

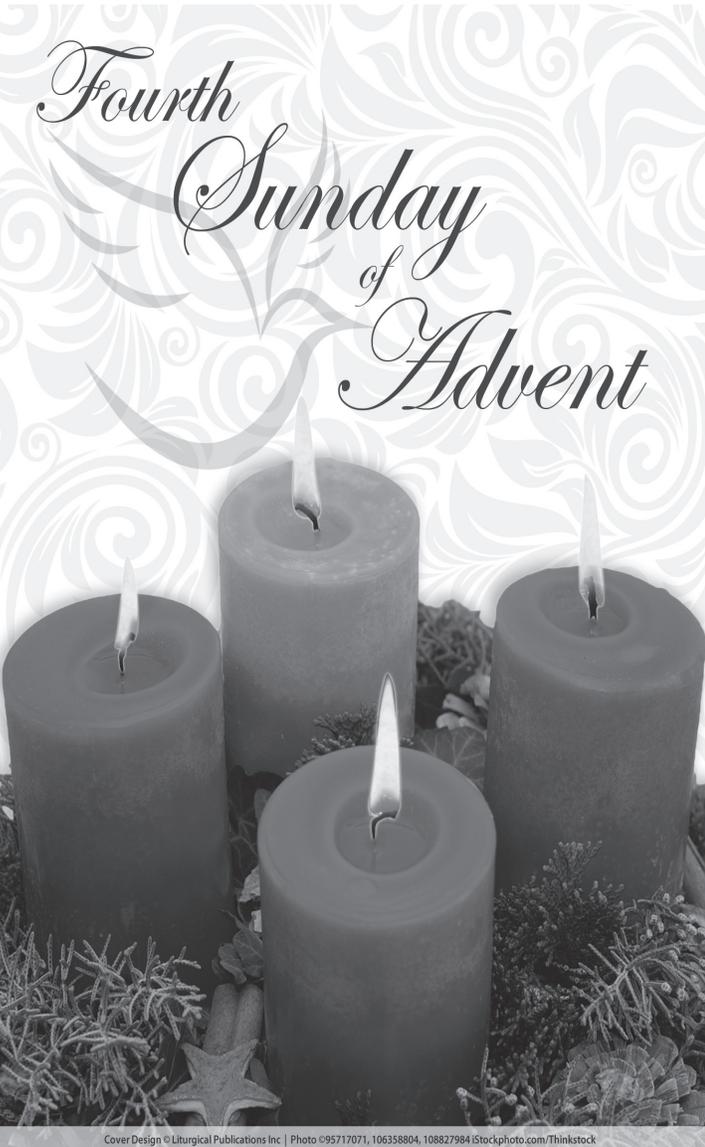
St. Bartholomew's Church



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

15 Palmer Road
Yonkers • New York 10701

www.saintbartparish.org



Cover Design © Liturgical Publications Inc | Photo ©95717071, 106358804, 108827984 iStockphoto.com/Thinkstock

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*
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

GOD IS ABLE

You are pacing up and down, perspiring, confused, frustrated, anxious and/or angry, your heart is racing, your blood pressure inching up dangerously, your head aches, and you can't seem to get rid of the lump in your throat. That's the image of Joseph stuck in my mind from watching the *Miracle of Christmas* at the Sight and Sound Theatre. But above all, that's an experience I've been through several times and which I undoubtedly know that you, too, have experienced several times. So, we've all been there and will still be there again and again, if we live long enough. The reading today reassure us that like He did for Joseph, the Lord can and will step into such moments in our lives, if we allow Him and if we are open to His will.



INSTALLATION: IN PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

My installation was great, and fun too. Now I will hesitate before praying for a white Christmas since half of our parishioners will be snowed in and unable to come worship the newborn King. I raise my hat to all who drive up and down these hills and valleys in the snow. I had a scary moment myself when my car stalled half way up a hill. Anyway, despite the snow the turn out was very good at my installation Mass and reception. Once more, let's build up that tradition. Many thanks to each and every one of you who donated a dish or money or materials for the reception. My thanks to the members of our Social Ministry who coordinated the reception. The food was great and the variety of dishes made it even better. Someone told me that they come to St. Bart's because our food is always great, among other good things we do. Once again, without going into the long list of names and ministries, thanks to every ministry and every parishioner who helped to make the day a memorable one.

