

St. Bartholomew's Church



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15 Palmer Road
Yonkers • New York 10701

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.

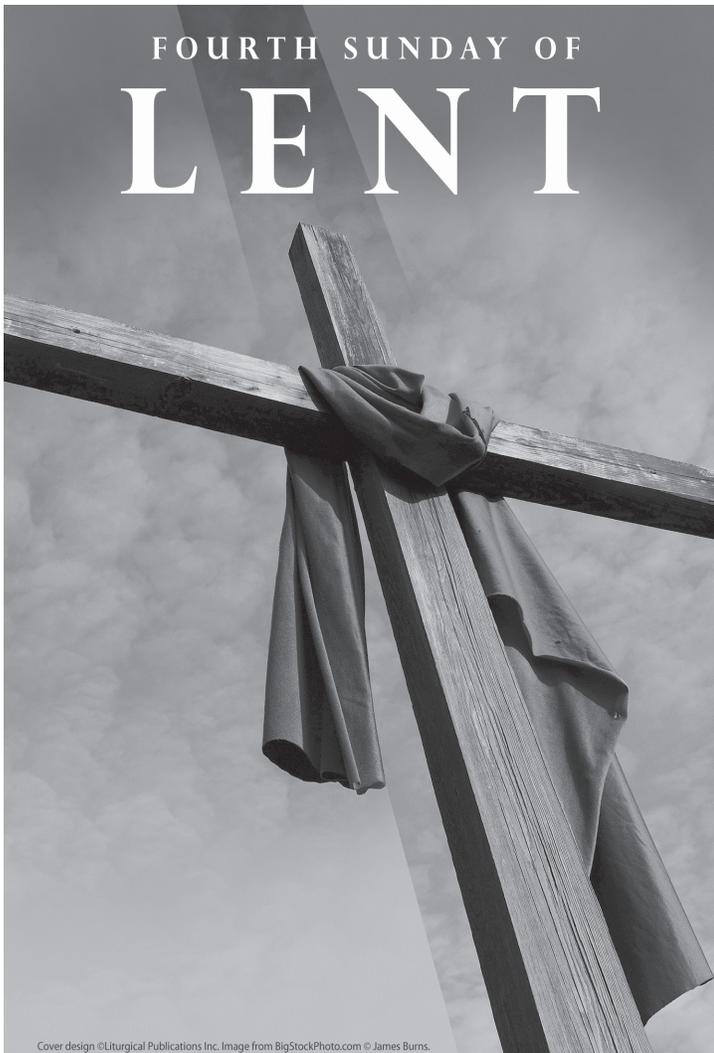
Parish Council: Meets on the Monday evening after the third Sunday of the month.

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



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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.

RIGHT TO BEAR GRUDGES



Pick your battles. Pick your grudges. I have constantly observed how often we, knowingly or unknowingly, behave as though we have a right to bear grudges – even other's grudges. I remember one instance back home in Nigeria. A man had treated his wife so badly, inflicting deep emotional pain on her life and marriage and the entire family, leading to separation. She was hurting so badly, that her brother who had always been very protective of her and their whole family was hurting with her. All they told me about this man was how terrible he was and the need to help their sister secure a divorce. Through prayers and some hard work, one day she was ready to welcome the husband back into her life and the family. Your guess is as good as mine. Imagine another scenario. Your friend or sibling's son or daughter has caused them grave hurt and finally they sent them out of their house. Then one day, they welcomed the son or daughter back into the family. How would you feel about the situation? If you have no problem with the situation, then you're truly practicing your faith.

This Sunday we have the story of the Prodigal Son (John 9:1-49). As always, it presents us with numerous lessons. I want to invite us to reflect on this from the perspective of the elder brother, precisely from the perspective of bearing grudges – grudges that don't really belong to us.

