

# Saint Bartholomew's Church

15 Palmer Road  
Yonkers • New York 10701  
stbartschurch@aol.com  
www.saintbartsparish.org



## 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit." - Jn 15:1-2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

©LPI

**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

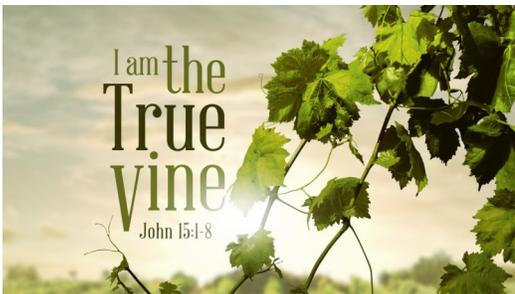
**WHAT NEEDS TO BE PRUNED IN ME THAT I MAY BEAR FRUIT TO THE FULLEST EXTENT?**

The early church was persecuted by both state and religious authorities, so to proclaim at the end of this passage from acts that it was at peace throughout the region seems unbelievable. But then again, the fact that Saul of Tarsus, hated persecutor of the church, was now speaking out boldly in the name of the Lords was equally incredible. The wonders God could do did not end on Easter morning.



Today's Gospel passage takes place at the Last Supper, Jesus' final meal with His friends before His death. He had just dismissed Judas, after announcing that he would betray Him. He also had already told Peter that he would deny Him three times before morning. The other ten apostles would abandon Him as well, none of them accompanying Him as He was put on trial. So when He tells them, "Remain in me," He is making a heartfelt pleas to His closest friends (John 15:4). He knows full well that they will not remain with Him. But their bond is stronger than their actions on that fateful day. Though they do not remain with Him, they remain in Him as He remains in them, as He remains in us, no matter how far we may wander.

The image of the vine is a wonderful one. A vine does not grow straight up like a tree or most other plants. Its flexible stem hunts for any hold, spiraling around posts, climbing up fences, wrapping around other plants. In doing so it connects everything in its surroundings. As does Jesus. Jesus, the true vine, reaches out to all, and all of us are connected, not just to the vine, Jesus, but to everyone else. We see this demonstrated in the first reading: Barnabas connected the newly-converted Saul to the Christian community in Jerusalem. The vine continues to connect us with our neighbor, across space and time, to a single community in the Lord.



**QUESTION OF THE WEEK:**

In order to flourish and bear fruit, the vine needs to be pruned. What in me needs to be pruned so that I can bear fruit to the fullest extent possible?

*Blessings*

*Fr. Raphael Ezech, MSP*

**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 FLOWERS & THE ALTAR BREAD & WINE** are donated in loving memory of Fiore Brusco by Angela Brusco.



**THE ALTAR CANDLES & SANCTUARY LAMP** are donated in loving memory of Fiore Brusco by Angela Brusco.

**FOR THE WEEKEND MASSES, THE SATURDAY MASS AT 5 PM AND THE SUNDAY MASS AT 11:30 A.M., WILL BE SAID FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH. THIS SUNDAY MASS, MAY 2ND AT 9:30 A.M. WILL BE FOR THE FOLLOWING INTENTIONS:**



**DECEASED:**

- Margaret & Joseph Krzanowski+*
- Louis Loscalzo +*
- Frank, Carmela, & Dina Legio +*
- Carmel Farina +*

**REMINDER**

**Meals for a Soup Kitchen:** The Immaculate Conception monthly meal of either ziti or rice and beans will be collected this Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> one half hour before the 5 p.m. Mass and on Sunday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, one half hour before the 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Masses. Trays will be available for those who wish to donate food on the tables at the rear of the church.

**The 2022 Mass Book** is open. Consider giving a loved one or someone (living or deceased) who has a special place in our life, the graces associated with having a Mass offered on their behalf. You may have a thanksgiving Mass offered for your loved one or yourself on such occasions as birthday's, wedding anniversaries, etc. Also you may consider offering the Altar Flowers (\$100; or \$125 for roses), Altar Bread and Wine (\$30), Altar Candles (\$10) or the Sanctuary Lamp (\$10) for your intention. You may call the Parish Office to arrange a Mass or come to the Parish office Monday, Wednesday or Friday between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. There are also some Masses still available for 2021.





