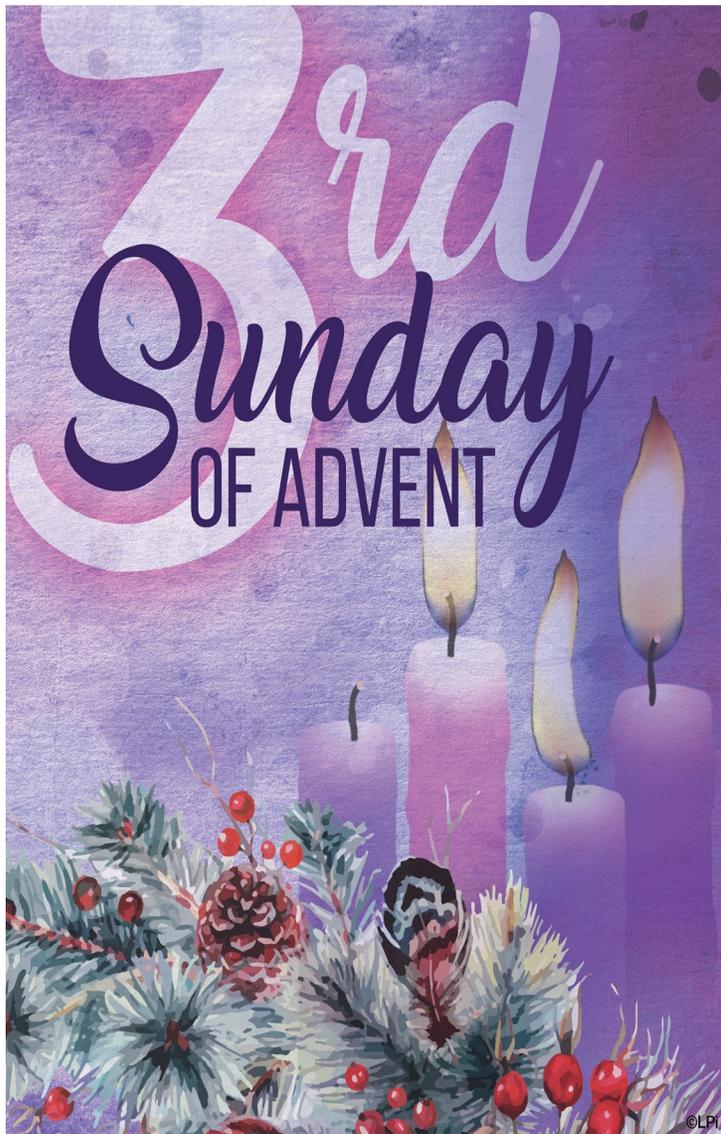


# Saint Bartholomew's Church

15 Palmer Road  
Yonkers • New York 10701

[www.saintbartsparish.org](http://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: Sam Farraj, Anna Legio

## YEAR OF FAVOR

If this reading from Isaiah sounds familiar, it may be because we also hear it in Luke. This is the passage that Jesus is given to read in the synagogue, the verses he is referring to when he says, "Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing" (Luke 4:21). No wonder we hear it now, in anticipation of the celebration of His birth. The prophecy of Isaiah is on the cusp of fulfillment. That good news of gladness, of healing, of liberty, of vindication is here in the person of Jesus.



What is this "year of favor: that Isaiah announces? The year of favor was traditionally the time when debts were cancelled, land was redistributed equitably, and slaves were released. It was an acknowledgment that all the goods of this world, all creation, come from God and that God ultimately has sovereignty over humanity. What implications does this have for us today? What would happen to you and all you own? Obviously, it depends on our status and what we own in the first place. But maybe we should think of it from God's perspective. God cares for each and every one of us. So if any one of us is poor, or brokenhearted, or oppressed, or held captive, it is an affront to God.

Saint Paul's advice to the early Christian community at Thessalonica is good advice for us as well. "Rejoice always," for we have been redeemed by Jesus. "Pray without ceasing," for this is how we can be in community with God. "In all circumstances give thanks" for all that we have, has been given to us. "Do not quench the spirit," for it is the Holy Spirit who builds, energizes, and sanctifies us as we act according to God's will (1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 19). It is also the Spirit who inspired Isaiah and Paul when they wrote the words we hear today.

