

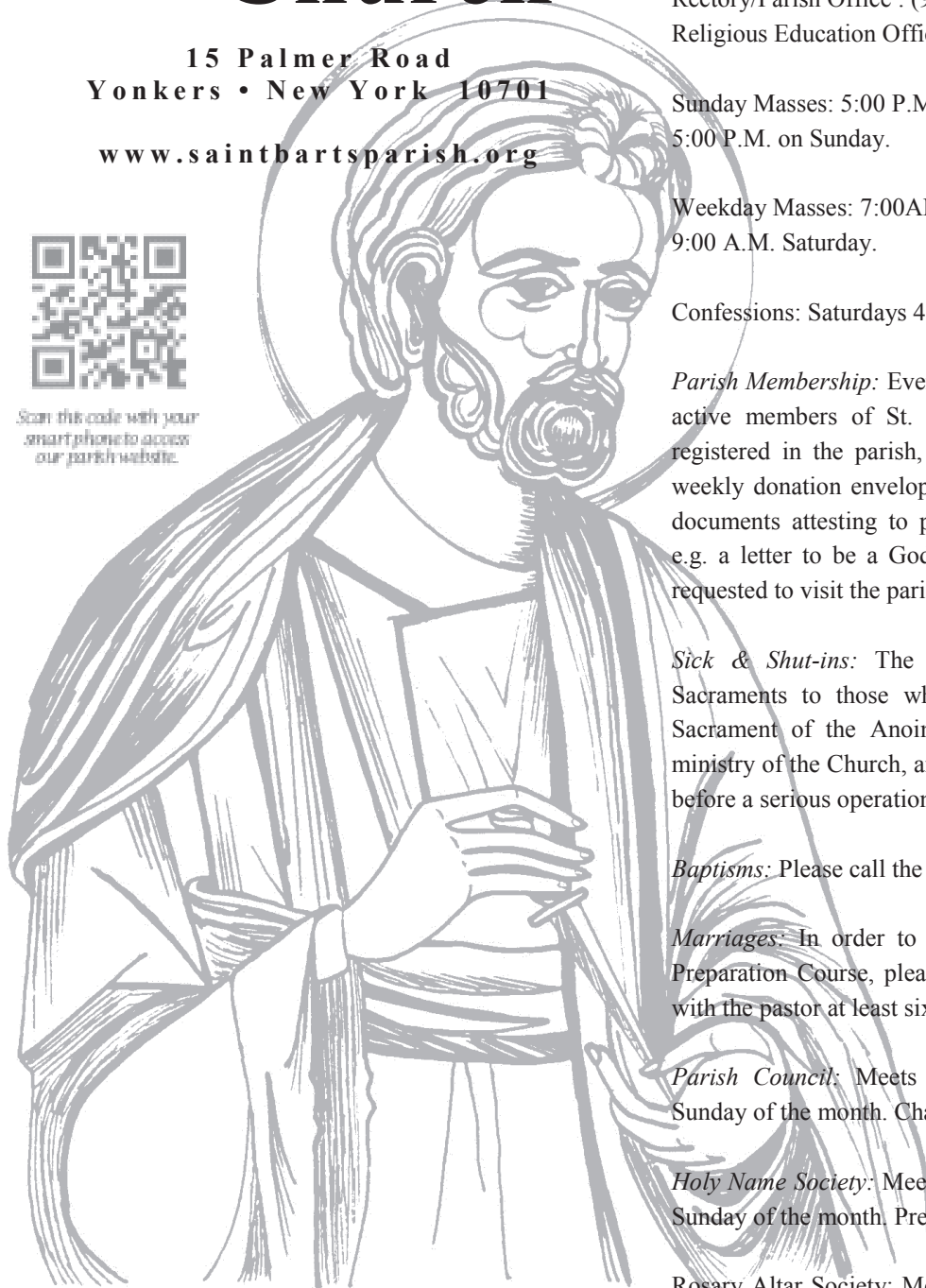
# St. Bartholomew's Church

15 Palmer Road  
Yonkers • New York 10701

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



Scan this code with your  
smart phone to access  
our parish website.



**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 and 5:00 P.M. on Sunday.

Weekday Masses: 7:00AM & 9:00AM 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

## WHO ARE YOU?

There was a Catholic priest, who was very respected. People would drive for hours to hear him preach at missions and on retreats. He was sure he was touching the lives of the people in an exceptional way until some chance encounters with families and individuals made him realize how hard it was to get people to change their ways. People were not taking to heart his words. Disappointed, he decided to organize a three day retreat. The people enthusiastically attended. The first day he simply said, "WHO ARE YOU?" and sent them home. On the second day the priest stood before the crowd and said, "WHO ARE YOOOOUU?" The people were not too impressed, wondered what the priest meant, but kept faith and returned the third day. Again, the priest stood before the people and said, "WHOOO ARRREEE YOOOOUU?" The priest wanted the people to seriously evaluate themselves, hear his words, and apply them to their lives. It was a call to change for the better.

