



**ST. BARTHOLOMEW the APOSTLE**  
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
**DECEMBER 20, 2020**



**Parish Priests**

Rev. John J. Paladino, K.H.S.  
PASTOR

908.322.5192 ext. 114  
[frpaladino@stbartholomewchurch.org](mailto:frpaladino@stbartholomewchurch.org)

Rev. David C. Santos  
PAROCHIAL VICAR

908.322.5192 ext. 112  
[frsantos@stbartholomewchurch.org](mailto:frsantos@stbartholomewchurch.org)

**In Residence**

Rev. Msgr. Donald E. Guenther  
Rev. Michael A. Hanly

**Permanent Deacons**

Deacon Robert Gurske  
Deacon Donald Hessemer

**MASS SCHEDULE**

*Saturday*  
DECEMBER 26 & 27  
SUBJECT TO CHANGE  
Confessions 4:00PM - Fr. Paladino  
Mass 5:00PM - Fr. Santos

*Sunday*  
7:30AM - Fr. Paladino  
9:00AM - Msgr. Guenther  
10:30AM - Fr. Hanly  
NOON - Fr. Santos

**Our Parish Mission**

*We, the Roman Catholic Community of St. Bartholomew the Apostle, are brought together by Jesus, as we recognize His presence among us in Word, Sacrament and each other. Through the grace of the Holy Spirit and the intercession of the Blessed Mother, we accept Jesus' invitation to be His disciples by using our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of all.*



# God has promised us He will not forsake us, or leave us alone.

*Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.*

There is a somewhat humorous, if not also very insightful, observation about the often-used command in Scripture: Do not be afraid. This observation is that any time we hear “fear not,” or “do not be afraid,” something very-worth-being-afraid-of is about to happen. In other words, the words “fear not” ought to strike fear into our hearts, because we are about to be asked to do something far outside of our comfort zone: to trust, to have faith, to grow, to love, to follow where the Lord is leading us.



There is something amusing in this, because there is also some truth to it. How many of us have had children say, “don’t be mad, but...” (followed by something that likely makes us mad), or heard someone say, “don’t worry, but...” (followed by something no one would blame us for worrying about).

But there is something quite insightful in this observation, too. And that is, we can laugh at the idea of it because we know, in the end, that all will be well. How do we know this? Because of *why* we are told not to be afraid: *Do not fear, I am with you* (Isaiah 41:10); *Be strong, do not fear! He comes to save you* (Isaiah 35:4); *Take courage, it is I, do not be afraid* (Mark 6:50). From the beginning of human time, God has promised us he will not forsake us, or leave us alone. And so today: *Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.*

Mary, perfected in grace, has been chosen by God for something we’d agree that anyone of common sense would find frightening. But in her knowledge of God’s favor upon her (another way of saying God would always be with her), she steps boldly and fully into the unknown. She has been told that *the Holy Spirit will come upon [her]*; and *that the power of the Most High will overshadow [her]*. She will not be alone. She will have the help and grace of God, for whom nothing will be impossible.

And so her *fiat* – *May it be done to me according to your word* – makes perfect sense. How could she not say yes, when her faith and trust in a God who had nurtured his covenant and fulfilled his every promise, was affirmed by his envelopment of her in his love and protection? How could we not say yes, when the same God who found favor with Mary, finds favor with us and never forsakes us? He can strengthen us, Paul writes to the Romans. Where we cannot, God can. We do nothing alone, and all things through the grace of God.

The angels and prophets, and Jesus himself, are right to tell us “fear not.” For God is with us. *Emmanuel*. And so we can laugh at the observation regarding Scripture, and we can laugh in the face of our fear. And in these remaining days of Advent, we give thanks for our Triune God who desires to be in relationship with us, who dwelt among us and whose Holy Spirit empowers us in our faith. We do not have to be afraid.



Inhale confidence. Exhale doubt.

## 2020 CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Masses  
**ALL MASSES ARE FULL**  
2PM, 4PM, 6PM & 10PM

Christmas Day Masses  
7:30AM, 9AM, 10:30AM & 12PM

**ALL** Masses will be available **LIVESTREAM**

*Registration is required for ALL Masses*

Beginning on **Monday, November 30**

you can register through EVENTBRITE, the link will be on our website

**[www.stbartholomewchurch.org](http://www.stbartholomewchurch.org)**

or call the rectory office at 908.322.5192 ext.100



# ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

The Catholic Academy that makes a difference in your child's life.

## ACADEMY IN ACTION

First Trimester is in the books!

Congratulations to the following students who earned Honor Roll this marking period. Keep up the good work!!

