

St. Bartholomew's Church



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15 Palmer Road
Yonkers • New York 10701

www.saintbartsparish.org

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.

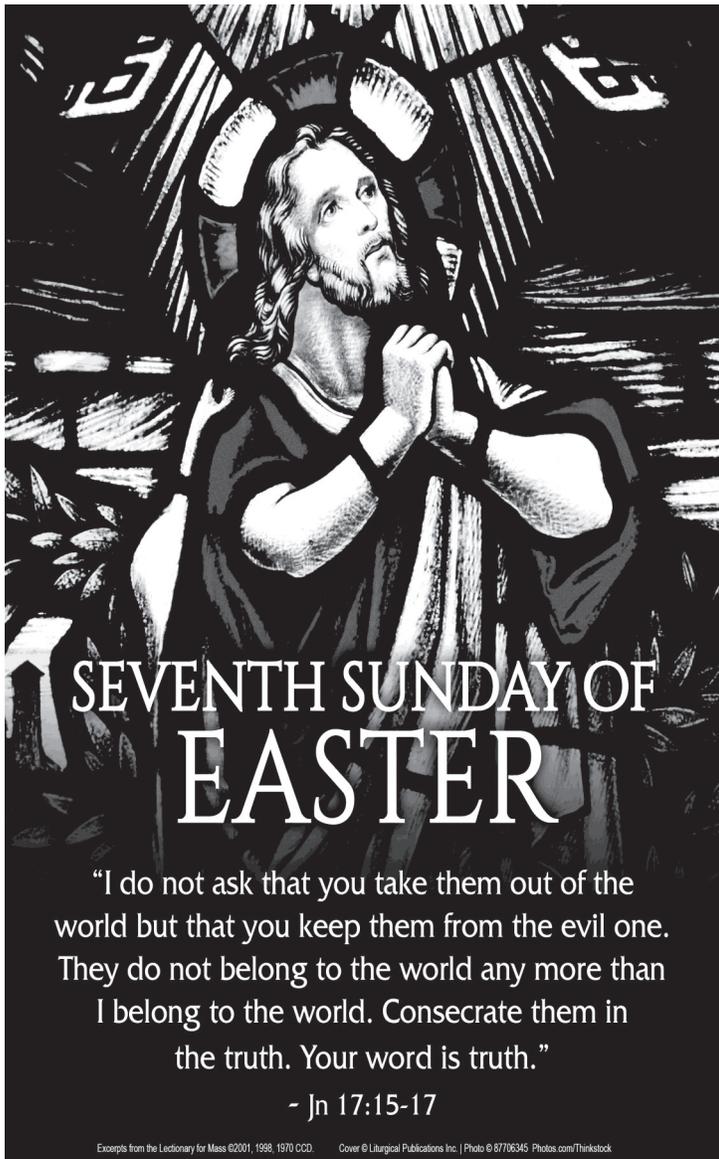
Parish Council: Meets on the Monday evening after the third Sunday of the month. Chairperson: Richard Califano

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. Co-Presidents, Carolyn Mesler, Frances Raffa

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.

PARISH NEWS

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION: *Rolled dice? You've got to be kidding me!*

Our first reading is all about how the young church resolved an internal problem in a way that will raise some eyebrows today – they replaced Judas by rolling dice! (Acts 1:15-26). Such an important and sacred decision was done by simply rolling dice? Whoa! It sounds so naïve but also shows the unflinching faith of the young Church. It also shows a deeper virtue – less attention and energy on politics and more on the mission itself. Before you could say “Jack Robinson,” the selection was over. What a lesson for us on trusting the Holy Spirit, promised them and us by the Ascended Christ.

I invite us today to think of how we might imitate more closely the apostle Matthias, in his openness and willingness to accept that Jesus did choose him through the rolling of dice. I know many of us (myself included) would want better proof than that, considering the role he was going to play and the fact that it would most probably involve serious life hazards and even death, not to talk of qualifications and the lack thereof. This is important for us here at St. Bart's as we continue to build up our parish.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Our Parish Holy Name Society members had their annual Mass and induction of a new member this past Monday. It was a beautiful event. After the Mass we crossed over to the McManus Parish Center, where we had dinner, Jeopardy, camaraderie, etc. Then Jack Bilancia announced the new board members: Tony Martelli, President; Jack Bilancia, Vice President; Paul Capuano, Treasurer; and Juan Roman, Secretary. I was at the Rosary Altar Society meeting Monday, May 4th. They also mentioned their upcoming elections.

Often what these wonderful societies do is kept hidden. I continue to believe that if parishioners would just check them out they'd not be disappointed. They will actually be surprised and inspired. So, please, consider joining them, or at least checking them out – with an open mind.

