

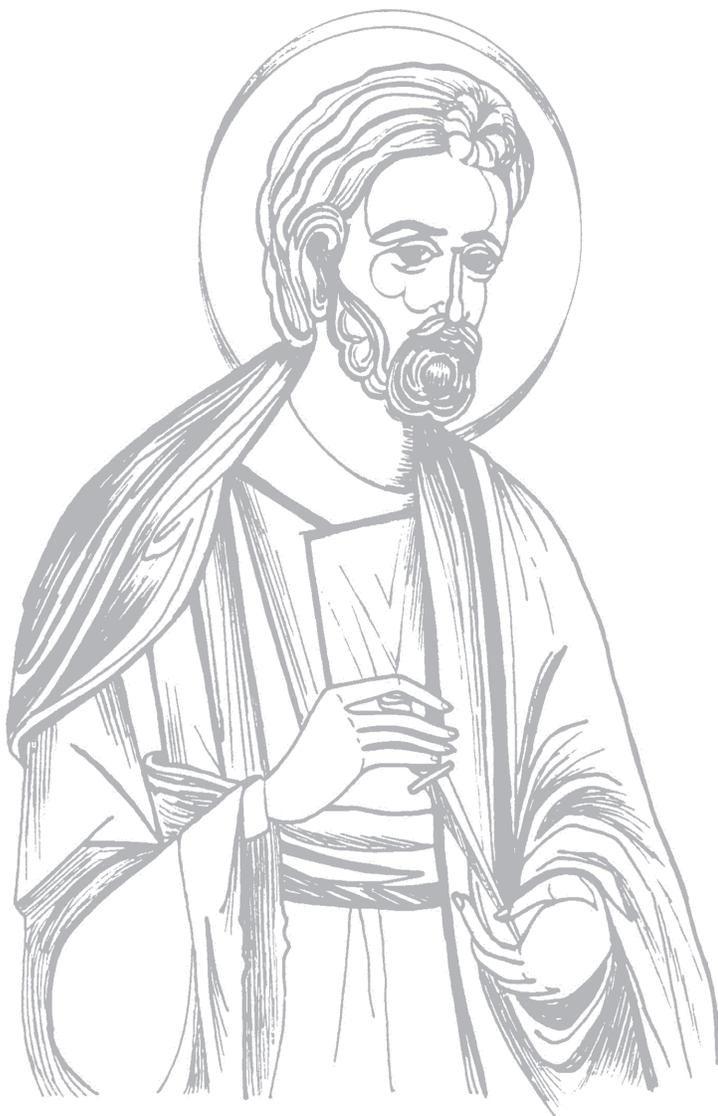
St. Bartholomew's Church



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15 Palmer Road
Yonkers • New York 10701

www.saintbartsparish.org
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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*
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.

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: Angela Brusco, Louis Caloia

Love Thy Enemy

“Don't worry about what you will eat or drink what you will wear Do not worry about tomorrow” (Matthew 6:25,34). With budgets to balance and bills to pay, we might reply, “Somebody has to!” But to clarify our perspective on life's worries, Jesus points to the birds. For them God provides, though not endowing them with human intelligence. As for the wild flowers, God arrays them in beauty, though not with our destiny – eternal life. Forsaken? Forgotten? Unthinkable, replies God, who cherishes us, says Isaiah, with a mother's tenderness for the child in her womb.

“Amen!” we acclaim to seal our every prayer. Mammon derives from that same root, which means “that in which I place my trust.” But mammon signifies material possessions, “tangible assets.” Jesus bids us decide where we will place our trust: in God, unfailing rock and tender parent; or mammon, which unless harnessed to service and sharing will eventually enslave us to greed and consume us with worry.

In such service lies Jesus' solution to our achieving the balance between trustful confidence in God and practical provision for human needs. Eat, drink, wear: heard now, just before Lent, those needs will echo again in the Last Judgment Gospel that ends the liturgical year: “I was hungry, thirsty, naked. What you did or failed to do, for the least, you did, or failed to do, for me” (cf. Matthew 25:35, 36, 40, 45). We are “servants and stewards,” Paul reminds us. Let us then provide whatever neighbor or stranger needs, and so alleviate the worry of others, even as we serve the Lord whose image they bear.