**Principals List-**

*5th grade:*  
Christopher Cabrera

**First Honors-**

*8th grade:*  
Bianca Barreto  
Morgan Boyd  
Shelby Carmant  
Megan Cunha  
Victoria Cunha  
Jocelyn Griffith  
Justin Klein  
Chiamaka Nwokike  
Manuela Roncancio Roldan  
Chelsea Taylor  
Nia Vaughn

*7th Grade:*  
Ben Fenandoe  
Maria Gialanella  
Charles Giutini  
Alexandria Landazabal  
Amanda Stanley  
Maximus Yaeger  
Sophia Yalcin

*6th Grade:*  
Quinnton Battiste  
Amoriz Camino  
Charles Gilligan  
Maximillian Markho  
Samantha Nicolas  
Eliana Rotondo  
Wilhelmina Stampfl

*7th Grade:*  
Colleen Kennedy  
Lola Martinson  
Diane-Jane Ngumah  
Abigail Perreault  
Grace Taylor

*5th Grade:*  
Luciana Aumenta  
Thomas Cassidy  
Logan Dixon  
Olivia Peoples

*6th Grade:*  
Paide Sheppard  
Mia Taylor

*5th Grade:*  
Livianna Guarino  
Kyle Kroeger  
Emily Lagemann  
Bella Rose Lin  
Raleigh Jean Lin  
Anabella Nizner  
Anastasio Pavlou  
George Tran-Negishi

**Second Honors-**

*8th grade:*  
Maxwell Anderson  
Robert Constant  
Domenic Erbafina  
Michelle Godoy  
Jadyn Horlacher  
Keyla Matamoros  
Ella Peoples  
Kassidy Renosa  
Naomi Tucker

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CONTACT CONNIE BORUCH

[religioused@stbartholomewchurch.org](mailto:religioused@stbartholomewchurch.org) 908.322.2359

All of those at Religious Ed wish you and your families the blessings of Christmas throughout the new year. "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus!" ~Philippians 4:7

**Grades 1-6 At Home Family Faith Formation** A central website serves as a hub for all things faith formation! Lessons and videos to supplement the workbooks, along with a pool of resources to support families in living out our faith in everyday life are sent weekly. Passing on the faith to our families and children is not so much about memorizing concepts or passing a test. It's about a way of life! Our program this year supports families not only in learning the faith, but also in living it! If you are fully registered, please watch your email each Sunday for a link to the weekly step-by-step instructions.

**Confirmation Level 1 and Level 2 students** are continuing their journey with an at-home virtual program led by Jan Pepino of Fiat Ministries. Prayer & Worship, Adoration, custom made Fiat videos, and Zoom sessions with catechists will all be an exciting part of the Confirmation formation process. Registered families, please watch your email for information including links to the upcoming sessions.

Need to register or haven't picked up your workbook for Gr 1-6 yet? Please reach out to: [religioused@stbartholomewchurch.org](mailto:religioused@stbartholomewchurch.org)



## PHYSICALLY APART Spiritually Together

We invite you to celebrate Christmas with us in a new way.

**Build a Sacred Space or Home "Altar!"**

(Whether you join us in Church or not.)

**MAKE IT EASY!**

1. Find a surface. (Ideally, near where you will be viewing Mass.) This could be any surface, for example: a top of a shelf, mantle, table, desk...just find something that works for you.
2. Place some religious items on it such as: a Nativity scene, a Cross, Bible, Rosary, Statues, flowers, pictures, etc. (If you don't have these items, have your kids draw pictures of them...be creative!)
3. Send us a picture of your "altar" to [homealtars@stbartholomewchurch.org](mailto:homealtars@stbartholomewchurch.org), no later than Christmas Eve. We will share these on our website and social media on the feast of the Epiphany,



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

*Help us to Help Others Together We Can*

## AND WE SERVE...

Over the last month, during this Advent season of hope, our parish reached out and served in so many beautiful ways. **“For Love of us He became like us, For Love of Him, we are called to become like Him”.** In response to Jesus’ tremendous love for us, many of us chose to love like him by doing the following:

**FED THE HUNGRY** The donations to the pantry were plentiful and the support we were able to give to those in need went beyond the boundaries of our town. We supported local families as well as organizations that support hundreds of families in need. We served families at the St. Mary’s Soup kitchen with care and love.

**CARED FOR THE BABIES** Our loomers made over 50 hats for our precious NICU babies.

**GAVE JOY TO THE CHILDREN** We filled and overfilled over 250 stockings for children in need bringing back the wonder of Christmas for so many children who needed hope.

**HONORED OUR VETS** We were able to give 125 Veterans gift certificates to a local pizzeria, wrote cards of joy, donated food to eat and sent snowmen cups filled with candy.

**REMEMBERED OUR HOMEBOUND** We delivered gifts and encouragement and reminded our homebound we didn’t forget.

**SHARED THE BLESSINGS OF CHRISTMAS** We gave over 500 gifts thru the Giving Tree, we gave gifts to local families in need and we gave gifts to organizations supporting families.

