

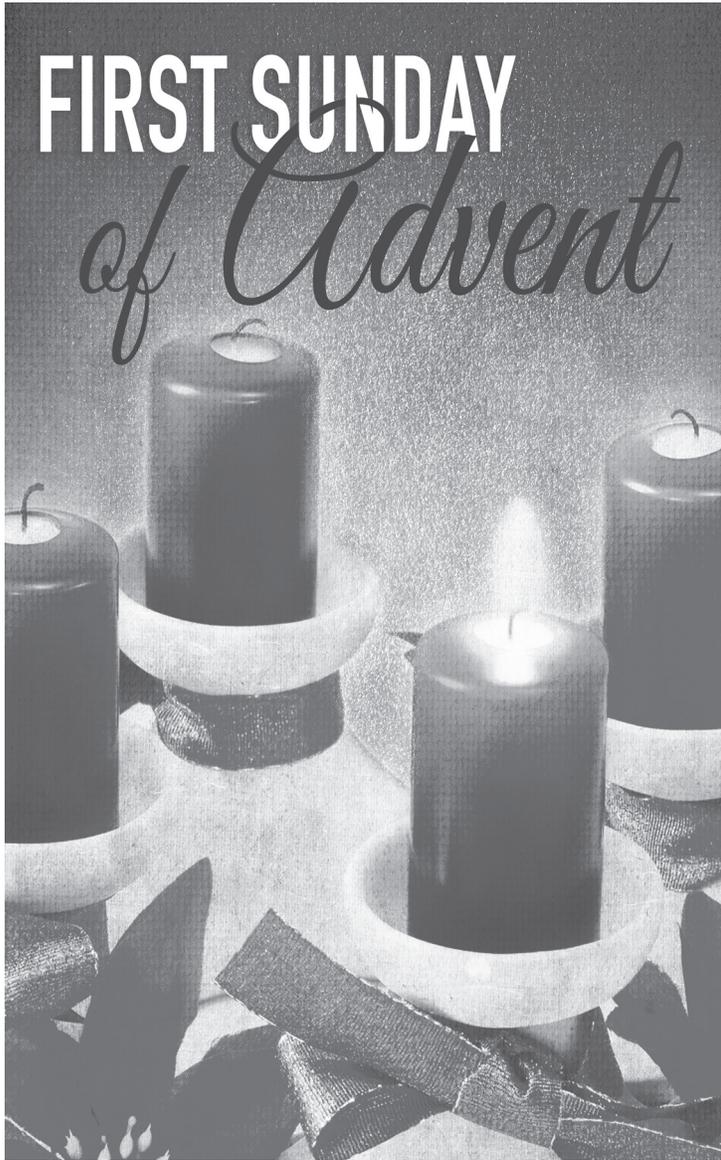
St. Bartholomew's Church



Scan this code with your
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15 Palmer Road
Yonkers • New York 10701

www.saintbartsparish.org
Visit us on facebook:



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

A SPIRITUAL WAKE UP CALL

The human body cannot be deceived. When it is tired, it is tired. When it needs sleep, it needs sleep. When it's sick, it's sick. The other day I was almost falling asleep while standing. I think of the many morningS I wake up and really FEEL like going back to bed. I know I'm not alone in this. I invite you to stop for a moment and think of those minutes between wakeup time and when you're fully awake and ready to face the day, probably after a refreshing bath or a cup of coffee, whichever one does the magic for you.

St. Paul's words in the second reading today (Romans 13:11-14) invite us to wake up from our life sleep, for our salvation is nearer than we think. A friend of mine posted on his Facebook that he's +1 year today (past Sunday). Many of us who would like to remain ever young may want to write -1 instead of +1, but the reality is that each +1 brings us closer to that day we always fear. Each day brings us closer to our salvation. So, Paul tells us to wake up from our half-sleep-half-awake mode.



Advent is a beautiful opportunity to do so. It takes on an added meaning for us as we gradually get into our St. Bart's Year of Evangelization. Part of the message is still to **learn, live and share**. As I mentioned the last two Sundays, we need a change of mindset and attitude towards God, our faith and our salvation.

For some reason, we all seem to believe we know all we need to know about God and our faith. Some sincerely and humbly acknowledge they don't know enough. I think it's pride to presume that we know enough, especially when we lack in the knowledge of our faith and our knowledge of God. This Advent may be a wonderful time to work on this mindset and realize there's still a lot to learn and to know.