In the two examples above, those who were involved forgave the source of heartache and went beyond that to receive them back into their lives and family, to the shock and dismay of their friends and family members. *"That's ridiculous. They did all that to you and you are letting them back into your heart, your life and your family?"*

Imagine the father in the gospel asking for the elder brother's opinion to accept junior back or not? Worst still, if you were a friend to any of the victims in the stories above, imagine them asking you to help them let the offender back ... would you? Imagine the father in today's gospel asking the elder brother to go and look for his brother in a far off land. If you were the elder brother, would you go? Our answer would probably be, "Nope. I won't be part of that nonsense. You (father) are way too forgiving and naïve. You let him take advantage of your goodness."

Well, the part of us that thinks so is that part that is so selfish it considers every action from the perspective of how it affects us or from our skewed perspective. The father in the gospel would most probably respond: "Won't you just be happy for me and for junior?" The same with the victims in the stories above.

As we continue our Lenten journey in this Jubilee Year of Mercy, may we be agents and catalysts of mercy. May we not only seek to forgive those we need to forgive but also seek to encourage those who need to forgive someone in their lives, to do so. May we give up our 'rights' to bear grudges on behalf of loved ones, no matter how much we love them and free them to be able to forgive anyone who has deeply hurt them. May we simply be happy with and for them when they decide to do so.

~ Reverend Raphael Ezech, MSP


PARISH NEWS



Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, especially Reverend Edmund P. Connors

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday evening during Lent, we have the devotion of the Stations of the Cross in the Church at 7 p.m. (On Good Friday, Stations will be at 2 p.m. just prior to the 3 p.m. Good Friday Service). It is a Lenten tradition. Families are encouraged to participate together in preparation for Easter.

CHRISM MASS: Mass of Chrism will be celebrated this year on **Tuesday, March 22nd**, at 4 p.m. at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Every parishioner is encouraged to attend this beautiful ceremony, where we celebrate with the Archbishop of our Archdiocese and witness our priests renew their vow to serve God's people with the humility of a good shepherd. **Please come support our own parish priests.** The cost for transportation down to St. Patrick's and back is \$25 plus tip. Please call the Parish Office to make a reservation. Bus fee must be received no later than Tuesday, March 15th.

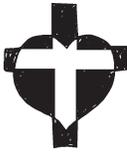
Calling all Catholic teachers who teach in public schools. There is an annual Mass and Communion Breakfast at the Riverview in Hastings, NY on April 2nd from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Reverend. Brian McWeeney will be the guest speaker. **Please register online at www.nyfaithformation.org by March 10th.** For further information, please contact Cheryl Duda at 914-476-6676.

AN AUTHOR IN OUR MIDST....

Fr. Anthony Mbanefo wrote two books which are very profound meditations on Christian life and human suffering in the light of the suffering and death of Jesus Christ. The books are wonderful companions for Catholics who want to grow in intimacy with Jesus especially those who want to make a fruitful Lenten journey and a rewarding Holy Week celebration. The first one is **THE SEVEN WORDS ON THE CROSS** which is \$10. The second one is **THE WISDOM OF THE CROSS** which is \$15. You can get them after Mass at the rear of the Church or you can come to the parish office during the week between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



Our **Social Ministry** will be providing Easter Food Baskets to some of our less fortunate brothers and sisters. **The items we are requesting to enhance the holiday spirit of our baskets are candy, fresh / canned fruits or fresh/frozen desserts.** The baskets will be distributed on Tuesday, March 22nd. The food pantry can always use pasta sauces, canned corn, juices and jellies/jams. Thank you for your support.

The **YOUTH GROUP** meets on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass. There is a meeting Sunday, March 6th. All youths age 13 and up are invited.

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.

ST. BART'S UPCOMING EVENTS

Life Line Screening

Friday March 11th McManus Center

*Holy Name Pasta Night in memory of Vincent J. Campisi
Saturday, March 12th*

Sweepstakes Social

Saturday, April 9th

St. Bart's Angels Fundraiser Breakfast

Sunday, April 17th, after the 8:30 and 10 a.m. Masses, more details to follow

PARISH MISSION - Christ Be Our Light

Monday, March 7th to Wednesday, March 9th, 7 p.m.

