

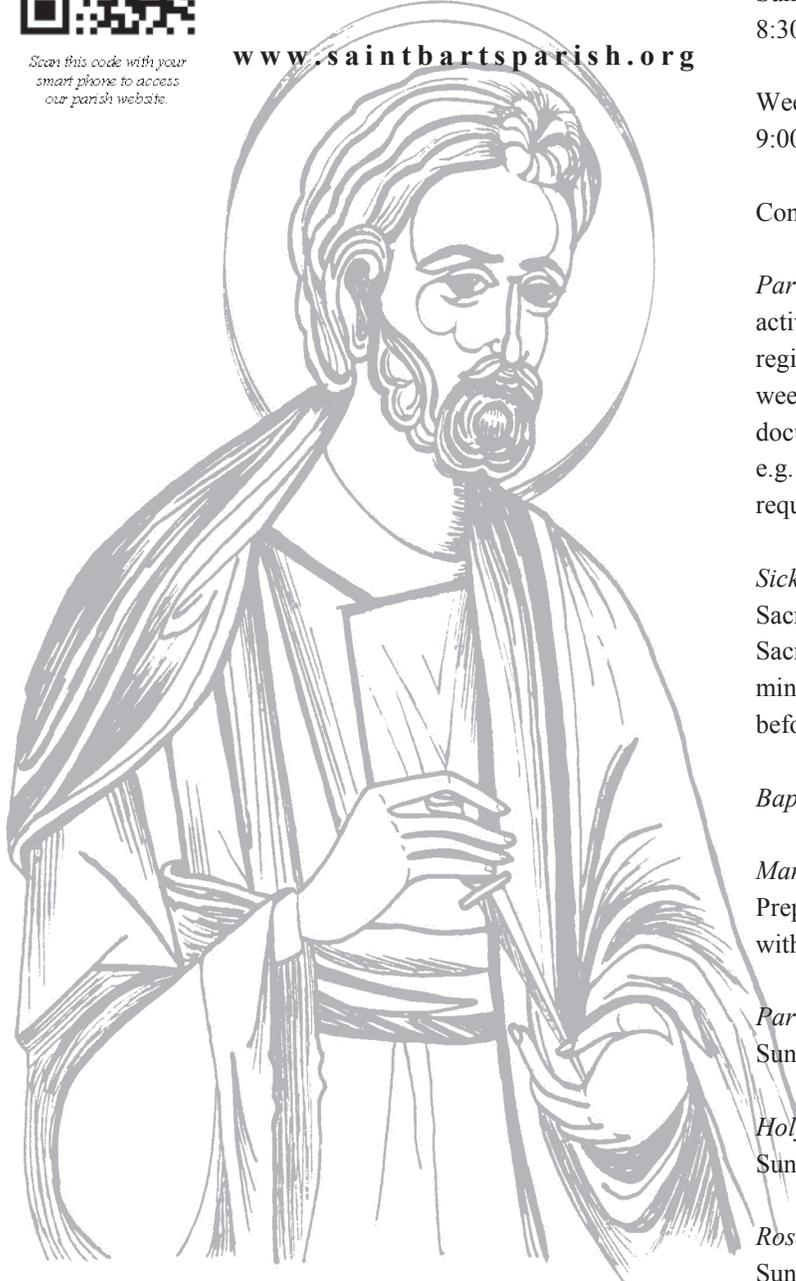
St. Bartholomew's Church



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

15 Palmer Road
Yonkers • New York 10701

www.saintbartparish.org



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. 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

FAITH, NOT MAGIC

Why do you eat? Is it to satisfy your hunger or to nourish your body? I know many will surely say "both," but we need one answer here! Also, why did/do you go to school? Is it to become a more mature and better-equipped person, able to use his/her abilities to contribute towards building up society/the kingdom of God, or is it to access better job opportunities and money, and thus feel secure? Again, one answer is needed. Why do most Christians go to church? Is it to thank and praise God and be nourished by Him in Word and Sacrament? Or is it to ask Him for a favor, or even worse, to fulfill the law?

Today's gospel reading (Mark 5:21-43) presents different lessons or reminders to us. One of them is on faith and prayer, or making our requests known to God. The woman with hemorrhages and Jairus, the Synagogue official, approached Jesus for a favor. In very few words, they made their needs known. With just two words (Aramaic version – Talitha koum) Jesus raises his dead little girl. Better still, the woman is healed without a single word from Jesus! The lesson here is profound: **it's faith, not a magic formula that heals!** Why is this important?

