

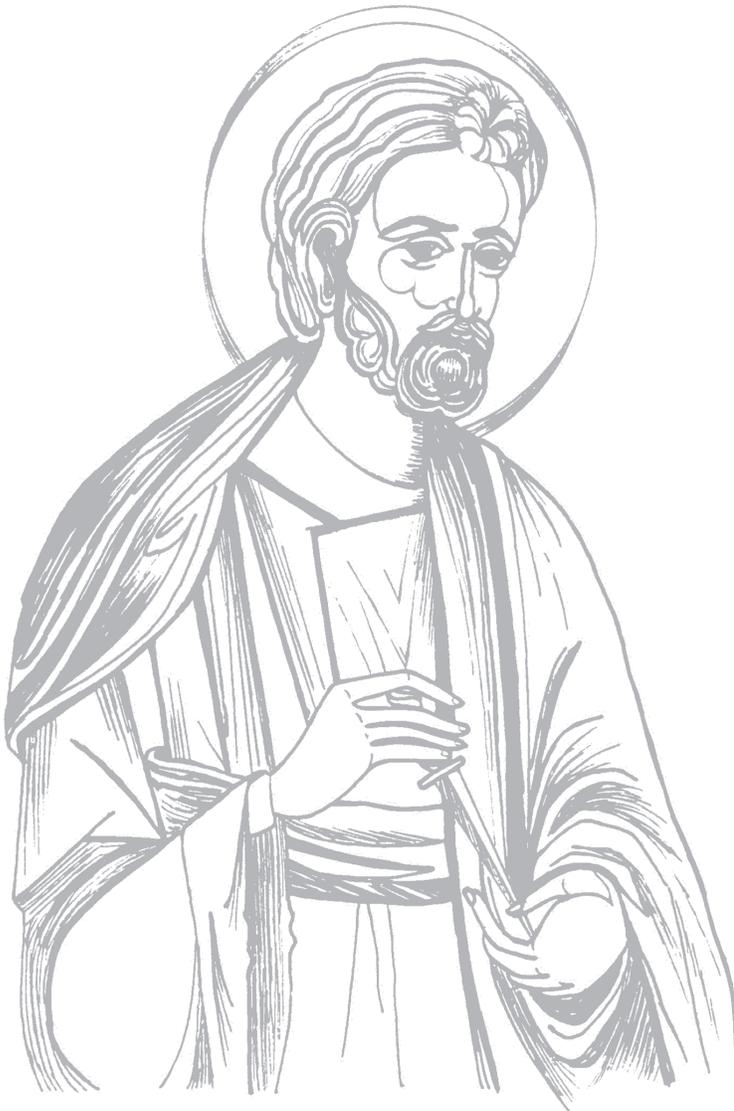
# St. Bartholomew's Church



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15 Palmer Road  
Yonkers • New York 10701

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

## LOST AND FOUND

My trip home had many highlights, generally good ones. However, this Sunday's readings, especially the gospel, reminds me of two sad ones.

First was my luggage, which got lost along the way, thanks to Air France and their partners. The inconvenience of life in the village without my clothes and having to go out and purchase temporary things dampened the joyful atmosphere for me just a little bit. For the rest of the family, especially the kids and visitors, their sadness and frustration were far more because the candies and cookies were not only unavailable but there was also the possibility that they might never arrive or that they might even disappear before they got to the village. So, you could imagine my joy/relief and theirs when the bags finally made it to the house. They were joyous indeed.

On a more serious note, there was a grand niece of mine, 12-years old, who decided to run away from home. Not the first time though. But this time, it was much more serious and dangerous. Before, she'd run to grandma's house close by and join the other kids. This was all in the city. This time, grandma and the family were in the village with me. The niece wanted to be part of the fun but her dad told her no. So, she picked up a few things and disappeared into thin air. Three days later I had to travel to the city and go with her parents to a Radio & TV station to pay and have them announce that she was missing. You could imagine the sorrow, tears, frustration, anger, worry, anxiety, and prayers that poured out for her. All that dampened the celebratory mood in the village and among other family members in the city. Well, she was finally found in police custody. A woman had picked her up and taken her there. This good news changed the mood instantly. There was a huge sigh of relief. The cookies and candies started coming out. There was joy and celebration of just being together and enjoying each other's presence.

I remember the anxiety I saw in my niece's eyes and the muted sobbing. Her husband was trying to be macho, but you could see the fear and anxiety. Gradually, the sad reality that one of us was missing and could be in danger or even dead got to everyone and sadness crept in like the dark of the night. While God is not human, Jesus still presents us with images and stories that show us that as it is with human parents and siblings, it is with God and our loved ones in heaven. When I choose to go astray, due to human weakness or simple stubbornness, God indeed weeps and our Guardian Angel and our beloved angels and saints and family members in heaven look down on us, and not able to stop us directly, they look on in anguish. They wait for us to regain some senses and return home. They pray for us and silently cheer our good efforts to return home.

