

St. Bartholomew's Church



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our parish website.

15 Palmer Road
Yonkers • New York 10701

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.

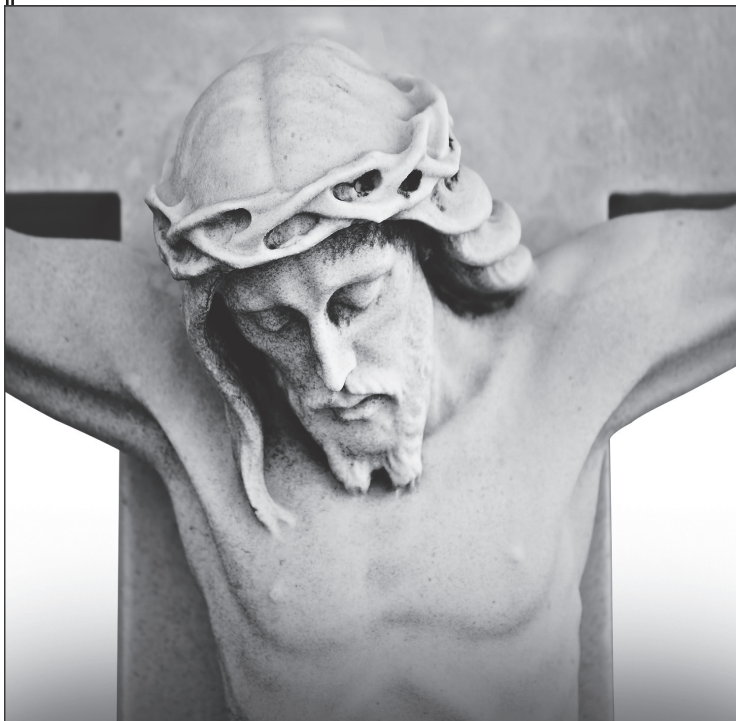
Parish Council: Meets on the Monday evening after the third Sunday of the month. Chairperson: Richard Califano

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



Third Sunday
of
LENT



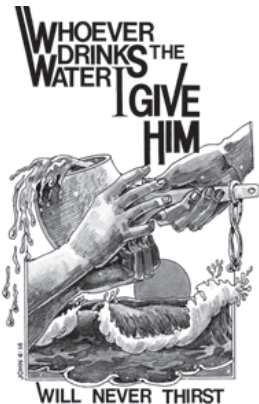
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Mission Statement: We, the members of St. Bartholomew's Parish, will strive to work for a vibrant and loving Eucharistic community. In the spirit of Christ, we commit ourselves to the service of humanity - in our parish, neighborhood, archdiocese and 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.

Pastor's COLUMN

JESUS KNOWS THE DEPTH OF OUR BEING

God has a way of reaching us, His children, even when we don't want Him to, for whatever reasons. He has a way of leading us to the water even when we don't know that we thirst or what we thirst for. He has a way of saving us from ourselves and in spite of ourselves. This is the good news we hear in the readings this weekend. This is the good news we will be hearing from Father Gaffney during the mission this week. And we all need to hear it. Hopefully, we'll take the time to come and allow our compassionate, understanding and loving Jesus to take care of us, minister to us, fill our longings and thirst as He did the woman at the well in today's gospel (John 4:5-42). **If you only knew the gift God wants to give you (Jn 4:10).**



2014 MISSION

*We warmly welcome **Father Bill (Williams) Gaffney, C.Ss.R.**, who will preach our mission this year. Father Bill is a Redemptorist Missionary with years of experience in parish work and in preaching missions throughout the United States. He is also involved in Marriage Encounter weekends for couples. He comes with a wealth of experience in sharing God's love and mercy and touching the hearts of the young and old alike. God has something in store for each of us this weekend. Come, and bring family and friends. **If you only knew the gift God wants to give you (Jn 4:10).**

IN THANKS & PRAISE

*Many thanks to the ladies of the **Altar and Rosary Society** who donated 30 new purificators (the sacred linens we use to purify the chalice and ciborium, etc. after Communion). The old ones are worn out. Thanks for all you do for the parish.