PLEASE PRAY FOR US, YOUR PRIESTS

For those who missed my installation, there were a couple of items presented to me. There was the Book of the Gospel, the keys (yes, to heaven, believe it or not), the Oils (Sick, Chrism, and Catechumen), the Stole (worn at the celebration of the sacraments), etc. Accompanying each article were the duties entrusted to me for the care of each of you. And in carrying out those duties, I have the Pastoral and Finance Councils to help me. And I have each and everyone of you to help me, too.

Those words explaining what God has called me (and Fr. Daniel) to do among you are indeed challenging. St. Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 9:19-23, captures it well: "I have become all things to all men .." Indeed, I want to, I long to, become all things to each of you. I hope with time and experience, as I get to know you more and you get to know me more, I can do that more and more. I think I speak for Fr. Daniel, too.

Together, we will learn. Together, we will walk our talk. Together, we will mourn and cry. Together, we will rejoice and celebrate. Together, we will work and rest. Together, we will struggle through those tough moments. Challenge me (us) as I (we) challenge you, please. And may we do the same with encouragement. In all, and above all, may we always do so in love and with love. May we help one another in this our pilgrimage, this valley of tears and of joys, until we reach our destination, together (for those who believe the end is coming soon), or individually (for those who believe otherwise).

And may the Lord Who calls each of us, bless the work of our hands. Amen. ~ Father Raphael Ezech, MSP

PARISH NEWS



The Pastor and the Staff heartily wish you and your family safe travels as you gather with friends and family to celebrate the birth of Christ and the New Year. Have a Merry Christmas & a happy, healthy 2014.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

- Tues., Dec. 24 4:30 p.m. Carols/ Vigil Mass
 - Tues., Dec. 24 11:30 p.m. Carols, followed by Midnight Mass
 - Wed., Dec. 25 8:30, 10, and 11:30 a.m.
- There will not be a 5 p.m. Mass on Christmas Day.



The **BREAD & WINE, ALTAR CANDLES, and SANCTUARY LAMP** for this week have been donated for the intentions of the Brusco & Nanoia families by Lou and Angela Brusco.

Just a reminder, that Religious Education classes will resume after the holidays, on Tuesday, January 7, 2014.



All Catholic children attending public schools should enroll in a religious education program. Please call (476-6676) for more information.



SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY, JANUARY 18TH

Holy Name Society's Barn Dance
McManus Parish Center
Immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass

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.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, especially  *Rest in Peace* Barbara Rup.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS DONATIONS



Thank you to the parishioners who have donated much needed liturgicals, and helped to defray the cost and greatly enhanced the beauty of our church for this Advent / Christmas season and those to come:



MISSELETTE COVERS

Cheryl & Ron Parinello In memory of Manuel Rodriguez
 Clemencia Wong In memory of Corazon & Benjamin Sotto
 Grace Obalde In memory of Carol Ann & Anthony DiVenuto

STAND FOR BOOK OF THE GOSPEL

Nancy Pelliccio In memory of Margaret Bruno

ADVENT BANNER

Joan Liddell In memory of Carl & Elizabeth Laredo

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS WREATHS

Ellen & Rich Califano In memory of Helen & Pete Pietrowski
 Mary Ann Cognatello In memory of Albert Gregorio & Tony Cognatello
 Anne McShane In memory of Edna & George McShane
 Grace Zwisdak (2) In memory of Edward & Ellanor Murphy

ARTIFICIAL, LIGHTED CHRISTMAS TREE

Clover Comfort In memory of Brother Joseph Marie
 Jean Goresen In memory of Ann Marie Selvaraj
 Feyisayo Obasa
 Cheryl Russo In memory of Vincent Russo & Joyce Baratto
 Anonymous

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHURCH

Janet Madonia In memory of Dennis Madonia

ALBS

Audrey Falcone In memory of Alfred Falcone
 Joan Liddell In memory of Robert A. Liddell
 Rosary Altar Society In honor of the Rosary Altar Society
 Rich & Maria Scardino In memory of Scardino & D'Arienzo families
 Jeanne Simmons In honor of the Joseph family
 Josephine Smith In memory of Harold Smith

ALTAR SERVERS' ROBES & SURPLICES

Lou & Angela Brusco (6 sets) In memory of Brusco family
 Lou & Angela Brusco (6 sets) In memory of Nanoia family
 Mary Bryce In memory of John Bryce
 Frank & Heidi Coppola
 Frank & Edith D'Aquila In memory of O'Leary & D'Aquila families
 Bill DiBartolo &
 Philip Godlewski (2 sets) In memory of Elizabeth (Betty) Liga
 Gloria DeLuccy In memory of Benjamin DeLuccy
 Angelina DeRosa In memory of DeRosa & Costanzo families
 Nadine Greco In memory of Helen Greco
 Nadine Greco In memory of Ozzie Greco
 Ann Marie & Tony Martelli In memory of Martelli & Fayden families
 Grace Obalde In memory of DiVenuto family
 Nancy Pelliccio In memory of the Pelliccio family
 Loreen Ryan In memory of Allene & John Sweeney
 Josephine Smith (2 sets) In memory of Joanne Moscarello
 Lorraine & Walter Zigbarra In honor of Zigbarra family

A special thank you to Maureen Scarpelli, Bill Mascetta & Jean Buttinelli, who actually completed Father Raphael's Wish List.



TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

Last Weekend's Contribution Comparison

	2012	2013	Difference
Adults	\$6,135.65	\$4,030.05	-\$2,105.60
Children	\$ 169.15	\$ 106.75	-\$ 62.40
Total	\$6,304.80	\$4,136.80	-\$2,168.00

The Collection for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception
 was \$560.00.

Collection to support the Retired Religious of the NY
 Archdiocese totaled \$1,784.85.

***"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, 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 Petrulo, Cynthia Swiatkiewicz, 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, Gail Villafana, Joe Forlini, and Gertrude Woska.

REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES, LIVING AND DEAD
 Consider having a Mass offered on behalf of loved one or someone who has a special place in your life . You may have a thanksgiving Mass offered for your loved ones or for yourself on such occasions as birthdays, wedding anniversaries, etc. Also, you may consider offering the Altar flowers, Altar bread and wine, Altar candles, or lighting the Sanctuary lamp for a week for your intention. Come to the Rectory Office, **Mon. – Fri., 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.** to make arrangements or to inquire about the availability of a particular date.

The **YOUTH GROUP** meets on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass in the school building. Their next meeting will be Sunday, January 5th. All youths age 13 and up are invited.

December 22, 2013

Mass  *for the*
Intentions *Week*

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 21 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

Sunday, December 22

8:30 AM Robert Liddell +

10:00 AM John J. Esposito, Sr. +

11:30 AM Carl Dietze, Robert & Chester Rodesky +

5:00 PM Miguel Angel Ocasio, Rafael & Edwin Rivera +

Monday, December 23

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Leonard Revellese +

9:00 AM Carmella & Frank Gerace +

Tuesday, December 24

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Silvia DiMarcello +

9:00 AM Andrew Giordano +

Vigil of Christmas

5:00 PM Deceased Members of Lucchetti & Capuano Families

Wednesday, December 25

Nativity of the Lord

12 Midnight For All the People of Our Parish

8:30 AM Carmine Nicholas Maccia +

10:00 AM Brusco & Nanoia Families

11:30 AM Lena Castaldo +

Thursday, December 26

Saint Stephen, First Martyr

7:00 AM Monsignor Charles J. McManus +

9:00 AM Antonio Vitullo & Nicolantonio Romagnoli +

Friday, December 27

Saint John, Apostle & Evangelist

7:00 AM Natividad San Pablo (living)

9:00 AM John F. Brusco +

Saturday, December 28

Holy Innocents, Martyrs

9:00 AM Joanne Moscarello +

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saturday, December 28 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Frank & Carmela Legio +

Sunday, December 29

8:30 AM Elizabeth & Carl Laredo +

10:00 AM Biagio & Lucia Labruzzo +

11:30 AM Maddalena & Paul Coniglio +

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

**A CHRISTMAS BLESSING
FOR THE HOME**



Loving God,
As we gather at Christmas around the manger,
Which reminds us of the birth of Your Son,
We ask You to dwell in our hearts and our home.
Bless every member of our family,
And strengthen the bond of love among us.
May we joyfully praise You like the angel choir
That announced the birth of Your Son
To the shepherds watching over their flocks.
May we show Your love to others
With the same brightness of the star that guided
The Wise Men to offer gifts to the newborn King.
Make our family holy,
Just like Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,
So that we may always live in peace and love.
Amen.

GIVING GIFTS



At the Savior's birth,
Magi from the East presented gifts
Of gold, frankincense and myrrh,
Reflecting Christ's kingship, divine nature,
And human nature subject to death.
Though the magi once worshiped the gods of their land,
They knew before them was a king greater than all kings
And a God greater than all gods they'd known.
As we buy or make gifts for one another this Christmas,
May we remember amid the hustle, bustle and commotion
That Christmas gift giving honors our Savior and Lord,
Who came to dwell among us as one like ourselves.
May we remember that the giving of gifts
Was a sign of love
Begun in response to the greatest gift of all from God:
The only-begotten Son.