# St. Bartholomew's

15 Palmer Road Yonkers • New York 10701

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## Pentecost Sunday

Jesus said to his disciples: "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him." Jn 14:23

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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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. 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.

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

Rosary Altar Society: Meets on the Monday evening after the first Sunday of the month. President, Liz Mulvaney

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

Trustees: Angela Brusco, Louis Caloia

#### PENTECOST SUNDAY

Gift of the Holy Spirit (Part II) (Patient Endurance) The Miracle Called of Transformation



It's sad how we see things in nature but don't quite learn from them. Jesus taught with great authority. He was original. One way this was • evident was in His use of natural and everyday

events to teach the people. He used the image of Shepherd and sheep (Mark 6:34); the wolves that come to destroy (Matthew 10:16); fish, seeds, weeds, wheat, yeast, trees (Mark 4; Matthew 13; Luke 13:6-9, Luke 21:29-30); fig tree without fruits (Mark 11:14), etc.

So, what can we learn from nature on this Pentecost Sunday? I once read an author that wrote about spring and human growth. I never really looked at spring that way. Sure, we do have our own version of spring in Nigeria. Here it is a transition from cold to warm weather - it's about the sun. Back home it is a transition from dry season to rainy season – it's about rain. The transformation that happens between these two seasons is mostly the same. One common thing is that this spring miracle happens gradually.

First, we begin to see patches of green here and then. Then some early bird flowers begin to pop up. We don't see these transformations as well as those who live in the country, who watch the fields and hillsides transform from dry barren lands to lush lands. I love to see the dead trees begin to come back to life as leaves appear gradually. The miracle goes from patches of green to full-blown bushes and fields in one to two months. This teaches and reminds us that change or transformation is a gradual process. It also teaches us that true transformation cannot be forced. There is this element of persistence and patience.

I say all these to paint a picture that might help us to reflect on that very First Pentecost event and our own Pentecost

event. Sure, after Pentecost the apostles became a changed people. It would be a naïve and costly mistake for us to presume that this change happened . overnight. It was a gradual "spring-like" process, set in motion by the action of the Holy Spirit on that fateful Pentecost Sunday. So, yes, their miraculous transformation happened gradually.



In essence, our own Pentecost event(s) will happen even slower for we seem to be much more thick-skinned than these guys and the early Christians. If we can grasp this and take it to heart, it will help us as we evangelize, as we carry on the mission of making Christ known and loved. In this task, we must begin with ourselves. The spring miracle in us will take much more than one to two months - more like decades! As the saying goes, "God has not finished with me, yet," or my neighbor for that matter! Knowing this is one thing, allowing the knowledge to permeate how we look at ourselves and others is another thing.

The Good News is that the Holy Spirit has already set in motion the spring miracle in each of us. Growth cannot be forced. It has to come from deep within each of us. The same Holy Spirit has provided the sun and the rain to make this happen.

May we utilize these graces and the opportunities and truly be transformed. Amen.

Blessings and peace.

Fr. Raphael Ezeh, MSP

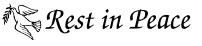


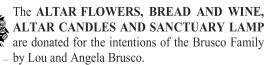
The **ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY** will meet this Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. All ladies of the Parish are welcome!

The Rosary Altar Society are also planning their Annual Year End Dinner at Fogarty's in Bronxville on Monday, June 19th at 6:30 p.m. The cost for the dinner is \$25.00. Please contact Josephine Smith at 914-476-5386, Dolly De Rosa at 914-969-6575, Liz Mulvaney at 914-403-8844 or call the Parish Office to make your reservation.

All women of the parish are invited to attend. Please join them for a fun filled evening.

Please pray for the souls of all the faithful departed especially Al Dio Dati and Michael Anthony Fatigate.





**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS:** Religious Education classes



have ended for this semester but will begin again the first week of September. Please spread the word that registrations are now being accepted. We would like Education to thank all of the catechists for their work with the children and teens of our parish this year.

