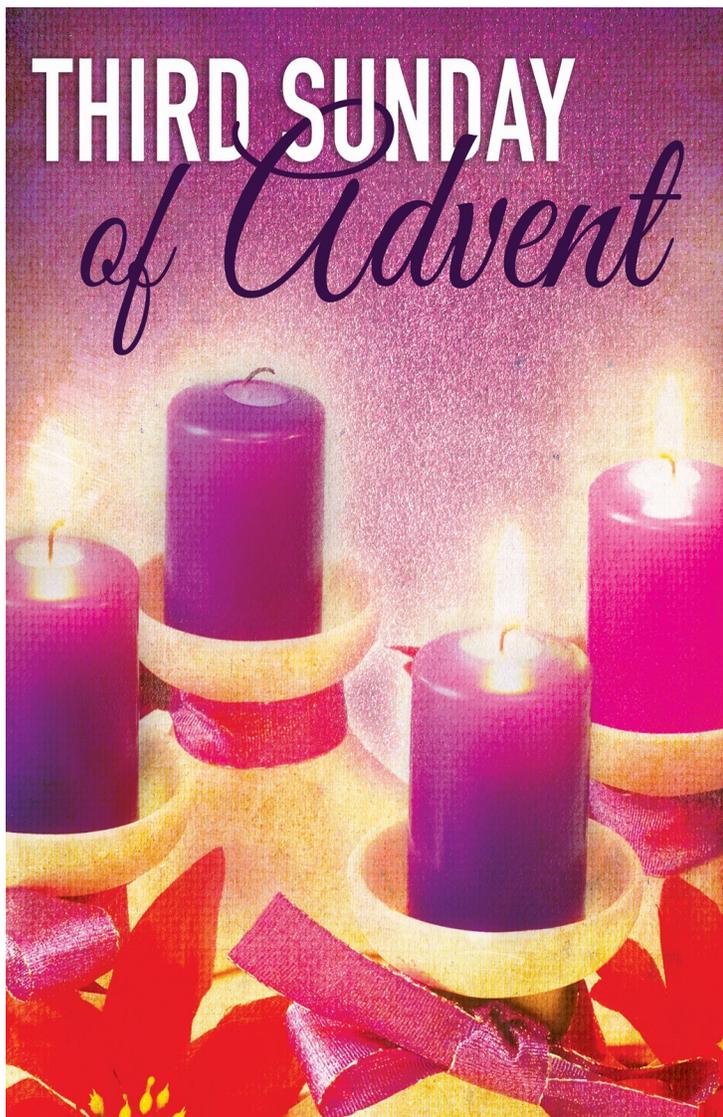


Saint Bartholomew's Church

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 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

JESUS IS THE MIRACLE

“Be patient,” James counsels his readers, even though “the coming of the Lord is at hand (James 5:8)/ Isaiah would agree, for he and the rest of the Israelites had to wait decades to be able to resettle in the Promised Land. But eventually the land would bloom. So too our hearts. Though Jesus is at hand here and now, the time at which he will bloom in each individual heart is not known.



John the Baptist may have been confused because he expected Jesus to do more separating of the wheat from the chaff, as we hear him warn last Sunday. Many assumed that the Messiah would lead the worthy to victory and condemn the sinful. Instead, Jesus has spent His time healing the afflicted and blessing the oppressed. It's as if John were waiting for the other shoe to drop. Jesus suggests the Messiah's mission is actually somewhat different, no offense.

In the Gospel, Jesus reminds John's disciples of the wonders He has done. He lists quite a few, including healing lepers and raising the dead. Jesus has transformed people's lives. Interestingly, in almost every case Jesus does not suffer the affliction himself. Jesus is not deaf or blind or lame. But He is one: He is poor. Jesus lived His life in poverty. He was born in a stable, brought to Egypt as a refugee, driven from his hometown of Nazareth when He began His ministry, lived without a home as an adult, and kept no possessions. So what does He do for the poor, considering He is poor Himself? He proclaims the Good News. He brings them God's promise of redemption. He Himself is the miracle.



QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

Even as I welcome Jesus into my heart, can I be patient for His full flowering? Can I be patient for His flowering in my neighbor and in the world?

Blessings

Fr. Raphael, Ezech, MSP

CHRISTMAS WISH LIST



1 Christmas wreath (\$125 each) as well as 2 poinsettia arrangements (\$60 each) and chasubles/albs (\$350) can be donated in memory of loved ones. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested at 914 965-0566.

PARISH NEWS



Parish Pastoral Council: The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) will meet this Monday, December 16th, at 7:00 pm in the rectory basement. All members are encouraged to attend this meeting.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP is donated in memory of Albert R. Popot by Mary Popot.



OUR PARISH GIVING TREE

In keeping with the true spirit of Christmas, we have the opportunity to share our resources with several charities who serve the disadvantaged, both adults and children (Immaculate Conception's Needy Families, Richmond Hill, Westchester Living Center, and the Central Committee of Veterans Org.) Please take an ornament(s) from the tree in the back of the church. It is important that this ornament, indicating gender and gift specific information, be securely attached to your wrapped package. Due to the fact that there is a short time frame between Thanksgiving and Christmas (there are only 3 weeks), please return all wrapped packages to the church, no later than this Tuesday, December 17th. Thank you for your continued support in this very special season of giving.



