

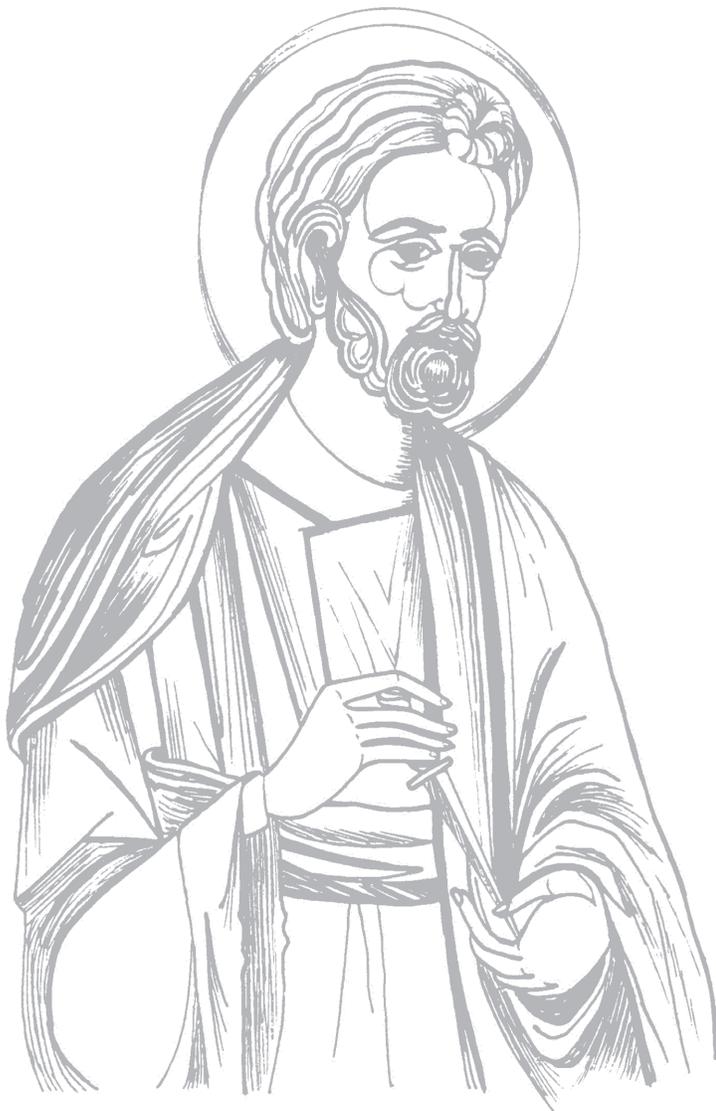
St. Bartholomew's Church



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

15 Palmer Road
Yonkers • New York 10701

www.saintbartsparish.org
Visit us on facebook:
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

Prayer: Personal and Persistent

One thing about moving around is that you get to meet new faces and sometimes make new friends. I thought of the various levels or stages of friendship as I read this Sunday's scriptures. First you have *acquaintances* – friends we have an occasional contact with; we know their name and some extra public or general information about them, like work and school. This is also the first step in developing a true friendship. It all depends on the two people.



Beyond this initial level, you become what could be termed as *casual friends*. This could actually develop right after the initial contact. One of the people I met just last week has become a casual friend already. In that one contact I had with him and his family, we moved from names and job and school to common interests, activities and concerns, including the political situation in his country, my country and African values and cultures. We discussed goals and opinions, etc.

Next is *close friendship*. I'm sure you have friends you turn to for advice because you share the similar goals or visions in life. You trust their input and value their opinions. These are more than casual friends, yet they are not your intimate friends. You are very comfortable with them and are not afraid of being laughed at.

Intimate friendship is the highest level of friendship. These are friends you are very close to; you often spend a great deal of time with them. They will be the first people you call with good or bad news. They often feel like family and might even be closer to you than family because they have been through it all with you. At this level, you have the freedom to correct one another and point out each other's blind spots and offer solutions. You encourage and challenge each other, etc.

In today's First Reading (Genesis 18:20-32), I see some of the dynamic and precious qualities found in fourth level friendship in the relationship between God and Abraham. I became jealous of Abraham! I was trying to imagine God, the Almighty Creator, sharing his thoughts and his plans with a mere creature, Abraham. More amazing than scandalous is the fact that Abraham is almost shaming God into being just. How was he not afraid of God! How dare him address God in such a way!

And that's the whole point of the four levels of friendship. The gem of human relationship is that fourth level where and when I become free with you and can sincerely tell you what I think and ask you what I want and share with you whatever is on my mind without bothering about how you would receive or respond to it. It's when I know that what's between us is solid and strong enough to handle just about any burden or load placed on it.

This, my brothers and sisters, is what our relationship with God should be like! This is what our prayers should look like – personal and persistent! Once at this level with God, we don't have to worry about whether God cares or loves us or not, because like two intimate friends, these are a given – there's no iota of doubt about the level of care and love.

Blessings and Peace!

