

The First Day of Lent: Ash Wednesday

Choral Eucharist and The Imposition of Ashes at 12:05 pm and 6 pm

March 5, 2025



We invite you to make this place yours.

Here is a place that is ancient and new, a faith that we hold going back to Jesus, back to his spiritual ancestors, back to those who walked the earth and found holy ground. And what we do is often based on really ancient patterns—worship and music; loving service to the poor, the hurting, the lonely; working for justice and peace; lively, fearless education and formation of minds and souls. And that faith is also completely contemporary, engaged in the culture and the needs of the moment.

What we are for

The dignity and worth of every person. An open minded, passionate commitment to truth. The importance of everyone's own spiritual journey. God's friends wherever we find them. Seeking Christ in every person who comes through the door. The sacredness of life's rites of passage. The value of community. The hard work necessary to make sure that all are welcomed. Telling the truth about life's challenges. A "user-friendly" church experience. Children, youth and families.

What we are against

Claiming to have all the answers. Elitism and exclusivism, especially in church. Bigotry for any reason. Authoritarianism. Indifference to injustice and suffering. Certitude in the face of ambiguity and superficial answers to hard questions. Boring sermons, bad music and general cluelessness. (So, God help us, because we don't always avoid these!)

What we value

Community, open hearts, open minds, open arms. Faith. Fortitude. Staying current, but equally staying rooted in tradition. Reason and honesty. Civic responsibility as New Yorkers, Americans and global citizens. Debate that allows for mutual respect. Music and beauty for their own sake. Joy in God's creation. Anyone who makes an effort to get to know and follow Jesus.

Welcome!

About Postures of Prayer

At various points during today's liturgy, it is appropriate to kneel. Should you choose to kneel, you may find kneeling cushions on the side of your chair.

Christians have long considered standing as another appropriate posture for prayer, and some Christians are not able to stand or kneel but nonetheless pray fervently to God.

Throughout the service leaflet, recommended postures are included for those who are able. Please feel free to use whatever postures are most conducive to worship for you.

The people stand as the procession enters.

The Collect for Ash Wednesday

Presider The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and

the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The people sit.

The First Lesson Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Lector A reading from the Book of the Prophet Joel.

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near—a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

Lector The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103:8-14 Members of St. Bartholomew's Choir

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness.

He will not always accuse us, nor will he keep his anger for ever.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our sins from us.

As a father cares for his children, so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

For he himself knows whereof we are made; he remembers that we are but dust.

Music: Plainsong, Mode VIII.

The Second Lesson 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Lector A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Lector The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

The people stand as the hymn begins.

Hymn



Words: Thomas H. Troeger (1945-2022). Music: *Kingsfold*, English melody. **The Holy Gospel** Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Deacon Jesus said, "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for

then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your

heart will be also."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

After the preacher introduces the sermon, the people sit.

The Sermon The Reverend Meredith E. Ward, Associate Rector for Pastoral Care

The people stand.

The Invitation to a Holy Lent

Presider

Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

An extended period of silence is kept. The people kneel or remain standing.

The Blessing of the Ashes

Presider Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may

be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your

gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

All Amen.

The people remain kneeling or sit.

The Imposition of the Ashes

The people are invited to come forward for the imposition of ashes at the direction of the ushers.

Psalm 51: 1-18 Members of St. Bartholomew's Choir

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

Wash me through and through from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.
And so you are justified when you speak and upright in your judgment.

Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, a sinner from my mother's womb.

For behold, you look for truth deep within me, and will make me understand wisdom secretly

Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

Make me hear of joy and gladness, that the body you have broken may rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your holy Spirit from me.

Give me the joy of your saving help again and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

I shall teach your ways to the wicked, and sinners shall return to you.

Deliver me from death, O God, and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.

Open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice, but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.

The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Music: Anglican chant, Herbert Howells (1892-1983).

The people kneel or stand.

The Litany of Penitence

All Most holy and merciful Father: We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole

communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

Presider We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our

neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

People Have mercy on us, Lord.

Presider We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the

mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

People Have mercy on us, Lord.

Presider We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of

our lives,

People We confess to you, Lord.

Presider Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

People We confess to you, Lord.

Presider Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

People We confess to you, Lord.

Presider Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and

work,

People We confess to you, Lord.

Presider Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

People We confess to you, Lord.

Presider Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need

and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

People Accept our repentance, Lord.

Presider For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice

and contempt toward those who differ from us,

People Accept our repentance, Lord.

Presider For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come

after us,

People Accept our repentance, Lord.

Presider Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

People Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

Presider Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,
People That we may show forth your glory in the world.

Presider By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,

People Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Presider Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but

rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, has given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere

hearts believe his holy Gospel.

Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The people stand.

