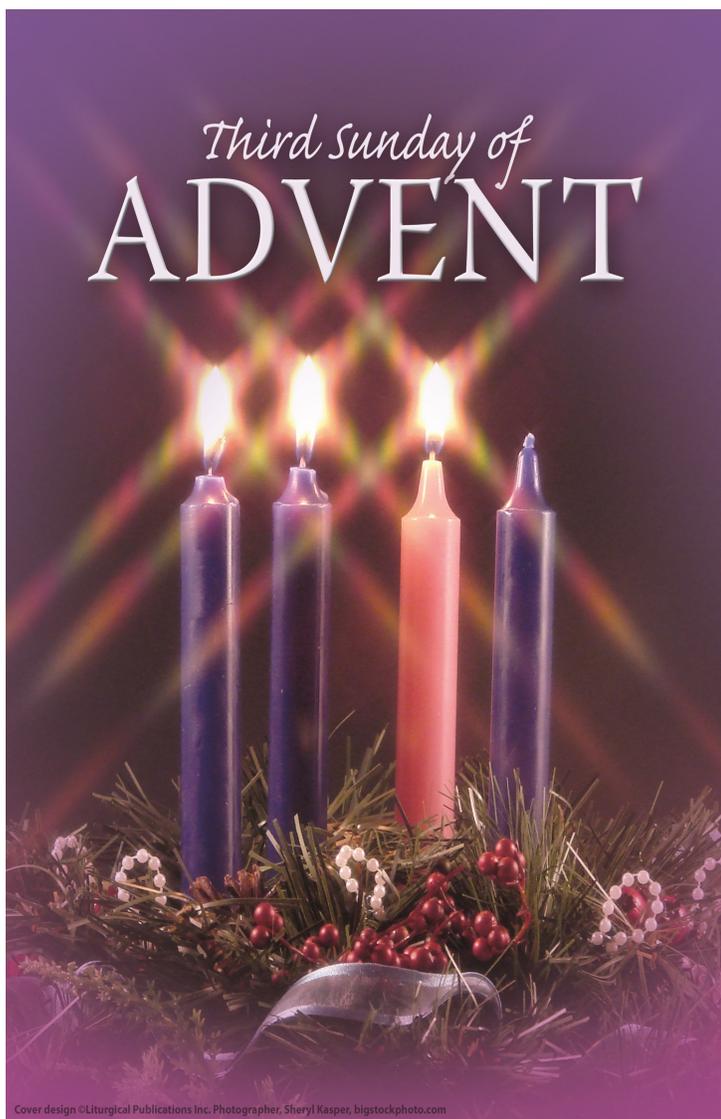


Saint Bartholomew's Church

15 Palmer Road
Yonkers • New York 10701
stbartschurch@aol.com
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 Ezech, 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

GOD IN OUR MIDST

John the Baptist's responses to the crowd ("Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise.") recall Matthew's story of the Last Judgment ("I was hungry and you gave me food...naked and you clothed me" [Luke 3:11, Matthew 25:35-36]). Notice that Jesus takes it one step further. Now it is not just a random person, but Jesus specifically, whom we are helping in our plenty. But it was John who laid the groundwork. It was John who was asked three times, "What should we do?" It was John who told them, even before Christ began His mission, how to act like a Christian.

Speaking of the Last Judgment, John's image of the wheat and the chaff is a sobering one. The wheat will be gathered in the barn, "but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire" (Luke 3:17). The wheat is valuable. Once it is ground or milled, it can nourish us. It contains the seed, so that it can be planted and grown. It can be shared with others. The chaff cannot be grown or eaten or shared. Once removed from the grain, it is virtually of no use. John calls us to nourish, to grow, and to share, like the grain that has fed the world for thousands of years.

"Shout for joy, cry out with joy," "Rejoice in the Lord always" (Zephaniah 3:14, Isaiah 12:6, Philippians 4:4). The readings and the psalm response each begin with exultation. No wonder this Sunday is referred to as Gaudete Sunday. The reason for joy is simple: "God is in your midst; among you is the great and Holy One; The Lord is near (Zephaniah 3:17, Isaiah 12:6, Philippians 4:5). Rejoice always, indeed.

"Sing and shout for joy, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel"
Isaiah 12:2

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

Knowing that God is in our midst, how can I answer the question from the Gospel: "What should I do?"

Blessings!!

Fr. Raphael Ezech, MSP

PARISH NEWS



Parish Pastoral Council: The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) will meet this Monday, December 17th, at 7:00 pm in the school building. The meeting will be brief. All members are encouraged to attend this meeting.

THE OPPORTUNITY FOR CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION) BEFORE CHRISTMAS IS: MONDAY, DECEMBER 17th

Throughout the Archdiocese of New York, Advent Reconciliation Monday, Monday, December 17th, 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. ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 17TH.