Fr. Raphael Ezech, MSP

PARISH NEWS



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



Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, especially Reverend James Smyth,

Reverend Monsignor James T. O'Connor and Reverend Richard J. Neilson.

FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES

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.

2017 MASS BOOK IS OPEN

The Mass Book for 2017 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. Come to the Parish Office, **Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.** to make arrangements or to inquire about the availability of a date.

Plants In Honor of Fr. Anthony Bassey

There are still 2 items available, emerald green arborvitae (5) and winter gem boxwoods (2). Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested.

A plaque will be erected in appreciation to all donors.

Save the Dates for the following Parish Events

Saturday, August 6th is Fr. Raphael's 50th Birthday celebration, a Pot Luck Dinner! It will begin after the 5 p.m. Mass. Please bring your favorite dish or make a small donation, NO DESERTS NEEDED. Sign up sheets are in the back of the church. Please join us for a fun filled evening.

Saturday, August 27th The Feast of St. Bartholomew Block Party from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

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. Their next meeting is this Sunday, July 24th.

Follow our Youth Group on Twitter @ St_Barts_youth.

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!!



ADOPTION OPPORTUNITY: Children in China need homes. More boys available than girls from age two and up. Older parents and single women are welcomed. For more information call Barbara Salvesen on (845) 623-5277.

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.

As you plan and enjoy your summer and vacations, please do not forget your financial obligations to our Parish. God bless and keep you all!

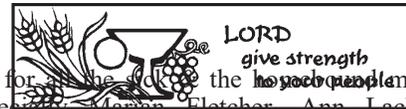


TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING Last Weekend's Contribution Comparison

Table with 4 columns: Category, 7/19/15, 7/17/16, Difference. Rows include Adults, Children, and Total.

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 8 families that have signed up.



Please pray for all the members of our Parish, especially Marian Fletcher, Ann Laekner, 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, William Flower, Efrain Arzola, Joan Oliver, Henry Joseph, Deacon Bob Clemens, Carolyn Cesta, William Bodack, Joseph Mahoney, Mary De Santis, Leticia Agosto, Joseph Fletcher, Manuel Obalde, Jr. and Rosalia Guzman.

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

APPROPRIATE DRESS IN CHURCH:

The Church is the House of God. When we enter, we are setting our feet on Holy Ground. For this reason, the way we dress for Church should reflect the reverence we have for this sacred space where the Lord dwells. It is simply not proper to enter the Church with clothing that is not modest or appropriate. It is with this in mind that we acknowledge that some kinds of dress, while comfortable, may not be appropriate for Church.

CELL PHONE ALERT

As you join us for sacred worship, we remind you to please TURN OFF your cell phone. Let your focus be on Prayer and the Presence of Jesus among us.

JULY 24, 2016

Mass  for the
Intentions *for the*
Week

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, July 23 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Maryann Tolli +

Sunday, July 24

8:30 AM Lorenzo Marchionno +
10:00 AM Antonio Marchetti +
11:30 AM Robert Shannon (Living)
5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

Monday, July 25

Saint James, Apostle

7:00 AM Michael Daly +
9:00 AM Gabriel Nanoia +

Tuesday, July 26

Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 AM No Intention
9:00 AM Stephen Fecko +

Wednesday, July 27

Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention
9:00 AM Rose & Charles Boehm +

Thursday, July 28

Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention
9:00 AM Maria Marchetti +

Friday, July 29

Saint Martha

7:00 AM Reverend Anthony Ita Bassey, MSP +
9:00 AM Joseph Sarich, Al & Florence Porach +

Saturday, July 30

Weekday

9:00 AM Joseph Nadal +

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, July 30 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Emily Lavelle +

Sunday, July 31

8:30 AM Rose Milder +
10:00 AM Angela Rush +
11:30 AM Mary & Carmelo Terrusa & Family +
5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

JULY 24, 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: _____

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

Our warmest welcome to our visitors! We are glad you came to celebrate the Eucharist with us today. We thank God for you! Do not hesitate to let us know how we may serve you.

Every family and single adult to be considered an active parishioner of St. Bartholomew's Parish must be properly registered in the Parish, receiving and regularly using the Parish Weekly Collection Envelopes. Only in this way can the Pastor issue documents attesting to Catholic practice of the faith and Parish membership, e.g. a letter to be a Godparent or Sponsor. For further information call the Parish Office on 914 965-0566.

If you have not registered or need to correct some of the information in our file, please fill out this form and check (X) the appropriate box below or you may also use the complete Registration Form found on the table at the rear of the Church; and drop the completed form into the collection basket or drop off/mail it to the Rectory. Thank you!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Comment: _____

- ◇ I am interested in parish membership.
- ◇ Change of Address / Telephone Number.
- ◇ I am moving out of the Parish.
- ◇ I am going to the hospital.
- ◇ I would like to be visited by a priest / minister.
- ◇ Please send me the *Catholic New York*.
- ◇ I would like to learn more about the Catholic Faith.