

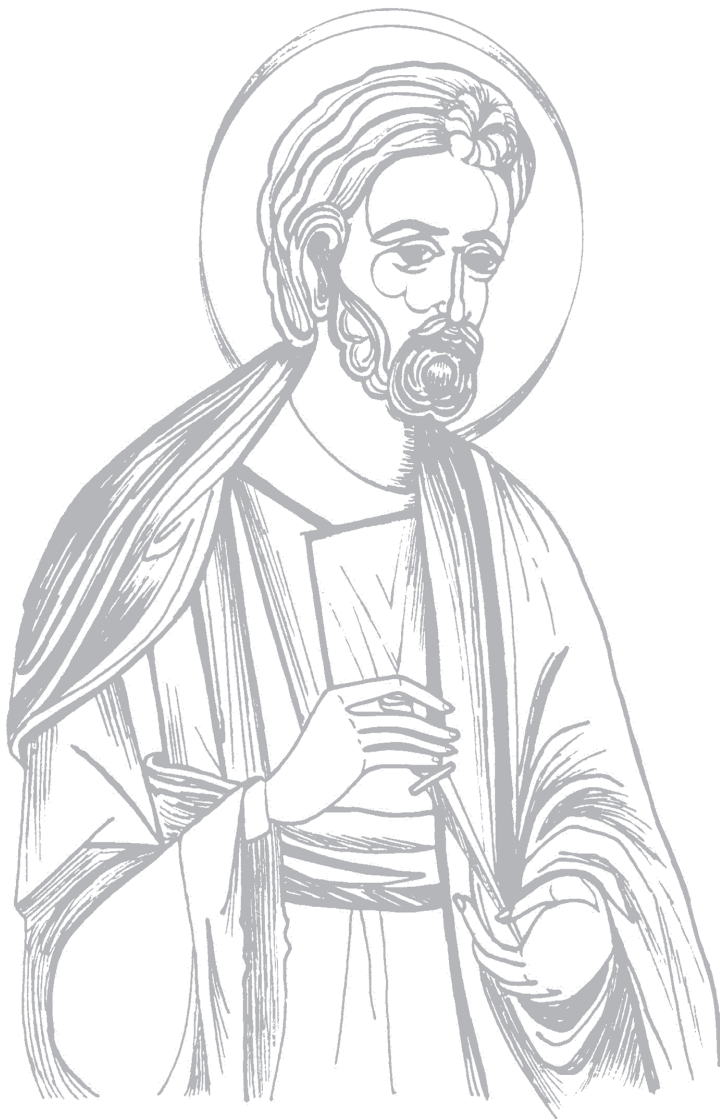
St. Bartholomew's Church



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15 Palmer Road
Yonkers • New York 10701

www.saintbartsparish.org
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St. Bartholomew's Yonkers



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

GOD'S MERCY: TRUTH BE TOLD



I never met it, but I heard so much about how the Church, unintentionally, ended up teaching and presenting God as a hard, judgmental, no-nonsense God. Following Vatican II, we changed our strategy and now we focus heavily on God's love, mercy and compassion, which is marvelous.

The problem, however, is that we now downplay and even outrightly ignore the reality of responsibility and consequences. We easily and comfortably forget that virtue does lie in the middle. Thus we've swung from one end of the spectrum to the other.

If we take time to sincerely read and listen to this Sunday's readings, especially 2 Samuel 12:7-13 and Luke 7:36 – 8:3, they have a lot to teach us. At the bible study last week I mentioned that we must read bible passages with the entire chapter and even book as the background, or else we'd misinterpret or even fail to understand the message the author intended for the audience and for us. Take the first reading for instance – David went from the sin of watching a woman bathing in the privacy of her home to desiring her. One thing led to another and she became pregnant. Failing to cover it up, he decided to get rid of her husband and proceeded to take her as his wife.

God was not pleased at all. So, He sent Nathan the Prophet to David. David was truly repentant and God pronounced mercy upon him. That's where the reading ends. And I thought of concentrating my reflection on God's mercy, especially since we're in the middle of the Jubilee Year of Mercy. I also know that many of us will prefer to hear that God will always forgive and forget our sins. That makes us feel okay. However, I decided to go dig deeper for a more complete message.

If you read on, verse 14 says this, "But since you have utterly spurned the Lord by this deed, the child born to you must surely die." Before that, verse 10 says, "Now, therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah to be your wife." The final punishment is found in verse 11, "I will bring evil upon you out of your own house. I will take your wives while you live to see it, and will give them to your neighbor"

And all three punishments all happened. Three of David's sons died violent deaths (2 Samuel 13:29; 18:14 and 1 Kings 2:25). 2 Samuel 16:22 tells how Absalom, David's son, violated David's concubines in the public. 2 Samuel 12:14 tells how the son born to David by Bathsheba did die.

In the Gospel, Jesus forgave a sinful woman who washed his feet with her hair and anointed them with costly ointment. This reading emphasizes God's deep mercy. Like this lady, we must believe in Jesus' mercy and the power of this mercy to heal us, to make us whole, to set us free, to empower us.

