part of them. Our youths are indeed our future but more than that they are the salt and light (today's gospel) that will penetrate their peers, some of whom you and I don't even know. Through activities like the ones lined up, we empower them to go out and bear witness to their faith. We empower them to take over from us when we have done our part. Please, do support them through your words of encouragement, your presence at their activities and if and when you can, your financial support. As Fr. Daniel said already, we'll appreciate any donations, big or small. Thanks in advance.

May our light always shine so others may see it and give glory to God. Amen.
~ Father Raphael Ezeh, MSP

MAKING ALL THINGS NEW UPDATE

February, 2014

Dear Parishioners,

The Cluster Teams continue to meet, and as promised, will continue to give you updates on our discussions. As you are aware, "Making All Things New" is the name given by the Archdiocese for the pastoral plan for revitalizing parish life. Our cluster is made up of : Christ the King, Most Holy Trinity, Sacred Heart, Saint Anthony, and Saint Bartholomew.

The focus of our last two meetings has been how best to allow the five parishes to collaborate in the four critical areas of Church Life: 1 - Sacramental Life of the Parish, 2 - Evangelization, Catechesis, Catholic Schools and Lifelong Religious Education, 3 - Stewardship and Outreach, and 4 - Effective Administration.

The Cluster Teams have consistently used the terms Cooperation, Coordination, and Communication as the means to strengthen the parishes. To this end, we will be working on a Lenten Leaflet that incorporates all of our parishes' Lenten resources. The Leaflet will be distributed through each of the parishes and will allow the parishioners to see the schedules for Masses, Confession, Stations, Retreats, Scripture Studies and Reflections, Book Clubs, and any other programs that the parishes will be offering during Lent. Our hope is that the faithful will use this cluster resource to benefit from the many different events in the Cluster Parishes.

We continue to work as a team to strengthen the Cluster and ask that you continue to keep those on all the cluster teams in your prayers.

Sincerely,
Cluster 39 Core Teams



HOLY NAME SOCIETY

MEETING: This Monday, February 10th, 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.

PARISH BIBLE SHARING / STUDIES: Bible Studies is held on the 2nd & 4th Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the school building. A meeting will be held this **Friday, February 14th**. These sessions will be moderated by our Parochial Vicar, Father Daniel . Bring a friend! Come and have fun exploring the Bible.



Our **YOUTH GROUP** meets on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass in the school building. The group has planned a special **YOUTH WEEK**, which will run from Sunday, February 16th through Sunday, February 23rd. Please see the insert in today's

bulletin for a detailed schedule of activities. All parishioners are asked first to pray for the success of this undertaking and are invited to join in the fun!

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



PARENTS' VALENTINE'S DAY BLESSING

God of all love,
You brought us together as man and woman
So that we might love each other
And show Your love to the world through the gift
Of the child(ren) You have given us.
Help us to be loving and kind to one another
Each day of our lives.
Bless our child(ren) with Your love in our home
And in every other place.
May Your love be shown to others,
In our family and beyond the walls of our home.
May all of us know the depth of Your enduring love
And be strengthened to share that same love
That comes from You
And is spread throughout the world.
Amen.

PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN

Anyone who needs to report an alleged incident of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest, deacon, religious, or lay person serving in the Archdiocese of New York is asked to contact Sister Eileen Clifford, O.P. at 212-371-1011 ext. 2949 or Deacon George J. Coppola at 914-861-1762. Both may also be reached via e-mail at victimassistance@archny.org. Information can also be found on the Archdiocesan website, www.archny.org. In keeping with the Archdiocesan policy regarding sexual abuse of minors, this information is provided to ensure that our children remain safe and secure.

CHILDREN'S MASS: Please make it a point to bring your child to our Children's Mass for the next two Sundays in February. 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.



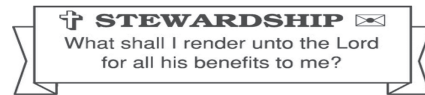
"You are the salt of the earth." Has your marriage lost its taste? Learn how to season it on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. For more information or upcoming dates, call (877) 697-9963, ext. 3 or visit www.wmearchny.org.