This is enormously important since it trickles down and affects our response or approach to many aspects of our faith. It sure affects how we **live** our faith. Granted that knowing does not equal doing. But at least, we know. I invite us to begin a good old self-examination: how much do you really know about God? About Jesus? About the Holy Spirit? About Mary? About YOUR church, the Catholic Church? Often, we confuse our teachings with other churches'. How much do we know about the things we Catholics do and don't do? About what we believe and don't believe?

These surely affect how we **share** our faith. So, St. Paul invites us to wake up. Jesus reminds us of our individual responsibility for how we learn, live and share our faith. When the time comes, no one (no husband, no children, no siblings, no friends, no church member, etc.) will be there to help you or me explain why we fell short of what's expected of us.

Next Sunday, we'll look into how what we learn/know helps us to share our faith.

Blessings and peace.

-Fr. Raphael Ezeh. MSP

PARISH NEWS



Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, especially Beatrice J. Cataneo and Minerva Hernandez.

The **ALTAR BREAD & WINE, ALTAR CANDLES,** and **SANCTUARY LAMP** for this week have been donated in loving memory of Michael Chen by Josephine Smith.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

It is not too late to register. Classes are available for children in 1st 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.

MASS OF HEALING



This Wednesday evening, November 30th, there will be a Mass of Healing at the Church at 7 p.m. with a special anointing. All are welcome especially those in need of healing of mind, body and spirit.

ST. BART'S SHARING COMMUNITY MEAL: This Thursday, December 1st, we will be preparing our Sharing Community Meal. Please bring your ziti or dessert to the Rectory. The door 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



Thursday, December 1st

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

ADORATION & HOLY HOUR:

This Friday, December 2nd, is First Friday. We will have our Friday Adoration, beginning at 9:30 a.m., ending at 7 p.m. Our monthly Friday Holy Hour will be held at 1 p.m. This Saturday, December 3rd, the Divine Mercy Holy Hour will begin at 3 p.m. As we prepare for the coming of our Savior, all are invited to spare an hour and come to adore Jesus Christ Who is truly present in the Holy Eucharist.



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

OUR FAMILY MASS: Next Sunday, December 4th, we will celebrate our Family Mass 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.

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY: The ladies of the Rosary Altar Society will attend the 8:30 a.m. Mass next Sunday, December 4th.

The women of the parish are invited to join the members of the Rosary Altar Society on **Monday, December 5th** for their **Christmas Dinner** at Fogarty's in Bronxville at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$25 per person and a wrapped gift which will be sent to Rosary Hill Hospice Care. Reservations are required by Tuesday, November 29th. Please call Josephine at 914 476-5386 or Liz at 914 403-8844. Payment marked RAS Dinner can be dropped in the collection basket or brought to the Parish Office.

Please
Join Us

The **Rosary Altar Society** will be selling "Keep Christ in Christmas" car magnets for \$5.00 over the next few weeks. Look for them and please support their efforts.

Christmas Vendor Fair at St. Bart's Saturday, December 10th, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Toys, Jewelry, Shoes, Clothing, Home Furnishings,
Electronics, Custom Items and More

Coffee and Lunch Served

VENDORS WELCOME

Call the Parish Office or register on line at
www.2016Christmasfair.eventbrite.com



Annual Christmas Luncheon

Saturday, December 17th McManus Parish Center

All are welcome

See the flyer in next week's bulletin for more details.

Join us as we celebrate this holy season together.



Our **YOUTH GROUP** meets on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass, in the school building. All youths age 13 and up are invited.



Follow our Youth Group on Twitter @ St_Barts_youth.

A special thank you to Stew Leonard's, and to Shoprite, for their donation of turkeys to St. Bartholomew's for our annual Thanksgiving baskets given to some of our less fortunate brothers and sisters.



Thank you also to all who donated to our food pantry now and throughout the year. Many blessings to all!!

The **Knights of Columbus** will be selling "Keep Christ in Christmas" "Lawn Signs" the weekend of December 10th and 11th.



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

	11/22/15	11/20/16	Difference
Adults	\$5,282.50	\$6,314.70	+ \$1,032.20
Children	\$ 215.00	\$ 176.25	- \$ 38.75
Total	\$5,497.50	\$6,490.95	+ \$ 993.45

The collection in support of Human Development totaled \$1,198.90

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.parihsppay.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, Giovanna Robinson and Daniel Pezzola.

