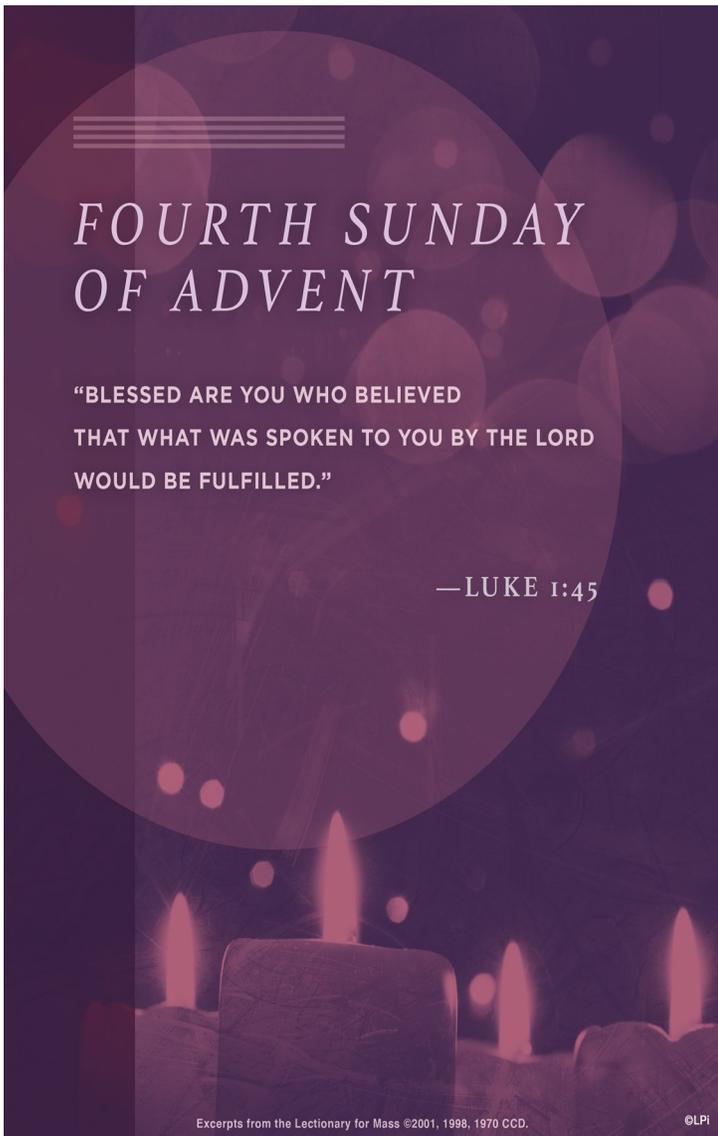


Saint Bartholomew's Church

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 Ezech, MSP, Pastor
Rev. Victor Ameh, MSP, Associate Pastor
Karen Maccia McKenna, Parish Office Manager
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, **11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. (Spanish Mass)** and 5 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 4:30 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: Thomas Hoffman, Tina Falcone

FOLLOW GOD'S WILL



Where do you house what is most important to you? For the Chosen People, the ark of the covenant was the most important object they had. David concluded that it should be housed in a palace, not a tent. But God's perspective was different. For God, it was the house of David, His family line, that is, which was more important than an object, no matter how sacred it was. Therefore, God blessed David's lineage, establishing a house, not for the ark, but for David. Perhaps this can be a lesson to view the people in our lives as more important than our possessions. Do we take more care of our loved ones than we do our precious belongings?

King David lived in a palace, but when it came for Jesus to be born, it did not take place in anything resembling a palace. Instead of a luxurious palace in the holy city of Jerusalem, our Lord was born in a manger stable in tiny Bethlehem. In fact, He was conceived in the remote village of Nazareth, days away from Judea. Why? The person of Mary was much more important than the city of David. God's priority was not the external environment of the holy city, but the blessed womb in which Jesus developed.

Gabriel's visit is shocking and greatly troubling to this young, lowly, unmarried woman. Everything Gabriel said was as incredible as she could possibly imagine. Yet, she immediately assents to God's will, saying, "May it be done to me according to Your word" (Luke 1:38). It is Mary's faith and trust in the Lord that makes the incarnation possible. It is our faith and trust in God that continues to make Jesus' incarnation possible in today's world.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

How do I discern what God's will is? Am I willing to trust in God and follow God's will?



Father Raphael, Father Victor, and the Parish Staff heartily wish you and your family safe travels as you gather with family and friends to celebrate the birth of Christ and the New Year. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Safe Travels to Father Raphael

We wish Father Raphael safe travels as he heads to Nigeria for some rest and family time.

Christmas Wish List

You can still purchase : (2) 36" wreaths (\$140 each); (1) 48" wreaths (\$150 each) and Pointsettia Arrangements (75 each) in memory of a loved one(s). Please contact the Parish Office.



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 is donated in loving memory of the deceased members of the Brusco & Nanoia Families.

THE ALTAR CANDLES and THE ALTAR SANCTUARY LAMP are lit in loving memory of the deceased members of the Brusco and Nanoia Families.

SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S DAY

CHRISTMAS EVE:

Sunday, December 24th

VIGIL AT 4 P.M.

Begins with Carols at 3:30 p.m.

MIDNIGHT MASS

Begins with Carols at 11:30 p.m.



CHRISTMAS DAY:

Monday, December 25th

9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. & 12:30 (Spanish Mass)
(There will be no 5:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas day)

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD
NEW YEAR'S MASSES:**

Sunday, December 31st

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Monday, January 1st

11:00 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. (Spanish Mass)

(There will be no 9:30 or 5:00 p.m.