Special congratulations to Samuel Orozco, Julissa Pena and Erik Sinchi who had perfect attendance for all 32 Religious Education sessions. We would also like to recognize our Confirmation class who not only returned to classes after their Confirmation but are continuing to serve in their various liturgical ministries. We are fortunate to have such dedicated young men and women.

A special Thank You to all who donated items at our Parish Tag Sale.

Besides the \$2,900 that the sale made for the Parish, we were able to donate unsold clothing and household items to Big Brothers and Big Sisters and baby clothes and baby items to Good Counsel Homes. A special thank you to all who volunteered for the event throughout the week.



#### CHILDREN'S MASS



Please make it a point to bring your child to our Children's Mass next Sunday and the rest of the Sunday's in June. The 10 a.m. Mass will focus on our children. The Children's Choir will sing at the Mass,; and all children are encouraged to sit with other children at a designated place during the Mass.

#### St. Anthony of Padua's Mass

A mass in celebration of St. Anthony of Padua will be held on Tuesday, June 13th at 6:30 p.m. Please join the ladies of the Rosary Altar Society and Frs. Raphael and Anthony in this celebration. St. Anthony's bread will be given out. All are welcome. Bring a friend!!



#### ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS



#### Relay for Life, Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>.

**RELAY** Join the St. Bart's Angels in the Relay for Life Walk next Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow.

#### Parish Picnic, Sunday, June 25th

sponsored by the Holy Name Society. Stay tuned for details.



Fr. Anthony's 25th Anniversary of Ordination Celebration Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. Details to Follow

#### Wedding Jubilee Mass and Celebration

St. Bartholomew's couples who are celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary anytime this year (2017) are invited to attend the 11:30 a.m. Mass next **Sunday**, **June 11, 2017**. They will be blessed and honored during the Mass which will be followed by a Reception in

the McManus Paris Center. If you have not already done so, please call the Parish Office, by Monday June 5<sup>th</sup> to register your participation and tell us how many guests you might be expecting at the Reception.

Our **YOUTH GROUP** meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass, in the school building. Their next meeting is this Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. *Follow our Youth Group on Twitter (aSt Barts youth.* 

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

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

**EUCHARISTIC 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.

#### LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS

**The Catholic Widows and Widowers** of Yonkers is a social, religious and bereavement organization which helps to meet the needs of its membersip. The group meets on the third Thursday of each month at St. Ann's Church, Father Anthony Hall, 31 College Place, Yonkers, NY. New members are welcome. Their next meeting will take place on Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at1 p.m.

#### Ukranian Heritage Festival

St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church,21 Shonnard Place Yonkers, New York June 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Join them for music, live entertainment, carnival rides, amusements, food and drink. For more information, please go to www.yonkersukrainianfestival.org.



#### TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING Sunday Collection Update

Amount Needed Weekly Actual Received Last Sunday Balance *(Envelopes \$5,342.45, Online \$220)	\$7,000.00 \$5,562.45 - \$1,437.55
Amount Needed for Month of May	\$ 28,000.00
Amount Collected Thus Far	\$ 23,750.25

"Thank you to all those who are participating in our tithing program! May God bless and reward your sacrifices! For those who are not yet tithing, I encourage you to please give it a prayerful thought. Thank you!

In lieu of filling out envelopes weekly, please consider signing up for online giving at www.parishpay.com or contact the Parish

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Office. So far, we have <u>14</u> families that have signed up. If you have difficulties signing up, please contact Parish Pay at (866) 727-4741 or call the Parish Office.



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Marian Fletcher, Ann Lackner, Richard Meyers, Rosalie Heit, Andrea Objay, Audrey Falcone, Louis Brusco, Michael Tomanelli, Ariella Castillo, Gail Chappory, Randolph Castillo, Jr., Deacon Jim Byrne, Gregory Clemens, Florence McCormack, Mary Bryce, Anna Bonacci, William Flower, Efrain Arzola, Henry Joseph, Deacon Bob Clemens, Carolyn Cesta, William Bodack, Joseph Mahoney, Mary De Santis, Leticia Agosto, Manuel Obalde, Jr., Gina Obalde, Rosalia Guzman, Ann McGarry, Florence B. Swetz, Daniel Pezzola, Al Dio Dati, Brittany Arzola, Ron and Sally Petro, Anthony Guarente, Theresa Venturino, and Nicholas Arzola.

