

# St. Bartholomew's Church



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15 Palmer Road  
Yonkers • New York 10701

[www.saintbartsparish.org](http://www.saintbartsparish.org)  
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St. Bartholomew's Yonkers

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, Anthony Martelli

*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:* Catherine Hickey, Aureo Pinto



## Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?"  
Jesus answered, "You say I am a king. For this  
I was born and for this I came into the world,  
to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs  
to the truth listens to my voice."

- Jn 18:37

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

*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.

### In Need Of Christ The True King

Christ instituted the Church, among others, to be a light unto the nations of the world, and to direct all God's children and lead them back to God. And this, the Church has never failed to do over the years. Let's think of Russia for example.

Tradition holds that St. Andrew the Apostle introduced Christianity to Russia, precisely in the current **Kiev** area. Over the years they embraced the Byzantine rite (one of the many or traditions in the Catholic Church). Historically, the Church played vital roles in the survival of the Russian state, helping her to withstand years of oppression and further expansion both economically and spiritually.

Sadly, the emergent of the Soviet Union, which actually began in 1917, brought with it serious persecution of Christians and the introduction of atheism. The government wanted to remove every possible religious influence from the Soviet society. Beyond that, one of their ideological objectives was the elimination of religion. Thus, when Our Lady appeared to the three children at Fatima in 1917, one of her special requests was for people to pray for the conversion of Russia.

Within the next five years, 28 bishops and 1,200 priests were executed and some 20,000 Christians were executed. History shows that in 1937, alone, 136,900 Orthodox clerics were arrested, and 85,000 of them were shot dead. In 1938, alone 28,300 were arrested and 21,500 of them were shot dead. I recall how we daily prayed for the conversion of Russia for years when I was growing up. It finally happened on the night of November 9, 1989. And our very own Pope John Paul II was so instrumental to it.

I recall all this history because of our celebration today: the Solemnity of Christ the King of the universe. When anyone, any family, any people, or any nation submit to his rule among them, there is true peace, freedom and prosperity. Surely, this should not be understood to mean unending *kumbaya* and endless wealth.

Last Sunday I referenced many cases in which our fellow brothers and sisters (within and outside our country) suffered untimely and unprepared deaths. We recalled and prayed for the victims of the recent terrorist activities of ISIS around the world.

This past week, the international community led by France and Russia zeroed in on Raqqa, ISIS proclaimed Caliphate headquarters. ISIS has declared one of their goals as the founding of an Islamic State to which all Muslims must pledge. Judging by what they're doing now, we can imagine a world with a fully established Islamic state. And who will be the leader? What would be his message? How would "unbelievers" around the world fare under his rule? And by the way, who will be the divine king of this Caliphate? God? The same God we all worship?

I bring up these two narratives to show what happens when we humans don't have Christ in our lives or worse, when we try to eliminate Christ from our lives – be it on a personal level or family, society, or national levels (as was the case of USSR). ISIS and Al Qaeda have become the modern symbols of religion gone amok.

I guess as a Catholic priest I'm already biased because I believe Christ is the Only Son of God (and so, He is God), the only Prophet of God, and King of the world. I believe that if we truly enthrone Him as such, in our lives, in our families, in our communities, in our churches, or mosques, or synagogues, or whatever, we will know peace at all these levels.

Sentiments and pride apart, all we need to do is take a closer and realistic look at what He wants of us. What kind of Person and God he is. What examples He has left for us. What demands he places on us. And what powers He wields! I fell like the prophet Elijah, when he challenged the false prophets of Ba'al to a duel to determine the true God – Ba'al or the God of Israel.

Anyhow, that may never come to pass but at least, each of us can help by indeed making Christ the king of our heart, mind, bodies, soul, and families. That will go a long way to convert the world to our true King.

-Fr. Raphael Ezeh. MSP

## PARISH NEWS



### *Rest in Peace*

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, especially Helen Clemens and Ann I. Cavallo.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** for this week have been donated in loving memory of Frank G. Nanoia by Lou & Angela Brusco.



The **ALTAR BREAD & WINE, ALTAR CANDLES,** and **SANCTURAY LAMP** for this week have been donated in loving memory of Frank G. Nanoia by Lou & Angela Brusco.



### **GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD!**

This Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, is Thanksgiving Day. There will only be one Mass at 10 a.m. All parishioners are encouraged to come and give special thanks to God for all His blessings at the annual Thanksgiving Day Mass. The Parish Office will be closed this Thursday & Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **THANKSGIVING SHARING TABLE**

It has been the custom at our Parish for those attending the 10 a.m. Thanksgiving Day Mass to bring something for our Sharing Table. Typically this would be along the lines of a pie, special bread, a favorite dessert, candy or flowers. At the end of Mass all items on the table are blessed and all are welcome to choose an item to add to their holiday table; thus sharing our meal with our Parish family. Please give some thought to what you might bring this year.

### **THANKSGIVING DONATIONS**

Our **Social Ministry Committee** will be distributing Thanksgiving Baskets to some of our less fortunate brothers and sisters this Monday morning. If you plan to drop off a **frozen turkey, fresh / frozen pies, desserts or fruit**, please do so **Monday (November 23<sup>rd</sup>) morning between 7:30 and 9 a.m.** Thank you for your generosity!

## OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

St. Bart's will be conducting its blood drive. on **Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 to 7:30 p.m.** at McManus Parish Center. We are traditionally asked to run drives during holiday periods when the need for blood is great and the donations are usually down. Your support is just one of many things that make St. Bart's special. If you can donate, please call Tony Sciacca on 914 423-3592 for an appointment and tell your family and friends, too.