What practical commitment can I make even before Lent begins? Which charity or person can I help?
(Curled from Pastoral Patterns, Winter 2017).

Re: Father Anthony

Father lost a close uncle, Professor Francis Mbanefo. He was the main father figure in the extended Mbanefo family, and an influential man in their town. At one point he was the Vice Chancellor of one of the well know universities in Nigeria. Please keep Father and the rest of the extended family in your prayers and also join us to pray for eternal life for Francis. Fr. Anthony will be travelling home for the funeral tentatively scheduled sometime after Easter.

On a more positive note, Fr. Anthony will be celebrating his 25th anniversary as a priest exactly on July 1st. Each silver jubilee class traditionally goes to Nigeria around September for a retreat and celebration. The Pastoral Council discussed and decided that we should celebrate with him as a parish. Details will be coming later.

Blessings and peace.

Fr. Raphael Ezeh, MSP

PARISH NEWS

ASH WEDNESDAY



In addition to the Masses on Ash Wednesday, March 1st, (7 a.m., 9 a.m., 12 Noon and 7:30 p.m.), there will also be a 4 p.m. Prayer Service.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

This Friday and every Friday evening during Lent, we have the devotion of the Stations of the Cross in the Church at 7 p.m. (On Good Friday, Stations will be at 2 p.m. just prior to the 3 p.m. Good Friday Service). It is a Lenten tradition. Families are encouraged to participate together in preparation for Easter.



Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, especially Sofia Gogola



The **BREAD AND WINE, ALTAR CANDLES AND SANCTUARY LAMP** have been donated in loving memory of John Brusco by Angela and Lou Brusco.



All Catholic children attending public schools should enroll in a religious education program. Please call (476-6676) for more information.

OUR PARISH R.C.I.A. PROGRAM

If you or someone you know needs information on the Catholic Faith or has not been confirmed, please call the Religious Education Office for information on the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.) in our parish.



CALLING ALL SENIORS! CALLING ALL SENIORS!

Thursday, March 2nd

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

ADORATION & HOLY HOUR

This Friday, March 3rd is First Friday. We will have our Friday Adoration, beginning at 9:30 a.m., ending at 7 p.m. Our monthly Friday Holy Hour will be held at 1 p.m. This Saturday, March 4th, the Divine Mercy Holy Hour will begin at 3 p.m. As we prepare for the coming of our Savior, all are invited to spare an hour and come to adore Jesus Christ Who is truly present in the Holy Eucharist.



EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PARISH MISSION— 2017

“WALKING BY FAITH—A Spirituality for Living Now”

March 13—15 (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Fr. Paul R. Fagan, C.P.—Parish Mission Preacher

For more information, please call Cheryl Duda at 914 476-6676



INVITE YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS, ALL ARE WELCOME!



St. Bartholmew's Pasta Party (in memory of Vincent Campisi) is on Saturday, March 18th after the 5 p.m. Mass. More details to come.

PARISH BIBLE SHARING / STUDIES

Bible Study is held every Thursday at **7:00 p.m.** in the school building. These sessions are moderated by Father Raphael. Bring a friend! Come and have fun exploring the Bible.



Our **YOUTH GROUP** meets on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass, in the school building.

Follow our Youth Group on Twitter @ *St_Barts_youth*.

THE 2018 MASS BOOK IS OPENING THIS WEEK



The Mass Book for 2018 will open this Wednesday, March 1st. Come to the Parish Office after the 9 a.m. and 12 Noon Masses on Ash Wednesday to book your Mass(es). There are still some 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 following for your intention:

Altar Flowers \$100 (\$125 for roses)

Altar Bread and Wine \$30

Altar Candles and Sanctuary Lamp \$10 each

Come to the Parish Office, **Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.** to make arrangements or to inquire about the availability of a particular date.

STEWARDSHIP

What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits to me?

TITHING – GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING Sunday Collection Update

Amount Needed Weekly	\$8,000.00
Actual Received Last Sunday	\$6,200.40
Balance	-\$1,799.60
*(Envelopes \$5,960.40, Online \$240.00)	

Amount Needed for Month of February	\$32,000.00
Amount Collected Thus Far	\$18,443.10

The Collection for Snow Removal totaled: \$1,380.00.