**Question of the Week**

How can I help bring a "year of favor" to the world, to the community, to those I know? (*Pastoral Patterns – Winter 2017*)

**2017 Christmas Gift**

I invite everyone to please be generous with your Christmas donation so we can reach our budget of **\$24,000**.

I was going to share the Renew and Rebuild Campaign results at the Masses last weekend but due to low attendance, I held off on that. I'll be doing that this weekend, even though there's still more snow in the forecast. The results notwithstanding, **I want to appeal that we sustain our Sunday collections** because the money from the campaign is solely for these capital projects:

- Church: Heating/Ventilating & Air Conditioning Maintenance and Repair
- Church: Electric Upgrade and Code Compliance
- Rectory: Electric Upgrade and Code Compliance
- School (Kitchen): Code Compliance/Health & Safety Repairs
- School (Common Areas): Code Compliance/Health & Safety Repairs
- All Facilities: Upgrades to Comply with Insurance Company Inspection
- Contingency Fund & Ministry Development.

For tithe figures, from September to October we took in \$77,831, that is \$13,168 short of our budget of \$91,000. Our weekly budget is \$7,000. Again, it's absolutely important that we sustain our tithe because the Capital Campaign funds are for capital repairs.

*Blessings and Peace*

*Fr. Raphael Ezeh, MSP*

# PARISH NEWS



**Parish Pastoral Council:** The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) will meet this Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm in the school building. All members are encouraged to attend this meeting.

**BE "INFORMED" FOR DECEMBER**

We hope you are enjoying the free parish subscription to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) which gives you access to quality Catholic on line programs, movies, audios, and books. Simply register with parish code **YWHDC2** and enjoy. Today is the Third Sunday of Advent. Study: Advent, Session 3: *Watch and Pray* or watch *Christmas in Rome*. Contact Cheryl Duda at 914-476-6676 if you have any questions.

**SOCIAL MINISTRY**

Donated food items should be brought to the church before the Masses on Saturday evening (December 16<sup>th</sup>) or the Sunday morning Masses (December 17<sup>th</sup>). Thank you for your generosity.

**OUR PARISH GIVING TREE****LAST CALL TO TAKE AN ORNAMENT(S) FROM OUR GIVING TREE**

Please take an ornament(s) from the tree in the back of the church. It is important that this ornament, indicating gender and gift specific information, be securely attached to your wrapped package. Please return all wrapped packages to the church, no later than THIS MONDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>. Thank you for your continued support in this very special season of giving.



**The Sharing Community** thanks you for the time and energy that so many of you contribute towards their Soup Kitchen that feeds so many people on a daily basis.



They are now in the midst of planning a festive Community Christmas dinner. The dinner will be at #1 Hudson Street on Christmas Day at 12 Noon. **There are several ways you can assist. See the flyers on the bulletin board at the rear of the church.** Again, they thank you for your ongoing generosity.

**THE OPPORTUNITY FOR CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION) BEFORE CHRISTMAS IS: This Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**

Throughout the Archdiocese of New York, Advent Reconciliation Monday, Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, gives Catholics the opportunity to go to any parish for confession between the hours of 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. However, times for confession at some parishes may vary.



**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH  
WILL HOLD CONFESSIONS FROM 3 P.M. TO  
8 P.M.**

**CHRISTMAS WISH LIST**



The following is left to donate in memory of a loved one.

Advent and Christmas candle set	\$100
1 Christmas wreath	\$115
3 Christmas arrangements	\$ 60

**SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S DAY**

**CHRISTMAS EVE:**

**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> Vigil at 5:00 p.m.**

*(This Mass fulfills your Christmas obligation and does not fulfill Sunday Mass obligation).*

Begins with Carols at 4:40 p.m.

**Midnight Mass**

Begins with Carols at 11:30 p.m.