We want to thank the Holy Name Society for sponsoring the Mothers' Day Breakfast last Sunday. I understand, I hope not wrongly, that the Rosary Altar used to do one on Fathers' Day. If they did and stopped, I think it's time to pick up again. But to do so, we need extra hands in the kitchen. So, all you younger ladies in the parish, I'll be rolling some dice soon. Leave your phones on!



Pentecost is one of the greatest days on the Church's calendar. Parishes across the globe do different things to enhance parishioners' experiences, spiritually, culturally, etc. They are all geared towards a more fruitful celebration of God's spectacular gift to us, the Holy Spirit!

Our Mass will be said in different languages. At each Mass one of the readings will be in a language other than English. The *Prayers of the Faithful* will be said in different languages, mostly spoken by various nationalities in the parish. Some of the parts prayed by the priest will be done in English and two other languages.

Dress In Red if you can, please. Imagine red all over the church. It will surely have an impact on our kids and many others. Besides, it will help create lasting memories for all, memories of the fire of the Spirit.

Blessings and peace upon you! ~ **Father Raphael Ezeh, MSP**

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) meeting will take place this Monday, May 18th, at 7 p.m. in the school. All members are encouraged to attend.



The **ALTAR FLOWERS** are donated this week in loving memory of Gabriel Nanoia by Louis and Angela Brusco.

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



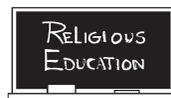
CHILDREN'S MASS: Please make it a point to bring your child to our Children's Mass next Sunday and the rest of the Sundays in May. The 10 a.m. Mass will focus on our children. The Parish Children's Choir will sing at the Mass. The children are encouraged to sit together with other children at a designated place during the Mass.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION: Adults interested in learning more about the Catholic faith or wishing to prepare for Confirmation should contact the Religious Education Office for information about the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. (RCIA) Call (914) 476-6676 for further information.



FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES



Register **now** for next year's Religious Education program. 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 more information.

The Rosary Altar Society is holding their year end dinner at Fogarty's on Tuesday, June 9th, at 6:30 p.m. The cost for the dinner is \$25.00. All ladies of the parish are invited. If you are interested, please contact Josephine Smith at 914 476-5386 or Dolly De Rosa at 914 969-6575.



The **CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** will meet this Wednesday, May 20th, 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. Call (914) 964-4441 for information.

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

WEDDING JUBILEE MASS & CELEBRATION



St. Bartholomew's couples who are celebrating their **25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary** anytime this year (2015) are invited to attend the 11:30 a.m. Mass on June 14th. They will be blessed and honored during the Mass which will be followed by a Reception. Please call the Rectory to register and tell us how many guests you might be expecting at the Reception.



"This I command you: love one another." Loving as Jesus calls us to in today's gospel can be difficult in our modern, busy lives. Fall in love all over again on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. For more information go to: www.wwme.org or call toll free: (877) 697-9963, ext. 3.

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.

LOOK GOOD ... FEEL BETTER for women

Meets the first Monday of the month at Phelps Memorial Hospital Center, 755 North Broadway, Room 545, Sleepy Hollow, NY, from 6 to 8 p.m.

This **FREE 2-hour program** teaches beauty techniques to women going through cancer treatment. Includes a makeup & hair consultation and a complimentary makeup kit and wig to take home! Convenient free parking.

Registration is required. For information or to register, please call Hilary Davidson on 914 366-3315 or Alison Murphy on 914 366-3421.



The **YOUTH GROUP** meets on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass in the school building. They will meet this Sunday, May 17th. 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.

ADOPTION OPPORTUNITY: Children in China need homes; age two and up. Older parents & single women welcome. For information call Barbara Salvesen at 845 623-5277.

✠ **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*

	5/11/14	5/10/15	Difference
Adults	\$5,827.90	\$5,108.40	-\$ 719.50
Children	\$ 124.00	\$ 83.25	-\$ 40.75
Total	\$5,951.90	\$5,191.65	-\$ 760.25

The 2nd Collection to aid the Church in Central & Eastern Europe totaled \$1,209.05.

**"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



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Ethel Thomas, Aldina Pereira, Rebecca Conroy, Andy DeFabritis, Maria Marte, 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 Swiatkiewicz, 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, Gerald Mazzerese, Jr., Patricia Keane, Carol Stola, Karen Aprea, Stephen Sarich, Neil Cawley, Barbara McCormack, Josephine Lehotyak, Lawrence Girsch, Fran Romano, Joe Forlini, Rosemarie Petti, Marie Murtha, Mary Walsh, Natalie Marrero, Richard Meyers, Carlo Gentile, Angelo Gianfrancesco, Vince Delgado, Charles Wighton, Michael Tomanelli, Steven Colon, Louis Loscalzo, Gina Obalde, Ann Lackner, Ariella Castillo, Brian Detz, John Marietti, Dominick Gravino, Angelica Blanco, Joseph Melillo, Gail Chappory, Rev. Anthony Bassey, MSP, Agnes Masterson, and Gregory Clemens.

