



ST. BARTHOLOMEW the APOSTLE
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

community & charity in christ



Behold,
NOW IS THE DAY OF SALVATION.

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | FEBRUARY 19, 2023

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

OUR PARISH IS SERVED BY:

Pastor

Rev. John J. Paladino, K.H.S.
(908) 322-5192 ext. 114
frpaladino@stbartholomewchurch.org

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Matthew Gonzalez
(908) 322-5192 ext. 107
frgonzalez@stbartholomewchurch.org

In Residence

Very Rev. Frank Rose, V.F.

Weekend Assistant

Rev. Roberto Ortiz

Deacons

Dcn. Robert Gurske
Dcn. Donald Hessemer
Transitional Dcn. Chris Hughes

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

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

CONTACT US

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30AM-3:00PM
Friday: 9:00AM-1:00PM
Saturday-Sunday: 9:00AM-2:00PM

PHONE & EMAIL:

(908) 322-5192
contact@stbartholomewchurch.org

RELIGIOUS EDU. OFFICE:

(908) 322-2359

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.



FROM THE DESK OF

fr. John Paladino

So be perfect, just as your Heavenly Father is perfect.

Today's Scriptures contain several challenges that deserve our attention as we grow in our identity as faithful disciples. Key among them must be the call to love our neighbor and to be perfect and holy as God is perfect and holy.

Taken from Matthew's Sermon on the Mount, today's Gospel demonstrates that this call is lived out in the events of our daily lives. In reading this Gospel, it is hard not to be reminded of Les Misérables by Victor Hugo. Early on in the story, Jean Valjean, the lovable scoundrel, is arrested for stealing silver from the house of the local bishop. What makes the crime so foolhardy is that Jean had been taken in by the bishop when others had rejected him because of his criminal background.

As he stands before the bishop, the inevitability of prison faces him. But there's a twist: The bishop doesn't condemn him; instead, he points out that Jean Valjean has forgotten to take the matching candlesticks. Of course, this is not what the police expected and, in the end, they have to release Jean. Unable to understand what has happened he remains silent, while the bishop quietly remarks: "Today I have bought your soul for God, use this treasure to become an honest and upright man." Clearly, the bishop is not preoccupied with the things of this world. His focus is on those in need, those he can help and serve. He sees the potential in Jean Valjean, not simply the past.

As Christians, we glimpse the very nature of God in Christ. He brings us the gifts of perfection, mercy, and holiness. To share in his life is to share in those gifts and to make a public statement that God's standards are our standards; his goals are our goals. Therefore, if he comes with these divine attributes, they should be part of our lives too. If we truly believe in the kingdom of God, then all that Jesus teaches should be visible in our lives.

As we move into Lent this week, our common task is to see if we really do reflect Christ's Gospel. Remember that holiness and mercy are not simply pious words that fade like incense or that come and go like a summer breeze. True holiness and mercy are witnessed in serving those in need – those who suffer or who need that extra help through the obstacles of life, having a true heart for all who find life burdensome, and seeing the potential in others rather than their past.

True holiness is more than just striving after a state of moral innocence or spiritual perfection. It begins there, but it cannot end there – it always has a practical side to it. It takes us above and beyond what is acceptable behavior for everyone else.

Jean Valjean wondered to himself where the saintly bishop learned his compassion and forgiveness. His answer was the Gospel – the word and example proclaimed by Christ. We know it too. And we give thanks for it.

fr. John J. Paladino

PARISH MISSION 2023



PRESENTED BY:



Fr. John
Paladino



Fr. Matthew
Gonzalez



Fr. David
Santos



-Schedule-

7:30-8:30PM Each Night
at St. Bartholomew Church

MONDAY, MARCH 6

CLAIMING OUR BLESSEDNESS

As a beloved child of God, you are invited to recognize and claim His love for you!

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

CLAIMING OUR BROKENNESS

Life is challenging and we are all broken. Come claim your brokenness and be healed!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

CLAIMING OUR MISSION

God has created you for a reason. You are no accident! Come and claim the mission God has for you!

JOURNEY THROUGH

Lent



ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES

Wednesday, February 22nd

MASSSES

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

ASH SERVICES

3:30PM, 6:15PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**Wednesdays after 8:30AM Mass
Fridays at 7:30PM**

Join us as we reflect together on the journey of the Cross that Jesus walked for us. Each Friday will be led by a different group from the parish.