The experience of the priest in the above story brings to mind that of Jesus Christ and the prophet Amos in our readings of this Sunday. People are shrewd. Our lower nature resists positive growth, preferring to remain as we are: fighting, cheating, gossiping, disobedient, judgmental, selfish, manipulating, unforgiving, mocking, etc. Changing for the good rather than the bad is the goal of our salvation. If we keep on going to Church and listening to beautiful homilies and songs and they have no impact on our lives, of what use is bearing the name *CHRISTIAN*? WHO ARE YOU? Since change is ongoing, we need to focus on being a better person day by day.

What is it you want from God and the Church that you have not been given? Why are you the same person that you were last year? What change for good are you bringing into your life and that of your family? Why are you still the same arrogant child whose parent's words and directions are ignored or barely respected? Why do you have a lazy attitude towards prayer, family and responsibility? Why are you not pursuing the good Christian life with the same vigor you employ to seek the material and finite things that only bring temporary satisfaction? If others continually comment on your unhealthy attitude, then you should ask yourself "WHO AM I?"

Changing for the better in Christ Jesus does not stifle the pursuit of material wealth and happiness, instead it enhances your chances of living life with a greater fulfillment. Let's us end this reflection with a prayer:

*Heavenly Father, we come before You today to ask for Your forgiveness and to seek Your direction and guidance. We know Your Word says, "Woe to those who call evil good," but that is exactly what we have done. We have lost our spiritual equilibrium and reversed our values. We have rewarded laziness and called it welfare. We have killed our unborn and called it choice. We have neglected to discipline our children and called it building self-esteem. We have abused power and called it politics. We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it freedom of expression. We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our forefathers and called it enlightenment. Search us, Oh God, and know our hearts today; cleanse us from sin and set us free. Please, come back and rule our nation, be number one in our nation. AMEN.*

~ Fr. Daniel Oghenerukevwe, MSP

## PARISH NEWS



### Religious Education

Registration for Religious Education classes for public school children, running September through June, is open. Classes are available for **children in First 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 be enrolled in a religious education program.** Please call (476-6676) for more information.

### OUR CHILDREN'S MASS

Next Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, we will have Children's Mass at the 10 a.m. Mass. We urge parents to please make it a point to bring their child to the Church every Sunday. We also ask parents to encourage their children, who are in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and above, to sign up to join the Children's Choir to sing at the Children's Mass.



### VOLUNTEER MENTORS NEEDED

In just one hour per week, you can impact a child's life by helping them with their literacy skills. Either during the day or after school, children need your help. **There is a special need for bilingual mentors to work with students who have recently arrived in the United States and attend the Yonkers Public Schools.**

For information contact Randee Ginsberg at 914-423-5009 [rginsberg@jcy-wcp.com](mailto:rginsberg@jcy-wcp.com). Sponsored by the *JCY - Westchester Community Partners*.

### PARISH BIBLE SHARING / STUDIES



Bible Studies are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month at 7 p.m. in the school building. A meeting will be held this Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. These sessions are moderated by our Parochial Vicar, Father Daniel Oghenerukevwe, MSP. Bring a friend! Come and have fun exploring the Bible.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** The Parish Pastoral Council will meet this Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the school. All members are encouraged to attend this meeting.



**SOCIAL MINISTRY:** Our Food Pantry has an **ongoing need**, for cereal, pasta sauces, canned fish/meat, canned fruits, peanut butter, jelly, and juices. Please keep this in mind when you see sales on your trips to the supermarket. Thank you for your continuing support!

## Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN Religious Education Classes



Beginning this October, Religious Education classes will be offered for Pre-K and Kindergarten children on **Wednesdays** from **4 p.m. – 5 p.m.** The *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* program is Montessori based and uses all “hands-on” materials, such as miniature Mass items, priest’s vestments, New Testament clay figures, etc. Please call Cheryl Duda (476-6676) to arrange a visit to see the materials or to register your child.

**Sts. Peter & Paul’s Church**, 129 Birch Street, Fleetwood is holding a **Fall Carnival** from Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> through Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. Wednesday—Friday, from 4 p.m. — 10 p.m.; Saturday, from 12—11 p.m., & Sunday, from 2—10 p.m.

**Maria Regina High School**, 500 West Hartsdale Avenue, Hartsdale, will host a **Country Fair** on October 4, 5 and 6. The family-friendly weekend will include rides, games, pumpkin painting, food stands, live entertainment and much more. For additional information, or to purchase tickets please call 914-761-3300.

**Burke Rehabilitation Hospital**, 785 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains is hosting a series of **FREE** educational presentations about arthritis in recognition of 2013 **World Arthritis Day** on Thursday October 10<sup>th</sup>, from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The speakers will cover various topics including an overview about the condition, exercising with arthritis, massage and relaxation therapy. Lunch is included but seating is limited. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, please call 914-597-2483.