The **CATHOLIC WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS OF YONKERS** will meet this Thursday, May 21st, at 1 p.m. at St. Ann's Church, Father Anthony Hall, 31 College Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704. New members are welcome. For more information, please call 914 423-5331.

Any children or young adults interested in becoming Altar Servers who meet these requirements:

- Have passed or are going into the 5th Grade in September
 - Have made their First Communion
- are asked to contact Cheryl Duda (914 476-6676). Training will begin shortly.



MAY 17, 2015

Mass  for the
Intentions Week

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Saturday, May 16 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Novena for Our Living & Deceased Mothers

Sunday, May 17

8:30 AM Robert Liddell +

10:00 AM Carole Ferraro+

11:30 AM Frank & Carmela Legio +

5:00 PM Theresa Fontanello +

Monday, May 18

Easter Weekday

7:00 AM Novena for Our Living & Deceased Mothers

9:00 AM Daniel DeRosa +

Tuesday, May 19

Easter Weekday

7:00 AM Reverend Anthony Bassey, MSP (living)

9:00 AM Amada Ortiz +

Wednesday, May 20

Easter Weekday

7:00 AM Deceased Members of Bolduc & Savard Families

9:00 AM Peggy Henry +

Thursday, May 21

Easter Weekday

7:00 AM Reverend Anthony Bassey, MSP (living)

9:00 AM Lawrence Fraher +

Friday, May 22

Easter Weekday

7:00 AM Reverend Anthony Bassey, MSP (living)

9:00 AM Gabriel Nanoia +

Saturday, May 23

Easter Weekday

9:00 AM Miko Gallego & Siblings (living)

Pentecost Sunday

Saturday, May 23 (Vigil Mass)

5:00 PM Maria Gianfrancesco +

Sunday, May 24

8:30 AM Deceased Members of Lucchetti & Capuano Families

10:00 AM Michael Lemme +

11:30 AM Deceased Members of Rose Gaetano Legio Family

5:00 PM Healing for Rev. Anthony Bassey, MSP &
Parishioners (living)

MAY 17, 2015

**CRISTOBAL MAGALLANES
AND COMPANIONS
PRIEST & MARTYR; MARTYRS
(1915 - 1928)
MAY 21**

Like Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro, S.J. (November 23), Christobal and his twenty-four companion martyrs lived under a very anti-Catholic government in Mexico, one determined to weaken the Catholic faith of its people. Churches, schools and seminaries were closed; foreign clergy were expelled. Cristobal established a clandestine seminary at Totatiche, Jalisco. Magallanes and the other priests were forced to minister secretly to Catholics during the presidency of Plutarco Calles (1924-1928).

All of these martyrs except three were diocesan priests. David, Manuel and Salvador were laymen who died with their parish priest, Luis Batis. All of these martyrs belonged to the Cristero movement, pledging their allegiance to Christ and to the church that he established to spread the Good News in society - even if Mexico's leaders once made it a crime to receive baptism or celebrate the Mass.

These martyrs did not die as a single group but in eight Mexican states, with Jalisco and Zacatecas having the largest number. They were beatified in 1992 and canonized eight years later.

COMMENT: Every martyr realizes how to avoid execution but refuses to pay the high price of doing so. A clear conscience was more valuable than a long life.

We may be tempted to compromise our faith while telling ourselves that we are simply being realistic, dealing with situations as we find them. Is survival really the ultimate value? Do our concrete, daily choices reflect our deepest values, the ones that allow us to "tick" the way we do?

Anyone can imagine situations in which being a follower of Jesus is easier than the present situation. Saints remind us that our daily choices, especially in adverse circumstances, form the pattern of our lives.

QUOTE: During his homily at the canonization Mass on May 21, 2000, Pope John Paul II addressed the Mexican men, women and children present in Rome and said: "After the harsh trials that the Church endured in Mexico during those turbulent years, today Mexican Christians, encouraged by the witness of these witnesses to the faith, can live in peace and harmony, contribute the wealth of Gospel values to society. The Church grows and advances, since she is the crucible in which many priestly and religious vocations are born, where families are formed according to God's plan, and where young people, a substantial part of the Mexican population, can grow with the hope of a better future. May the shining example of Christobal Magallanes and his companion martyrs help you to make a renewed commitment of fidelity to God, which can continue to transform Mexican society so that justice, fraternity and harmony will prevail among all."

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