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

	2013	2014	Difference
Adults	\$6,032.05	\$6,637.15	+\$ 605.10
Children	\$ 140.70	\$ 124.35	-\$ 16.35
Total	\$6,172.75	\$6,761.50	+\$ 588.75

The Collection in support of our buildings & grounds totaled
\$1,425.50.

Next Sunday, February 16th, we will take up a second collection to help defray the cost of snow removal and salting. Please endeavor to donate generously.

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, Neil Caruso, 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 Swiatkowitz, Jimmy Maimone, Robert Mirsky, 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, Peggy Clevenberg, Gerald Mazzerese, Jr., Patricia Keane, Carol Stola, Amada Ortiz, Karen Aprea, Stephen Sarich, Neil Cawley, Barbara McCormack, Josephine Lehotyak, Lawrence Girsch, Fran Romano, Gail Villafana, Joe Forlini, and Gertrude Woska.

REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES, LIVING AND DEAD

The Mass Book for 2014 is open and has availability. Consider giving a loved one the graces associated with having a Mass offered on their behalf. 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, **Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.** to make arrangements or to inquire about the availability of a particular date.

February 9, 2014

Mass  for the
Intentions Week

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, February 8 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Irene Kazimierczak & Michael Trancynger+

Sunday, February 9

8:30 AM Robert Liddell +

10:00 AM For All the People of Our Parish

11:30 AM Dorothy Della Calce +

5:00 PM Felix Vazquez & Jose Romero +

Monday, February 10

Saint Scholastica, Virgin

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Marcello Barcello & Rosa Greco +

Tuesday, February 11

Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Joanne Moscarello +

Wednesday, February 12

Weekday

7:00 AM Joseph Martin +

9:00 AM Emil & Sally Mesler +

Thursday, February 13

Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Andrew Pisacreta +

Friday, February 14

Saints Cyril, Monk, & Methodius, Bishop

7:00 AM Rita Bolduc +

9:00 AM Marcello Barcello +

Saturday, February 15

Weekday

9:00 AM Donato Sacchetta +

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, February 15 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Blanche & Giacomo Bilancia +

Sunday, February 16

8:30 AM Carmine Nicholas Maccia +

10:00 AM Charles & Stefana Barba +

11:30 AM For All the People of Our Parish

5:00 PM Luigi Lucchetti +

OUR LADY OF LOURDES FEBRUARY 11TH



On December 8, 1854, Pope Pius IX proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception in the apostolic constitution *Ineffabilis Deus*. A little more than three years later, on February 11, 1858, a young lady appeared to Bernadette Soubirous. This began a series of visions. During the apparition on March 24, the lady

identified herself with the words: "I am the Immaculate Conception."

Bernadette was a sickly child of poor parents. Their practice of the Catholic faith was scarcely more than lukewarm. Bernadette could pray the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Creed. She also knew the prayer of the Miraculous Medal: "O Mary conceived without sin."

During interrogations Bernadette gave an account of what she saw. It was "something white in the shape of a girl." She used the word *aquero*, a dialect term meaning "this thing." It was "a pretty young girl with a rosary over her arm." Her white robe was encircled by a blue girdle. She wore a white veil. There was a yellow rose on each foot. A rosary was in her hand. Bernadette was also impressed that the lady did not use the informal form of address (*tu*), but the polite form (*vous*). The humble virgin appeared to a humble girl and treated her with dignity.

Through that humble girl, Mary revitalized and continues to revitalize the faith of millions of people. People began to flock to Lourdes from other parts of France and from all over the world. In 1862, church authorities confirmed the authenticity of the apparitions and authorized the cult of Our Lady of Lourdes for the diocese. The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes became worldwide in 1907.

COMMENT: Lourdes has become a place of pilgrimage and healing, but even more of faith. Church authorities have recognized over sixty miraculous cures, although there have probably been many more. To people of faith this is not surprising. It is a continuation of Jesus' healing miracles - now performed at the intercession of His mother.

Some would say that the greater miracles are hidden. Many who visit Lourdes return home with renewed faith and a readiness to serve God in their needy brothers and sisters. There still may be people who doubt the apparitions of Lourdes. Perhaps the best that can be said to them are the words that introduced the film, *Song of Bernadette*: "For those who believe in God, no explanation is necessary. For those who do not believe, no explanation is possible."

From *Saint of the Day*, edited by Leonard Foley, O.F.M., & Pat McCloskey, O.F.M.