**MEMBERS NEEDED:** From 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade right through Senior Citizen, you have the opportunity to sing the Lord’s praises by joining one of St. Bartholomew’s Choirs - Children’s Choir, Teen Choir, Folk Group, or Adult Choir. New members are always welcome; and no experience is necessary. Please see the Music Director, Erika, or call the Parish Office at 965-0566.



**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.



### TITHING – GOD’S PLAN FOR GIVING

#### September 16, 2012

Adults’ Contribution	\$5622.00
Children’s Contribution	\$142.65
<b>Last Year’s Total</b>	<b>\$5764.65</b>

#### September 15, 2013

Adults’ Contribution	\$5308.95
Children’s Contribution	\$206.75
<b>This Year’s Total</b>	<b>\$5515.70</b>



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Ethel Thomas, Aldina Pereira, Rebecca Conroy, Andy DeFabritis, Maria Marte, Barbara Rup, 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, Donna Vasconez, Nicole Pisani-Frame, Louis Petrulo, Cynthia Swiatkowitz, 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, Louis Milone, Joey Bastardi, Carol Stola, Amada Ortiz, Karen Aprea, Stephen Sarich, Neil Cawley, Barbara McCormack, Josephine Lehotyak, Father Raphael Ezech, MSP, Lawrence Girsch, Fran Romano, and Pasquale Cercone.

### 2014 MASS BOOK IS OPEN

The Mass Book for 2014 opened on Ash Wednesday and there are still 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.

### 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!

September 22, 2013

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Mass  for the  
Intentions Week

**Twenty- Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday, September 21 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM Jerry Pisacreta & Betty D'Angelo +

**Sunday, September 22**

8:30 AM Rita Bolduc +

10:00 AM Lawrence Tiplady +

11:30 AM Concepcion Ocasio +

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

**Monday, September 23**

Saint Pio, Priest of Pietrelcina

7:00 AM Deceased Members of Gatti & Picciano Families

9:00 AM Gene DelBene +

**Tuesday, September 24**

Weekday

7:00 AM Jose Eliseo Dela Rosa +

9:00 AM Edward Franz, Jr. +

**Wednesday, September 25**

Weekday

7:00 AM Grace Raguso +

9:00 AM Joseph Frischman +

**Thursday, September 26**

Weekday

7:00 AM Frank Lutomski, Sr. +

9:00 AM Joseph DelBene +

**Friday, September 27**

Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest

7:00 AM Living & Deceased Members of Morra Family

9:00 AM John & Emilia DeRosa +

**Saturday, September 28**

Weekday

9:00 AM Mary Grubiak +

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**Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday, September 28 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM Deceased Members of Pragana Family

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**Sunday, September 29**

8:30 AM Mildred & Michael Pollick +

10:00 AM For All the People of Our Parish

11:30 AM Maria & Carmelo Terrusa & Family +

5:00 PM Acacio Paiva +

**September 22, 2013**

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**PIO OF PIATRELCINA  
PRIEST (1887 ~ 1968)  
SEPTEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup>**



According to one estimate, over 325 people since the time of Francis of Assisi have received the stigmata, that is, all or some of the wounds of Christ's passion. Few of those stigmata have had a more difficult life than Padre Pio.

Francesco Forgione joined the Capuchin Franciscans at age fifteen, taking the name Pio. Ordained in 1910, he served for a short time in the Italian army during World War I. In 1917 he was assigned to the friary in San Giovanni Rotondo, seventy-five miles from Bari on Italy's Adriatic coast.

A year later, while making his thanksgiving after Mass, he had a vision of Jesus and when it was over Padre Pio had the stigmata on his hands, feet and side.

After undergoing various medical and church investigations, for a short time he was not permitted to celebrate Mass publicly or hear confessions. Although he wrote nothing after 1924, unscrupulous people sometimes presented him as the author of prophecies they wrote.

In time, busloads of men and women came to his 5:00 A.M. Mass and to his confessional, which he occupied up to ten hours a day. During his mid-morning break, he blessed the sick.

Faith must lead to action, to works of compassion. In 1946, ground was broken on nearby Mount Gargano for the "House for the Alleviation of Suffering," a 350 bed facility financed by Padre Pio's benefactors.

COMMENT: At Padre Pio's canonization Mass in 2002, Pope John Paul II referred to that day's Gospel (Matthew 11:25-30) and said: "The Gospel image of 'yoke' evokes the many trials that the humble Capuchin of San Giovanni Rotondo endured. Today we contemplate in him how sweet is the 'yoke' of Christ and indeed how light the burden are whenever someone carries these with faithful love. The life and mission of Padre Pio testify that the difficulties and sorrows, if accepted with love, transform themselves into a privileged journey of holiness, which opens the person toward a greater good, known only to the Lord."

QUOTE: "The life of a Christian is nothing but a perpetual struggle against self; there is no flowering of the soul to the beauty of its perfection except at the price of pain" (saying of Padre Pio).

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