CHRISTMAS WISH LIST



2 Christmas arrangements (\$60 each) are left to be donated in memory of loved ones. Also we are in need of chasubles and albs. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested at 914 965-0566.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE NATIVITY PLAY

Come and see your fellow parishioners perform the Nativity Play
THIS Sunday, December 16th at 2 p.m. and THIS Tuesday, December 18th at 6:30 p.m.



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



In keeping with the true spirit of Christmas, we have the opportunity to share our resources with several charities who serve the disadvantaged, both adults and children (Immaculate Conception's Needy Families, Richmond Hill, Westchester Living Center, and the Central Committee of Veterans Org.) 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 17th in the morning, no later than 10 a.m.. Thank you for your continued support in this very special season of giving.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PLEASE NOTE A CHANGE IN MASS TIME ON CHRISTMAS EVE



MONDAY, DECEMBER 24TH. THE 5 PM VIGIL MASS IS CHANGED TO 4 P.M. CAROLS WILL



BEGIN AT 3:30 PM PRIOR TO MASS.

Our SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE is having a special food drive to provide Christmas baskets to some less



fortunate brothers and sisters. What we need to complete this year's baskets are: candy, cookies, juices, some turkeys, hams and desserts. These food items should be brought to the church before the Masses this Saturday evening (December 15th) or this Sunday morning Masses (December 16th). Call the parish office if you are donating a turkey or ham for the best time for drop off. Thank you for your generosity

Father is looking for IT, Help Desk Support and also a Plumber. If you have expertise in either area, please contact the Parish Office.



ANYONE WHOSE CHILD WAS BAPTIZED THIS YEAR AND HAS NOT RECEIVED THEIR BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE, PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE.



Our YOUTH GROUP meets on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass in the school building.. The Youth Group will not be meeting next Sunday, December 16th. Their next meeting is Sunday, January 6th. Follow our Youth Group on Twitter @ St_Barts-Youth.

Our EDGE GROUP (AGES 11-13) meets the second Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass in the school building. Their next meeting is Sunday, January 13th.

Our CHILDREN'S MINISTRY (AGES 4-10) meets the third Friday each month at 6:30 p.m. in the school building. Their next meeting is this Friday, December 21st.

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.



TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING Sunday Collection Update

Table with 2 columns: Amount Needed Weekly (\$7,000.00), Actual Received Last Sunday (\$6,855.25), Balance (- \$ 144.75), *(Envelopes \$6,249.25, Online \$606)

Table with 2 columns: Amount Needed for Month of December (\$35,000.00), Amount Collected Thus Far (\$12,559.80)

The Second Collection in support of the Retired Religious totaled: \$1,060.65

"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 fill out the cards at the rear of the Church.



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Marian Fletcher, Ann Lackner, Audrey Falcone, Louis Brusco, Gail Chappory, Anna Bonacci, Deacon Bob Clemens, Mary De Santis, Gina Obalde, Ron and Sally Petro, Theresa Venturino, Angela Lutomski, Richard (Dick) Novak, Larry Vandak, Harold Sullivan, Clare Yaskovic, Manuel Obalde, Jr. and Anthony Spinner.

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

SIGN UP FOR ONLINE GIVING EASY LINK FROM THE PARISH WEBSITE



You can set up separate one time or recurring donations for the different collections (regular weekly, snow removal, Christmas, etc.) or you may wish to begin with the regular collections, try it out and when you are comfortable, you can sign up for the others. Also, know if you set up for recurring donations, you are in full control and can always change or cancel at any time. And by donating in this manner you may get the added benefit of accumulating additional points or cash on your credit card while at the same time helping out the parish. So, give it a try and sign up today!!!! Go to: www.saintbartsparish.org and click on the We Share online giving link. (WE SHARE HAS REPLACED PARISH PAY).

December 16, 2018

Mass  *for the*
Intentions *Week*

Saturday, December 15 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Albert Popot +

Sunday, December 16, 2018

Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM Ethel Castagnozzi +

10:00 AM For All the People of Our Parish

11:30 AM Maddalena & Paul Coniglio +

5:00 PM Rosalie Chimenti +

Monday, December 17

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Marietta & Vincenzo De Santis +

Tuesday, December 18

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Joseph Mahoney +

Wednesday, December 19

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Victoria Kurak +

Thursday, December 20

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM James Mullin +

9:00 AM Dilon Garvey (Living)

Friday, December 21

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Lucas Vazquez +

Saturday, December 22

Late Advent Weekday

9:00 AM Douglas Abbott +

Saturday, December 22 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM George Klobosits +

Sunday, December 23, 2018

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM Robert Liddell +

10:00 AM Alexandra & Bonifacio Marchetti +

11:30 AM Emily & Peter Domanska (Living)

5:00 PM Rafael & Edwin Rivera +

December 16, 2018

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

CHRISTMAS EVE:
Monday, December 24th



VIGIL AT 4 P.M. (not 5 p.m.)
Begins with Carols at 3:30 p.m.

MIDNIGHT MASS
Begins with Carols at 11:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY:

Tuesday, December 25th

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:**

Monday, December 31st
5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Tuesday, January 1st
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)*



PRAYER FOR ADVENT

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