Mass on New Year's day)



A prayer for love on the 4th Sunday of Advent

O Lord God of Hosts, You sent your only Son to us as an act of love at Christmas time. On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we pray that Your face will shine upon us, that Your face will shine upon our church, that Your face will shine upon our children, that Your face will shine upon our



neighbors, upon our nation and upon our enemies. We confess that sometimes we fail to act on the Advent love that You placed in our hearts. We have held Your salvation close but sometimes hold to our opinions, ideologies, and private agendas. Forgive us of this sin and restore us again. Restore our minds with the primary knowledge that You have saved us and that we

are Your witnesses. Restore our hearts with a love for You and a love for our neighbors. We ask this so that those we love will be restored to You as well. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, whom You gave for the world that You so loved. *Amen*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THANK YOU!!

The 48" Christmas wreath was donated in loving memory of Joseph T. Pasqualoni, III & Lucille, Samuel & Peter Anthony Garafola & Teresa & Joseph T. Pasqualoni, Sr. by Pauline & Joseph Pasqualoni, Jr.



The 48" Christmas wreath was donated in loving memory of the deceased members of the Cognatello & Gregorio Families by MaryAnn and Anthony Cognatello.

The 48" Christmas wreath was donated in loving memory of Dennis Madonia by Janet Madonia.

A Christmas Flower arrangement was donated in loving memory of Albert Pragana, Mary & Joseph Cuozzo, Lucille and Victor Serricchio & Christine Bellino by Joanne Pragana.



A Christmas Flower arrangement was donated in loving memory of Gloria and Benjamin De Luccy by their children.

A Christmas Flower Arrangement was donated in loving memory of Theresa Venturino by Quincy Venturino.

A Christmas Flower Arrangement was donated in loving memory of the Martucci & Venturino Families by Quincy Venturino.

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 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

SUNDAY COLLECTION

December 10th

Sunday collection:	\$4,708.00
On Line giving:	\$1,271.00
Total:	\$5,979.00

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 stbartschurch@aol.com.



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Ann Lackner, Gail Chappory, Gina Obalde, Ron and Sally Petro, Angela Lutomski, Richard (Dick) Novak, Manuel Obalde, Jr., Anthony Spinner, Steven Sarich, John McKenna, Antony Gorge Ferreira, Eileen Fitzpatrick, Ann Pezzola, Edith Kelly, Carole Romanowski, Susan Rivera, Kenneth Chappory, Ann McShane, Ellen Chimenti, Gianna Whitehead, Dan Panik, Dominick Francis Marra, Edward Minozzi, Robert Minnucci, Lucia Sevivas, Josephine Giabattista, Loni Shost, Ken Shost, Emil Kurak, John & Patricia Quirk, Lucille McGeough, Baby Joseph Anthony Coddington, Tony Sciacca, Megan Weingarten, Richard Gritta, Luz Maria Izurieta, Joan Manno, Ana Herrera, Edna McShane, Faust Venturino, Patricia Nieman, Richard Romanowski, Salvador Aviles, Judy Hanrahan, John Smith, Theresa Liuzzi, Barbara Olivieri, Michael & Joseph Diaz (twin babies) and Patricia Mahoney. The Parish Office and leave a message or e mail us at stbartschurch@aol.com, if you wish to add a loved one to the sick list.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU FROM THE FOOD PANTRY/ SOCIAL MINISTRY GROUP

20 CHRISTMAS BASKETS WERE GIVEN OUT 450 PRESENTS WERE COLLECTED FOR THE GIVING TREE AND WILL BE DELIVERED TO OUR CHARITIES



GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!

December 24, 2023

Mass  for the
Intentions *for the Week*

Saturday, December 23 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Patrick J. Conway +

Sunday, December 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:30 AM Deceased Members of the Legio Family
11:00 AM Anna & Anthony Faracco +
12:30 PM Omar Arias +

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve

3:30 PM Carols
4:00 PM Christmas Vigil—
George & Maryanne Klobosits +
11:30 PM Carols
12:00 AM Midnight Mass
For All The People of Our Parish

Monday, December 25

The Nativity of the Lord—Christmas Day

9:30 AM Margaret & Carmine Maccia +
11:00 AM Ralph Esposito +
Deceased Members of the Brusco & Naoia Families

Tuesday, December 26

Saint Stephen, The First Martyr

9:00 AM Fiorente & Teresa Venturino +

Weekday, December 27

Saint John, Apostle & Evangelist

7:00 AM Charles Hicks (Living)
9:00 AM Louis Brusco +

Thursday, December 28

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

7:00 AM Reverend Charles McManus +
9:00 AM Michael & Josephine Califano +

Friday, December 29

Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

7:00 AM Charles Hicks (Living)
9:00 AM Filomena Manzi +

Saturday, December 30

Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

9:00 AM Vincent Netzler +

Saturday, December 30 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Gloria De Luccy +

Sunday, December 31

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

9:30 AM John & Geraldine Mazza +
11:00 AM Patricia Mahoney +
12:30 PM For All The People of Our Parish
5 PM *Vigil for Solemnity of Mary— (for January 1st)*
For All The People Of Our Parish

Please note Masses on Monday, January 1st are:

11:00 AM Michael & Josephine Califano

12:30 PM For All The People of Our Parish

There is no 5 p.m. Mass on January 1st

December 24, 2023

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 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 Parish Office. Thank you!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Comment: _____

- I am interested in parish membership.
- I am a visitor.
- 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.

WE ALL NEED A LITTLE HUMOR

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