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Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to add a loved one to the sick list.

#### Father's Day is Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>

We will have a 9 day Novena of Masses for all our fathers, living and deceased. The Novena of Masses will begin on Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup> and will end on Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. There are and/or envelopes at the back of the church if you want your father, father-in-law or any other father remembered in the Novena of



Masses. Please fill out the envelope and drop it in the collection basket or bring it to the Parish Office during the week. June 4, 2017



### Pentecost Sunday

Saturday, June 3 (Anticipated Mass) Anna Giuriceo +

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Sunday, June 4			
8:30 AM	Caroline Klee +		
10:00 AM	Helen Trinchera & Irene Forte +		
11:30 AM	Reverend Anthony Ita Bassey, MSP +		
5:00 PM	For All the People of Our Parish		
*****	******		
Monday, June 5			
Saint Boniface, Bishop and Martyr			
7:00 AM	Paul Bolduc +		
9:00 AM	Reverend Anthony Ita Bassey, MSP +		

Tuesday, June 6 Weekday

7:00 AMHelen & Pete Pietrowski +9:00 AMIntentions of the Brusco Family

Wednesday, June 7

5:00 PM

Weekday	
7:00 AM	No Intention
9:00 AM	Special Intention

Thursday, June 8 Weekday

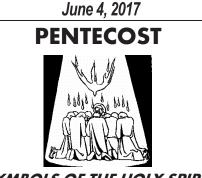
7:00 AM	Bernard Mistal +
9:00 AM	Corazon & Benjamin Sotto +

Friday, June 9 Weekday 7:00 AM No Intention 9:00 AM John Lackner +

Saturday, June 10 Weekday 9:00 AM Evelyn Murray McCue +

#### The Most Holy Trinity Saturday, June 10 (Anticipated Mass) Helen Clemens +

- 11:30 AM For All the People of Our Parish
- 5:00 PM Ed "Rusty" Joyce+



SYMBOLS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

**Water**: The symbolism of water signifies the Holy Spirit's action in Baptism, since after the invocation of the Holy Spirit it becomes the efficacious sacramental sign of new birth.

**Anointing**: The symbolism of anointing with oil also signifies the Holy Spirit, to the point of becoming a synonym for the Holy Spirit.

**Fire**: While water signifies birth and the fruitfulness of life given in the Holy Spirit, fire symbolized the transforming energy of the Holy Spirit's actions.

**Cloud and Light**: These two images occur together in the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in both Old and New Testaments.

**The Seal**: is a symbol close to that of anointing. "The Father has set his seal" on Christ and also seals us in Him.

**The Hand**: Jesus heals the sick and blesses little children by laying hands on them. In His name the apostles will do the same.

**The Finger**: "It is by the finger of God that (Jesus) cast out demons".

**The Dove**: At the end of the flood, whose symbolism refers to Baptism, a dove released by Noah returns with a fresh olive-tree branch in its beak as a sign that the earth was again habitable.

Excerpt from Catechism of the Catholic Church

#### PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT



Come Holy Spirit, fill my heart with Your holy gifts. Let my weakness be penetrated with Your strength this very day that I may fulfill all the duties of my state conscientiously, that I may do what is right and just. Let my charity be such as to offend no one, and hurt on one's feelings; so generous as to pardon sincerely any wrong done to me.

Assist me, O Holy Spirit, in all my trials of life, enlighten me in my ignorance, advise me in my doubts, strengthen me in my weakness, help me in all my needs, protect me in temptations and console me in all afflictions. Graciously hear me, O Holy Spirit, and pour Your light into my heart, my soul, and my mind. Assist me to live a holy life and to grow in goodness and grace. Amen.