*A million thanks to EVERYONE who helped us to coordinate this year's **Sweepstakes** chaired by Kelly Foley. Your numerous efforts are sincerely appreciated. May the Lord bless and reward you abundantly. Thanks also to each of you, our parishioners, who came out to have fun, try lady luck, and support the parish. Blessings on everyone.

*Every day I see your food donations dropped off for our **Food Pantry**. At our Parish Pastoral Council John McKenna reported that we have a good and steady supply of donations. Many thanks for helping our parish provide this much needed help to those who need it. From John's report, Catholic Charities and other agencies are short of supplies and we may soon start seeing an increase in the number of families we serve. The Lord will provide for His people. May we continue to allow Him to use us to do so. Amen.

Have A Blessed Week, and see you at the Mission.

Father Raphael Ezech, MSP

PARISH NEWS

COME TO OUR PARISH MISSION

This Sunday, March 23rd - Thursday, March 27th
7 p.m. - 8 p.m. Each Evening
Father Bill Gaffney, C.Ss.R.

Each evening the Mission will have a different topic. All parishioners are encouraged to take advantage of this Lenten opportunity. Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us. Also, besides the nightly Mission, Father Bill Gaffney will speak briefly after the 9 a.m. Masses Monday - Thursday.



CHRISM MASS: Mass of Chrism will be celebrated this year on **Tuesday, April 15th**, at 4 p.m. at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Every parishioner is encouraged to attend this beautiful ceremony, where we celebrate with the Archbishop of our Archdiocese and witness our priests renew their vow to serve God's people with the humility of a good shepherd. **Please come support our own parish priests. To help plan an appropriate size bus, please call the Parish Office ASAP if you plan to attend.**

THE 2015 MASS BOOK HAS OPENED

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 Parish Office, **Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.** to make arrangements or to inquire about the availability of a particular date.

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



STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday evening during Lent, the devotion of the Stations of the Cross is held in the Church at 7 p.m. Families are encouraged to participate together. We will also have the Stations of the Cross at 2 p.m. on Good Friday, just prior to the 3 p.m. Good Friday Service.

In order to afford parents the opportunity to attend the Parish Lenten Mission, there will be no Religious Education classes this Tuesday, March 25th. Choir practices are also cancelled.

Third Sunday of Lent

OFFICE OF THE CARDINAL

February 18, 2014

Dear friends in the Lord:

The *Catholic Relief Services Collection* funds six Catholic agencies that work to serve our suffering brothers and sisters in the Lord around the world. Through humanitarian aid, resettlement of displaced individuals and families, and advocating on behalf of victims, *Catholic Relief Services* allows us to see Christ in every suffering person.

Allow me to share with you some information about two of the six agencies provided for by this collection.

During drought seasons, the only water available in Ethiopia and other areas of East Africa runs deep underground - often as deep as 1,000 feet. *Catholic Relief Services* worked with other aid partners to bring in rigs that can drill down to these depths. *Catholic Legal Immigration Network* is a dedicated network of legal immigration programs that promotes the dignity and protects the rights of immigrants.

Catholic Relief Services and *Catholic Legal Immigration Network* are two of the six worldwide Catholic relief agencies funded by the *Catholic Relief Services Collection*. These agencies work to provide food, water, disaster relief, and other vital assistance to those in need. Please be as generous as you can, as your support truly makes a difference.

With prayerful wishes, I am,

Faithfully in Christ,

Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop of New York

SAVE THE DATE

Ladies' Lenten Retreat - Saturday, April 5th
9 a.m. Mass to 2 p.m. Benediction

A Lenten Journey of Joy
By Sr. Eileen Burns, OSF

Sponsored by the Rosary Altar Society

Cost \$20, includes Breakfast & Lunch

For reservations, call Dolly DeRosa (914 969-6575)

The **YOUTH GROUP** meets on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass in the school building. There will be a meeting next Sunday, March 30th. 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

	3/17/13	3/16/14	Difference
Adults	\$6,928.45	\$6,491.70	-\$ 436.75
Children	\$ 162.45	\$ 130.70	-\$ 31.75
Total	\$7,090.90	\$6,622.40	-\$ 468.50

The second collection to defray the cost of snow plowing and salting totaled \$2,009.40.

Next week our parish will take up the *Catholic Relief Services Collection*. This Collection supports six Catholic agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world. The funds from the collection provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and show Christ's love and respect to all people. Next week, please give generously to the *Catholic Relief Services Collection* and **help Jesus in disguise**.