**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\*\*\*\***

**ADORATION & HOLY HOUR:** This Friday May 7<sup>th</sup> is First Friday. We will have Holy Hour at 1 p.m. All are invited to spend an hour to come and adore Jesus Christ Who is truly present in the Holy Eucharist.



**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

**Branching Out Isn't Always What It's Cracked Up to Be**

"That's a really beautiful tree branch. Man, would you look at the bark on that thing? The others are real duds, but that low-hanging branch has really got it all together."

I've never heard anyone say this. Maybe I just need to hang out with more arborists, but I can't recall ever hearing someone admire the particular beauty of a single branch. When someone comments on a tree, it's usually the whole tree — perhaps a visual element of it, like the color of the leaves or its height. But people don't usually zero in on one branch.

Maybe that's because usually, if one branch is looking a little weak, chances are every other branch is, too.

The Bible tells us that when we bear fruit as good everyday stewards, it is for the Father's glory. We are the branch on His magnificent tree. What we have is from Him, and what we do likewise points back to Him. We also tend to reflect how well the other branches around us are incorporating the nutrients coming their way. That's all fine and good in theory. In practice, it can be an arduous exercise in humility.

When I do something virtuous or charitable or kind, there is a part of me that wants to stand out for it. I think that's true for all of us. We've given of ourselves in some way or overcome some human temptation to accomplish a little bit of good in this world, and even though we know God sees us, we'd really love for everyone else to see it, too.

It's a struggle, for sure. But we need to remember that our fruit belongs to the whole tree.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS Ipi



**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](http://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 [stbartschurch@aol.com](mailto:stbartschurch@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, John McKenna, Antony Gorge Ferreira, Jeri Michele Sugrue, Eileen Fitzpatrick, Ann Pezzola, Edith Kelly, Carole Romanowski, Theresa Chappory, Susan Rivera, Kenneth Chappory, Ann McShane, Ellen Chimenti, Gianna Whitehead, Dan Panik, Dominick Francis Marra, Walter Duda, Edward Minozzi, Robert Minnucci, Lucia Sevivas, James Burns, Josephine Giabattista, Loni Shost, Ken Shost, Norah Murphy, and Emil Kurak.

**Please contact the Parish Office and leave a message or e mail us at [stbartschurch@aol.com](mailto:stbartschurch@aol.com), if you wish to add a loved one to the sick list.**

*Please pray for the*  
**Rest in Peace** *souls of all the faithful*  
*departed especially*  
**Agnes Dahms, Larry Mesler, Michael Daly and**  
**Theresa Potochak.**

May 2, 2021

Mass  for the  
Intentions *for the Week*

**Saturday, May 1 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM For All The People of Our Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, May 2, 2021  
Fifth Sunday of Easter**

9:30 AM Margaret & Joseph Krzanowski+  
Louis Loscalzo +  
Frank, Carmela, & Dina Legio +  
Carmel Farina +

11:30 AM For All The People of Our Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**Monday, May 3  
Saints Philip and James, Apostles**

7:00 AM Special Intention

9:00 AM Luigi Lucchetti +

**Tuesday, May 4**

**Easter Weekday**

7:00 AM Rosalie Heity +

9:00 AM Matthew Lombardo +

**Wednesday, May 5**

**Easter Weekday**

7:00 AM Susan Mercoun (Living)

9:00 AM Rosalie Heit +

**Thursday, May 6**

**Easter Weekday**

7:00 AM Fiore Brusco +

9:00 AM Josephine Califano +

**Friday, May 7**

**Easter Weekday**

7:00 AM Deceased Members of the Faranda &  
De Pole Families

9:00 AM Ruth Sweeney +

**Saturday, May 8**

**Easter Weekday**

9:00 AM Adriano & Livio Da Massa +

\*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, May 8 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM For All The People of Our Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, May 9, 2021  
Sixth Sunday of Easter**

9:30 AM Lucille & Victor Serricchio+  
Margaret T. Maccia +  
Frances Nanoia & Angelina Brusco +  
Novena for Our Living & Deceased  
Mothers

11:30 AM For All The People of Our Parish

May 2, 2021

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

