

Saint Bartholomew's Church

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St. Bartholomew's Yonkers



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. - Mt 2:10-11a

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

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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.

Rev. Raphael Ezeh, MSP, Pastor
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

Masses: 5:00 p.m. on Saturday (Vigil);
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.

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

CHANGING YOUR ROUTE TO LEAD TO JESUS



The light of salvation is intended to attract everyone across the face of the earth. The passage from Isaiah we hear today was written after the Babylonian captivity

when the Chosen People were allowed to return to Jerusalem. At first "your sons and daughters" are invited (60:4), but then people from Midian, Ephah, and Sheba are welcomed. These descendants of Abraham had separated from the Chosen People before they were held captive in Egypt. In the Gospel, the star that the magi saw at its rising must have been visible outside Judea, leading them from foreign lands to the east. Paul tells the people of Ephesus that "Gentiles are co-heirs...copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 3:6). Salvation is not restricted to one people, one region, or one era.



Gold and frankincense are brought as gifts in both the first reading and the Gospel, but in the Gospel the magi add myrrh. Myrrh is often used for anointing, but it also could relieve pain or perfume a body, so we also see it offered to Jesus on the cross (Mark 15:23) and used to anoint His body in the tomb (John 19:39). Jesus is both king and victim, and the gifts He is given reflect both roles.

Like the magi, we also have the opportunity to come seek the Lord. It is a journey we make throughout our lives, looking for the Lord's presence in the world, in our lives, in ourselves. Like the magi, who return home a different way, encountering the Lord often leads us to change course.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

How has an encounter with the Lord led me in a new way? Am I willing to change my route in the future?

Blessings **Fr. Raphael, Ezech, MSP**

PARISH NEWS



Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed especially Michael Califano.



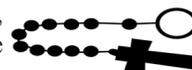
THE ALTAR BREAD AND WINE, ALTAR CANDLES AND SANCTUARY LAMP are donated in loving memory of Joseph T. Pasqualoni, III by Pauline and Joseph Pasqualoni.



Religious Education

Religious Education classes resume this Tuesday, January 7th.

The Rosary Altar Society will meet next Sunday, January 12th after the 8:30 a.m. Mass in the McManus Parish Center. All ladies of the Parish are welcome to attend.



MEALS FOR A SOUP KITCHEN: THIS THURSDAY
JANUARY 9TH



We will be providing **Immaculate Conception, a Soup Kitchen in the Bronx** with a monthly contribution of baked ziti and desserts. Please bring your donation to the Rectory basement (food pantry door) after 8 a.m. on Thursday. If the doors are not open, leave your donations by the food pantry door. **If you'd like to contribute, please call the Parish Office at 914-965-0566.**

Calling all Seniors! Calling all Seniors!

Join fellow seniors **this Thursday, January 9th** for the 9 a.m. Mass with a Special Blessing followed by light refreshments and gathering in the **Rectory Basement.**



CHILDREN'S MASS:

Please make it a point to bring your child to our Children's Mass this Sunday, January 5th at 10 a.m. with breakfast following in McManus Parish Center. The 10 a.m. Mass every Sunday focuses on our children. The Parish Children's Choir sings at this Mass. The children are encouraged to sit with other children at a designated place during the Mass.

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

(popularly known as RCIA) is the process designed by the Church for adults to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion. Please contact Cheryl Duda at 914-476-6676 if you or somebody you know might be interested in the program.



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



SAVE THE DATE

St. Bart's Annual Winter Festival, Friday,
February 15th. Stay tuned for further details.

THE MEANING OF THE EPIPHANY

The feast of the Epiphany, which was kept in the East and in certain Western Churches before being observed in Rome, seems to have been originally a feast of the nativity; January 6, for those churches where it was kept, was the equivalent of Christmas (December 25) in the Roman Church. The feast was introduced at Rome in the second half of the sixth century and became the complement and, so to say, the crown of the Christmas festival.

Epiphany means manifestation. What the Church celebrates today is the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world; after being made known to the shepherds of Bethlehem He is revealed to the Magi who have come from the East to adore Him. Christian tradition has seen in the Magi the first fruits of the Gentiles; they lead in their wake all the peoples of the earth, and thus the Epiphany is an affirmation of universal salvation. St. Leo brings out this point admirably in a sermon, read at Matins, in which he shows, in the adoration of the Magi the beginnings of Christian faith, the time when the great mass of the heathen sets off to follow the star which summons it to seek its Savior. Formerly the Epiphany was an additional day for solemn baptisms.



Our **YOUTH GROUP** meets in the school building on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass. Their next meeting is this Sunday, January 5, 2020.

Our **EDGE GROUP (AGES 11-13)** meets in the school building on the second Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass. Their next meeting is Sunday, January 12, 2020.

Our **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY (AGES 4-10)** meets the third Friday each month at 6:30 p.m. in the school building. Their next meeting will be Friday, January 17, 2020.

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.

Arise, shine, for the Light of the World has come!
Darkness covers the earth and its
people,
but the radiance of God's Light
burns away its shadows, illuminates
the smallest corner, and heralds in
the start
of a new dawn,
where hearts no longer fear,
souls might be set free, and sister
shall follow brother,
nation shall follow nation, and kings and princes bow
down in awe before the one who comes to reign.
Arise, shine, for the Light of the World has come!
Alleluia!



TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING Sunday Collection Update

**December 22, 2019– Tithing
(December 29th to be reported in next week's bulletin)**

Envelopes	\$5,317.15
Online	\$ 770.00
Total	\$6,087.15

The Christmas collection will be reported in next week's bulletin

"Thank you to all those who are participating in our tithing program! May God bless and reward your sacrifices! For those who are not yet tithing, I encourage you to please give it a prayerful thought. Thank you!

**It's time to sign up for on line giving, with We Share.
Please contact the parish office or fill out the cards
at the rear of the Church.**



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, Larry Vandak, Harold Sullivan, Manuel Obalde, Jr., Anthony Spinner, Edison Blanco, Steven Sarich, Larry Mesler, John McKenna, Antony Gorge Ferreira, Jerry Esposito, Jeri Michele Sugrue, Eileen Fitzpatrick, Ann Pezzola, Edith Kelly, Carole Romanowski, Theresa Chappory, Susan Rivera, Kenneth Chappory, Rosemarie Bartolomeo, Ann McShane, Frank Marra, Ellen Chimenti, Doreen Madonia, Gianna Whitehead and Gloria DeLuccy.

Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to add a loved one to the sick list.

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!!!
Go to: www.saintbartparish.org and click on the We Share online giving link. (WE SHARE HAS REPLACED PARISH PAY).



January 5, 2020

Mass  for the
Intentions Week

Saturday, January 4 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Helen Clemens +

Sunday, January 5, 2019

Epiphany of the Lord

8:30 AM Giacomo & Blanche Bilancia +

10:00 AM Joseph T. Pasqualoni, III +

11:30 AM Vincent J. Campisi and Julieann Campisi
Moroch +

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

Monday, January 6

Christmas Weekday

7:00 AM Vincent James Netzler (Living)

9:00 AM Eva Gelino +

Tuesday, January 7

Christmas Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Ernest & Irene Russo & Mary Evans +

Wednesday, January 8

Christmas Weekday

10:00 AM No Intention

11:30 AM Paul Pompeo +

Thursday, January 9

Christmas Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Gerald West +

Friday, January 10

Christmas Weekday

7:00 AM No Intention

9:00 AM Michael Reeve +

Saturday, January 11

Christmas Weekday

9:00 AM Deceased Members of Brusco & Nanoia
Families

Saturday, January 11 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Theresa Venturino +

Sunday, January 12, 2019

Baptism of the Lord

8:30 AM Deceased Members of Holy Name Society
and Rosary Altar Society

10:00 AM Dennis Madonia +

11:30 AM For All the People of Our Parish

5:00 PM Maria De La Carmen & Julio Parito Blanco +

January 5, 2020

A PRAYER TO KEEP GOD FIRST THIS YEAR

Dear God, Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need You and rely on Your presence filling us every single day.



We pray for Your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that You will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire You above all else. We ask that You will open doors

needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. We ask that You help us release our grip on the things to which You've said "no," "not yet," or "wait." We ask for help to pursue You first, above every dream and desire You've put within our hearts.

We ask for Your wisdom, for Your strength and power to be constantly present within us. We pray You make us strong and courageous for the road ahead. Give us ability beyond what we feel able, let Your gifts flow freely through us, so that You may be honored by our lives, and others will be drawn to You.

We pray that You keep us far from the snares and traps of temptations. That You whisper in our ear when we need to run, and whisper in our heart when we need to stand our ground.

We pray for Your protection over our families and friends. We ask for Your hand to cover us and keep us distanced from the evil intent of the enemy; that You be a barrier to surround us, that we be safe in Your hands. We pray that You give us discernment and insight beyond our years, to understand Your will, hear Your voice, and know Your ways.

We ask that You keep our footsteps firm, on solid ground, helping us to be consistent and faithful. Give us supernatural endurance to stay the course, not swerving to the right or to the left, or being too easily distracted by other things that would seek to call us away from a close walk with You.

Forgive us for the times we have worked so hard to be self-sufficient, forgetting our need for You, living independent of Your spirit. Forgive us for letting fear and worry control our minds, and for allowing pride and selfishness wreak havoc over our lives. Forgive us for not following Your ways and for living distant from Your presence.

We confess our need for You...fresh...new...again. We ask that You make all things new, in our hearts, in our minds, in our lives, for this coming year. We pray for Your refreshing over us.

Keep Your words of truth planted firm within us, help us to keep focused on what is pure and right, give us the power to be obedient to Your word. And when the enemy reminds us where we have been, hissing his lies and attacking our way, we trust that Your voice speaks louder and stronger, as You remind us we are safe with You and Your purposes and plans will not fail. We ask that You be our defense and rear guard, keeping our way clear, removing the obstacles, and covering the pitfalls. Lord, lead us on Your level ground.

We ask that You provide for our needs, we ask for Your grace and favor. We pray for Your blessings to cover us, we pray that You help us to prosper and make every plan that You have birthed in our heart to succeed. We pray that others would take notice of Your goodness and cannot help but to say, "These are the ones that the Lord has blessed."

Help us to be known as great givers, help us to be generous and kind, help us to look to the needs of others and not be consumed by only our own.

May we be lovers of truth, may the fruits of Your spirit be evident in our lives - Your love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Shine Your light in us, through us, over us. May we make a difference in this world, for Your glory and purposes. Set Your way before us. May all Your plans succeed so we may reflect Your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs Your presence and healing.

To You be glory and honor, in this New Year, and forever.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Crosswalks