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!

In lieu of filling out envelopes weekly, please consider signing up for online giving at www.parishpay.com or contact the Parish Office. So far, we have 12 families that have signed up. If you have difficulties signing up, please contact Parish Pay at (866) 727-4741 or call the Parish Office.



Please pray for all the sick & the homebound members of our Parish, especially Marian Fletcher, Ann Lackner, Richard Meyers, Rosalie Heit, Andrea Objay, Margaret Maccia, Audrey Falcone, Louis Brusco, Charles Wighton, Michael Tomanelli, Ariella Castillo, Gail Chappory, Randolph Castillo, Jr., Deacon Jim Byrne, Gregory Clemens, Florence McCormack, Mary Bryce, Anna Bonacci, William Flower, Efrain Arzola, Henry Joseph, Deacon Bob Clemens, Carolyn Cesta, William Bodack, Joseph Mahoney, Mary De Santis, Leticia Agosto, Manuel Obalde, Jr., Rosalia Guzman, Ann McGarry, Florence B. Swetz, Daniel Pezzola, Al Dio Dati and Brittany Arzola.

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

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.

FEBRUARY 26, 2017

Mass  *for the*
Intentions *Week*

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, February 25 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Charles Sullivan +

Sunday, February 26

8:30 AM Michael Castagnozzi & Mary Ann Karpinski +

10:00 AM Peter De Mattia +

11:30 AM For All the People of Our Parish

5:00 PM Angelo Mastroddi +

Monday, February 27

Weekday

7:00 AM Frank Lutomski, Sr. +

9:00 AM Raymond Henshaw +

Tuesday, February 28

Weekday

7:00 AM Daniel & Anna Kelly +

9:00 AM Robert Bracchitta +

Wednesday, March 1

Ash Wednesday

7:00 AM Dec. Members of Lucchetti & Capuano families

9:00 AM Kevin Wasiczko +

12 Noon Elanor Kolnik +

7:30 PM Edward Madaffari +

Thursday, March 2

Thursday after Ash Wednesday

7:00 AM Joseph Yaskovic +

9:00 AM John Brusco +

Friday, March 3

Friday after Ash Wednesday

7:00 AM Mary Martin & Colleen Curry +

9:00 AM Otello Pozzi +

Saturday, March 4

Saturday after Ash Wednesday

9:00 AM Antonio Darretta +

First Sunday of Lent

Saturday, March 4 (Anticipated Mass)

5:00 PM Carrie D'Angelo +

Sunday, March 5

8:30 AM Annetrud Cordes +

10:00 AM Erasmo Rivera Aviles +

11:30 AM For All the People of Our Parish

5:00 PM Julio Blanco & Jovita Romero +

Lent

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LENT IS UPON US ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

Metanoia is a Greek word for Lent, which connotes a change of mind and heart, altering one's mind-set toward whole new ways of thinking and acting. Lent is a period where we take a long look at where we are and try to see where we ought to be. It involves testing our values and discerning how they stack up against the values that our Lord Jesus offers His followers. Subsequently, Lent is a time when we acknowledge our guilt for the sins that led to Christ's passion and death.

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CATHOLIC LENT PRAYER



*Almighty and Everlasting God,
You have given the human race
Jesus Christ our Savior as a model of humility.
He fulfilled Your Will by becoming Man
And giving His life on the Cross.
Help us to bear witness to You
By following His example of suffering
And make us worthy to share in His Resurrection.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son.*

Amen.

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

FASTING & ABSTINENCE

ASH WEDNESDAY and GOOD FRIDAY are days of **fasting** and **abstinence**. FRIDAYS during Lent are days of **abstinence**.

FASTING requires that only one full meal be taken per day. Two smaller meals that together do not equal a full meal in quantity may be taken to maintain strength. Fasting applies to those between the ages of 18 & 59; others are encouraged to participate to the extent they are able.

ABSTINENCE prohibits those who are 14 years of age and older from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and Fridays during Lent.