This is the balance I believe we need as we read this Sunday's passages and as we continue the Year of Mercy. To get hung up on the sad image of a God who is hard and judgmental is detrimental to our relationship with Him and could alienate many of God's children. To get hung up on God's mercy and compassion and fail to acknowledge our sins like David and the sinful woman is worse than the first. It's like having a deadly cancer and not even know it. And to continue to presume that there's no punishment for our freely chosen actions against God is to take God and His mercy for granted. That's how we've come to the point of dismissing Purgatory. Some people have even dismissed the reality of hell.

Fr. Andrew Apostoli gave a beautiful talk on Our Lady of Fatima on June 3rd. Part of what he mentioned was how Our Lady told the kids and the everyone to pray the rosary and do penance to avert God's punishment in the form of a second war. We know what happened. And when Russia was finally dedicated to Her Immaculate Heart, we saw the end of Communism.

Yes, our God is merciful, but we must live lives knowing that we're responsible for our actions and will one day face the consequences of bad choices. If our modern society lives with this in mind, I believe our world would be a lot better today. You and I can always lead the way.

Blessings and Peace!!

Father Raphael Ezeh, MSP



The **SANCTUARY LAMP** has been lit in loving memory of Reverend Anthony Ita Bassey, MSP by the Falcone family.

MEETING: This Monday, June 13th, 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.



FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES



Children in public school who will be entering First Grade through High School in September are eligible for these classes. Evening classes are available to accommodate the children of working parents. Besides grade level classes, instruction prepares children for Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation. Call Cheryl Duda (476-6676) for information.

WANT TO BECOME A CATHOLIC OR LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

Do you recognize yourself in any of these statements?

- ◇ I have never been baptized and want to learn more about the Catholic faith.
- ◇ I was baptized in another Christian religion and now wish to become Catholic.
- ◇ I was baptized Catholic, but have not received any other sacraments and little if any religious instruction.
- ◇ I am married to a Catholic and attend Mass and would like to receive the Sacraments.

To learn more call Cheryl Duda at 914 476-6676.

We congratulate the following couples who received a special blessing this Sunday June 12th at the 11:30 a.m. Mass: Giovanni & Antoinetta DeFeo who celebrated 50 years of Marriage this year and Efren and Arceli Samarita and Daniel and Fatima Panik who each celebrated 25 years of Marriage. May God continue to bless them and their families!



FATHER'S DAY CARDS AND NOVENA

Next Sunday, June 19th is Father's Day. 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 19th, and will end on Monday, June 27th. There are cards 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 place it in the collection basket or bring it to the Parish Office during the week. Remember, on Father's Day we will invoke a special blessing on all the fathers during the Masses that weekend.

BIBLE STUDY



Please join us every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the School Building.

Special Parish Events



There will be a Special Mass this Monday, June 13th, the Feast of St. Anthony at 6:30 p.m. in loving memory of Reverend Anthony Ita Basse, MSP. After Mass, there will be a gathering in McManus Center with some light refreshments. Please join us!!

St. Bartholomew's Parish Picnic

St. Joseph's Seminary
Sunday, June 26th from Noon to 5 p.m.
Sponsored by the Holy Name Society

Adults and Seniors: \$15.00
Children Under 14: \$10.00

\$40 per Family (includes parents and all children under 18)



For above prices, please purchase tickets prior to June 20th
Contact Tom Hoffman at 914 476-7976 or the Parish Office at 914 965-0566. Any ticket purchased after June 20th, add \$5.00 per ticket.

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.

Our YOUTH GROUP meets on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month after the 5 p.m. Mass in the school building. All youths age 13 and up are invited. Due to Father's Day, there will be no meeting next Sunday, June 19th.

Follow our Youth Group on Twitter @ St_Barts_youth.

The CANCER SUPPORT GROUP will meet this Wednesday, June 15th, at 7 p.m. in Room 111 of St. John's Riverside Hospital, 967 North Broadway, Yonkers, for education & support to help cope with cancer.

The Catholic Widows and Widowers of Yonkers will hold their next meeting on Thursday, June 16th at 1 p.m. at St. Ann's Church, Fr. Anthony Hall, 31 College Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704. New members are welcome. For more information, please call 914 423-5331.

Job Posting

St. Joseph Hill Academy, an all girls High School is seeking a principal to uphold its mission of preparing its students, academically and spiritually, to become confident young women ready to meet society's challenges. The ideal candidate will be a practicing Roman Catholic with prior relevant experience with school administration, fiscal and strategic planning, and will possess excellent communication skills necessary to interact with the Board of Trustees, faculty, the student body and the Staten Island Community. Candidates should hold a Master's Degree. Please send resumes and cover letters to sisterwilliam@gmail.com.

Tuition-Free Job Training

Grace Institute helps women transition back into the workforce. Technical and professional skills taught. Classes begin September, 2016. Attend an Open House and learn more! Please visit www.graceinstitute.org/admissions @graceinstitute.org or call 212 832-7605. See the flyers posted on the bulletin boards at the rear of the church.



TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING
Last Weekend's Contribution Comparison

Table with 4 columns: Category, 6/7/15, 6/5/16, Difference. Rows include Adults, Children, and Total.

