



ST. BARTHOLOMEW the APOSTLE

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | FEBRUARY 20, 2022

Pastor

Rev. John J. Paladino, K.H.S.
908.322.5192 ext. 114
frpaladino@stbartholomewchurch.org

In Residence

Rev. Msgr. Donald E. Guenther
Very Rev. Frank Rose, V.F.

Weekend Assistant

Rev. Roberto Ortiz

Deacons

Dcn. Matthew Gonzalez
Dcn. Robert Gurske
Dcn. Donald Hessemer

Mass Schedule

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

4:00PM Confessions
5:00PM Vigil Mass - Fr. Paladino

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

7:30AM - Msgr. Guenther
9:00AM - Fr. Paladino
10:30AM - Fr. Rose
NOON - Fr. Paladino
4:00PM - Fr. Rose

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.



2032 WESTFIELD AVENUE, SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ 07076 (908) 322-5192
STBARTHOLOMEWCHURCH.ORG | STBARTSCHURCH.FLOCKNOTE.COM



FROM THE DESK OF *Fr. John Paladino*

We are called to bear Christ's merciful image.



Today's readings are about mercy and about following Christ's teachings and example. In the first reading, David shows mercy by not killing Saul while Saul is sleeping. He had every opportunity, for the Lord delivered Saul into David's hands by keeping his guards in a deep sleep. This allowed David to take Saul's spear and water jug and escape without anyone waking. In the context of battle and with the Lord's assistance, to spare Saul's life is indeed a mercy.

Our Gospel reading for today comes from Jesus' Sermon on the Plain. Jesus commands his disciples to love their enemies, concluding that they are to be merciful, just as the Father is merciful. In the next, much shorter, section of the reading, Jesus tells them to stop judging and condemning, and to be forgiving and generous. As much as they forgive, they will be forgiven, and as much as they give, they will receive.

Jesus is asking his disciples, and us, to rise above our base human natures. In our sinfulness we come to hate our enemies and we fight back when we are wronged, to keep what is ours and to give only when expecting something in return. It is natural to be self-interested because we are sinners: Even sinners love those who love them. But Jesus asks us to be merciful as our Father is merciful. Even the Most High God is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked – in other words, to us. We are to be merciful because we have been shown mercy. We are to treat others not as we would want them to treat us, but to show them the same kindness that God has already shown us.

In the second reading we heard today, Paul is writing to the Corinthians about the nature of the risen body. He explains that just as we have borne the image of the earthly Adam, so, too, will we bear Christ's heavenly image. We are invited not just to follow Christ's teachings, but to conform our lives to Christ. It is Christ who makes it possible for us to be as merciful as the Father. Through the Incarnation, he has taken on our earthly flesh, our very nature (though of course without sin), and has restored in us that likeness to God which sin destroyed (Cf., *Gaudium et spes*, #22).

He ascended into heaven, where he is seated at the Father's right hand until he comes again to judge the living and the dead. We do not need to judge our enemies. Christ is the only one whom the Father has given the authority to judge. When we meet him, let us hope that he recognizes us and welcomes us home. May our hope in this final reward be our motivation to overcome selfishness and greed, to look beyond our own self-interest, and to be as generous and forgiving as Christ.



SUNDAY
3.13.22
7:00-8:30PM

*An evening of prayer,
music, and reflection
led by the Franciscan
Friars of the Renewal*

St. Bartholomew Church, Scotch Plains, NJ





ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

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

SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) is the process through which children learn skills that are critical to understand and manage emotions, establish and achieve goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships and make responsible decisions. The Academy has two new programs designed to give students tools to problem solve, work out conflict, and identify with their feelings. The goal is to help them become successful, well-rounded individuals. Students work online and in-person with games and activities to gain the skills needed to be effective communicators and leaders.

Each week, Mrs. Degnan and Miss Harrigan are in classrooms from grades PreK3-8 to teach SEL through the Character Strong Program. The Character Strong program focuses on eight essential character traits: Patience, Kindness, Humility, Respect, Selflessness, Forgiveness, Honesty, and Commitment. Lessons are fun and engaging. Last week, students in K-2 focused on Respect. They talked about the importance of respecting family, friends, and God's earth. They danced to Aretha Franklin's "Respect", and took home posters as a visual reminders to always be respectful.

Teachers in each classroom are facilitating the Academy's other SEL program. Students in grades 3-8 are participating in a six week SEL program offered to the Academy from Box Out Bullying. The company specializes in fun, interactive lessons proven to help students engage with their feelings and the feelings of those around them, leading to decreased bullying and aggressive behavior. Students will learn the STEP approach to conflict management, which uses the following four steps: Stop, think, and cool off; Talk it out; Evaluate possible solutions and consequences; Pick a realistic solution and practice it.

We are very excited to bring these two proven programs to our students and are confident that such programs, combined with our Christ centered learning, will enable our students to develop into moral, ethical, and responsible young adults.