**SPIRITUALLY FED OUR FAMILIES** With a Christmas Mass Bag to specially connect with our virtual families and children.

*Thank you for making this Advent Season hopeful, joyful and filled with love for one another with the spirit and love of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Merry Christmas!*

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT ELAINE COUPE  
[ecoupe@stbartholomewchurch.org](mailto:ecoupe@stbartholomewchurch.org)

# YOUTH GROUP

The weather is always a determining factor for the venue of our group gatherings. No matter on-line or in person, Youth Group can make a game out of Christmas songs. Name That Tune or Pictionary anyone? As in recent years, Youth Group members shared their generosity with gift donations to the **Children’s Specialized Hospital** in Mountainside. Youth Group members are also looking forward to the last shared evening of the Advent series. If you are a local high school student, it is never too late to join, please reach out to the Youth Minister.

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT JENNIFER RYAN  
[yg@stbartholomewchurch.org](mailto:yg@stbartholomewchurch.org)



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**KNIGHTS & DAMES  
2021 RECIPIENTS**

Praise be Jesus Christ. We wish to announce that the following parishioners will be inducted as a *Knight or Dame of St. Bartholomew Parish* this coming 2021 year. Please join us in congratulating them for their outstanding service.

**Sean McKenna  
Kevin & Maria Moloney  
Len Romano  
Ted Schiller  
Nicholas & Mary Schoendorf**

*Due to the unprecedented time we are experiencing, the prayer service honoring the 2021 recipients and cocktail reception will be announced at a later date.*

# Christmas Eve & Day Mass Intentions

## Thursday, December 24

2:00PM Children of the Parish  
Theresa Ginesi  
4:00PM req. by her Loving Family  
Robert "Bobby" Farina  
req. by his Loving Wife  
6:00PM Mario DiCuollo  
req. by Mom & Dad  
Catherine Kellet & Great Grandson  
req. by Loving Family  
10:00PM Judy DiFiore  
req. by the DiFiore Family  
Grace & Kenneth Thomas  
req. by the Thomas Family  
Ercole & Angela DelNegro  
req. by Nick & Angela DelNegro

## Friday, December 25

7:30AM Stephen Conroy  
req. by Paul & Chris Milan  
Joe B. Cox, Jr.  
req. by Paul & Chris Milan  
9:00AM Elisabetta Iaione  
req. by Camille & Nick DiNardo & Family  
Margaret Hessemer  
req. by Loving Family  
10:30AM Mario DiCuollo  
req. by Mom & Dad  
Nancy Otchy  
req. by Albert Blom  
12:00PM Michael Ruzek  
req. by Loving Family  
Mary & Andrew Kiss & Hershel Gearhart  
req. by Anna Mae

### A TIME TO HEAL

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK.



**Edilberto Agaton Jr.**  
**Tami Eddy**  
**Palmiro Ferraro**  
**Juliette Lewis**  
**Peter Morgan**  
**Paul Pettit**  
**Kenneth & Maureen Vincent**

**Elizabeth Barker**  
**Maria Elbert**  
**Emma Lara**  
**Baby Olivia Mary**  
**Paolo Patti**  
**Joseph Tufaro**

#### Please Note:

For privacy reasons and HIPAA regulations, names may only be added by **members of the immediate family** after they have received permission of the one who is ill or injured. In the event of serious illness or hospitalization, the rectory should be notified. Visits to the sick and shut-ins are made by the priests, deacons and ministers of the Eucharist. It is not necessary for someone to be "gravely ill" to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

### WELCOMED HOME BY GOD

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the family of  
**Thomas Brenner**  
Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.

## Mass Intentions

### Sunday, December 20

7:30AM Filippo DelNegro  
req. by Nicola DelNegro & Family  
Elisabetta Iaione  
req. by Madeline & Carmine Malgieri  
9:00AM Anne Neeser  
req. by the Tumolo Family  
Jeanne Segelken  
req. by Deb & Tom Ritter  
Nicola Novello  
req. by Esther & Emil Mancini  
10:30AM Kenneth Hochman  
req. by Loving Family  
George Hahn  
req. by Susan & Michael Buccolo  
Noon Frank Cerminaro  
req. by wife Rose & Family  
Deceased Members of the  
Macchia Family  
req. by Josephine

### Monday, December 21

6:30AM Leonard R. Crema  
req. by Kathy & Paul Kobliska  
8:30AM George Hahn  
req. by Art, MaryJane &  
Christopher Lundgren

### Tuesday, December 22

6:30AM Concepcion Silva  
req. by the Panfilo Family  
8:30AM Anne DeMeo  
req. by Joan Iuliano & Family

