

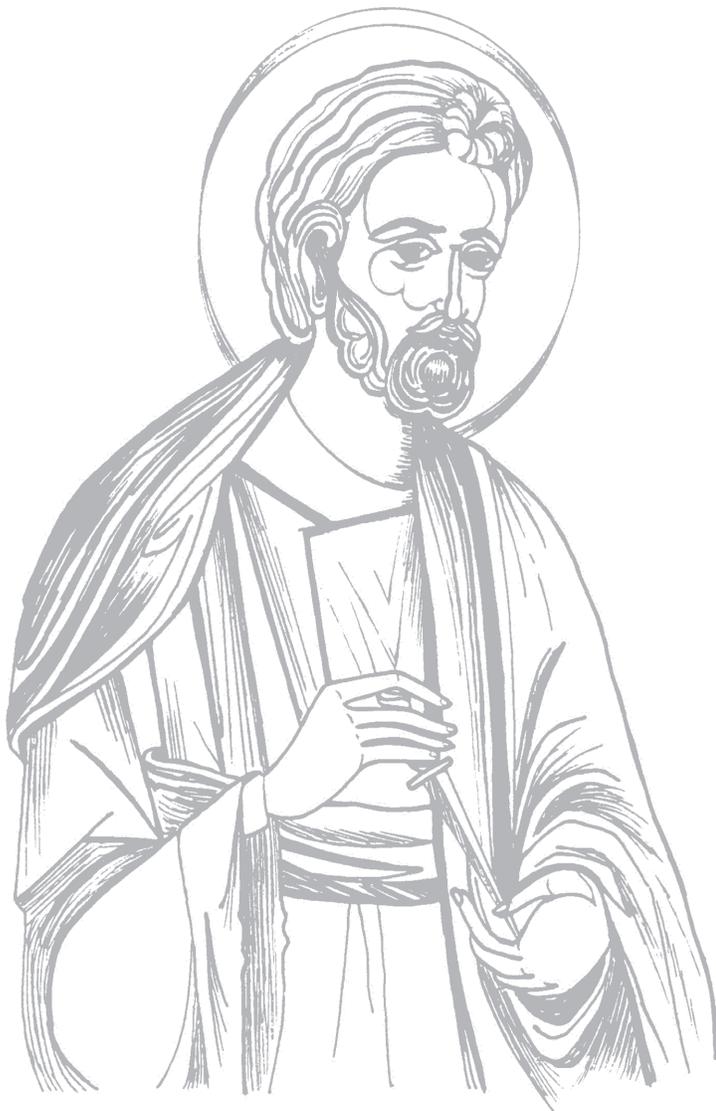
St. Bartholomew's Church



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our parish website.

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

ALLOWING GOD TO NURTURE/HEAL US

Last weekend I was at the 2016 Steubenville Conference at St. John's University, Queens. I was driving back and forth and missed some part of the program. But I was there for the key events like the adoration and confessions. Once again, I witnessed the nurturing and healing touch of our Lord Jesus as He moved among his children in the form of the Blessed Sacrament in the Monstrance and in the Sacrament of Penance. Often, just watching it will not give you the full picture of what's happening, especially since the Lord is actually busy deep inside each individual.



So, on Monday, our youth gathered in the gym and shared their beautiful experience with a good number of parishioners and family members. It was there that some of the Lord's interior ministration over the weekend became clearer. Most of the kids shared how they had this rush or enveloping sense of inner peace after a period. Some said they felt Jesus hugging, embracing or enfolding them. Some were shedding tears of joy as they spoke. Once again, I saw similar tears of sorrow, followed by tears of joy on the faces of some of those that came for confessions.

As I went through the First reading of this weekend, the above images flooded my mind again. In it, Isaiah portrays vivid and charming images of God's maternal and nurturing love, "*Oh, that you may suck fully of the milk of her comfort, that you may nurse with delight at her abundant breasts! You shall be carried in her arms, and fondled in her lap; as a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you*" (Isaiah 66:11,1-13).

In the gospel, Jesus sent his disciples to go out and evangelize and heal – the continuation of divine nurturing. He assured them that not every family or town would accept the Good News they were going to proclaim and the great things that happen with that. He told them ahead of time that they should not be discouraged, but rather move on to the next town.

In our world today, we all need nurturing and healing, especially from God. Yet, not everyone is open to allowing God to do that for them. Most of us will definitely say that we are indeed open and disposed, yet the reality is that often, we block that healing and nurturing or make ourselves undisposed.

For instance, the State of Texas tried to limit the opportunities people have to procure abortion but the Supreme Court went on to strike it down. I was ashamed that people danced and jubilated in front of the court and elsewhere. Some of the placards say things like abortion on demand without apology and that abortion is their right. It's one thing to be sorry that one has committed a horrible sin, but another to claim that one has a right to it and without apology. It's one thing to carry out abortion and brave the consequences, including years of guilt and physical and health issues that could result from that, and another thing to pretend and even make ourselves believe that it's such a glorious act that brings peace of mind and happiness. Yet, those who committed abortion continue to hurt deeply many, many years after the act.

We indeed block God's nurturing and healing love and actions from reaching deep within us through our choices and actions. It's important to acknowledge our sins and sinfulness. It's only then that our loving Father can and will heal and nurture us. If a sick person claims that they are not sick, Doctor Jesus will surely not force His gifts upon such a person. Neither does He want those who follow Him to force someone to seek or accept healing. So, where do you stand?

Blessings and Peace.