JOURNEY THROUGH *Lent*

ASH WEDNESDAY: MARCH 2

Mass: 6:30AM, 8:30AM, 12:15PM

Ash Service: 3:30PM, 6:15PM

The Ash Wednesday collection benefits Charity Begins at Home, supporting those in need in our community.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Wednesdays in Lent after the 8:30AM Mass

Fridays in Lent at 7:00PM

LENTEN REFLECTION SERIES

Join our Lenten reflection series as we dive deeper into the mystery of Jesus in the Eucharist. Journey with us each day during Lent through daily email reflections and weekly gatherings with Sr. Loretta Fernandez based on Henri Nouwen's little book, *With Burning Hearts*.

The daily reflections will be emailed to you each morning and our in-person weekly reflections



will take place on Thursdays during Lent at 1PM and 7PM, beginning March 3rd. Sign up for email reflections and/or in-person sessions through the QR code.

CONNECT LENTEN SMALL GROUPS

Journey in faith and fellowship through Lent with fellow parishioners through our Connect Small Group Ministry. We will be reading Gary Zimak's book "Give Up Worry for Lent." Small Groups will be offered on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays through Lent.

Contact Elaine at @kecoupe@verizon.net with any questions or to sign up.

14TH ANNUAL LENTEN FISH FRY



Thursday, March 4th

Drive Thru Style - Back Parking Lot

Please pre-register for a time slot to pick up your dinner. Adult plates are \$15 and Kids are \$10. The Registration will be open until March 3rd.

Scan the QR code or visit our page on Faith Direct (parish code 844 at www.faithdirect.net).

Contact Rich DeBonis with any questions:
richdebonis@verizon.net or (908) 346-3602

YOUTH GROUP

If you see a lawn hearts displayed in town, it is a fundraiser that the Youth Group is using to spread love this February.

Youth Group is also looking for high school students to attend the March 20th, one day retreat at Maskers' Barn in the Deserted Village. Please reach out to the Youth Minister for more information, or talk to one of our teen leaders for the retreat; Anastasia, Grace, Jodi, Therese, Adam and Robert. Previous participation in youth group activities not required. We look forward to hearing from you!

FOR INFO, CONTACT JENNIFER RYAN
at yg@stbartholomewchurch.org

youth group RETREAT DAY MARCH 20, 2022

AT MASKERS BARN IN THE DESERTED VILLAGE
9:00AM MASS START - 9:30PM PICKUP

Gather with friends old and new for a one day retreat, open to current high school students. No prior experience in Youth Group necessary! Listen and share with your peers about finding strength from faith while navigating the typical (and not-so-typical) challenges of the teen years. Register with Youth Minister Jennifer Ryan by March 1.

GAMES
COMPETITION
PRAYER
MASS
MEALS
FIREPIT



MARDI GRAS

Pancake Breakfast

Sponsored by Parish Life

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH
8:00AM-12:00PM

ST. BARTHOLOMEW CAFETERIA

Did you know... pancakes are a traditional meal on Mardi Gras! We're following suit with our next Parish Life Social - a Pancake and Sausage Breakfast! Join us for free food and fellowship!

the 2022 Annual Appeal

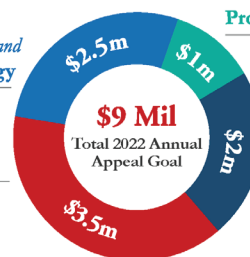
Catholic Stewardship *in Action*



The Annual Appeal funds essential programs and ministries at the heart of our Catholic mission in our four counties - namely to proclaim the gospel, to pass on the faith to future generations, particularly through the celebration of the sacraments, and to care for the poor and those on the margins. Please prayerfully consider contributing to this important fund. Scan the QR code to give online.

Forming Future Priests and
Supporting Retired Clergy

Caring for the
Poor and Vulnerable



Proclaiming the Gospel

Passing on the Faith

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20

7:30AM **Barbara Jean Faccone**
req. by Eleanor Percival
Joseph Patrick Brennan
req. by Michael & Minnelli DeMatos

9:00AM **Nice Novello**
req. by Maria Novello & Family
Noreen Dominguez
req. by Tom & Mary Stachowiak

10:30AM **Biagio DiNoto**
req. by Giovanni & Costanza Passucci
James Hines
req. by Deacon Bob & Joanne Gurske

Noon **Josephine Macchia**
req. by Joanne Coons-Kosloff & Lorraine Coons
Angela DiNardo
req. by Rina & Vittorio Passucci

