

St. Bartholomew's Church



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our parish website.

15 Palmer Road
Yonkers • New York 10701

www.saintbartparish.org

Rev. Raphael Ezeh, MSP, *Pastor*
Rev. Daniel Oghenerukevwe, 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. President, Joan Liddell

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

Trustees: Catherine Hickey, Aureo Pinto

*First
Sunday
of
Advent*



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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.

1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR A

Putting Off Darkness and Putting On Light



Americans, indeed the world, will be shopping for Christmas in the next couple of days. Clothing will most probably form the bulk of this annual ritual. Many of us will stress over what to wear during the season or on Christmas day itself. All well and good!

Our readings on this First Sunday of Advent invite us to, first of all and above all, consider seriously (be more worried about) what deeds of light to put on and what deeds of darkness to put off. Examples abound – *discard your swords and ammunitions for more peaceful traits* (Isaiah 2:1-5); *put off drunkenness, lust, rivalry, jealousy and dress yourself up with the light of Christ* (Romans 13:1-14). Yes, Christmas Day is set and so we are always ready (sort of), but the Day of the Lord is not set. Woe to those who will be caught shopping for the wrong stuff or worse wearing the wrong garment. May such fate never be our portion. Amen.

A Wish List At Last

Who am I to put an end to what Fr. Anthony started that has become so famous? Ever since I arrived at St. Bart's, I have been told about it and encouraged to come up with a Wish List when the time comes. So, in the spirit and tradition of Fr. Anthony, I have my first Wish List at last. I wasn't sure what should be there and what shouldn't. I just went with what is needed around here at St. Bart's. I look forward to us presenting Jesus with our (St. Bart's) Wish List – the goals and wishes that will be contained in our 5 year Parish Pastoral Plan.

Call To Ministry

When you come into the church for your Sunday Mass, you expect a few things to happen to make your worship a fruitful one. You expect the Church to be clean, hymnals arranged, things set for Mass. You expect the choir to be there for music. You expect the altar servers to help your priest out. You expect at least one lector who will do the reading – and read it well. You expect the Ushers to take up the collections.

If there is an event like a reception after the Mass or a parish activity during the week, when you arrive at the McManus Center you expect things to be set and ready to roll. A lot of other things happen outside of our Sunday Mass. In summary, you expect and want things to be ready whenever you come.

Now, I invite you to think of our ministries and the volunteers who make them happen. Is your name somewhere in there? If not, I invite you to think of the reasons why (and say 10 Hail Marys while you're at it).

The Pastoral Council team on our Pastoral Plan is working on the survey results. Eventually, some new ministries will emerge from that and some of our current ones will be strengthened and/or reorganized. But for now, we have need for 3 ministries that we want to run with:

Evangelization Ministry – outreach to the unchurched and inactive in our neighborhood, welcoming & caring for our new members.

Liturgical Art & Environment Ministry – we have volunteers who care for our worship space weekly. We want to harness parishioners' talents in this area and harmonize them for better results and an even more beautiful worship environment.

Adoration Ministry – a core group of adorers who will form the nucleus of our adoration schedule, with two or three of them coordinating the schedule. In this way, other parishioners and visitors will be able to come in and adore the Lord at their convenience.

Children's Ministry – We have a wonderful Religious Education program and over 180 kids. We want more than religious education for them. This group of volunteers will see to that.

We have not forgotten our Young Adults. They will be next – in January.

Please, consider joining one of these ministries!

Blessings on you and your loved ones. Amen.

~ Father Raphael Ezeh, MSP

PARISH NEWS



The women of the parish are invited to join the members of Rosary Altar Society this Monday, December 2nd, for a special 6 p.m. Mass and their Christmas Dinner at Reno's Restaurant, 33 Lockwood Avenue, Yonkers. The cost is \$30 per person. Please call Carolyn (914 963-2622) or Joan (914 476-6860) for reservations.

ST. BART'S SHARING COMMUNITY MEAL: This Thursday, December 5th, 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. For information on participating in this important effort, please call the Rectory Office.

HOLY HOUR: This Friday, December 6th, is First Friday. We will have our monthly Holy Hour at 1 p.m. This Saturday, December 7th, the Divine Mercy Holy Hour will begin at 3 p.m. Especially during this season of preparation, Advent, all are invited to spare an hour and come to adore Jesus Christ Who is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament.



INTERGENERATIONAL FAITH FESTIVAL

All who have registered to attend the Saturday, December 7th Faith Festival should arrive promptly at 11:45 a.m. Please bring a bible if possible. The festival will begin with lunch and be followed by a number of interactive family oriented activities. It will end at 2:30 p.m.

First Sunday of Advent

OUR CHRISTMAS "WISH LIST"



My very first Wish List comes at this wonderful and magical season of Christmas. The Thanksgiving Day celebration ushers us into the season and spirit of Christmas, a season of gratitude and giving and receiving gifts. Thank you for your past generosity when Fr. Anthony was here. In response to the

requests to provide a Wish List, here's one for our liturgical and devotional needs. As usual, your donations could be in thanksgiving and/or in memory of a deceased loved one.