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people exchange a sign of God's peace with one another and then sit.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

- # Thank you for joining us today. We're glad that you are here! If you are new, please visit **stbarts.org/hello** or scan the QR code to fill out an online Connect Card and sign up for our Weekly eNews.
- \$ Monetary offerings may be placed in one of the plates as it is passed. Offering Envelopes are available at the table in the back of the church. Ushers can assist you.
- \$\text{You may also give by scanning the QR code with your mobile device or visit} **stbarts.org/givenow**. Use the same link to set up a monthly, recurring gift.
- To make an instant donation with your credit card, Apple Pay, or Google Pay, use one of the tap devices found in the back of the church.

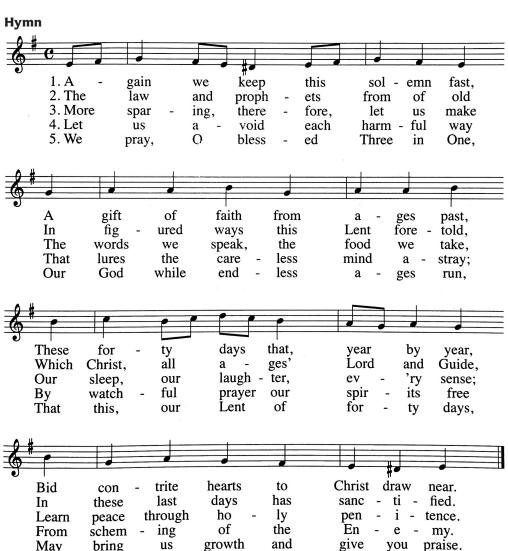


Anthem Members of St. Bartholomew's Choir

Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercy and thy loving kindness which hath been ever of old. O remember not the sins and offenses of my youth; but according to thy mercy think thou on me, O Lord, for thy goodness.

Words: Psalm 25:5-6. Music: Richard Farrant (1530-1580).

The people stand as the hymn begins.



Words: Ex more docti mystico. ascr. to St. Gregory the Great (c. 540-604); tr. by Peter J. Scagnelli, (b. 1949), after John Neale (1818-1866). Music: Erhalt uns Herr, LM; Klug's Geistliche Lieder, 1543; harm. by J. S. Bach (1685-1750).

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider
People
Presider
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Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father

Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and

to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus and Benedictus Members of St. Bartholomew's Choir

Sanctus, Sanctus Holy, holy, holy

Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Lord, God of power and might,

Pleni sunt cæli et terra gloria tua. heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Hosanna in the highest.

Music: Missa Orbis Factor, Plainsong Mode II.

Presider

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Presider We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and

thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day

bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity

of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

All AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider All And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Fraction Anthem

The presider breaks the bread. Silence is kept.

Please note that during Lent the word "Alleluia" is not said.

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. People Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Invitation to Communion

Presider

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The people sit.

At the Communion

- All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please follow the instructions of the ushers. Both bread and wine are offered. After receiving the bread, please wait for the chalice of wine if you would like to receive it.
- Wine is received by drinking from the common cup. Those who do not choose to drink from the common cup may cross their arms to indicate that they would prefer not to receive wine. They are also invited to touch the chalice should they wish.
- In the interests of public health, St. Bart's discourages intinction (dipping the bread into the wine). The Episcopal Church teaches that the Sacrament is fully present even when received in only one kind. If you do not wish to drink from the cup, please be assured that you are still a full partaker in the Eucharistic feast.
- If you require a gluten-free wafer, simply request one from the communion minister when the bread is offered to you.
- Those who do not wish to receive communion are still invited to receive a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you would like a blessing.
- If you are unable to travel to a communion station, please alert an usher so that communion can be brought to you.

Agnus Dei Members of St. Bartholomew's Choir

Agnus Dei,

qui tollis peccata mundi:

miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei,

qui tollis peccata mundi:

dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God,

you take away the sins of the world,

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God

you take away the sins of the world,

give us peace.

Music: Missa Orbis Factor, Plainsong Mode II.

Motet Members of St. Bartholomew's Choir

Peccantem me quotidie et non poenitentem, timor mortis conturbat me. Quia in inferno nulla est redemptio. Miserere mei, Deus, et salva me. I who sing every day and am not penitent the fear of death troubles me. For in hell there is no redemption. Have mercy on me, O God, and save me.

Words: 7th respond at Matins for the Dead. Music: Cristóbal de Morales (c.1500-1553).

The people stand.

