

# St. Bartholomew's Church



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15 Palmer Road  
Yonkers • New York 10701

[www.saintbartparish.org](http://www.saintbartparish.org)  
Visit us on facebook:  
St. Bartholomew's Yonkers

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



## MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. - Lk 2:21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

*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.

Mother of God & Queen of Peace

Would that we could see the impact of our prayers. Would that we could see our prayers rising up to the heavens like incense. Would that we could see these same prayers returning to us with much needed blessings and solace. But, alas, we don't see such spiritual realities. So, many doubt, while many give up! Yet, many know that our prayers are indeed efficacious. Are you one of those that doubt, or are you one of those who can vouch that prayers are one of the most potent forces on earth?



As we begin this fresh New Year, and as we celebrate this oldest feast of Our Blessed Mother (Mary, Mother of God), and World Day of Peace, I want to invite us to reflect on our prayers and our attitude to prayer, and the role of prayers in bringing peace to our hearts, homes, community, society, and the world. Finally, I want to invite us to reflect on Mary's role in bringing peace upon our troubled hearts and world.



At the birth of Christ, the angels announced to the shepherds that the Messiah was born. An integral part of their message was peace upon earth: "Glory to God in the highest; and on earth peace to men of good will" (Luke 2:14). Sadly, Herod turned that peace into sorrow for many parents when he ordered the slaughter of innocent children.

Before World War I and II raged on, Mary appeared to the three little children at Fatima and requested lots of prayers to avert the wars and future catastrophes, including the salvation of souls in purgatory. She requested that Russia be consecrated to Her Immaculate Heart to avert the spread of further terror and more wars. It did take a while but, the many prayers that rose up to the heavens definitely helped to end the war. And of course, Russia was finally consecrated to Her Immaculate Heart. The country was converted and freedom of religion restored, etc.

There's no world war going on, but many parts of the world are at war. Even when there's no physical war going on, the absence of war does not mean that there's peace anyway. Our country, US, is still reeling from the most contentious election according to some analysts. Division and negativity is still alive in the hearts and souls of many. Our families are not exempt. Neither are our hearts. The Monday after Christmas recorded some brawls in malls in some parts of the country. Some of them started off with some texts inviting people to a fight at these malls. Mind boggling to say the least. The devil is indeed working overtime. So, the peace of Christmas was ruined for many.

Solution? One of the solutions is to have recourse to the Queen of Peace, the Mother of the Prince of Peace. She came to Fatima worried for her children across the globe. She is still concerned today – for you and me; for your family and mine; for our society and our country, and for our world. She wants to see hearts converted to Her Son. She wants to see peace reign in us and among us.

*Blessings and Peace,*

*Fr. Raphael Ezeh, MSP*

PARISH NEWS



The members of the ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY and HOLY NAME SOCIETY will attend the 8:30 a.m. Mass next Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>.



HOLY NAME SOCIETY



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

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed especially Lorraine Vivian, Avelino Frago and Omar Vega.



Religious Education helps to build a strong foundation

A reminder that Religious Education classes will resume this Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

OUR MONTHLY FAMILY MASS will be celebrated next Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. The Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. All children and their families are encouraged to attend. Mass will be followed by "Family Breakfast" at the McManus Parish Center. All are welcome!



Father Raphael, Father Anthony and Staff wish you a very Happy New Year and many blessings in the year ahead. The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.



A special thanks from Rich Scardino for the "Giving Tree" Christmas presents that were donated. 400 gifts were collected and the recipients were extremely grateful. Thanks to all who continue to support our social ministry group and the needy within and outside of our parish family.



A special thanks to all who helped and all who were present for the St. Bart's Christmas Luncheon, December 17<sup>th</sup>. It was a wonderful gathering that was enjoyed by all.



A special thanks to all who worked so hard to present a wonderful Nativity Play: Father Raphael, Elvis Valdez, all the cast and those also who worked behind the scenes.

## SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD



**SHARING COMMUNITY MEAL:** This Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, we will be providing our Sharing Community Meal. Please bring your ziti or dessert to the Rectory. Doors will open at 6:45 a.m. The Sharing Community truly appreciates our efforts. Please keep up the good work! For information, please call the Parish Office.

### CALLING ALL SENIORS! CALLING ALL SENIORS!

Join fellow seniors for a Mass and Gathering  
Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>



9 a.m. Mass with a Special Blessing, followed by light refreshments and gathering at the McManus Parish Center.