4 Christmas Wreaths	\$115 each
6 Artificial, lighted Christmas Trees	\$240 each
6 Church Christmas Arrangements	\$75 each
1 Advent Banner	\$120
6 Albs (robes) for priests (Used for Mass and other celebrations)	\$250 each
30 Sets of Altar Servers' robes/surplices (Black robes with white surplices)	\$80 each set
3 Sets of covers for our Missalettes	\$400 each set
1 Stand for Book of the Gospel	\$80

The intentions will be published in the bulletin of the 4th Sunday of Advent. Parish Office (914-965-0566) if you wish to donate any item.

CHILDREN'S MASS: Please make it a point to bring your child to our Children's Mass next Sunday and the rest of the Sundays in December. The 10 a.m. Mass will focus on our children. The Parish Children's Choir will sing the Mass. The children are encouraged to sit together during the Mass.



The **YOUTH GROUP** meets on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass in the school building. There will be a meeting this Sunday, December 1st. 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.

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY: Join your fellow parishioners in praying the Rosary after the 9 a.m. Mass on weekdays and Saturdays.

✠ **STEWARDSHIP** ✠
What shall I render unto the Lord
for all his benefits to me?

TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

Last Weekend's Contribution Comparison

	2012	2013	Difference
Adults	\$6,410.85	\$5055.15	-\$1355.70
Children	\$ 130.80	\$ 145.15	+\$ 14.35
Total	\$6,541.65	\$5200.30	-\$1341.35

The collection for Catholic Campaign for Human Development totaled \$1351.75.

Next Sunday, December 8th, there will be a second collection to help support the retired religious of the Archdiocese of New York.



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Ethel Thomas, Aldina Pereira, Rebecca Conroy, Andy DeFabritis, Maria Marte, Barbara Rup, Jule Yaskovic, Rosalie Heit, Florence B. Swetz, Clare Yaskovic, Neil Caruso, 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, Donna Vasconez, Nicole Pisani-Frame, Louis Petruolo, Cynthia Swiatkowitz, Jimmy Maimone, Robert Mirsky, Roseanne Mercandetti, Louis Brusco, Josephine Daniele, Jennifer Dorsey, Valerie Riccardi, Fatima Panik, Marian Fletcher, Anna Bonacci, Minerva Hernandez, Paula Parente, Bridget O'Malley, Anna Brucculeri, Peggy Clevenberg, Gerald Mazzerese, Jr., Patricia Keane, Carol Stola, Amada Ortiz, Karen Aprea, Stephen Sarich, Neil Cawley, Barbara McCormack, Josephine Lehotyak, Lawrence Girsch, Fran Romano, Pasquale Cercone, Gail Villafana, and Joe Forlini.

ADULT CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROGRAM is for Catholic adults who are practicing their faith and have been baptized, received First Communion but have not been Confirmed for various reasons. This is a wonderful opportunity that combines presentations, group discussion, reflection and prayer. Please contact Cheryl Duda at 914 476-6676 to register or for more information.



The **ALTAR BREAD & WINE** and **ALTAR CANDLES** for this week have been donated in loving memory of John DelBene by Lou & Angela Brusco.

SNOW CANCELLATIONS: Notification of closures of our **Religious Education classes** due to inclement weather will be broadcast on the WFAS 1230 AM radio station.

December 1, 2013

Mass Intentions for the Week

First Sunday of Advent

Saturday, November 30 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Thanksgiving for the Pisacreta Family

Sunday, December 1

8:30 AM Adolf Steffens +

10:00 AM For All the People of Our Parish

11:30 AM Anna & Anthony Faracco +

5:00 PM Ann Trancynger & John Winston Ono Lennon +

Monday, December 2

Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Edythe Lutomski +

9:00 AM Stanis Buoninfante +

Tuesday, December 3

Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

7:00 AM Special Intention

9:00 AM Antonio Marchetti +

Wednesday, December 4

Advent Weekday

7:00 AM John Verno +

9:00 AM Reverend Lamont Hamilton +

Thursday, December 5

Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Ann Trancynger +

9:00 AM Harry Brewus +

Friday, December 6

Advent Weekday

7:00 AM John DelBene +

9:00 AM Marcello Barcello +

Saturday, December 7

Saint Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

9:00 AM Stanis Buoninfante +

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 7 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Josephine Giuriceo +

Sunday, December 8

8:30 AM Oscar Starkenberg +

10:00 AM Joseph Prior +

11:30 AM Deceased Members of Legio Family

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

December 1, 2013

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH FAMILY!

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 at (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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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 (Immaculate Conception's and St. Peter's Needy Families, and Richmond Hill). 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 Sunday, December 15th. Thank you for your continued support in this very special season of giving.