The second collection for Building and Grounds totaled \$1,338.05

The second collection for next weekend is in support of Catholic Missions Among Black and Indian people.

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 use the forms at the rear of the church. Thus far, we have 6 families that have signed up.



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Marian Fletcher, Ann Lackner, Richard Meyers, Rosalie Heit, Andrea Objay, Margaret Maccia, Audrey Falcone, Louis Brusco, Charles Wighton, Michael Tomanelli, Ariella Castillo, Gail Chappory, Randolph Castillo, Jr., Deacon Pat Troy, Deacon Jim Byrne, Gregory Clemens, Florence McCormack, Mary Bryce, Anna Bonacci, Benjamin Pelliccio, William Flower, Efrain Arzola, Joan Oliver, Henry Joseph Deacon Bob Clemens, Carolyn Cesta, William Bodack, Joseph Mahoney, Mary De Santis and Leticia Agosto.

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

St. Anthony of Padua Relic



The Franciscan Friars OFM are delighted to say that Friar Paolo Floreeta will bring a first classic relic of our beloved saint, Saint Anthony of Padua, to the United States during the week of his June 13th feast day. The relic will visit two churches in Yonkers on June 15th and June 19th

June 15th
St. Ann's Church
31 College Place
Yonkers, NY 10704
Veneration begins at 11 a.m. until after the 7:30 p.m. Mass

June 19th
Church of St. Anthony
10 Squire Avenue
Yonkers, NY 10703
Veneration begins prior and after each Mass (8,10&12N)

JUNE 12, 2016

Mass Intentions for the Week

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, June 11 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Special Intention

Sunday, June 12

8:30 AM Kenneth F. Moore +
10:00 AM Eleanor & George Tiplady +
11:30 AM Obiora Ezech +
5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

Monday, June 13

Saint Anthony of Padua, Priest & Doctor of the Church

7:00 AM Monsignor Vincent Case +
9:00 AM In Honor of Saint Anthony
6:30 PM Feast of St. Anthony/In loving memory
of Reverend Anthony Ita Bassey, MSP +

Tuesday, June 14

Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention
9:00 AM Margaret Maccia (Living)

Wednesday, June 15

Weekday

7:00 AM Erasmo Rivera Aviles +
9:00 AM Jessica Friginal Basa +

Thursday, June 16

Weekday

7:00 AM Reverend Anthony Ita Bassey, MSP +
9:00 AM Frank & Carmela Legio +

Friday, June 17

Weekday

7:00 AM Deceased members of Bolduc & Savard families
9:00 AM Harold & Georgina O'Mara +

Saturday, June 18

Weekday

9:00 AM Antonio Darretta +

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, June 19 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

Sunday, June 19

8:30 AM Carmine Nicholas Maccia +
10:00 AM Fiore Brusco & Gabriel Nanoia +
11:30 AM JulieAnn Campisi Moroch +
5:00 PM Novena For Our Living & Deceased Fathers

JUNE 12, 2016

**ANTHONY OF PADUA
Priest and Doctor (1195-1231)**



The gospel call to leave everything and follow Christ was the rule of Anthony's life. Over and over again God called him to something new in His plan. Every time Anthony responded with renewed zeal and self-sacrificing to serve his Lord Jesus more completely.

His journey as the servant of God began as a very young man when he decided to join the Augustinians, giving up a future of wealth and power to be a servant of God. Later when the bodies of the first Franciscan martyrs went through the Portuguese city where he was stationed, he was again filled with an intense longing to be one of those closest to Jesus himself: those who die for the Good News.

So Anthony entered the Franciscan Order and set out to preach to the Moors. But an illness prevented him from achieving that goal. He went to Italy and was stationed in a small hermitage where he spent most of his time praying, reading the Scriptures and doing menial tasks.

The call of God came again at an ordination where no one was prepared to speak. The humble and obedient Anthony hesitantly accepted the task. The years of searching for Jesus in prayer, of reading sacred Scripture and of serving Him in poverty, chastity and obedience had prepared Anthony to allow the Spirit to use his talents. Anthony's sermon was astounding to those who expected an unprepared speech and knew not the Spirit's power to give people words.

Recognized as a great man of prayer and a great Scripture and theology scholar, Anthony became the first friar to teach theology to the other friars. Soon he was called from that post to preach to the heretics, to use his profound knowledge of Scripture and theology to convert and reassure those who had been misled.

COMMENT: Anthony should be the patron of those who find their lives completely uprooted and set in a new and unexpected direction. Like all saints, he is a perfect example of turning one's life completely over to Christ. God did with Anthony as God pleased - and what God pleased was a life of spiritual power and brilliance that still attracts admiration today. He whom popular devotion has nominated as finder of lost objects found himself by losing himself totally to the providence of God.

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

TAKE A CHANCE.....



**St. Bartholomew's Church Scratch off Raffle
\$10 per ticket/Win 100 \$5.00 Scratch Off Tickets
Winning Ticket will be drawn at the September Family
Breakfast**

**Fill out information below and return with your \$10 in
the collection basket or to the Parish Office for a chance to win!!!**

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____