### JOIN US IN THE FUN

ST. BART'S KIDS DAY

BASKETBALL HOOPS TOURNAMENT GRADES 1-8

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5<sup>th</sup>

TIME 9:30 A.M.—3:00 P.M.



Entrance fee is \$5.00 (pay at the door). Refreshments can be purchased throughout the day. All proceeds will support our Religious Education program.

The **YOUTH GROUP** they will hold their annual Thanksgiving Dinner this Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Any teen 13 and older are welcome to attend; just bring a side dish to share!

### SAVE THE DATE

SANTA'S BREAKFAST

Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> after all morning Masses

Pictures with Santa \* Breakfast \* Crafts \* Bake Sale \*

More details to follow.



### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Wartburg, located in Mt. Vernon, NY has employment opportunities and are looking for dedicated, hard working and compassionate Home Health Aides and Home Care Staff Aide professionals. All those interested, please call 914 513-5413 or visit [www.Wartburg.org](http://www.Wartburg.org) for more information.

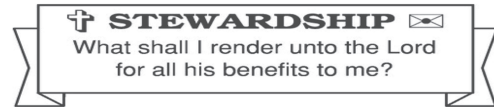
**MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA:** Held after the 9 a.m. Mass on Mondays.

**EUCARISTIC 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.

The women of the parish are invited to join the members of the Rosary Altar Society on **Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**, for a special **5:30 p.m. Mass and their Christmas Dinner** at Reno's Restaurant, 33 Lockwood Avenue, Yonkers. The cost is \$35 per person. Reservations are required by Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. Please call Josephine at 914 476-5386. Payment marked RAS Dinner can be dropped in the collection basket or brought to the Parish Office.



### TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

*Last Weekend's Contribution Comparison*

	11/16/14	11/15/15	Difference
Adults	\$4,683.15	\$5,757.30	+ \$ 1,074.15
Children	\$ 136.70	\$ 171.35	+ \$ 34.65
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,819.85</b>	<b>\$5,928.65</b>	<b>+ \$ 1,108.80</b>

The true purpose of **tithing** is to secure not the tithe, but the **tither**; not the gift, but the **giver**; not your money, but **you... for God.** **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!

***"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, 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 Swiatkowicz, 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, 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, Gina Obalde, Ann Lackner, Ariella Castillo, Brian Detz, John Marietti, Dominick Gravino, Angelica Blanco, Joseph Melillo, Gail Chappory, Agnes Masterson, Gregory Clemens, Carol Hoffman, Randolph Castillo, Jr., Carolyn & Lawrence Mesler, Grace Finnerty, Mary Ann Klobosits, Theresa Venturino, Nicholas Arzola, Manuel Obalde, Jr., and Maryellen Esposito.

NOVEMBER 22, 2015

Mass  for the  
Intentions Week

**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

**Saturday, November 21 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM Albert Pragana +

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**Sunday, November 22**

8:30 AM Deceased Mem. of Hoffman and Guarente Families

10:00 AM Donato Sacchetta +

11:30 AM Paul, Maddalena & Ralph Coniglio +

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

**Monday, November 23**

**Weekday**

7:00 AM Deceased Members. Bolduc & Savard Families

9:00 AM Rev. Anthony Ita Bassey, MSP +

**Tuesday, November 24**

**St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, & Companions, Martyrs**

7:00 AM Rev. Anthony Mbanefo, MSP (Living)

9:00 AM Robert J. Howley, Sr. +

**Wednesday, November 25**

**Weekday**

7:00 AM Rev. Anthony Ita Bassey, MSP +

9:00 AM Frank G. Nanoia +

**Thursday, November 26**

**Weekday—Thanksgiving Day**

10:00 AM For All the People of Our Parish

**Friday, November 27**

**Weekday**

7:00 AM Herbert Kurz +

9:00 AM Robert & Lillian Kurtz +

**Saturday, November 28**

**Weekday**

9:00 AM Jennifer & Robert Batac (Living)

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**First Sunday of Advent**

**Saturday, November 28 (Anticipated Mass)**

5:00 PM Josephine Giuriceo +

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**Sunday, November 29**

8:30 AM Roberto & Pasquale Capuano +

10:00 AM For All the People of Our Parish

11:30 AM Carol Ann Di Venuto +

5:00 PM Frances Giandomenico +

**NOVEMBER 22, 2015**

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**PRAYER TO CHRIST THE KING**



Christ Jesus, I acknowledge You King of the universe.  
All that has been created has been made for You.  
Make full use of Your rights over me.

I renew the promises I made in Baptism,  
when I renounced Satan and all his pomp and works,  
and I promise to live a good Christian life  
and to do all in my power to procure  
the triumph of the rights of God and Your Church.

Divine Heart of Jesus,  
I offer You my efforts  
in order to obtain that all hearts  
may acknowledge Your Sacred Royalty  
and that thus the Kingdom of Your peace  
may be established throughout the universe.  
Amen!

..+..+..+..+..+..+..+..+..+..+..+..+..+..+..+..

**THANKSGIVING PRAYER**



Dear God,  
In a world where much is available  
Yet so many still go wanting  
We thank You for all You have given us.  
In a time when family life  
Is often fragmented and chaotic  
We thank You for the family we have with us today.  
In a time when so many cannot express their faith  
We thank You for our freedoms.  
In a world that moves ever more quickly,  
We thank You for this time today  
To share a meal with loved ones,  
And to rest, reflect, and refresh ourselves  
On this Thanksgiving Day.  
Amen.