

# St. Bartholomew's Church



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our parish website.

15 Palmer Road  
Yonkers • New York 10701

[www.saintbartsparish.org](http://www.saintbartsparish.org)

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

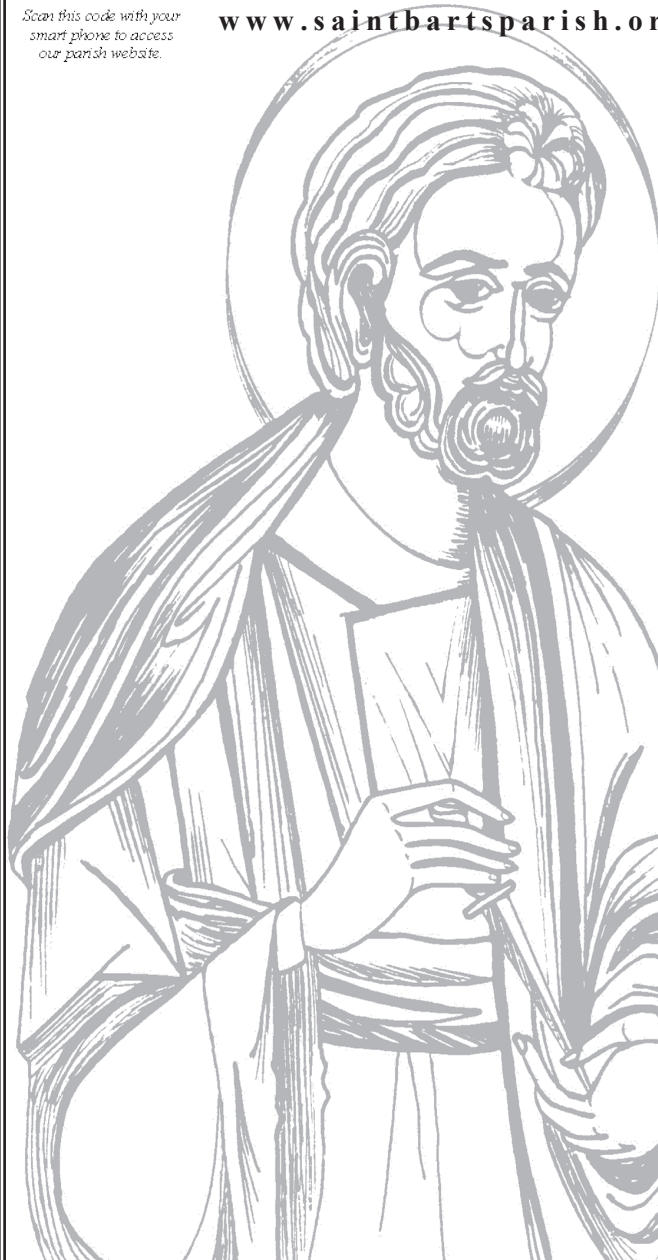
*Holy Name Society:* Meets on the Monday evening after the second Sunday of the month. President, Dan Panik

*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

*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.



**Caught Between Faith and Doubt**



Since the beginning of summer, we've been going around our parish neighborhoods, distributing fliers with information on our religious education programs, youth and adult programs and activities, and other parish spiritual and social activities. We met many who were excited to see us and were very receptive. Strikingly, though not surprisingly, we met some who were nonchalant. I remember two who were almost hostile. Then there was a good number of the "I used to go to church there" or "I used to be a Catholic" folks. Some of them were even eager for a good old chat but didn't show any willingness to even consider a return to the faith. Oh, there was also the "I believe in God and I worship him at home" group.

I'm sure that we know, or at least, have met someone like this. They started off, maybe with us, and for many years, were filled with faith and enthusiasm. Then something happened. The enemy used the opportunity to sneak in and sowed his evil seed or weed. It germinated, and the roots gradually sunk in, then matured and bore fruit – doubt. The doubt would start off with one single area and then spread like cancer, leading to loss of that initial faith and enthusiasm.

In our first reading (1 Kings 19:9-13), Elijah had confronted his people and their leaders who had lost their faith and had allowed doubt to grow so deep as to replace God with Baal. Now he was fleeing for his life and encounters God in a cave.