Father Raphael Ezeh, MSP



Wishing all of you a happy, safe Fourth of July and a summer filled with good times, good friends, good health of spirit, mind and body. This Monday, July 4th is Independence Day; there will only be one Mass at 9 a.m.; and the Parish Office will be closed

FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES  **Religious Education helps to build a strong foundation**

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.

Blood Drive, Friday, July 8, 2016 from 1:30 to 7:30 p.m. McManus Parish Center

St. Bart's will be conducting its 84th blood drive in the 35 years since starting in 1981. St. Bart's parishioners and friends have made 6312 donations to date. We are traditionally asked to run drives during holiday periods when the need for blood is great and the donations are usually down. Your support is just one of many things that make St. Bart's special. Liam Yaphockun will be conducting this drive as an Eagle Scout Project. If you can donate, please contact Liam at 917 580-2718 or e mail at LIAMBLOODDRIVE @ AOL.COM for an appointment and tell your friends too!



Plants In Honor of Fr. Anthony Bassey

There are still some items available such as climbing roses, emerald green arborvitae and winter gem boxwoods. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested. A plaque will be erected in appreciation to all donors.

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Save the Dates for the following Parish Events

Saturday, August 6th

After the 5 p.m. Mass— Father Raphael's "50th" Birthday Celebration— Pot Luck Dinner. More Details to Follow!!

Saturday, August 27th

Feast of St. Bartholomew Block Party from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. More details to follow!!

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.

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.

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.

Follow our Youth Group on Twitter @ St_Barts_youth.

The **Catholic Widows and Widowers of Yonkers** will hold its annual Communion Breakfast on **Sunday, September 25th** Mass will be at St. Ann's Church, 31 College Place, Yonkers, New York at 10 a.m. Breakfast will immediately follow at the Fairways at Dunwoodie Golf Course. Cost is \$23.00 per person. All 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

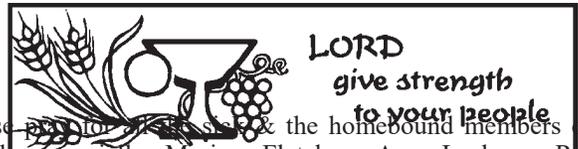


TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING
Last Weekend's Contribution Comparison

	6/28/15	6/26/16	Difference
Adults	\$4,757.90	\$4,780.60	+\$ 22.70
Children	\$ 43.75	\$ 46.45	+\$ 2.70
Total	\$4,801.65	\$4,827.05	+\$ 25.40

"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 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, Leticia Agosto, Joseph Fletcher and Manuel Obalde, Jr.

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

CALLING ALL SENIORS! CALLING ALL SENIORS!

Join fellow seniors for a Mass and Gathering, Thursday, July 7th
9 a.m. Mass with a Special Blessing, followed by light refreshments and gathering at the McManus Parish Center.



SHARING COMMUNITY MEAL: This Thursday, July 7th we will be providing our Sharing Community Meal. Please bring your ziti or dessert to the Rectory. Doors will open at 6:45 a.m. The Sharing Community truly appreciates our efforts. For information, please call the Parish Office.



SOCIAL MINISTRY: Our Food Pantry has an ongoing need for canned fruit, juices, pasta sauces kidney or black beans, peanut butter, jelly, sugar and rice. The food pantry services our community all year long. Thank you for your continuing support!!



JULY 3, 2016

Mass Intentions for the Week



Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, July 2 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Peter Objay +

Sunday, July 3

8:30 AM Mary Ann Karpinski +
10:00 AM Dan & Mary McCarthy +
11:30 AM Frank & Carmela Legio +
5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

Monday, July 4

Weekday—Independence Day

9:00 AM Rose Leone +

Tuesday, July 5

Weekday

7:00 AM Jennifer & Robert Batac (Living)

9:00 AM Marion De Muro +

Wednesday, July 6

Weekday

7:00 AM Rosemarie Tiburzi +

9:00 AM Antonio Marchetti +

Thursday, July 7

Weekday

7:00 AM Lester Spear +

9:00 AM Giovanni & Teresina Brusco +

Friday, July 8

Weekday

7:00 AM Rita Bolduc +

9:00 AM Carrie D'Angelo+

Saturday, July 9

Weekday

9:00 AM Coaches Angelo D'Agostino & Donald De Matteo +

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, July 9 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Christine Bellino +

Sunday, July 10

8:30 AM Ethel Castagnozzi +
10:00 AM Dennis Madonia +
11:30 AM For All the People of Our Parish
5:00 PM Jose Angel Ocasio +

JULY 3, 2016



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: _____

PRAYER FOR FREEDOM

Dear Lord,

So many today misunderstand freedom
Believing that it is the ability to do whatever we want.
Help us always to remember that freedom, true freedom,
Is being able to do what we ought to do.
That freedom, true freedom,
Is not indulging our every want and whim,
But instead it is the ability to rise above any desires
That are wrong, disordered, dangerous or excessive.
Give us the grace always to remember
That true freedom makes us the people You wish us to be,
That true freedom brings us closer to You, and reshapes our world in the
likeness of Your kingdom.
Amen.



Independence Day is one of the best American holidays, both for what we celebrate and how we celebrate it.

It's easy, however, to take liberty for granted, and to misconstrue just how difficult it was to gain our freedoms 239 years ago.



By all means, march in a parade, host a barbecue, have a few beers, head to the beach, light off some fireworks. But take a minute or two to reflect on why we celebrate as well. Here are some of the best things ever said about freedom.

"It is by the goodness of God that in our country we have those three unspeakably precious things: freedom of speech, freedom of conscience, and the prudence never to practice either of them."

--Mark Twain

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same."

--Ronald Reagan

"For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others."

--Nelson Mandela

"We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

--Thomas Jefferson