

# 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](http://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

OF FREEDOM, GOOD, and EVIL



An Atlanta father who reportedly wanted to be "child free" left his 22-month old son in a car in 92 degrees weather for a whole day. While his son was dying he was sending explicit messages and pictures to an underage female. He and his wife (who, evidence show, to be complicit) pleaded not guilty. Sometime ago, the media was filled with news of Ariel Castro who kidnapped three women and held them prisoners for years. At least, he pleaded guilty to 937 criminal counts of rape, kidnapping, and aggravated murder. He was sentenced to life in prison and he committed suicide by hanging himself with bed sheets in prison.

From one end of the world to another, from one generation to another, atrocities caused by us humans abound and they range from simple to complex, ordinary to bizarre, and from all walks of life and trade. The words of Micah come to mind, "What sorrow awaits you who lie awake at night, thinking up evil plans. You rise at dawn and hurry to carry them out, simply because you have the power to do so" (Micah 2:1).

Next come the perennial questions, "Why is there so much evil in the world?" and "Why does God allow terrible things/evils to happen." Well, Micah gave us a hint to the first question – because we have the power – the power of choice and freedom. And the Gospel reading of today, Matthew 13:24-43, specifically the part about the sower and good seed and the enemy and the weeds, answers the second question.

God is very much aware of the evil in our world. It is indeed the price of freedom. I remember when I farmed back at home. Of course we knew there'd be weeds sooner or later. But that didn't stop us from planting. And while we weeded our farms, those that plant wheat dare not weed their farms because both (wheat and weeds) look alike until harvest. Still, does knowing that stop them from planting? No, because they know that despite the weeds, they will always harvest enough wheat by harvest time. Thus, the farmer remains patient and awaits harvest time.

Not to feel righteous, but thank God our choices are not as bad as the ones above, hopefully. Still, Jesus challenges us to examine how we use our power and our freedom to choose. The sensational cases above didn't start off with one huge choice. If that father is eventually found guilty, it will mean that while he baked his son in the car, he plotted another evil – sexting an underage girl. Only God knows how the new evil plot would have ended.

Yes, there is, and there will always be weeds/evils in our lives. However, we must never ignore but fight them. First we must fight them in us, then among, and around us and elsewhere!. May the Lord, who is ever patient with us, give us the grace we need to do so. Amen.

PARISH TIDBITS

\*\*ABC Eye Witness News Channel 7 shot a "Back To School Safety" public service announcement in our parking lot this past week. It will air in August before school resumes. Watch out for it.

\*\*We welcome Father Anthony as he visits us for two weeks. Hope you have a restful vacation. We will continue to be a welcoming parish to all who worked among us and all who visit our church and our rectory. Fathers Henry Osuagwu, MSP, and Gordian Iwuji, MSP, have come and gone. Father Joseph Ukut, MSP is here for 3 weeks, doing Mission Appeal work in parishes around New York. He works in Malawi mission. Father Bartholomew Obidigbo, from my parish at home in Nigeria, is also visiting for 2 weeks.

Have a blessed week!

~ Father Raphael Ezech, MSP

PARISH NEWS



Our former pastor, Father Anthony Bassey, MSP, will spend a few days here at St. Bartholomew's on the way to and from his vacation abroad. He'll be with us from Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, through Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, and then again from Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, through Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. We look forward to welcoming him back.

FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Registration for Religious Education classes for public school children, running September through June, is **open**. Classes are available for children in 1<sup>st</sup> grade 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.



If you or someone you know needs information on the Catholic Faith or have not been confirmed, please call the Religious Education Office (914 476-6676) for information on the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.) in our parish.

The **ALTAR FLOWERS** are donated this week in loving memory of Gabriel Nanoia by Louis and Angela Brusco.



The **ALTAR BREAD & WINE, ALTAR CANDLES, and SANCTUARY LAMP** for this week have been donated in loving memory of Gabriel Nanoia by Louis and Angela Brusco.

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

REMINDER!

**APPROPRIATE DRESS IN CHURCH:** The Church is the House of God. When we enter, we are setting our feet on Holy Ground. For this reason, the way we dress for Church should reflect the reverence we have for this sacred space where the Lord dwells. It is simply not proper to enter the Church with clothing that is not modest or appropriate. It is with this in mind that we acknowledge that some kinds of dress, while comfortable, may not be appropriate for Church.

## Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



### VISITING PRIEST

We welcome Father Paul Tumelo, SDB to our parish community. He will be speaking to us about the role we can play to support the Salesian Missions. You and I are invited to join in the worldwide mission of Jesus by supporting the Propagation of the Faith, through prayer and

financial aid. Please, let us be generous in supporting this worthy cause of the Church's mission.



Sow good seeds of quality time into your marriage. Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and see the harvest you can reap. For more information, call toll free (877) 697-9963, ext. 3 or visit [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org).

Worldwide Marriage Encounter's mission of renewal in the Church and change in the world is to assist couples and priests to live fully intimate and responsible relationships by providing them with a Catholic "experience" and ongoing community support for such a lifestyle.