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21

***No 6:30am Mass

8:30AM **Victor Vecchione**
req. by Vickie Steinbeck

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

6:30AM **Maeve Lynskey**
req. by Janet Ramos

8:30AM **Nancy Otchy**
req. by husband, Tom

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

6:30AM **Maria Schiano DiCola**
req. by the Guardascione Family

8:30AM **Joan Newmark-Lewis (Living)**
req. by the Rosary Group

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

6:30AM **James Woods**
req. by the Nobile Family

8:30AM **Angelica Culjak**
req. by Cynthia McLeavey

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

6:30AM **Zenaida Cagungun**
req. by Amy Potian & Family

8:30AM **Frank Fumosa, Jr.**
req. by Barbara Mary

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

8:30AM **Carmelina Banu**
req. by Rosemary & Jeff Roberts

5:00PM **Madeline Del Prete**
req. by her Loving Family
Biagio DiNoto
req. by Anna Buona Corsa

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

7:30AM **Judy DiFiore**
req. by husband David & Family
Bob "C" Cenar
req. by Bob & Maureen LaCosta

9:00AM **Biagio DiNoto**
req. by Maria Novello
Dot Molloy
req. by Bill & Maryann Degnan

10:30AM **Antionietta DiFrancesco**
req. by Laura Del Negro
George Sydor
req. by Tony & Nancy Caliendo
Peter D'Souza
req. by Loving Family

Noon **Anna & Antonio DiFrancesco**
req. by Loving Family
Phyllis Cassetti
req. by daughter, Patricia

4:00PM **Richard Barton**
req. by Bill & Maryann Degnan

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Edilberto Agaton Jr.
Jacob Benedicto
Maritoni Caceres Padilla
Rina Conti
Tami Eddy
Emma Lara
Peter Morgan
Richard Quigley
Maureen Vincent
Melinda Williams
Joe Zingariello

Elizabeth Barker
Francesca Cafolla
Kaitlyn Marie Cole
Kathleen "Kay" Duff
Palmiro Ferraro
Nadine Martinson
James Pettit
Patricia Uber
Dolores Waltsak
Franca Zingariello

Lord, hear our prayer.

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 sick.

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 families of:

Anthony Cuccurullo
Pietro Monaco

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and may perpetual light shine upon them. Amen.*



CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENTS

Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated throughout the month on Saturdays and Sundays. First-time parents are required to complete Baptismal Preparation. Please register in advance by calling (908) 322-5192.

Reconciliation

Confession is offered every Saturday at 4PM or call the rectory to schedule an appointment.

Marriage

Archdiocesan policy requires that arrangements be made with a parish priest or deacon as soon as the engagement is announced.



RCIA: RECEIVING THE SACRAMENTS AND BECOMING CATHOLIC

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults introduces adults to the Catholic faith and tradition, as well as prepares adults for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. If you would like to learn more about becoming Catholic or receiving the sacraments at our parish, please contact Pat Krema: pkrema@stbartholomewchurch.org. We are happy to accompany you on your journey of faith and help answer any questions you may have!



PARISH OFFICE DIRECTORY

908.322.5192

Email: contact@stbartholomewchurch.org

Web: stbartholomewchurch.org

ACADEMY OFFICE:

PRINCIPAL KIM HARRIGAN

908.322.4265

admissions@stbacademy.org

RELIGIOUS ED OFFICE: 908.322.2359

religioused@stbartholomewchurch.org

Office Hours:

Monday-Tuesday 8:30AM-6:00PM

Wednesday-Friday: 8:30AM-3:00PM

Saturday-Sunday: 9:00AM-2:00PM

ST. BARTHOLOMEW STAFF

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PAULETTE CORONATO | JOSEPH DILLON

Parish Trustees

Supporting Our Parish

EASY ONLINE GIVING WITH FAITH DIRECT

Streamline your offertory and simplify your support for St. Bartholomew the Apostle as we continue serve our parishioners and those in need throughout the community. Now is a great time to make the switch to eGiving – you can sign up from your computer, smartphone or tablet, and set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. **Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/NJ844, or text 'Enroll' to 908-324-5627.** Thank you for your continued support of our parish!

STEWARDSHIP of TREASURE | FEB 13, 2022

Envelope Collection	\$8,497
Faith Direct (online)	\$12,921
Total	\$21,418
Archdiocesan Assessment	\$4,093

Thank you for your support!

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Available Services

MASS AVAILABLE ON TV & ONLINE!

For the home bound Parishioner, tune in on **Sundays** at 10AM to watch Mass. Comcast channel 34 or Verizon channel 22. Watch the Mass livestream on our website and Facebook page on Saturdays at 5PM and Sundays at 9AM.

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. | 908.232.0893

Joseph Ochs, LPC | 732.221.6673

Dina Brue, LCSW | 646.643.5345

Laura Otchy, MS, Ed.S. LPC | 973.580.5930

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for daily inspiration and all the latest parish news and updates!



St. Bart Church



@stbartholomew_church

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to receive our weekly newsletter & stay plugged in to all your favorite parish groups and ministries!



Scan the QR code or visit **stbartschurch.flocknote.com** to join!