**HOLY HOUR:** This Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, is First Friday. We will have our monthly Holy Hour at 1 p.m. On Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, the Divine Mercy Holy Hour will begin at 3 p.m. All are invited to spare an hour and come to adore Jesus Christ Who is truly present in the Holy Eucharist.

*Welcome*

Our warmest welcome to our visitors. We are glad you came to celebrate the Eucharist with us today. If you looking for a "church home," please consider our faith community. Speak with any of the hospitality ministers after Mass or call the parish office.

And of course welcome to each and every parishioner. Thank you so much for all you do for St. Bart's all year round. We remember our Sick and Homebound; you are always in our thoughts and prayers. May the Lord grant you healing and peace.



### St. Bart's Angels Bake Sale

Sunday, January 8, 2017 after all Masses

If you can donate baked goods, it would be greatly appreciated. Call the Parish Office. All proceeds go to Relay for Life.



Heavenly Father,

In this time of new beginnings,

We recall how the heavens celebrated the birth of Christ.

We think back to the new kingdom He proclaimed,  
And remember the new life we gained in our baptism.

In this time of new beginnings,

And at the beginning of this New Year,

May we always act as good examples

Of the new life in You that all Christians have

And be the same for others.

Give us the joy that is ours

As adopted members of God's family. Amen.

### 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

	12/27/15	12/25/16	Difference
Adults	\$5,281.85	\$5,666.30	+\$ 384.45
,Children	\$ 141.90	\$ 88.50	-\$ 53.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,423.75</b>	<b>\$5,754.80</b>	<b>+\$ 331.05</b>

The Christmas collection totaled \$13,682.85

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.paritypay.com](http://www.paritypay.com) or contact the Parish Office. So far, we have 8 families that have signed up.



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Marian 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, Henry Joseph, Deacon Bob Clemens, Carolyn Cesta, William Bodack, Joseph Mahoney, Mary De Santis, Leticia Agosto, Manuel Obalde, Jr., Rosalia Guzman, Ann McGarry, Florence B. Swetz, Daniel Pezzola and Benjamin Pelliccio.

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

**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.

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, January 8<sup>th</sup>. All youths age 13 and up are invited.

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

**JANUARY 1, 2017**

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*Mass*  *for the*  
*Intentions* *Week*

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God  
Saturday, December 31 (Vigil Mass)**

5:00 PM Victor D'Angelo +

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**Sunday, January 1**

8:30 AM Maria Loreta & Luigi Lucchetti +

10:00 AM John J. Esposito, Sr. +

11:30 AM Vincent J. Campisi +

**Monday, January 2**

**Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops &  
Doctors of the Church**

7:00 AM Deceased Ancestors

9:00 AM Gene Martin +

**Tuesday, January 3**

**Christmas Weekday**

7:00 AM Needy Soul+

9:00 AM Frank Nanoia +

**Wednesday, January 4**

**Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious**

7:00 AM John Bryce +

9:00 AM Deceased Members of the Sullivan Family

**Thursday, January 5**

**Saint John Neumann, Bishop**

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Jerry Scarpati +

**Friday, January 6**

**Christmas Weekday**

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Anthony Citro +

**Saturday, January 7**

**Christmas Weekday**

9:00 AM Joseph S. Forlini +

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**The Epiphany of the Lord  
Saturday, January 7 (Vigil Mass)**

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

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**Sunday, January 8**

8:30 AM Deceased Members of the Holy Name Society

10:00 AM Dennis Madonia +

11:30 AM Ernest & Irene Russo & Mary Evans +

5:00 PM Pasquale Treere +

## **WELCOME TO OUR PARISH FAMILY**

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 at (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:

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Address:

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City/Zip:

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Telephone:

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Comment:

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- ◇ I am a visitor.
- ◇ 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.

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### **NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS**

Most of us will make a New Year's resolution as we begin 2017. Statistics show that most of us will not live out our resolution beyond the first few weeks of the year. We have to ask ourselves if we were reasonable in what we promised to do, or if we were really all that committed to the resolution to start with! Perhaps this year, our goal should be realistic, have lasting impact on our lives, and the lives of those with whom we interact. Maybe this is the year we should focus on living and growing in faith. Faith is a gift from God, offered to each of us. Faith, too, requires an openness to the One who knows and loves us more than we know ourselves. Perhaps our resolution this year might be just this simple: let us promise to be open to Jesus. This is a resolution worth keeping!" I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unflinchingly each day."