Lent is a time of preparation for Easter, during which we as Christians strive to grow closer to God, especially through the practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Below are some guidelines that the Church gives us for our practice of the season of Lent.

FASTING: Eating no more than a total of two regular meals' worth in one day (i.e. 1 full meal, two small meals); this includes anyone between 18 and 59.

ABSTINENCE: Refraining from eating meat; this includes anyone over the age of 14.

The days of fasting and abstinence are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All other Fridays are days of abstinence.*

**In honor of the Feast of St. Patrick on Friday, March 17th, the faithful are not obliged to abstain from meat.*

As Catholics, we are obliged to observe these practices of Fast and Abstinence throughout Lent. These are small sacrifices that we can make to honor God and the sacrifice that Jesus made for each one of us!

**Unveiling Our Sacred Space
Friday, February 24th at 7:30PM**

Greg Blasi will guide us in an evening of reflection on how the Church provides us a sacred space to encounter Heaven. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the art and architecture of our Church and how the space itself can help us to better enter into prayer, especially during this season of Lent!



**Lent Confessions
Saturday March 25th at 3-5PM**

Lent is a great opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Confession.

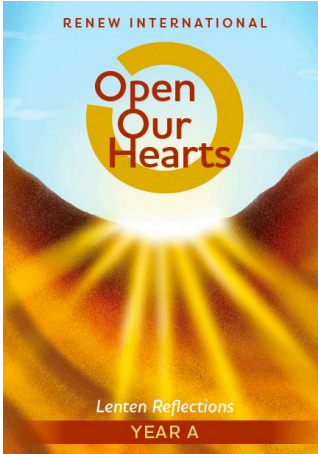
We will also be offering Confessions at the normal time, Saturdays at 4-5PM, as well as during the last Holy Hour during Lent: Monday, March 27th at 7:30PM.



**Lent Holy Hours
Monday Nights at 7:30PM
February 27, March 13, March 20 and March 27**

Join us for an hour of peace and prayer before the Eucharist, with silent time of Adoration to pray and be with the Lord as well as live worship music to guide our time of prayer. Confession will be offered on the March 27th Holy Hour. Adoration is a prayerful practice of placing the Eucharist in a gold vessel called a Monstrance on the altar, which provides us an opportunity to see Jesus and to pray, rest, worship, or simply to be in the presence of Jesus. If you haven't attended Adoration before - we encourage you to give it a try! People often say that it is a very peaceful and restorative way to pray.

JOURNEY TOGETHER THROUGH LENT



Lent Small Group Reflections Thursdays March 2nd - March 30th

English Session 1 - 1:00-2:30PM in the Church Narthex
English Session 2 - 7:30-9:00PM in the Cafeteria
Spanish Session - 7:30-9:00PM in the Gym

Join us as we gather in small groups to read through *Open Our Hearts* by Sr. Donna Ciangio throughout the season of Lent. Each week we will reflect together on the upcoming Sunday Readings to allow us to engage more fully in the Scriptures throughout the season. All are welcome to join us!

Estaremos leyendo Abramamos Nuestros Corazones por la hermana Donna Ciangio. Cada semana durante la Cuaresma reflexionaremos juntos sobre las lecturas de los próximos domingos para ayudarnos participar más plenamente en las escrituras de la temporada. Todos son bienvenidos a unirse a nosotros. Comenzaremos con un Mardi Gras Celebración - 21 febrero a las 7:30PM en la cafetería. Por favor traigan comida para compartir.

SIGN
UP
HERE:



We will begin our small group series by gathering for a Mardi Gras Potluck Celebration on February 21st at 7:30PM in the Cafeteria. Bring a dish to share!

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS



ST. BARTHOLOMEW THE APOSTLE AND
IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISHES
INVITE YOU TO:

MEN'S CORNERSTONE XIV RETREAT

MARCH 10 & 11, 2023

Whoever wants to be my disciple
must deny themselves and take
up their cross daily and follow
me." – Luke 9:23

Scan the QR code
here to sign up!



EVENTS & UPDATES

Helping Our Neighbors in Need

This year, as in previous years, our Ash Wednesday Collection will be for the Charity Begins at Home Fund, which is used to assist families in our community who are struggling with difficult times. Please prayerfully consider making a donation as part of your Lenten practice of almsgiving.