First, often, especially when desperate, we forget that it is our personal faith, our trust and confidence in Christ, our down-to-earth, childlike or simple, but unalloyed belief in Christ's power and goodness that is the basis for our healing and answered prayers. Saying that one stopped coming to church or believing in God because He did not answer one's prayer is an example that one thinks that some sort of magic formula must be involved. Die-hard gamblers don't quit (they need to, anyway) because they believe that they'll hit the big one the very next time. Others who gamble occasionally invest limited funds and feeling unlucky, would sooner or later leave, saying something like, "I've never been lucky at this." Well, quitting on God sounds like that to me. It's like there's no relationship. No faith. No trust that God actually, in reality cares. SAD.

We should eat mainly to nourish our bodies. When we do so, we'll eat mostly that which helps, not harms our bodies. Along that line, we will also enjoy the act and satisfy our hunger. We should come to church to praise and thank God and thus deepen our relationship with God. While at it, we should ask God for whatever we want. Thus, whether God answers our prayers or not, our relationship with Him suffices and fulfills us – and what answered prayer would be greater than that? If God is with us, who can be against us? It's all about faith, our personal view of Who Christ is to us, not some magic formula. May the Lord continue to help us to grow deeper in our knowledge and belief in Him. Amen.

SEE YOU IN A MONTH

I leave with two emotions: one wanting to stay back and one looking forward to seeing everyone at home. There has been so much to do and so little time. Summer is the best time to catch up on one-on-one time with many parishioners and families and be able to connect and get to know more people and in some cases be of greater help. The school lease contract is not signed yet. Garden work is in the planning phase. Door to door evangelization will be kicking off. But, work never finishes. Oddly enough, I'm already looking forward to my return the end of July. But for now – Nigeria here I come! Do keep me and my family in your prayers, please. One thing with many of us priests is that whether at work or on vacation, your priestly work goes on. I already have some issues awaiting resolutions. But it's all good. If God is with us we must have fun!

Fr. Anthony returns Monday. It's been a rough time for him and he'll need his own rest, too.

~ Father Raphael Ezeh, MSP

PARISH NEWS



Wishing all of you a happy, safe Fourth of July and a summer filled with good times, good friends, good health of spirit, mind and body. This Friday, July 3rd, is the official observance of Independence Day; there will only be one Mass at 9 a.m.; and the Parish Office will be closed.

SHARING COMMUNITY MEAL: This Thursday, July 2nd, we will be providing our Sharing Community Meal. Please bring your ziti or dessert to the Rectory. Doors will open at 6:45 a.m. The Sharing Community truly appreciates our efforts. For information, please call the Parish Office.



CALLING ALL SENIORS! CALLING ALL SENIORS!

Join fellow seniors for a Mass and Gathering

Thursday, July 2nd



9 a.m. Mass with a Special Blessing, followed by light refreshments and gathering at the McManus Parish Center.

HOLY HOUR: Because of the observance of Independence Day on Friday, July 3rd, and the Fourth of July on Saturday, we will hold our First Friday Holy Hour from 8 - 9 a.m., followed by the 9 a.m. Mass; and the Divine Mercy Holy Hour will be held at 8 a.m. on Saturday, July 4th. All are invited to come to adore Jesus Christ Who is truly present in the Holy Eucharist.



MONDAY, JULY 13th

1:30 – 7:30 PM

2 BUSES ON THE CORNER OF SAW MILL RIVER ROAD & ROOSEVELT AVENUE



Please note the new date & location!! Because of the urgent need for blood at this time of year, Hudson Valley Blood Center has asked St. Bartholomew's to go ahead with our Blood Drive, even though the impending renovations to our school building make it unavailable.

Because of limited space in the 2 Bus Mobiles, it is very important that appointments be made and you are prompt for your appointment. If you can donate, please call Tony Sciacca (423-3592) for an appointment. Also, please encourage your family & friends to participate.

OUR FAMILY MASS: Next Sunday, July 5th, we will celebrate our Family Mass at 10 a.m. All children and their families are encouraged to attend.



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WELCOME BACK, FATHER ANTHONY MBANEFO!

Father Anthony Mbanefo returns from Chicago this Monday; we warmly welcome him back to his St. Bartholomew's home.

Father Raphael will leave for his vacation in Nigeria this Monday, returning on Tuesday, July 28th. We pray that the Lord protects him during his travels and brings him safely back to St. Bartholomew's Parish.



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

Table with 4 columns: Category, 6/22/14, 6/21/15, Difference. Rows include Adults, Children, and Total.

There will be a 2nd Collection next Sunday, July 5th, in support of our buildings and grounds.

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



PRAYER FOR FREEDOM

Dear Lord,

So many today misunderstand freedom Believing that it is the ability to do whatever we want.

Help us always to remember that freedom, true freedom,

Is being able to do what we ought to do.

That freedom, true freedom,

Is not indulging our every want and whim,

But instead it is the ability to rise above any desires

That are wrong, disordered, dangerous or excessive.

