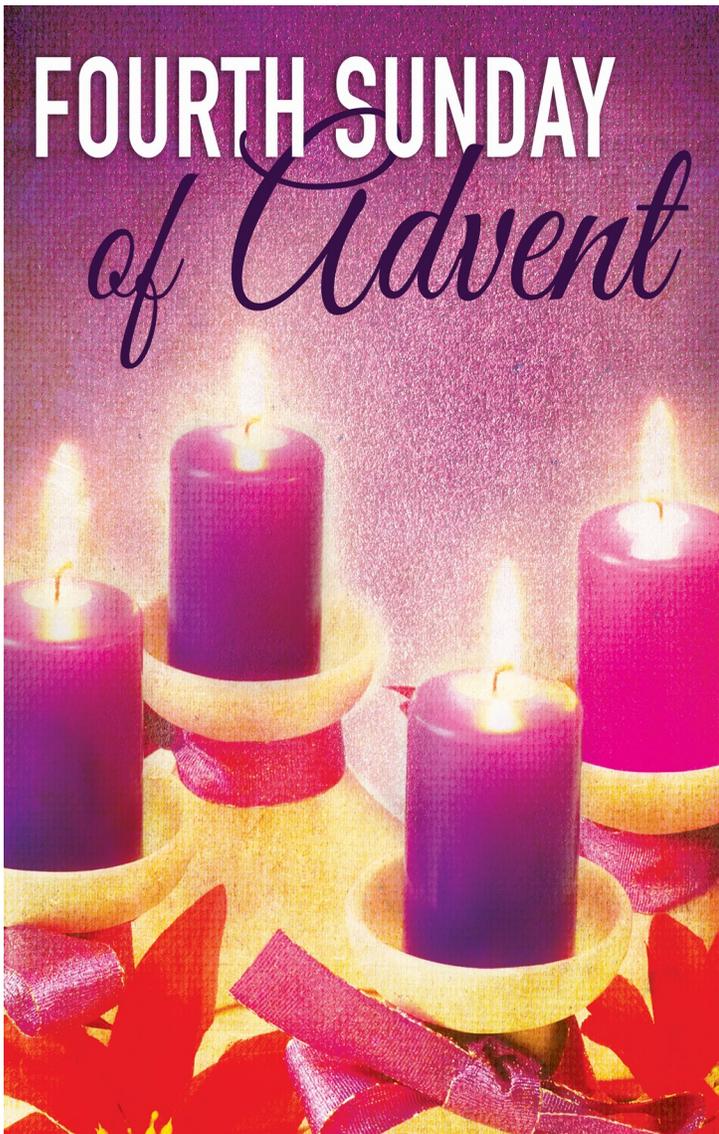


Saint Bartholomew's Church

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 Ezeh, MSP, Pastor
Deacon Robert A. Clemens
Karen Maccia McKenna, Parish Administrative Assistant
Cheryl Duda, Religious Education Coordinator
Erika Podoprigora, Organist and Music Director

Rectory/Parish Office : (914) 965-0566
Religious Education Office: (914) 476-6676

Masses: 5:00 p.m. on Saturday (Vigil);
9:30 (also live streamed) and 11:30 a.m. on Sunday
Weekday Masses: 7:00 a.m. & 9:00 a.m. (also live streamed) Monday
through Friday;
9:00 a.m. Saturday (also live streamed)

Confessions: Saturdays 4:00 to 4:30 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, Joseph Chimenti

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

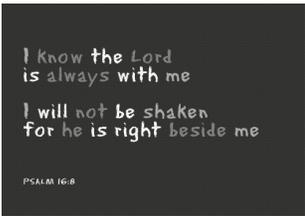
THE LORD IS ALWAYS WITH US

The promises God made are fulfilled in Christ Jesus. God promised David, "I will raise up your heir after you...I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me" (2 Samuel 7:12-14). That promise is fulfilled when the Blessed Virgin Mary betrothed to Joseph of the house of David, accepts her role as a woman who will bear the Son of God. In turn, Jesus fulfills the promise that Paul calls "the mystery kept secret for long ages" (Romans 16:25), the salvation of the whole world. Jesus is the full revelation of God's promise of redemption.



Quite reasonably, Mary questioned the angel Gabriel ("How can this be?") [Luke 1:34] when he first told her the incredible news. But once she learned of her cousin's unlikely pregnancy, she agreed to bear the Son of God. The angel had assured her—and demonstrated to her—that "nothing will be impossible for God" (1:37). Let these six words reassure us when we face those times in our lives when despair and hopelessness seem unavoidable. For the God whose Son was born into this world, who raised Him up from the dead, who offers salvation to the whole of humanity, truly nothing is impossible.

Twice in today's reading we hear the familiar phrase, "The Lord is with you." Nathan says it to David, then Gabriel says it to Mary. Quite clearly, the Lord was with both of them. But not for nothing are we addressed frequently during Mass, "The Lord be with you." The presence of the Lord is within and among us all as we worship God together. When we accept the word of God and commit ourselves to living it out, the Lord is with us as well.



QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

How do I bear witness to my faith? How can the world see that the Lord is with me?

Blessings

Fr. Raphael Ezech, MSP

FOR THE WEEKEND MASSES, THE SATURDAY MASS AT 5 PM AND THE SUNDAY MASS AT 11:30, WILL BE SAID FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH. THIS SUNDAY MASS, DECEMBER 20TH AT 9:30 WILL BE FOR THE FOLLOWING INTENTIONS:

DECEASED:

Mary & Joseph Cuozzo, Robert Liddell
Ethel Castignozzi, Patrick V. Fox, Louis Brusco

CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

- (1) Christmas wreaths 48" (\$125 each)
 - (2) Christmas Wreaths at 36" (\$80 each)
- Poinsettia arrangements (\$60 each) can be donated in memory of loved ones. Also there is a need for Altar banners. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested.



PARISH NEWS

THE HOURS FOR THE PARISH OFFICE ARE AS FOLLOWS: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 AM to 2 PM. The Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday and Thursday.



THE ALTAR BREAD AND WINE, ALTAR SANCTUARY LAMP, AND ALTAR CANDLES are donated in loving memory of Robert Liddell by Joan Liddell.



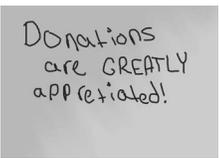
FOOD PANTRY: The food pantry is open. We can use cereal, juice, and tuna.



YOU CAN DROP OFF YOUR FOOD DONATIONS IN THE BOXES AT THE REAR OF THE CHURCH. ****Also, if you would like to make cash donations, you can do so. We use the cash donations to purchase Shoprite gift cards and have already given out some to a few families. St. Bart's has added 4 new families to our list. May God bless you all for your generosity and stay safe.

Donations for our Christmas baskets **should be brought to the church before the Mass on this Saturday evening (December 19th) or before this Sunday morning Masses (December 20th) for distribution the week of December 21st.** Thank you for your generosity

The Religious Education Group and the Outreach Group are collecting winter clothing (coats, boots, sweaters, gloves, scarves, hats, etc.) Now's the time to clean out those cluttered closets!! You can leave your donated clothing near the food boxes at the rear of the church. Clothing will be picked up and distributed to the needy the week of January 6th. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you!!



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OUR DONORS
48" Christmas Wreaths Donated by:

- Quincy Venturino in loving memory of the deceased members of the Venturino & Martucci Families
- Mary Ann & Anthony Cognatello in loving memory of deceased members of the Cognatello and Gregorio families
- Janet Madonia in loving memory of Dennis Madonia



Poinsettia Arrangements Donated by:

- Joanna Pragana in loving memory of Albert Pragana, Mary & Joseph Cuozzo, Lucille and Victor Serricchio & Christine Bellino

THE OPPORTUNITY FOR CONFESSION/SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION BEFORE CHRISTMAS IS:

THIS Monday, December 21st.

Advent Reconciliation Monday, Monday, December 21st, 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 4 P.M. TO 8 P.M. ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 21st. Any changes to this will be noted in the bulletin or on our face book page.



The Pastor, Deacon, and Staff wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year as you celebrate the birth of Christ!! The Parish Office will be closed Thursday, December 24th and Friday, December 25th. Stay safe!!

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24th:

4 PM Vigil with Carols beginning at 3:30 PM

This Mass is also live streamed.

Christmas Day, Friday, December 25th

9:30 AM Mass (also live streamed)

11:30 AM Mass



New Year's Eve, Thursday, December 31st:

4 PM Vigil (also live streamed)

New Year's Day, Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God:

11:30 AM (also live streamed)



May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace especially Doreen Madonia & Joan Tracey.

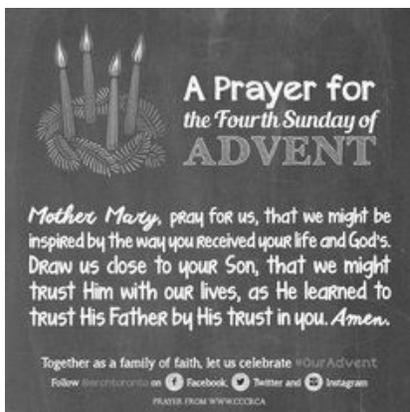
EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Journey

Advent comes along every year and will continue to do so until Jesus returns. As this season draws to a close, we can each ask ourselves, "Am I now any better a disciple of Jesus Christ and more of a steward of all my gifts than before the Advent season started?" I have been on this earth for 40+ years. I have had 40+ Advents to draw closer to God and to work on taking more seriously my baptismal call. Some have gone better than others, but I would like to think my spiritual life progressed at least a small amount during each of them.

Conversion is a process. Stewardship is about a way of living and it is about more than simply being generous when a situation calls for it. Stewardship and conversion go hand-in-hand and we are always moving closer to holiness in Jesus Christ. Living in this way takes practice and commitment. If this Advent didn't go as you had hoped, remember it is not really an end. It is just another step along your journey.

