



ST. BARTHOLOMEW the APOSTLE
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

1948-2023 • *Community & Charity in Christ*



Thank You

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time | June 25, 2023

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

OUR PARISH IS SERVED BY:

Pastor

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

Parochial Vicar

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

In Residence

Very Rev. Frank Rose

Weekend Assistant

Rev. Roberto Ortiz

Deacons

Dcn. Robert Gurske
Dcn. Donald Hessemer

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, JULY 1

4:00PM Confessions - Fr. Rose
5:00PM - Fr. Prachar

SUNDAY, JULY 2

7:30AM - Fr. Rose
9:00AM - Fr. Gonzalez
10:30AM - Fr. Prachar
NOON - Fr. Gonzalez

CONTACT US

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday: 9:00AM-2:00PM
Closed Friday
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

*Let our faith, not fear, guide our choices
to bring us closer to Heaven.*

Jeremiah is sometimes known as the "weeping prophet." He has this moniker because he announced the impending destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians and felt great empathy for God's people, who were not faithful to God even as he tried to call them back.

During his life, Jeremiah experienced terrible hardships, including arrest, imprisonment, disgrace, and exile. He had reason to lose hope, but he kept his faith in God. The Lord is with me, like a mighty champion, he says. Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has rescued the life of the poor from the power of the wicked!

Consider this prayer in the light of Jesus' words to the Twelve: Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna.

Jeremiah would have understood exactly what Jesus meant. Though he experienced fear and inner turmoil, he did not let those overpower his faith and trust in God. He knew that the Lord was with him and would always win in the end. The Lord, he knew, would save the faithful.

Martyrs who have died professing their faith in Jesus Christ understood this as well. They knew that if they professed Christ with their dying breath, Christ himself would acknowledge [them] before [his] heavenly Father. Conversely, if they denied Christ, they may save their lives - but they would lose their souls. That, the martyrs knew, was much worse than any earthly suffering.

This lesson, however, is not just for prophets and martyrs. Every moment of our lives is an opportunity to acknowledge, or deny, Christ before others. C.S. Lewis writes, "Every time you make a choice you are turning the central part of you, the part of you that chooses, into something a little different than it was before. And taking your life as a whole, with all your innumerable choices, all your life long you are slowly turning this central thing into a heavenly creature or a hellish creature" (Mere Christianity).

Each choice we make will be made known at the end of time. Our heavenly Father already knows our every thought and deed. Each choice can lead us closer to heaven or closer to hell. This should change how we view our daily lives. Some days we will face hardships. But we can choose to keep faith in God, and sing his praises along with Jeremiah: The Lord is with me. Truly, the Lord is with us even now in the Eucharist.

Lord, help us to realize that our Father who loves us will grant us the graces we need. Holy Spirit, help guide us. Give us the long view of eternity, knowing that our choices today will affect our souls for eternity. Lord, lead us to everlasting life with you.





ST. BARTHOLOMEW the APOSTLE

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Farewell Letter to the Parish

Dear Beloved Parishioners,

It is with a mixture of emotions that I sit down to write this farewell letter to all of you, my cherished community of faith. After many years of serving as your pastor, the time has come for me to embark on a new chapter in my life. It is a bittersweet moment, as I bid farewell to a place that has become my home and to people who have become my extended family.

First and foremost, I want to express my deep gratitude to each and every one of you. The unwavering support, love, and trust you have shown me throughout the years have been truly humbling. Your faith and dedication have been a constant source of inspiration, and it is because of your faithfulness that our community has flourished and grown.

Together, we have celebrated countless joyful moments and shared in the depths of sorrow. We have laughed, cried, prayed, and grown in our spiritual journeys side by side. The memories we have created together will forever hold a special place in my heart. It is these memories that will sustain me as I move on to new horizons.

As I prepare to depart, I want to encourage you to continue to nurture the spirit of unity and love that has defined our parish. Embrace the challenges that lie ahead with courage and faith, knowing that you are never alone. Remember that the Church is not a building but a vibrant community of believers, and each one of you has a unique role to play in its ongoing mission.

Take care of one another, reach out to those in need, and extend a warm welcome to those who join our community. Let your actions be a testament to the transformative power of God's love. Together, you can continue to create a haven of hope and healing for all who seek solace within our parish walls.

While I may no longer be your pastor, I will forever carry the memories and lessons learned from my time here. I will keep all of you in my prayers, asking for God's abundant blessings upon each and every one of you. May you continue to grow in faith, find strength in one another, and be a shining light in the world.

Thank you once again for allowing me the privilege of being your pastor. Farewell, dear parishioners. May God's grace and peace be with you always.

With heartfelt gratitude and love,

Fr. John J. Paladino

Fr. John's Farewell Mass will be celebrated this Sunday, June 25th at 12PM.

Please join us in thanking him for these 18 wonderful years as our Pastor, and wishing him well as we send him off with our love, prayers and support. A reception will follow the Mass.

Summer is Here!

Stay in Touch Over the Summer!



Get the latest news and updates from St. Bartholomew straight to your inbox! Flocknote is our parish communication platform for keeping our parishioners up-to-date on all things St. Bart's! It's free and easy to sign up, simply text **STBARTSNEWS** to **84576**.

Find a Mass Anywhere!

It's that time of year - Summer vacations are upon us! As we make time to rest and relax, let's remember to continue to make time for God! It can be difficult to coordinate when and where to go to Sunday Mass while you're out of town and travelling, but MassTimes makes it easy! Simply visit **WWW.MASSTIMES.ORG**, type in the zip code of the area that you are searching, and MassTimes will give you the locations of all Catholic Churches nearby and when Mass is celebrated.

