

St. Bartholomew's Church



Scan this code with your
smart phone to access
our parish website.

15 Palmer Road
Yonkers • New York 10701

www.saintbartparish.org

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. Chairperson: Richard Califano

Holy Name Society: Meets on the Monday evening after the second Sunday of the month. President, Dan Panik

Rosary Altar Society: Meets on the Monday evening after the first Sunday of the month. Co-Presidents, Carolyn Mesler, Frances Raffa

Bereavement Ministry: For information call (914) 965-0566,
Tina Falcone

Trustees: Catherine Hickey, Aureo Pinto



Cover design ©Liturgical Publications Inc. Image from BigStockPhoto.com © James Burns.

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.

ABOUT OUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR

When our new Associate Pastor, Father Anthony Mbanefo, MSP, shared his story with us in the Church, I was aware that some people were not in the Church that day due to the weather and other reasons. Also, I wanted to have it in the bulletin for the sake of our Sick and Shut-Ins. So, here's his story for those who missed it.

~ Father Raphael Ezeh, MSP

MY STORY

My name is Father Anthony C. Mbanefo, MSP. I am a native of a countryside community of South Eastern Nigeria named Eziowelle, but was born in the nearby city of Ogidi. My predominantly Catholic Igbo tribe of South Eastern Nigeria was evangelized about half a century before my birth by Irish Catholic Missionaries. I belong to the second generation Catholics of my local community where the faith was practiced with commitment and enthusiasm because of the ardor with which the Irish missionaries preached it.

About fifteen years before I was born, my area belonged to a parish which had her church and rectory situated at a neighboring community about four miles from us. The pastor of this church, Michael Iwene Tansi, who was among the first generation of Igbo priests, was a very devout, holy and zealous priest. His life and ministry brought many people to the Church. My parents were among the young people he converted. Father Tansi was beatified by Pope St. John Paul II, in 1998, and is the only *blessed* from West Africa. He died a few years before I was born, but his ministry and its effects were indicative of what the relatively new Catholic faith meant in the environment in which I was born.

I am the third in a family of four [three boys and one girl]. The rest of my siblings are all in Nigeria, happily married with children. My parents were devout Catholic teachers. They normally gave children baptism names according to the saint of the day of their birth, but my father who was then the president of St Anthony's Guild in my local faith community made my case an exception to the rule. He dedicated me to St Anthony because of his love for St Anthony of Padua. I was baptized by an Irish missionary, Father Roach, when I was a month old.

I grew up to love the Church and to hang around the church as an altar server and a member of other youth groups. I had an early sense of my vocation to the priesthood. After my high school years, I joined the Missionary Seminary just before the age of eighteen. There, I had nine years of training for the Catholic Missionary priesthood. I was ordained on July 1992, at the age of twenty-six and a half. I worked for two years in Nigeria before proceeding to Gambia, a predominantly Muslim country of West Africa, where I successfully worked for ten years spreading the Christian faith. I came to United States of America in January 2005, and worked as an associate pastor and pastor of some parishes in different parts of Texas for six years and a half, while at the same time taking some theological courses in different Universities. I also served as a pastor of two small twin parish communities in Georgia before coming here.

My Catholic faith and my priesthood have been sources of joy to me. I am here to join your pastor in helping you to live your faith with excitement and appreciation. We are saved by our Christian baptism and we need to celebrate it always.


PARISH NEWS


ADORATION: Eucharistic Adoration will be held in our church every Friday during Lent from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., with the exception of Good Friday. All are invited to spare some time and come to adore Jesus Christ Who is truly present in the Holy Eucharist.



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.

The **ALTAR BREAD & WINE, ALTAR CANDLES & SANCTUARY LAMP** for this week are donated in loving memory of Gloria Brusco Flanagan by Louis & Angela Brusco.

**THE CARDINAL'S APPEAL—SHARING GOD'S GIFTS**

Thank you to all who participated in our two "In Pew" solicitations and the Archdiocesan mailing for the Cardinal's Appeal. At this printing we have received pledges of \$23,286 toward our \$68,500 goal. **As a parish we are prayerfully asked to all participate as our means allow.**

Your gift to the 2015 Appeal ensures we are in a position to continue providing support to those most in need throughout the Archdiocese. May God bless you for your generosity.

CHRISM MASS - TUESDAY, MARCH 31st

Mass of Chrism will be celebrated this year on **Tuesday, March 31st**, at 4 p.m. at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Every parishioner is encouraged to attend this beautiful ceremony, where we celebrate with our Archbishop and witness our priests renew their vow to serve God's people. **Please come support our own parish priests.**

Arrangements have been made for reserved seats at the Cathedral and for a coach to leave from our parking lot at the cost of \$15 per person. Please make your reservations this week. Unclaimed seats are being offered to other parishes. Please plan on arriving at our parking lot by 1:30 p.m. that Tuesday.

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.



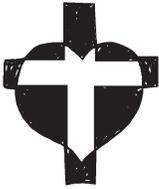
OUR 2015 LENTEN & EASTER WISH LIST

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
- ◆ *Passion Play* props & accessories, ranging from \$20 - \$60

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.