This Christmas, while you are giving and receiving gifts and hopefully spending time with those you love, may you take the time to cherish the true gift that came to us over 2000 years ago and continues to call us to this day: Jesus. Let us be grateful beyond measure for this gift above all gifts, let us continue on our journey, and let our lives give testimony to the one who leads us. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS LPI



TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

"Thank you to all those who are participating in our tithing. Program. **We need your financial support especially at this difficult time.**

PLEASE NOTE THAT AT THIS DIFFICULT TIME, YOU CAN TITHE IN 3 WAYS:

- Mail in your envelope.
- Register for on line giving. **IT'S EASY!** (see below note).
- Drop off your envelope in the large container covered with a red cloth behind the organ. It is marked with a sign.

May God bless and reward your sacrifices! For those who are not yet tithing, I encourage you to please give it a prayerful thought and sign up for on line giving. Thank you!

IT'S EASY TO 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!!!! **IT'S EASY!!! Go to: www.saintbartsparish.org (BE SURE TO SPELL OUT SAINT) and click on the We Share online giving link. Follow the instructions. (WE SHARE HAS REPLACED PARISH PAY). If you have any questions or problems, contact the Parish Office and leave a message or e mail us at stbartchurch@aol.com.**



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Ann Lackner, Gail Chappory, Anna Bonacci, Deacon Bob Clemens, Mary DeSantis, Gina Obalde, Ron and Sally Petro, Angela Lutomski, Richard (Dick) Novak, Harold Sullivan, Manuel Obalde, Jr., Anthony Spinner, Steven Sarich, Larry Mesler, John McKenna, Antony Gorge Ferreira, Jerry Esposito, Jeri Michele Sugrue, Eileen Fitzpatrick, Ann Pezzola, Edith Kelly, Carole Romanowski, Theresa Chappory, Susan Rivera, Kenneth Chappory, Rosemarie Bartolomeo, Ann McShane, Ellen Chimenti, Gianna Whitehead, Gloria DeLuccy, Dan Panik, Dominick Francis Marra, Walter Duda and Edward Minozzi.

Please contact the Parish Office and leave a message or e mail us at stbartchurch@aol.com, if you wish to add a loved one to the sick list.

**THE SCHEDULE FOR MASSES IN ST. BART'S IS AS FOLLOWS:
MASSES MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 7 AM AND
9 AM (9 AM MASS LIVE STREAMED ALSO FOR THOSE AT HOME)
SATURDAY MASS: 9 AM (ALSO LIVE STREAMED FOR THOSE AT HOME)
SATURDAY VIGIL AT 5 PM
SUNDAY MASSES AT 9:30 AM (ALSO LIVE STREAMED FOR THOSE AT HOME) AND 11:30 AM.**

WHEN ATTENDING MASS, PLEASE BE SURE TO SIGN YOUR NAME ON THE SIGN UP SHEETS ON THE TABLE AT THE REAR OF THE CHURCH.

******CONFESSIONS ARE ON SATURDAY FROM 4 TO 4:30 PM******

December 20, 2020

Mass  for the
Intentions *Week*

Saturday, December 19(Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM For All The People of Our Parish

Sunday, December 20, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:30 AM Mary & Joseph Cuozzo +
Robert Liddell +
Ethel Castignozzi +
Patrick V. Fox +
Louis Brusco +

11:30 AM For All the People of Our Parish

Monday, December 21

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Joy Joseph Parakal +
9:00 AM Dilon Garvey (Living)

Tuesday, December 22

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention
9:00 AM Special Intention

Wednesday, December 23

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Emil & Victoria Kurak +
9:00 AM Arnaldo De Sanctis +

Thursday, December 24

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Special Intention
9:00 AM Teresa & Fiorente Venturino +
4:00 PM (Vigil) George Klobosits+, Henry Kielkucki, Jr. +
& Bernard Mistal +

Friday, December 25

The Nativity of the Lord—Christmas

9:30 AM Margaret & Carmine Maccia +
Decased Members of the
Brusco & Nania Families
Giovanni De. Feo +
11:30 AM For All The People Of Our Parish

Saturday, December 26

Saint Stephen, The First Martyr

9:00 AM Monsignor Charles McManus +

Saturday, December 26(Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM For All The People of Our Parish

Sunday, December 27, 2020

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

9:30 AM Louis Brusco +
Elizabeth & Carl Laredo +
Ralph Esposito +
John F. Brusco +
Miguel Angel Ocasio + &
Rafael & Edwin Rivera +
11:30 AM For All the People of Our Parish

December 20, 2020

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

(said now at Mass since we cannot receive Jesus sacramentally during these difficult times).

HOLY
COMMUNION



My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You in my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and I unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Prayer to the Virgin Mary for Protection

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain,
with steadfast faith.

You, Our Lady of New York, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee,
joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the Father's will
and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.



WE ALL NEED A LITTLE HUMOR

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