In the second reading (Rom 9:1-5), Paul laments the lack of faith in his Jewish brothers and sisters who refused to recognize and accept that Christ is really the Messiah. Finally, in the Gospel (Mt 14:22-33), we encounter our familiar Peter. One moment he (and the other disciples) was filled with fear. Next moment, he in particular, was filled with faith and enthusiasm, and then it was gone and he was sinking.

This seesaw movement is very familiar to all of us, though in less dramatic ways. We come to Church very often, some of us come every Sunday and even daily. We strive to deepen our faith. The fire of faith is not dead; probably it is still growing or has held steady over the years. Yet, we have those moments of doubt, when we wonder where Jesus is, or if He's really the one speaking to us or tending to us. How often have I felt like Peter: "Lord, if it's really You, command me to come across the water." And even though He assures me that He is the one, and even though I hear Him ask me to go ahead and come across; I often don't still have the courage, or Peter's faith to get up and take the risk. Many of us are constantly caught between faith and doubt. To move forward or to continue to grow in our faith and mature in Christ, I believe we must continue to listen to that still voice of God in us. If you feel you do listen, that's good. Challenge yourself to listen even more.

When we find ourselves breaking into a cold sweat over a small or big wave or storm, may we hear those comforting words: "Courage. It is I. Do not be afraid." Sometimes, rather than wait for us, He comes to us walking across the waters. We only need to allow Him into our boat. Faith drives away doubt, and restores calm in our lives. Doubt robs us of faith and brings chaos. The choice is very clear. Let us pay more attention to those moments we are caught between faith and doubt and make wiser choices, knowing the One who is with us, Christ.


**Have a blessed week!**

~ **Father Raphael Ezech, MSP**

**PARISH NEWS**



This **Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>**, we will celebrate the Feast of the **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary** into heaven. It is a Holy Day of Obligation; therefore, every Catholic is obliged to attend Mass on that day in honor of our Blessed Mother, Mary. There will be a vigil Mass on Thursday, **August 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.**; and on Friday, **August 15<sup>th</sup>**, Masses will be held at **7 a.m., 9 a.m., 12 Noon, and 7:30 p.m.** **The Parish Office will be closed.**

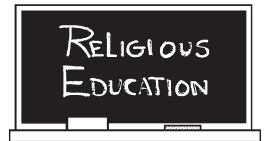
Please pray for the repose of the souls  *Rest in Peace* of all the faithful departed, especially **Frank A. Marx and Constance M. Ballanno.**



The **ALTAR FLOWERS** for this week have been donated in loving memory of Rita Bolduc by Louise Bolduc.

**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 need 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.

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

*Kindness and truth shall meet ...* Bring back the small acts of kindness to your marriage or Holy Orders on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. For more information, call toll free (877) 697-9963, ext. 3 or visit [www.wvme.org](http://www.wvme.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.

## Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### PARISH CELEBRATION

Our parish is planning a block party for Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 6 - 10 p.m. to celebrate the **Feast of St. Bartholomew**. Besides attending, we are asking for your help with this celebration by providing money donations toward the cost of food and drink. Our Social Ministry Committee is organizing the shopping and volunteers for this event. Below you'll find our shopping list and "rounded off" cost of the items.



- ◆ 10 packages of Hot Dogs at \$16 each
- ◆ 5 packages of Hamburgers at \$29 each
- ◆ 6 packages of Hot Dog Rolls at \$12 each
- ◆ 5 packages of Hamburger Rolls at \$13 each
- ◆ 10 cases of Water at \$10 each
- ◆ 4 cases of Potato Chips at \$12 each

You can donate all or a portion of the categories listed above. Please place your donation in an envelop marked with your family name and the item(s) you are sponsoring. Donations can be given to Father Raphael, the Rectory Office, or dropped in the collection basket next weekend.

**Please mark your calendar now and plan on being part of this celebration of our Parish Patron, St. Bartholomew!! Hope to see you on Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>!!**

**GRAVE DECORATION SERVICE:** Roland Productions Grave Care will decorate your loved one's grave on your behalf. Holiday decorations, fresh-cut floral bouquets, plantings of annuals, weeding, and sprucing up the grave area. Before and after photos sent to you. \$50 per single visit and decoration service. 4 and 10 visit annual decoration discount plans available. Serving cemeteries in the Bronx, Westchester, Putnam, and Dutchess. All graves cared for with respect, compassion, dignity, and reverence.

Visit their website: [rolandproductionsgravecare.net](http://rolandproductionsgravecare.net) or call 845 475-6041.