Thank you for your support!

Annual Appeal ^{the 2023} Progress Meter

33%

Your support of the Annual Appeal allows the mission of the Church to continue in our community. Visit www.rcan.org/sharing or scan the QR code to give. Thank you for helping us reach our goal!



First Friday Prime Timers Gathering March 3rd at 11:00AM - 1:30PM

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with us! Wear green if you are able! St. Joseph won't mind because he'll be remembered too! All Seniors and Grandparents are welcome! Mass at 11AM, followed by food, fellowship, and a new guest speaker at each gathering. **Please be sure to RSVP by Monday, February 27th** by calling the Rectory at (908) 322-5192 ext. 100.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY



Knights and Dames Celebration 2023 Honoring Our Parishioners

To kick off our 75th Anniversary of St. Bartholomew we are honoring our Knights and Dames for 2023. Knights and Dames is a celebration honoring those who have given their time, talent and treasure to our parish community. The celebration will begin with a Prayer Service led by Bishop Elias R. Lorenzo, O.S.B.

**Sunday, March 5th at 2:00PM
at St. Bartholomew Church**

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Followed by a Cocktail Reception at Maplewood Country Club at 4:00PM. Tickets can be purchased for the Knights and Dames Reception at the QR code here:



St. Bartholomew Charity Golf Classic May 8th, 2023 at Maplewood Country Club

Join us for the 2023 Charity Golf Classic in honor of Carl V. Sicola. Carl was a 1962 graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, a Scotch Plains police officer for 27 years, a devout parishioner of St. Bartholomew Church and a fierce supporter of St. Bartholomew Academy. Through this outing, we hope to honor Carl's memory and dedication to his faith. We hope you will join us in doing so! Register at the QR code here:



ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY HSA PRESENTS

5K RUN & WALK



*Prizes for overall and various divisions, Fun Run
and Activities for our younger participants*

Scan me

ONLINE REGISTRATION IS
REQUIRED. PLEASE VISIT:

<https://www.raceforum.com/sba>



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL:

(908) 322-4265

JOIN US ON SATURDAY
MARCH 18, 2023

Oak Ridge Park

136 Oak Ridge Road, Clark, NJ

08:00am-11:00am

REGISTRATION FEES:

EARLY BIRD (BEFORE 3/1/2023):

\$25 PER ADULT / \$15 UNDER 18 YEARS

AFTER 3/1/2023:

\$30 PER ADULT / \$20 UNDER 18 YEARS

INCLUDES FREE SNACK & DRINK

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY, SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ

PRAYER INTENTIONS & SACRAMENTS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

- 7:30AM **Robert Taylor**
req. by Maryann & Bill Degnan
Mauro "Mo" Rigante
req. by Loving Nieces & Nephews
- 9:00AM **Nice Novello**
req. by Maria Novello & Family
Carmen Ponzio
req. by Jean & Tom McCarthy
- 10:30AM **Kenneth Hochman**
req. by his Loving Family
Mauro & Laura Del Negro
Antonio & Berenice DiNizo
req. by Peter & Maria DiNizo
- Noon **Josephine Macchia**
req. by Lorraine Coons &
Joanne Coons-Kosloff
Thomas Ryan
req. by Loving Family

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20

No 6:30AM Mass

- 8:30AM **Daniel Bozza**
req. by Jane Durkin

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

- 6:30AM **Children who suffer from divorced homes**
req. by a Friend
- 8:30AM **Daniel Bozza**
req. by Mathilda Blahosky

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

ASH WEDNESDAY (Ash Services 3:30PM & 6:15PM)

- 6:30AM **All who have no one to pray for them**
req. by a Friend
- 8:30AM **Michael O'Connell**
req. by the Leone Family
- 12:15PM **All who suffer from a drug addiction**
req. by a Friend

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- 6:30AM **Theresa Fischer**
req. by the Verducci Family
- 8:30AM **Ileana Vallecilo**
req. by Mathilda Blahosky

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

- 6:30AM **Dolores Farrell**
req. by the Nobile Family
- 8:30AM **Frank Fumosa Jr.**
req. by Barbara Mary

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

- 8:30AM **John Patterson**
req. by JoAnn & Jack Kovalcik
- 5:00PM **Amelia Santoriello**
req. by Dr. & Mrs. Nicholas Santoriello
Edward Haggerty
req. by the Haggerty Family