**CHRISTMAS DAY:**

**Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

*(There will be no 5:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas day)*

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD  
NEW YEAR'S MASSES:**



**Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

*(This Mass fulfills your Holy Day, January 1<sup>st</sup> obligation, and does not fulfill Sunday Mass obligation).*

**Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**

8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

*(There will be no 5:00 p.m. Mass on New Year's day)*

**SPECIAL ADVENT PRAYER**

My little Lord Jesus, I love You and thank You for this Advent season. Please help me to understand all that You have done for me. Your loving mother held You in her heart and brought You into this world. Help me to do the same

My loving Jesus, I choose You, this Advent, as my King and my God. Draw me close to You and help me to see my sins so that I can change the things that You want me to change.

Mother Mary, pray for me this Advent so that I may do all that God wants me to do. You said "Yes" to all that God asked of you. Please pray for me that I may do the same.

Come Lord Jesus!

Come Lord Jesus!

Come Lord Jesus, come!

I love You Jesus.

Amen.



*From My Catholic Life*



**TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING  
Sunday Collection Update**

Amount Needed Weekly	\$7,000.00
Actual Received Last Sunday	\$4,845.95
Balance	- \$2,154.05
*(Envelopes \$4,525.95. Online (\$320.00)	

Amount Needed for Month of December	\$35,000.00
Amount Collected Thus Far	\$10,257.40

The collection on December 3<sup>rd</sup> for Building and Grounds totaled: **\$1,301.30**

The second collection in support of the Retired Religious totaled: **\$1,194.80.**

"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!

**It's time to sign up for on line giving with We Share. Please contact the parish office or take a flyer and sign up sheet at the rear of the church.**



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Marian Fletcher, Ann Lackner, Richard Meyers, Rosalie Heit, Andrea Objay, Audrey Falcone, Louis Brusco, Michael Tomanelli, Ariella Castillo, Gail Chappory, Randolph Castillo, Jr., Deacon Jim Byrne, Gregory Clemens, Mary Bryce, Anna Bonacci, Efrain Arzola, Henry Joseph, Deacon Bob Clemens, Carolyn Cesta, William Bodack, Joseph Mahoney, Mary De Santis, Leticia Agosto, Manuel Obalde, Jr., Gina Obalde, Rosalia Guzman, Ann McGarry, Daniel Pezzola, Brittany Arzola, Ron and Sally Petro, Anthony Guarente, Theresa Venturino, Nicholas Arzola, Angela Lutomski, Richard (Dick) Novak, Cynthia Mascetta King, and Matthew Fitzpatrick.

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

*Rest in Peace* Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed especially Reverend

Monsignor James K. Vaughey, Deacon James Lawlor & Father Andrew Apostoli, CFR.

Our **YOUTH GROUP** meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass, in the school building. All Youth ages 13 and up are invited. Their next meeting is January 7<sup>th</sup>. **Follow our Youth Group on Twitter @St\_Barts-Youth.**

Our newly formed **EDGE GROUP (AGES 11-13)** meets the second Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass in the school building.

Our **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY (AGES 4-10)** meets the third Friday each month at 5:30 p.m. in the school building.

December 17, 2017

Mass  for the  
Intentions Week

**Third Sunday of Advent**

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

5:00 PM Ana Leida Cuevas +

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, December 17 2017**

8:30 AM Ethel Castagnozzi +

10:00 AM Mary Gregorio +

11:30 AM Maddalena & Paul Coniglio, & Ralph Ricciardno+

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**Monday, December 18**

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Anella Aloia +

**Tuesday, December 19**

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Melbourne Shirley +

**Wednesday, December 20**

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Alexandra & Bonifacio Marchetti +

**Thursday, December 21**

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Dilon Garvey (Living)

**Friday, December 22**

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Lucas Vazquez +

**Saturday, December 23**

Advent Weekday

9:00 AM Harold W. Smith III +

\*\*\*\*\*

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Saturday, December 23 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM George Klobosits +

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, December 24 2017**

8:30 AM Robert Liddell +

10:00 AM For All the People of Our Parish

11:30 AM Anna & Anthony Faracco +

5:00 PM Deceased Members of Salerno & Del Bene  
families (**Vigil for Christmas**)

Midnight Mass Catherine Skelly +

(December 25)