Our **Social Ministry** will be providing Easter Food Baskets to some of our less fortunate brothers and sisters. Thanks to your generosity most items are already gathered. **The items we are requesting to enhance the holiday spirit of our baskets are candy, fresh / canned fruits or fresh/frozen desserts.** If you can contribute to this effort, please bring the item to one of the Palm Sunday



Masses next weekend. The baskets will be distributed on Monday, March 30th.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10TH
1:30 – 7:30 PM

MCMANUS PARISH CENTER

St. Bartholomew's will be conducting its 80th Annual Blood Drive the **Friday** after Easter. St Bart's parishioners and friends have made **5981** donations to date. We run drives during holiday periods when the need for blood is great and donations are usually down. If you can donate, please call Tony Sciacca (423-3592) for an appointment; and please spread the word to your family and friends, too.



Give Thanks - Give Blood !!!

THE CATHOLIC'S DIVORCE GUIDE

Wednesdays, April 8 - June 24, 7 - 9 PM

Cost: \$35

The Family Life / Respect Life Office of our Archdiocese is for the first time offering the Catholic's Divorce Guide, a 12 week course beginning in April. It is intended to bring hope and healing to those who have gone through a divorce - even years ago, and to those who recently or are currently going through divorce or separation. There is a flyer posted on a church bulletin board with more information. **Register at events.nyfamilylife.org/cdsg/ or call Denise Tomas on 646 794-3188.**

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA: Held after the 9 a.m. Mass on Mondays.

 **Rest in Peace**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, especially Pasquale G. Cercone.



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

	3/16/14	3/15/15	Difference
Adults	\$6,491.70	\$6,125.50	-\$ 366.20
Children	\$ 130.70	\$ 148.75	+\$ 18.05
Total	\$6,622.40	\$6,274.25	-\$ 348.15

The Collection for Catholic Relief Services totaled \$1,463.20.

"WHAT WE HAVE DONE FOR OURSELVES ALONE DIES WITH US; WHAT WE HAVE DONE FOR OTHERS AND THE WORLD REMAINS AND IS IMMORTAL."

~ Albert Pike



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Ethel Thomas, Aldina Pereira, Rebecca Conroy, Andy DeFabritis, Maria Marte, Rosalie Heit, Florence B. Swetz, Clare Yaskovic, Deacon James Byrnes, Andrea Objay, Carmen Torres, Frank Marra, Deacon Patrick Troy, Josephine Apuzzo, Gary Roth, Joyann Allan, Lois Burton, Mary DeStefano, Mark Cianfaglione, Shawn Colon, Margaret Maccia, Nicole Ryan Betancourt, Anthony Spinner, Audrey Falcone, Kathleen Hayes, Marge Muraik, Nicole Pisani-Frame, Louis Petrulo, Cynthia Swiatkiewicz, Jimmy Maimone, Roseanne Mercandetti, Louis Brusco, Josephine Daniele, Jennifer Dorsey, Valerie Riccardi, Fatima Panik, Marian Fletcher, Anna Bonacci, Minerva Hernandez, Paula Parente, Bridget O'Malley, Gerald Mazzerese, Jr., Patricia Keane, Carol Stola, Karen Aprea, Stephen Sarich, Neil Cawley, Barbara McCormack, Josephine Lehotyak, Lawrence Girsch, Fran Romano, Joe Forlini, Rosemarie Petti, Marie Murtha, Mary Walsh, Natalie Marrero, Richard Meyers, Carlo Gentile, Angelo Gianfrancesco, Vince Delgado, Charles Wighton, Michael Tomanelli, Steven Colon, Louis Loscalzo, Gina Obalde, Ann Lackner, Ariella Castillo, Brian Detz, John Marietti, Dominick Gravino, Angelica Blanco, Joseph Melillo and Gail Chappory.

Don't Miss ...

THE PASSION PLAY

Performed by some of our very own St. Bart's Parishioners

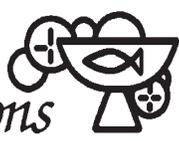
When: **Palm Sunday**, March 29th, at 2 p.m.
 and

Good Friday, April 3rd, at the 7:30 p.m. service

The **YOUTH GROUP** usually meets on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass in the school building. Because of inclement weather, Palm Sunday, Easter, and other commitments they will meet this Sunday, March 22nd. All youths age 13 and up are invited.



MARCH 22, 2015

Mass  for the
Intentions Week

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Saturday, March 21 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Darlene Levorsen Leone +

Sunday, March 22

8:30 AM For All the People of Our Parish

10:00 AM Frank, Carmela, & Luciano Legio +

11:30 AM Martha Cianfaglione +

5:00 PM Salvatore Labruzzo +

Monday, March 23

Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Deceased Members of Bolduc & Savard Families

9:00 AM Martha Cianfaglione +

Tuesday, March 24

Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Concetta Darretta +

9:00 AM Gloria Brusco Flanagan +

Wednesday, March 25

Annunciation of the Lord

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Albert Gregorio +

Thursday, March 26

Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Nicholas Marcello +

9:00 AM Phyllis Moray +

Friday, March 27

Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Anthony Bonacci +

9:00 AM Anthony Bonacci +

Saturday, March 28

Lenten Weekday

9:00 AM Anna Brucculeri +

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Saturday, March 28 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Anthony & Nick Lalli +

Sunday, March 29

8:30 AM Elizabeth & Carl Laredo +

10:00 AM For All the People of Our Parish

11:30 AM Robert Mirsky +

5:00 PM Carmela & Nicolantonio Romagnoli +