Mission Preacher: Rev. Charles Coury, CSSR

ALL ARE WELCOME!!!!

Other Local Events

Annunciation—Our Lady of Fatima Parish proudly presents "The Seven Last Words of Christ" by Theodore Dubois. The concert will take place Sunday, March 13th at 3 p.m. at Annunciation Church, 470 Westchester Avenue, Tuckahoe, NY. Call 914 779-7345. Admission is free. All are welcome.

OPEN HOUSE— THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL IN TUCKAHOE

Sunday March 6th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tours are also offered every Tuesday from 9—11 a.m. Call 914 961-3785, ext. 122; Immaculate Conception School is a co-educational, Catholic elementary school offering an exceptional, faith-based education and a nurturing learning environment for all students.



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

	3/1/16	2/28/16	Difference
Adults	\$5,305.15	\$6,432.75	+\$1,127.60
Children	\$ 167.80	\$ 148.50	-\$ 19.30
Total	\$5,472.95	\$6,581.25	+\$1,108.30

Next Sunday, March 13th, we will be taking up a second collection for the Catholic Relief Services. This collection funds six Catholic agencies that work to serve Jesus in the disguise of our suffering brothers and sisters around the world. Please be as generous as possible. See the flyers at the rear of the church.

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 or use the forms at the rear of the church. Thus far, we have 5 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 Pat Troy, Deacon Jim Byrne, Gregory Clemens, Florence McCormack, Mary Bryce, Anna Bonacci and Benjamin Pelliccio.

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

OUR 2016 LENTEN & EASTER WISH LIST

In the spirit of Lent and in anticipation of a joyous Easter feast, our parish families and individuals are invited to assist the parish in purchasing the following liturgical items needed for the Holy Week and Easter ceremonies:

- ◆ **8 bundles of Palms for Palm Sunday at \$60 each**
- ◆ **Easter Paschal Candle at \$400**

Please note that any of the above items can be donated in memory of your loved ones; and will be noted in the bulletin the week after Easter. Thank you for your consideration.

MARCH 6, 2016

Mass  *for the*
Intentions *Week*

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Saturday, March 5 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Carmine Aprea +

Sunday, March 6

8:30 AM Peter Klee +

10:00 AM For All the People of Our Parish

11:30 AM Frank & Carmela Legio +

5:00 PM Jovita Romero & Sofia Vazquez +

Monday, March 7

Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Catherine Moore +

9:00 AM Davide, Angela & Anthony Ponzini +

Tuesday, March 8

Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Rita Bolduc +

9:00 AM Kathleen Casey Paulsen (Living)

Wednesday, March 9

Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Frank Lutomski, Jr. +

9:00 AM Charles Bondi +

Thursday, March 10

Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Rose Fasanella +

9:00 AM Raffaele Falcone +

Friday, March 11

Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Maria Phan Nguyen +

9:00 AM John & Ethel Yaskovic +

Saturday, March 12

Lenten Weekday

9:00 AM Leonard Revellese +

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Saturday, March 12 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Catherine Moore +

Sunday, March 13

8:30 AM Michael Castagnozzi +

10:00 AM Ronald Casali +

11:30 AM For All the People of Our Parish

5:00 PM Juan Rosa, Magdaleno Vazquez & Julio Blanco +

MARCH 6, 2016

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

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 on 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:

Address:

City/Zip:

Telephone:

Comment:

- ◇ 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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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Cabrini of Westchester in Dobbs Ferry is in need of volunteers in a variety of capacities. If you have a few hours to give to this rewarding experience please contact Simone Smith (Director of Human Resources and Volunteers) at 914 693-6800, ext. 571 or Sister Monica or Yvonne at ext. 592.