Roland Productions Grave Care: *Because Love Never Dies.*



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. All youths age 13 and up are invited.

**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.

### 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

	8/4/13	8/3/14	Difference
Adults	\$5,852.35	\$5,972.95	+\$ 120.60
Children	\$ 32.85	\$ 31.25	-\$ 1.60
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,885.20</b>	<b>\$6,004.20</b>	<b>+\$ 119.00</b>

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for the maintenance of our buildings and grounds totaled \$1,603.55.

**"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



**LORD**  
give strength  
to your people

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 Swiatkovicz, 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, Richard Meyers, John Palermo, Carlo Gentile, and Angelo Gianfrancesco.

### 2015 MASS BOOK IS OPEN

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

August 10, 2014

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Mass  for the  
Intentions Week

**Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday, August 9 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM Allan Trancynger +

**Sunday, August 10**

8:30 AM Rose Marie Yannicelli +

10:00 AM Stanis Buoninfante +

11:30 AM Marcello Barcello +

5:00 PM Maria Gianfrancesco +

**Monday, August 11**

**Saint Clare, Virgin**

7:00 AM Joseph Gilmore +

9:00 AM Benjamin & Corazon Sotto +

**Tuesday, August 12**

**Weekday**

7:00 AM Alfred Falcone +

9:00 AM Nicholas DeRosa (living)

**Wednesday, August 13**

**Weekday**

7:00 AM Katherine Hoelscher +

9:00 AM Allan Trancynger +

**Thursday, August 14**

**Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Priest & Martyr**

7:00 AM Lawrence Fraher +

9:00 AM Leslie DeBrocky & Margaret McGuirk +

7:30 PM Gertrude Ann Woska +

**Friday, August 15**

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

7:00 AM Deceased Members of Bolduc & Savard Families

9:00 AM Loretta Riccardi +

12:00 Noon Joanne Moscarello +

7:30 PM Robert Franse +

**Saturday, August 16**

**Weekday**

9:00 AM Anna Baumeister +

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**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday, August 16 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM Stanis Buoninfante +

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**Sunday, August 17**

8:30 AM Robert Liddell +

10:00 AM Stanis Buoninfante +

11:30 AM For All the People of Our Parish

5:00 PM Eduardo & Donata Vitullo +



**August 10, 2014**

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## **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (SOLEMNITY - AUGUST 15<sup>th</sup>)**

On November 1, 1950, Pius XII defined the Assumption of Mary to be a dogma of faith: "We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory." The pope declared this dogma only after a broad consultation of bishops, theologians, and laity. There were few dissenting voices. What the pope solemnly declared was already a common belief in the Catholic Church.

We find homilies on the Assumption going back to the sixth century. In following centuries the Eastern churches held steadily to the doctrine, but some authors in the West were hesitant. However, by the thirteenth century there was universal agreement. The feast was celebrated under various names (Commemoration, Dormition, Passing, Assumption) from at least the fifth or sixth century.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary's Assumption into heaven. Nevertheless, chapter 12 of Revelation speaks of a woman who is caught up in the battle between good and evil. Many see this woman as God's people. Since Mary best embodies the people of both Old and New Testament, her Assumption can be seen as an exemplification of the woman's victory. Furthermore, in 1 Corinthians 15:20 Paul speaks of Christ's resurrection as the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep. Since Mary is closely associated with all the mysteries of Jesus' life, it is not surprising that the Holy Spirit has led the Church to belief in Mary's share in His glorification. So close was she to Jesus on earth, she must be with Him body and soul in heaven.

**COMMENT:** In the light of the Assumption of Mary, it is easy to pray her Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) with new meaning. In her glory she proclaims the greatness of the Lord and finds joy in God her savior. God has done marvels to her and she leads others to recognize God's holiness. She is the lowly handmaid who deeply revered her God and has been raised to the heights. From her position of strength she will help the lowly and the poor find justice on earth and she will challenge the rich and powerful to distrust wealth and power as a source of happiness.

**QUOTE:** "In the bodily and spiritual glory which she possesses in heaven, the Mother of Jesus continues in this present world as the image and first flowering of the Church as she is to be perfected in the world to come. Likewise, Mary shines forth on earth, until the day the Lord shall come (cf. 2 Peter 3:10), as a sign of certain hope and comfort for the pilgrim People of God" (*Dogmatic Constitution on the Church*, 68).

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