The Prayer after Communion

Presider

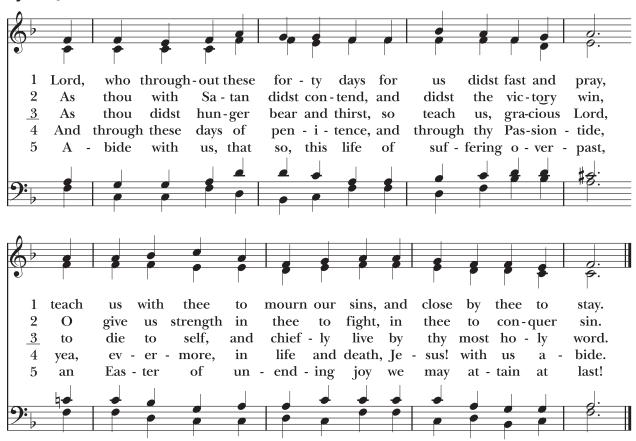
Let us pray.

All

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Hymn 142



Words: Claudia Frances Hernaman (1838-1898).

Music: St. Flavian, melody from Day's Psalter, 1562; adapt, and harm. Richard Redhead (1820-1901).

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde groß, (O man, bewail thy sins so great), BWV 622,

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)



Service Participants

12:05 pm

Presider The Reverend Peter D. Thompson
Preacher The Reverend Meredith E. Ward
Deacon The Reverend Zack Nyein
Subdeacon The Reverend Molly O'Neil Frank
Chalicer David Carson, Wendy Range, Teagan Sage

Lectors Chloe Ward, Wil Yates

Verger Wendy Range **Crucifer** Teagan Sage

Acolytes David Carson, Mariel Glover

Altar Guild Richard Foster, Manny Rodríguez-Leach

Ushers Holly Belows, Lucy Martin Gianino, Barbara Rose, Eileen Scott, Roger Talbott

6 pm

Presider The Reverend Peter D. Thompson **Preacher** The Reverend Meredith E. Ward **Deacon** The Reverend Zack Nyein

Subdeacon The Reverend Molly O'Neil Frank

Chalicers David Carson, Tivaun Cooper, Mariel Glover, Ferris Mack, Mary Thompson

Lectors Aderonke Fatade, Anthony Melendez

Verger Tivaun Cooper **Crucifer** Carlos Santiago

Acolytes David Carson, Mariel Glover **Altar Guild** Cynthia Brush, David Carson

Ushers Holly Bellows, Christian Burke, Marianthe Colakis, Steve Dohnalek, Luke Failla, Jung Griffin, Michael Horton, Siobhan Kolker, Akash Lodh, Judy Miller, Manny Rodríguez-Leach

Members of St. Bartholomew's Choir Organist and Choirmaster Dr. Paolo Bordignon

Associate Organist and Choirmaster Alexander Pattavina

Director of Communications Kara Flannery

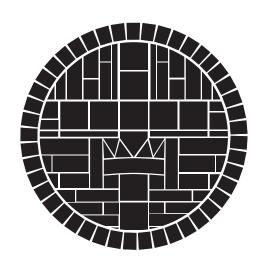
Assistant Communications Director Ben Castellanos

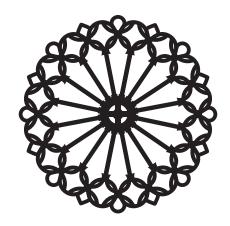
Livestream Producers Leo da Silva, Chloe Pitkoff, Thatcher Pitkoff, Charles White, Niko Bakulich

Livestream Virtual Host Ken Alexander

Director of Facilities Charles Bryant

Facilities Anthony Thomas, Paul Rodríguez





Clergy and Staff

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Associate Rector for Pastoral Care The Reverend Meredith E. Ward (mward@stbarts.org)
Assistant Rector The Reverend Canon Andrew J.W. Mullins * (amullins@stbarts.org)
Assisting Priest The Reverend Molly O'Neil Frank + (moneilfrank@stbarts.org)
Assisting Priest The Reverend Canon Stephanie Spellers +
Deacon The Reverend Deacon John F. Wirenius *

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Seminarian Mr. Nathan Peace (npeace@stbarts.org) *
Seminarian Mr. William Marqraf (wmargraf@stbarts.org) *

* Non-stipendiary + Part-time



The Vestry of St. Bart's

Wardens Miriam K. Schneider, Ray Vandenberg

Rachel Farrar, Dall Forsythe, Jennifer Fuller, David Hilder, Tim Hook, Natalie Johnson, Mary Robin Jurkiewicz, James Marion, Lizzie Min, Kari Parks, Robert Radtke, Robert Sweeney, Mary Kate Wold

Chancellor Patrick MacMurray

Assistant Chancellors Anne Rabbino, Douglas Tanner, Alice Yurke-Davis

Honorary Wardens Fletcher Hodges III, Percy Preston, Jr.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

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