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

OUR PARISH 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 packages to the church by **Wednesday, December 14th**. Thank you for your continued support in this very special season of giving.

RE: 2016 CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

I sincerely thank you for your generous donations toward past Christmas wish lists. Our traditional Christmas wreaths can be donated in memory of loved ones, **4 Christmas wreaths at \$115 each and also the Advent and Christmas Candle set at \$100.**

NOVEMBER 27, 2016

*Mass for the
Intentions  for the
Week*

First Sunday of Advent

Saturday, November 26 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Frank G. Nanoia +

Sunday, November 27

8:30 AM Robert Liddell +
10:00 AM Bernard Mistal +
11: 30 AM Carrie D'Angelo +
5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

Monday, November 28

Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Joseph & Maria Ngo +
9:00 AM Michael Chen +

Tuesday, November 29

Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Robert and Pasqual Capuano +
9:00 AM Leonard & Mary Cappuccilli (Living)

Wednesday, November 30

Saint Andrew, Apostle

7:00 AM Unborn Babys Souls +
9:00 AM Frances & Daniel De Rosa +

Thursday, December 1

Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Dina Legio +
9:00 AM Raymond Shannon, Sr. +

Friday, December 2

Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Kenneth F. Moore +
9:00 AM Edythe Lutomski +

Saturday, December 3

Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

9:00 AM Rev. Lamont Hamilton & Msgr. Vincent Case +

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 3 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

Sunday, December 4

8:30 AM Elizabeth & Carl Laredo +
10:00 AM Joseph Prior +
11: 30 AM Josephine Giuriceo +
5:00 PM Chris Amendola +

NOVEMBER 27, 2016

ADVENT IS UPON US - AGAIN!

**HOW CHRISTIANS SHOULD CELEBRATE ADVENT &
CHRISTMAS**

By John Feister



Did you ever notice that dessert is the first dish in line at many buffet restaurants? Yes you could eat dinner backwards - starting with dessert, then moving on to the appetizer and main course. In the end you eat all of the food, but it's nowhere near as fulfilling as enjoying each part of the meal in its proper place. Or worse, dessert could fill you up before you eat a balanced meal.

Sometimes we suffer the same temptation with Christmas. Our culture tends to skip Advent and start celebrating Christmas after Thanksgiving - if we're lucky enough to make it that far! Then it's all packed up and stored away by New Year's. This year, consider returning to the ancient practice of seeing the whole Christmas "cycle" - the period that embraces both the Advent and Christmas seasons - as one unit of joyous celebration. Preparation comes first, then comes the celebration extending a few weeks after Christmas Day.

The focal point of the Christmas cycle is obvious: God becoming one of us in Jesus, the Incarnation. All three phases of the cycle - Advent, Christmas and Epiphany - hinge on and celebrate that point. These celebrations help us to name the ways our lives are caught up in the "big story" of Christ. And these feasts tie our lives to Christians throughout history. The tradition of the Church, the living gospel, is the real-life experience of Christians like you and like me, and those who have gone before us.

During Advent, which begins in 2016 on November 27th, we emphasize the joy that some would compare to the months before a child is born: excitement, wonder, joy, expectation, even exhilaration at the life that is in our midst right now, yet also a hope and longing, and a carefulness to get things into order.

During the Christmas season we celebrate the wonder of the Incarnation. How wondrously we are made that the Word of God would become one of us!! God shows us how to live fully: by pouring out our lives for others. That is what the days of Christmas are all about.

Epiphany and the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord celebrate Christ becoming manifest - that is, present - to all peoples. On Epiphany, we focus on the three Wise Men symbolizing the many races for whom Christ was born. The baptism of Jesus marks the beginning of His public ministry. God's "Christmas gift" of the Incarnation is a gift for everyone.

LOCAL EVENTS

**Saint Joseph's Seminary Schola Cantorum
Advent and Christmas Concert**

The Schola will be performing 2 of their concerts at St. Patrick's Cathedral on December 3rd at 7 p.m. and St. Joseph's Seminary on December 4th at 4 p.m. with a reception after. His Eminence Cardinal Timothy Dolan will be attending the December 4th concert.

Tickets are \$25 general admission and Reserved VIP seating for \$50.00.

Visit www.Dunwoodiemusic.org for more information.

Xavier Society for the Blind

Mass in honor of St. Lucy at St. Patrick's Cathedral

Tuesday, December 13th at 6:30 p.m.

Please call 212 473-7800 for more information.