### Lost your job? Worried about job security?

#### Come to a Free Career Coaching Session

Catholic Charities is offering a free program by a Certified Professional Career Coach. Ann Ruecker, MPA, MA CPCC will provide you with practical information and follow up strategies that you can take with you and use the next day. **Those that attend both sessions of this two part program will be eligible for individual follow up sessions:**

- Session 1: Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, from 3 - 5 p.m.
- Session 2: Thursday, July 31<sup>st</sup> from 3 - 5 p.m.

Location: Catholic Charities of Southern Westchester  
204 Hawthorne Ave, Yonkers, NY 10705  
(Behind St. Peter's School by the parking lot)

To register or for more information, please call Mariadora Saladino at (914) 476-2700.



**ADOPTION OPPORTUNITY:** Children in China need homes. More boys available than girls from age two and up. Older parents and single women are welcomed. For more information call Barbara Salvesen on (845) 623-5277.

**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.

† 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

	7/14/13	7/13/14	Difference
Adults	\$4,791.70	\$5,677.55	+\$ 885.55
Children	\$ 57.90	\$ 29.30	-\$ 20.60
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,849.60</b>	<b>\$5,706.55</b>	<b>+\$ 856.95</b>

The Second Collection to support Catholic Missions among Black and Indian People totaled \$1,225.15.

### 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, and Richard Meyers.

### 2015 MASS BOOK IS OPEN

The Mass Book for 2015 opened on Ash Wednesday and there are still many 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.

July 20, 2014

---

Mass  for the  
Intentions Week

**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday, July 19 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM Peter Objay +

**Sunday, July 20**

8:30 AM Deceased Members of Pyrc & Pidany Families

10:00 AM Charles & Stefana Barba +

11:30 AM Rose & Gaetano Legio +

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

**Monday, July 21**

**Weekday**

7:00 AM Martha Cianfaglione +

9:00 AM Mary Brewus +

**Tuesday, July 22**

**Saint Mary Magdalene**

7:00 AM Martha Cianfaglione +

9:00 AM Antonio Marchetti +

**Wednesday, July 23**

**Weekday**

7:00 AM Deceased Members of Bolduc & Savard Families

9:00 AM Benjamin & Corazon Sotto +

**Thursday, July 24**

**Weekday**

7:00 AM Margaret & Michael Hickey +

9:00 AM Bob Shannon (living)

**Friday, July 25**

**Saint James, Apostle**

7:00 AM Martha Cianfaglione +

9:00 AM Gabriel Nanoia +

**Saturday, July 26**

**Saints Joachim & Anne, Parents of Blessed Virgin Mary**

9:00 AM Stephen Fecko +

\*\*\*\*\*

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday, July 26 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM Gene DelBene +

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, July 27**

8:30 AM Martin Magzag, Jr. +

10:00 AM Rose & Charles Boehm +

11:30 AM Deceased Members of Terrusa Family

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

## MARY MAGDALENE

JULY 22<sup>ND</sup>



Except for the mother of Jesus, few women are more honored in the Bible than Mary Magdalene. Yet she could well be the patron of the slandered, since there has been a persistent legend in the Church that she is the unnamed sinful woman who anointed the feet of Jesus in Luke 7:36-50.

Most Scripture scholars today point out that there is no scriptural basis for confusing the two women. Mary Magdalene, that is, “of Magdala,” was the one from whom Christ cast out “seven demons” (Luke 8:2) - an indication, at the worst, of extreme demonic possession or, possibly, severe illness.

Father W.J. Harrington, O.P., writing in the *New Catholic Commentary*, says that “seven demons” “does not mean that Mary had lived an immoral life - a conclusion reached only by means of a mistaken identification with the anonymous woman of Luke 7:36.” Father Edward Mally, S.J., writing in the *Jerome Biblical Commentary*, agrees that she “is not ... the same as the sinner of Luke 7:37, despite the later Western romantic tradition about her.”

Mary Magdalene was one of the many “who were assisting them [Jesus and the Twelve] out of their means.” She was one of those who stood by the cross of Jesus with His mother. And, of all the “official” witnesses that might have been chosen for the first awareness of the Resurrection, she was the one to whom that privilege was given.

**COMMENT:** Mary Magdalene has been smiling at her “mistaken identity” for over twenty centuries. Yet she would no doubt insist that it makes no difference. We are all sinners in need of the saving power of God, whether our sins have been lurid or not. More importantly, we are all, with her, “unofficial” witnesses of the Resurrection.

**STORY:** Today’s Gospel (John 20:1-2, 11-18) shows Mary at first not recognizing the risen Jesus in the garden, then knowing Him as He spoke her name. Her great love bursts forth, echoing the first reading, “I took hold of Him and would not let Him go” (Song 3:4b). Jesus says, “Stop holding on to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father” (John 20:17a). The meaning probably is that there is an entirely new relationship now - a much deeper one, resting in faith rather than the former relationship that was possible because of His visible body. Saint John may also be stressing the fact that Jesus’ exaltation at the right hand of the Father is the completion of the Resurrection.

At first, the apostles did not believe Mary. Christ’s followers, even today, meet disbelief in their witness to the Resurrection.

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