### Wednesday, December 23

6:30AM Jeff Hoens  
req. by Aidan McMahon  
8:30AM Victor Vecchione  
req. by the Steinbeck Family

### Saturday, December 26

8:30AM Thomas DiCuollo  
req. by the Rollis Family  
5:00PM Anna Rose Daniels  
req. by Mr. & Mrs. John Kovalcik  
Clare Harkins  
req. by Emily & Frank Cannone

### Sunday, December 27

7:30AM Mauro DiNizo  
req. by Emil & Ersila DiFrancesco  
& Family  
Margaret Trigo  
req. by Maureen & Bob LaCosta  
9:00AM Patricia Stafford  
req. by Josie Wilkins  
Nick Novello  
req. by Emil & Ersila DiFrancesco  
& Family  
10:30AM Melida Otero  
req. by husband, Luis Otera  
Rudolph Boniface  
req. by Susan & Michael Buccola  
Noon Carmella Haugom  
req. by Anna Ruzek  
Anna Walch  
req. by the Kobliska Family

# Rectory Directory

## PARISH OFFICE

Rectory Phone: 908.322.5192

**Paul Milan**

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE for  
DIVINE LITURGY and SACRED MUSIC  
*pmilan@stbartholomewchurch.org phone ext. 260*

**Patricia Krema**

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE for  
DIVINE LITURGY and ADULT FAITH FORMATION  
*pkrema@stbartholomewchurch.org phone ext. 126*

**Connie Boruch**

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE for  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION and FORMATION  
*religiously@stbartholomewchurch.org phone ext. 235*

**Sandra Carroll**

SAFE ENVIRONMENT DIRECTOR  
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**Elaine Coupe**

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH  
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**Jennifer Ryan**

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY  
*yg@stbartholomewchurch.org phone ext. 155*

**Kathy Kobliska**

OFFICE MANAGER  
*kkobliska@stbartholomewchurch.org phone ext. 100*

**Cindy Pitonzo**

BUSINESS MANAGER  
*cpitonzo@stbartholomewchurch.org phone ext. 129*

**Jennifer Mortarulo**

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS  
*jmortarulo@stbartholomewchurch.org phone ext. 130*  
*bulletin@stbartholomewchurch.org*

**David Triano**

FACILITIES MANAGER

**Paulette Coronato**

**Joseph Dillon**

PARISH TRUSTEES

## CONTACT US



Rectory/Parish Offices

Phone: 908.322.5192

Fax: 908.322.2598

Email: [contact@stbartholomewchurch.org](mailto:contact@stbartholomewchurch.org)

Website: [www.stbartholomewchurch.org](http://www.stbartholomewchurch.org)



Academy Office

Phone: 908.322.4265

Fax: 908.322.7065

Email: [admissions@stbacademy.org](mailto:admissions@stbacademy.org)

Website: [www.stbacademy.org](http://www.stbacademy.org)



Religious Education Office

Phone: 908.322.2359

E: [religiously@stbartholomewchurch.org](mailto:religiously@stbartholomewchurch.org)

### MASS AVAILABLE ON TV!

For the home bound Parishioner, tune in on **Sundays** at 10AM to watch Mass. Comcast channel 34 or Verizon channel 22.

### COUNSELING SERVICES AVAILABLE

If you are an individual, a couple or a family that is experiencing difficulties, there are counseling services available to you. All calls are confidential. Fees can be adjusted to one's financial situation. Please note, that no one will be turned away for an inability to pay. Counselors available to you:

**Barbara Stumm-Gray, Ed.S.**

p: 908.232.0893

**Joseph Ochs, LPC**

p: 732.221.6673

**Dina Brue, LCSW**

p: 646.643.5345

**Laura Otchy, MS, Ed.S. LPC**

p: 973.580.5930

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Get inspiration, connection and info!  
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We're planning now for Thanksgiving and Christmas, and like everything this year, the holidays will be anything but typical. Our ministries need your support today. After the uncertainty, unemployment and isolation caused by COVID-19, families in our community will be turning to St. Bartholomew the Apostle for help in astonishing numbers during the holiday season. Your generous online donations now will help us plan and budget for ministries that will serve those in need over Thanksgiving and Christmas. We prayerfully request that you consider signing up for eGiving from your computer, smartphone or tablet. You can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. Sign up today by visiting [faith.direct/NJ844](http://faith.direct/NJ844), or text 'Enroll' to 908-324-5627. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.



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## Rectory Hours STARTING SEPTEMBER 8

**Saturday & Sunday**

**9AM to 2PM**

**Monday & Tuesday**

**9AM to 7PM**

**Wednesday, Thursday &**

**Friday**

**9AM to 5PM**

At this time, with Covid, the rectory is NOT open for any group meetings. Thank you

## Stewardship of Treasure



December 13, 2020

*Numbers not available at time of print.*

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