With these mental pictures, I invite us to consider the many ways we have gone astray and are still going astray. This week, let us meditate on the gospel stories of the lost coin, the lost sheep and the prodigal son. Beyond these stories, let us focus on ourselves and the many ways we have gotten lost and need to return to our Father, especially in this Year of Mercy. Some of us probably never ran away from home and so may feel like we're the good ones. But with God, we have all run away from home; we have all gone astray. We still do today. We will still do so tomorrow. But His mercy always awaits those who have the courage and humility to return.

## MANY THANKS AGAIN:

I want to thank everyone for your prayers and good wishes for a safe trip and fruitful meeting with my family and friends, and for a successful baptism/wedding. Thanks once again for your gifts to me during my 50<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration. May the Lord continue to bless each and every one of you. Amen.

Fr. Raphael Ezech, MSP




*Rest in Peace*

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, especially Joseph Fletcher and Monsignor John J. Mescall.

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



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES BEGAN LAST WEEK

Classes for Religious Education for public school children, running September through June, began on Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>



**It is not too late to register.** Classes are available for children in 1<sup>st</sup> 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 enroll in a religious education program.** Please call (914 476-6676) for more 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.

## MESSAGE FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

Welcome back from your summer break! We hope you bring renewed enthusiasm as we begin this new year of choir rehearsals on **Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> - children beginning at 5:45 p.m.** and the **adult choir at 6:45 p.m.**

We look forward to this wonderful opportunity to express our faith by singing the Lord's praises. Come join us! Welcome back!

~ Erika Podoprigora

**SOCIAL MINISTRY:** Our Food Pantry has an **ongoing need** for canned fruit, juices, pasta sauces canned fish, canned corn, peanut butter, jelly, sugar, rice, paper products such as paper towels, tissues, etc. The food pantry services our community all year long. Thank you for your continuing support!!

**COME, JOIN US!**

**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY**



The Rosary Altar Society, the very first committee formed in St. Bart's, was founded in 1943, for the purpose of promoting devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary among all, but especially among the women of the parish. For 70 years, the Society has played an active role in promoting spiritual growth among its members and the Parish.

The ladies of the Society, apart from cleaning the sacred linens used at Masses, also clean the Altar and Church at Christmas and Easter, and make available items necessary for the Altar and the Sanctuary, thereby, enhancing our liturgical worship.

Members of the Rosary Altar Society gather to worship as a group on the first Sunday of every month (September through June) at the 8:30 a.m. Mass. They meet at 7:30 p.m. on the Monday following the first Sunday to discuss and plan upcoming activities sponsored by the Society, for our Parish. Their meetings are always closed with a prayer before coffee/tea, desserts and fellowship.

The Society is looking for additional members; therefore, we encourage any woman of the parish who is interested in joining this illustrious group of women to call **Liz Mulvaney at 914 403-8844 or the Parish Office at 914 965-0566.**

**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOLY NAME SOCIETY**

The Society of the Holy Name of Jesus was founded in 1945, with the objective of promoting the spiritual welfare of the men of the parish and also promoting greater participation in parish life and cooperation among men of the parish.

For 66 years, the Society has helped by donating material assistance to the needy members of our community. They also organize various social events that often bring the parishioners together as a family.



Members of the Society gather to worship as a group on the second Sunday of every month (September thru June) at the 8:30 a.m. Mass. They meet monthly at 7:30 p.m. on the Monday following the second Sunday to discuss and plan activities for the Society. The meeting always ends with dinner and other social activities. These are men who like to have fun. Come join us!

The Society is looking for additional members. Membership is open to any practicing Catholic man, 18 years or older, who would like to "hang out" with men that will help him feel a sense of belonging in the parish family of St. Bartholomew. For further information contact **Tony Martelli at 914 760-1640 or the Parish Office at 914 965-0566.**

**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S NEW CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

St. Bart's is pleased to announce the creation of its new children's ministry. This ministry is designed to serve children of ages 5-9 in our parish, providing them with a place to have fun, make friends and grow in faith. The children's ministry is holding its first event, an "open gym" on Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30 in McManus Parish Center. At this event, children (ages 5 to 12) can come with their parents and enjoy some fun, age-appropriate activities. We hope to see you there.



Our **YOUTH GROUP** meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass in the school building. **Their next meeting is next Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.** All youths age 13 and up are invited.