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, Neil Caruso, 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 Swiatkiewicz, Jimmy Maimone, Robert Mirsky, 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, Peggy Clevenberg, Gerald Mazzerese, Jr., Patricia Keane, Carol Stola, Amada Ortiz, Karen Aprea, Stephen Sarich, Neil Cawley, Barbara McCormack, Josephine Lehotyak, Lawrence Girsch, Fran Romano, Gail Villafana, Joe Forlini, Gertrude Woska, Michael Treacy, and Rosemarie Petti.

Don't Miss ...

THE PASSION PLAY


Performed by some of our very own St. Bart's Parishioners

When: **Palm Sunday**, April 13th, at 2 p.m.
and

Good Friday, April 18th, at the 7:30 p.m. service

More details to follow over the next few weeks!

March 23, 2014

Mass  for the
Intentions Week

Third Sunday of Lent

Saturday, March 22 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Frank & Carmela Legio +

Sunday, March 23

8:30 AM Leonore Erb +

10:00 AM For All the People of Our Parish

11:30 AM George Abraham, Jr. +

5:00 PM Juan Rosa & Magdaleno Vazquez +

Monday, March 24

Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Maria Nguyen Phan +

9:00 AM Gloria Brusco Flanagan +

Tuesday, March 25

Annunciation of the Lord

7:00 AM Nora Kearney +

9:00 AM Albert Gregorio +

Wednesday, March 26

Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Nicholas Marcello +

9:00 AM Deceased Members of Joseph Family +

Thursday, March 27

Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Maria & Gerardo Marchetti +

9:00 AM Patrick & Thomas Keane +

Friday, March 28

Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Anthony Bonacci +

9:00 AM John Bryce +

Saturday, March 29

Lenten Weekday

9:00 AM Alice Olsen +

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Saturday, March 29 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Mary Wenger +

Sunday, March 30

8:30 AM Deceased Members of DiPaolo Family +

10:00 AM Anthony Lalli +

11:30 AM Nicolantonio & Carmela Romagnoli +

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

March 23, 2014

**THE ANNUNCIATION OF
THE LORD
MARCH 25 (SOLEMNITY)**

The feast of the Annunciation goes back to the fourth or fifth century. Its central focus is the Incarnation: God has become one of us. From all eternity God had decided that the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity should become human. Now, as Luke 1:26-38 tells us, the decision is being realized. The God-Man embraces all humanity, indeed all creation, to bring it to God in one great act of love. Because human beings have rejected God, Jesus will accept a life of suffering and an agonizing death: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13).

Mary had an important role to play in God's plan. From all eternity God destined her to be the mother of Jesus and closely related to Him in the creation and redemption of the world. We could say that God's decrees of creation and redemption are joined in the decree of Incarnation. As Mary is God's instrument in the Incarnation, she has a role to play with Jesus in creation and redemption. It is a God-given role. It is God's grace from beginning to end. Mary becomes the eminent figure she is only by God's grace. She is the empty space where God could act. Everything she is she owes to the Trinity.

She is the virgin-mother who fulfills Isaiah 7:14 in a way that Isaiah could not have imagined. She is united with her Son in carrying out the will of God (Psalm 40:8-9; Hebrews 10:7-9; Luke 1:38).

Together with Jesus, the privileged and graced Mary is the link between heaven and earth. She is the human being who best, after Jesus, exemplifies the possibilities of human existence. She received into her lowliness the infinite love of God. She shows how an ordinary human being can reflect God in the ordinary circumstances of life. She exemplifies what the Church and every member of the Church are meant to become. She is the ultimate product of the creative and redemptive power of God. She manifests what the Incarnation is meant to accomplish for all of us.

COMMENT: Sometimes spiritual writers are accused of putting Mary on a pedestal and thereby discouraging ordinary humans from imitating her. Perhaps such an observation is misguided. God did put Mary on a pedestal and has put all human beings on a pedestal. We have scarcely begun to realize the magnificence of divine grace, the wonder of God's freely given love. The marvel of Mary - even in the midst of her very ordinary life - is God's shout to us to wake up to the marvelous creatures that we all are by divine design.

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