Easy Online Giving

Signing up for online giving is an easy way to continue contributions over the summer, even if you're on vacation! Your generosity helps us to continue the mission here at St. Bartholomew. Our online platform allows you to give online with just the touch of a button on your smartphone or on your computer. Try online giving today! Text **STBARTGIVE** to (833)-921-6421. Thank you for your support!



The RCIA Program (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) might be right for you!

WHAT IS RCIA?

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) introduces adults to the Catholic faith and tradition, as well as prepares adults for receiving the Sacraments. The RCIA process is one of study, exploration, faith sharing and faith formation. The RCIA Process is for adults who seek full initiation in the Catholic Church, including those who have never been baptized, baptized Christians desiring to convert from other denominations, and baptized Catholics desiring to receive any of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist).

WHEN DOES RCIA BEGIN?

You can reach out to us at any time - the process begins as soon as you sign up! There are options for meeting individually or in small group sessions. Sacraments of Initiation are bestowed during the Easter season.

WHO CAN I CONTACT TO LEARN MORE?

If you or someone you know would like to learn more about becoming Catholic or receiving the sacraments, please contact:

Jim & Susan Choma
RCIA Formation Coordinators
Susan: delaneysusan@outlook.com
(908) 447-8989
Jim: chomajim@outlook.com
(908) 447-9625

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Thank You for Your Generosity!

On behalf of Raphael Life House, the Rosary Altar Society would like to thank all the people who so generously donated baby clothes, toiletries, gift cards and baby items to the young mothers and their children this past month. We also would like to thank the Prayer Shawl Ministry for their beautiful hand knit and crocheted blankets and our talented parishioners who made sweaters, hats, booties and mittens for the babies. Your generosity was greatly appreciated by the mothers and children. Thank You.



PRAYER INTENTIONS & SACRAMENTS

SUNDAY, JUNE 25

- 7:30AM **Mary Jane Dugan (1st Anniversary)**
req. by Fr. John Paladino
James Roberts
req. by Daniel & Cynthia McLeavey
- 9:00AM **Junnie DeCuollo**
req. by Maria Novello & Family
Maureen Barnett
req. by Gina & Andy Rosenfaro and Family
- 10:30AM **Edward Durney**
req. by Jennifer & Ed Butler
Mary Czarnomski
req. by Joan Iuliano
- Noon **Muriel Pendleton**
req. by O'Neil Family
Nicholas Silano, Jr.
req. by Mother & Sister

MONDAY, JUNE 26

- 6:30AM **Margaret Lynch**
req. by the Murphy Family
- 8:30AM **Carol Bender**
req. by the Giovini Family

TUESDAY, JUNE 27

- 6:30AM **Valerie Sanzo**
req. by Frank Chupko
- 8:30AM **Don Wyzykowski**
req. by Linda Andreoli

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28

- 6:30AM **In Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

- 8:30AM **Agnes Lucchesi**
req. by the Leone Family

THURSDAY, JUNE 29

- 6:30AM **Frank Fumosa Jr.**
req. by Barbara Mary
- 8:30AM **Fred Blahosky**
req. by Jack Diana

FRIDAY, JUNE 30

- 6:30AM **Special Intention**

- 8:30AM **Mark Palasits**
req. by Matthew Burke

SATURDAY, JULY 1

- 8:30AM **For the Children of Ukraine**

- 5:00PM **Steven Drozic**
req. by Gene & Yolanda Schiller
Peter Rogalin
req. by the Rebuth Family

SUNDAY, JULY 2

- 7:30AM **Nicholas Barattucci**
req. by Lynn
Blanche Truchan
req. by Joan & Steve Falloon
- 9:00AM **Maureen Barnett**
req. by Craig Lawrence & Family
Carmella & Lorraine Diana
req. by Jack Diana
- 10:30AM **Grace Theresa Mirabella**
req. by Ralph, Guy & Alex Checchio
John & Marie Losavio
req. by Grandchildren
- Noon **Gloria Woodward**
req. by Joyce Andreoli & Patrick Durkin
Marilyn Lott
req. by Martha Marino
Patrick Durkin
req. by the Walsh Family

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Santino Agosta, 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.

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 Deacon Don Hessemer at deaconhessemer@stbartholomewchurch.org. We will make arrangements for Communion visits on a weekly basis.

Learn About Becoming Catholic or Receiving the Sacraments!

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) introduces adults to the Catholic faith and tradition, as well as prepares adults for receiving the Sacraments. The RCIA process is one of study, exploration, faith sharing and faith formation. The RCIA Process is for adults who seek full initiation in the Catholic Church, including those who have never been baptized, baptized Christians desiring to convert from other denominations, and baptized Catholics desiring to receive any of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist). Learn more on our website:

STBARTHOLOMEWCHURCH.ORG/RCIA

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

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President, Finance Council

KEITH GUARNUCCIO

President, Pastoral Council

PAULETTE CORONATO | JOSEPH DILLON

Parish Trustees

Supporting Our Parish

STEWARDSHIP of TREASURE JUNE 18, 2023

Envelope Collection	\$ 9,725.00
Pushpay Online Collection	\$ 11,848.00
Total	\$ 21,573.00

Thank you for your support!

ONLINE GIVING

Your generosity helps us to continue the mission here at St. Bartholomew and to provide opportunities to pray, learn, serve and grow as a community of faith. Our online platform allows you to give online with just the touch of a button on your smartphone or on your computer. Try online giving today! Text **STBARTGIVE** to (833)-921-6421. Thank you for your support!



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