Our **SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE** is having a special food drive to provide **Christmas baskets** to some less fortunate brothers and sisters. What we need to complete this year's baskets are: hams, frozen desserts and candies. These food items should be brought to the church before the Mass on Saturday evening (December 14th) or before the Sunday morning Masses (December 15th) for distribution on December 17th. Thank you for your generosity!!!



A SPECIAL THANK YOU to all who donated "turkey and fixings." St. Bart's gave out 30 Thanksgiving baskets to needy families in our community as well as additional baskets to Immaculate Conception and Sisters of Charity.

THE OPPORTUNITY FOR CONFESSION/SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION BEFORE CHRISTMAS IS: THIS MONDAY, DECEMBER 16th

Throughout the Archdiocese of New York, Advent Reconciliation Monday, will be this Monday, December 16th, gives Catholics the opportunity to go to any parish for confession between the hours of 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. However, times for confession at some parishes may vary.



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH WILL HOLD CONFESSIONS FROM 3 P.M. TO 8 P.M. ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 16th.

SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S DAY

CHRISTMAS EVE:
Tuesday, December 24th



VIGIL AT 4 P.M. (not 5 p.m.)
Begins with Carols at 3:30 p.m.

MIDNIGHT MASS
Begins with Carols at 11:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY:

Wednesday, December 25th

8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

(There will be no 5:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas day)

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

NEW YEAR'S MASSES:

Tuesday, December 31st

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Wednesday, January 1st

10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

(There will be no 8:30 a.m. or 5:00 p.m.
Mass on New Year's day)



DON'T MISS THE NATIVITY PLAY
HERE AT ST. BART'S



Come and see your fellow parishioners in
The Nativity Play here at St. Bartholomew's
this Sunday, December 15th at 2 p.m. and
Tuesday, December 17th at 6:30 p.m.

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 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.

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.



TITHING - GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING
Sunday Collection Update

December 8, 2019- Tithing

Table with 2 columns: Category (Envelopes, Online, Total) and Amount (\$4,489.15, \$ 700.00, \$5,189.15)

"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.saintbartsparish.org and click on the We Share online giving
link. (WE SHARE HAS REPLACED PARISH PAY).

December 15, 2019

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 14 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Josephine Giuriceo +

Sunday, December 15, 2019

Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM Aristides Scipioni, Angela Orientale &
Sylvia & Carmine Scipioni +

10:00 AM Ethel Castagnozzi +

11:30 AM Vincenzo & Marietta De Santis +

5:00 PM For All the People of Our Parish

Monday, December 16

Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Audrey Falcone +

9:00 AM Albert R. Popot +

Tuesday, December 17

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Phan & Song Nguyen +

9:00 AM Jennifer Sacaridis +

Wednesday, December 18

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Carol Stola +

9:00 AM Theresa Venturino +

Thursday, December 19

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Carol Stola

9:00 AM Robert J. Musial +

Friday, December 20

Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Evangeline Yaskovic +

9:00 AM Audrey Falcone +

Saturday, December 21

Late Advent Weekday

9:00 AM Lucas Vazquez +

Saturday, December 21 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Joseph Mahoney +

Sunday, December 22, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM Robert Liddell +

10:00 AM For All the People of Our Parish

11:30 AM Charlotte Luzzi +

5:00 PM Rafael & Edwin Rivera +

December 15, 2019

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH FAMILY

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 please fill out 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 Rectory. Thank you!

Prayer for the Third Sunday of Advent

Heavenly Father,

This third week of Advent, let us remember that the good news of Jesus' birth has the power to bring us great joy this Christmas season. Our joy isn't dependent on what is going on in our life, in our world, or the people that we are with. It doesn't depend on the gifts we give or the gifts we find under the tree. No earthly thing can ever give us complete joy. Our joy comes from you. That joy that flooded the hearts of the shepherds, the angels, the wise men,

the hosts of heaven, and Mary and Joseph is the joy that still has the power to overwhelm our hearts with rejoicing.



Those who gathered around the new baby were blessed because they believed that you had fulfilled your promises. Mary and Joseph believed and were able to feel the joy of holding baby Jesus in their

arms. The shepherds and wise men believed the angles and the signs and experienced the great gladness of worshipping their Messiah.

Those who knew him and recognized him were overjoyed at the coming of Jesus. They saw the prophecies fulfilled and their fear was replaced with happiness as they gazed on the face of the one who would be their Savior. They trusted in your promises and their hearts were filled with gladness as they watched your loving-kindness manifested in the face of a tiny baby in a lowly manger. Father, you offer that same joy to us now if we know you and recognize Jesus as our Savior and Lord. You gave us a reason to celebrate when you gave us the unspeakable gift of Jesus Christ. You came to dwell among us. You went to Calvary's cross for us. You overcame death and rose from the dead for us. You forgive our sin and give us eternal life when we believe in you.

Our joy doesn't come from our jobs, our family, our relationships, our finances, or our success. Our joy doesn't come from what we have on earth or who we are with. Our joy is a gift. It is the gift that you gave us that first Christmas in Jesus Christ. Our joy is encompassed in our Savior, King Jesus. Flood our heart with joy this Advent season as we reflect on the good news of Jesus' birth.

In Jesus' precious name we pray. Amen

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