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- 7:30AM **Maria Elmudesi**
req. by Mary Smith
Mo Rigante
req. by the Erbafina Family
- 9:00AM **Fausto Passucci**
req. by Roberto & Laura Sorge
John E. Buckley
req. by Alex Passucci & Family
- 10:30AM **Fausto Passucci**
req. by Peter & Maria DiNizo
Mary Czarnomski
req. by Mori & Monk McDevitt
- Noon **Anna & Antonio DiFrancesco**
req. by Loving Family
Antonella Iannelli
req. by Nicola and Camille DiNardo
- 4:00PM **Robert Taylor**
req. by Arthur Brushetti
Confirmation Candidates
req. by a Friend

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Victoria Armstrong, Santino Agosta, Elizabeth Barker, Jacob Benedicto, Francesca Cafolla, Maritoni Caceres Padilla, Kaitlyn Marie Cole, Rina Conti, Terri DeVany, Kathleen "Kay" Duff, Palmiro Ferraro, Emma Lara, Eileen Lynch, Nadine Martinson, Arthur W. Morgan, Peter Morgan, Jennifer Munoz, James Pettit, Richard Quigley, Maureen Vincent, Dolores Waltsak, Melinda Williams, Franca Zingariello, Joe 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.

Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated throughout the month on Saturdays and Sundays. First-time parents are required to complete Baptismal Preparation, which provides a great opportunity to meet other young parents and to dive deeper into the beauty of this First Sacrament. Reach out to us at (908) 322-5192 ext. 100 to register.

Congratulations to the newly baptized!

Dominick James, son of Henry & Marisa Sanchez
Theodore John, son of Donald & Katherine Hannon
Carter Michael, son of Thomas & Chelsea Herchel
Evan Anthony, son of Eric & Catherine Carrero
Jackson Pierce, son of Christopher & Julianna Santana
Bridgette Marie, daughter of John & Marie Dimitrakakis
Parker Justin, son of Glenn & Leann Hill
Avery Rane-Catherine, daughter of Patrick & Sherrice Massiah
Bryan Coimbra, son of Brian & Maione Santos
Phoenix Aaleigh, daughter of Latasha Hayes & Erica Jervis

Reconciliation (Confession)

Confession is offered every Saturday at 4PM or you can call the rectory to schedule an appointment (908-322-5192).

Marriage

Please reach out to us as soon as engagement is announced and we will help make the arrangements to begin your preparation process. Visit stbartholomewchurch.org/marriage or call us at (908) 322-5192 x100. We look forward to walking with you!

Homebound Communion Visits

If you or someone you know is homebound or unable to attend Mass in person and would like to have a Eucharistic minister bring Communion at home, please reach out to Paul Milan at (908) 322-5192 ext.260 or email pmilan@stbartholomewchurch.org. We will make arrangements for Communion visits on a weekly basis.



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-Thursday 8:30AM-3:00PM

Friday: 9:00AM-1:00PM

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

PARISH STAFF

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Academy Campus Minister

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KELLY WATSON

President, Finance Council

KEITH GUARNUCCIO

President, Pastoral Council

PAULETTE CORONATO | JOSEPH DILLON

Parish Trustees

Supporting Our Parish

STEWARDSHIP of TREASURE FEBRUARY 12, 2023

Envelope Collection	\$ 8,257.00
Pushpay Online Collection	\$ 10,526.00
Total	\$ 18,783.00

Thank you for your support!

ONLINE GIVING

Our online giving platform, Pushpay, enables you to give with just a touch of a button from your smartphone or through an easy online giving portal. Please visit our website stbartholomewchurch.org for more information. If you would like to try e-giving, **text STBARTGIVE to (833) 921-6421** or scan the QR code here with your mobile device. Thank you for your support of our faith community!



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.

LEGAL CLINIC SERVICES

Do you live in Union County and need help with:

**Housing insecurity?
Rental assistance?
Legal representation?
Credit counseling, and more?**

Please contact Joe Correa immediately at:
jcorrea@thewaterfrontproject.org

www.thewaterfrontproject.org

A nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting economically disadvantaged people - the working poor, seniors, veterans, and those living with disabilities - to address their civil legal issues and concerns.

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