Give us the grace always to remember

That true freedom makes us the people You wish us to be, That true freedom brings us closer to You, and reshapes our world in the likeness of Your kingdom.

Amen.

FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Register now for next year's Religious Education program. Children in public school who will be entering First Grade through High School in September are eligible for these classes. Evening classes are available to accommodate the children of working parents. Besides grade level classes, instruction prepares children for Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation. Call Cheryl Duda (476-6676) for information.



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 Swiatkovicz, 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, Gail Chappory, Agnes Masterson, Gregory Clemens, Carol Hoffman, and Randolph Castillo, Jr.

2016 MASS BOOK IS OPEN: The Mass Book for 2016 opened on Ash Wednesday and there are still many dates open in this year's Mass Book, as well. Consider giving a loved one or someone (living or deceased) who has a special place in your life the graces associated with having a Mass offered on their behalf. 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 sanctuary lamp for your intention. Come to the Rectory Office, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. to make arrangements or to inquire about the availability of a particular date.

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

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

SOCIAL MINISTRY: Our Food Pantry has an ongoing need for dry goods, especially pasta, rice, pasta sauces, cereal, macaroni & cheese, juices, canned fish/meat, canned fruits & condiments, such as mayonnaise, mustard, and ketchup. Please keep this in mind on your next trip to the supermarket. Thank you for your continuing support!



JUNE 28, 2015

Mass  for the
Intentions Week

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, June 27 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Joanne D'Angelo +

Sunday, June 28

8:30 AM Margaret F. Manning +

10:00 AM Deceased Members of Lucchetti & Capuano Families

11:30 AM Mary & Carmelo Terrusa & Family +

5:00 PM Novena for Our Living & Deceased Fathers

Monday, June 29

Saints Peter & Paul, Apostles

7:00 AM Patricia Deely +

Novena for Our Living & Deceased Fathers

9:00 AM Joseph & Maria Nguyen +

Tuesday, June 30

Weekday

7:00 AM A Needy Soul

9:00 AM Teresina & Luigi Pagnotta +

Wednesday, July 1

Weekday

7:00 AM Brian Detz (living)

9:00 AM Daniel DeRosa +

Thursday, July 2

Weekday

7:00 AM Reverend Anthony Ita Bassey, MSP +

9:00 AM Antonio Marchetti +

Friday, July 3

Saint Thomas, Apostle

9:00 AM Donato Sacchetta +

Saturday, July 4

Weekday

9:00 AM Peter M. Objay +

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, July 4 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Marion DeMuro +

Sunday, July 5

8:30 AM Mary Ann Karpinski +

10:00 AM For All the People of Our Parish

11:30 AM Susie & Vincent Streva +

5:00 PM Jose Angel Ocasio +

JUNE 28, 2015

**THOMAS
APOSTLE
JULY 3**

Poor Thomas! He made one remark and has been branded as “Doubting Thomas” ever since. But if he doubted, he also believed. He made what is certainly the most explicit statement of faith in the New Testament: “My Lord and my God!” (See John 20:24 - 28) and, in so expressing his faith, gave Christians a prayer that will be said till the end of time. He also occasioned a compliment from Jesus to all later Christians: “Have you come to believe because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed” (John 20:29).



Thomas should be equally well known for his courage. Perhaps what he said was impetuous - since he ran, like the rest, at the showdown - but he can scarcely have been insincere when he expressed his willingness to die with Jesus. The occasion was when Jesus proposed to go to Bethany after Lazarus had died. Since Bethany was near Jerusalem, this meant walking into the very midst of His enemies and to almost certain death. Realizing this, Thomas said to the other apostles, “Let us also go to die with Him” (John 11:16b).

COMMENT: Thomas shares the lot of Peter the impetuous, James and John, the “sons of thunder,” Philip and his foolish request to see the Father - indeed all the apostles in their weakness and lack of understanding. We must not exaggerate these facts, however, for Christ did not pick worthless men. But their human weakness again points up the fact that holiness is a gift of God, not a human creation: it is given to ordinary men and women with weaknesses; it is God Who gradually transforms the weaknesses into the image of Christ, the courageous, trusting, and loving One.

QUOTE: [P]rompted by the Holy Spirit, the Church must walk the same road which Christ walked: a road of poverty and obedience, of service and self-sacrifice to the death ... For thus did all the apostles walk in hope. On behalf of Christ’s Body, which is the Church, they supplied what was wanting in the sufferings of Christ by their own trials and sufferings (cf. Colossians 1:24)” (Decree on the Church’s Missionary Activity, 5).

From *Saint of the Day*, edited by Leonard Foley, O.F.M., & Pat McCloskey, O.F.M.