**Follow our Youth Group on Twitter @ St\_Barts\_youth.**



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

	9/6/15	9/4/16	Difference
Adults	\$5,374.20	\$5,152.55	- \$221.65
Children	\$ 41.95	\$ 41.50	- \$ .45
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,416.15</b>	<b>\$5,194.05</b>	<b>- \$222.10</b>

**The second collection in support of Building and Grounds totaled \$1,215.**

*"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](http://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 the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially **William Fletcher, Ann Lackner, Richard Meyers, Rosalie Heit, Andrea Objay, Margaret Maccia, Audrey Falcone, Louis Brusco, Charles Wighton, Michael Tomanelli, Ariella Castillo, Gail Chappory, Randolph Castillo, Jr., 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, Ann McGarry, Florence B. Swetz and Giovanna Robinson.**

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

***Please pray for all our young people returning to school. May God grant them success in their studies and a safe school year.***



**A special thanks again to all who volunteered and helped to make our block party on August 27<sup>th</sup> a great success!!**



SEPTEMBER 11, 2016

Mass  for the  
Intentions *for the Week*

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**Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Saturday, September 10 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM Maryann Tolli +

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**Sunday, September 11**

8:30 AM Vincent J. Campisi +  
10:00 AM Frances Nanoia +  
11:30 AM Frank & Carmela Legio +  
5:00 PM Fallen Members of the NYPD

**Monday, September 12**

Weekday

7:00 AM Thomas Gilligan +  
9:00 AM Sofia Shannon & Steven Bellissimo +

**Tuesday, September 13**  
**St. John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor of the Church**

7:00 AM Nicholas Del Guidice +  
9:00 AM Benjamin DeLuccy +

**Wednesday, September 14**  
**Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

7:00 AM Jason & Paola Shannon (living)  
9:00 AM Frank & Angela Nanoia +

**Thursday, September 15**

Our Lady of Sorrows

7:00 AM Bishop Hyacinth & Family (living)  
9:00 AM Antoinette & John Izzo +

**Friday, September 16**

Saints Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

7:00 AM Patrick McCarthy +  
9:00 AM Deceased Members of Joseph Family

**Saturday, September 17**

Weekday

9:00 AM Victoria Shannon (living)

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**Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Saturday, September 17 (Anticipated Mass)**

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

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**Sunday, September 18**

8:30 AM Alice Jacob +  
10:00 AM For All the People of Our Parish  
11:30 AM Thomas & Ita Keane +  
5:00 PM Rafael Vazquez & Luis Mercado +

**Prayers for 9-11**



O God of love, compassion and healing, look on us, people of many different faiths and traditions. We ask You in Your goodness to give eternal light and peace to all who died in NYC on September 11, 2001, the heroic first-responders, our fire fighters, police officers, emergency service workers, and Port Authority personnel, along with all the innocent men and women who were victims of this tragedy.

We ask you, in your compassion to bring healing to those who, because of their presence on that day, suffer from injuries and illness. Heal, too, the pain of still-grieving families and all who lost loved ones in this tragedy. Give them strength to continue their lives with courage and hope.

We are mindful as well of those who suffered death, injury and loss on the same day at the Pentagon and in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Our hearts are one with theirs as our prayer embraces their pain and suffering.

God of peace, bring Your peace to our violent world: peace in the hearts of all men and women and peace among all nations of the earth. Turn to Your way of love those whose hearts and minds are consumed with hatred. God of understanding, overwhelmed by the magnitude of this tragedy, we seek Your light and guidance as we confront such terrible events. Grant that those whose lives were spared may live so that the lives lost on that day may not have been lost in vain.

Comfort and console us, strengthen us in hope, and give us the wisdom and courage to work tirelessly for a world where true peace and love reign among nations and in the hearts of all. Amen

***Pope Benedict XVI, Prayer at the World Trade Center,***

**2008**

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**A Prayer for Unity** (from September 11, 2001)

We pray today that from the ashes will rise a new spirit of beauty and unity in America. Already, all across this nation our hearts have been knit together into a new tapestry of one America. Because of this tragedy, we have been bound together by a silver chord of hope and brotherhood and sisterhood. What was meant to drive us apart has really drawn us together. May we always remember. And so today we ask, God, that you would wipe the tears of all in need of comfort. That you would warm the heart of one who would grow cold from bitterness. That you would lift the head of that one who is bowed down in sadness. That you would touch the discouraged and remind them that love will always conquer hate. We thank you, God, for making us such a resilient people. We know that we are and we pray now for the strength to rise again, to build again, and to live free from fear. We pray that you will help us rebuild our broken lives and mend our broken hearts. We pray that you will give us the courage to face evil and the faith to believe that good will never be defeated. Hold us close to your heart. And through our tears, and through our sorrow, may we all see a new vision of a new tomorrow.

Reverend Wintley Phipps