

The Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost

Contemplative Eucharist at 5 pm

November 16, 2025



You can find yours here.

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.

We are so glad you are here!

CONNECT WITH US



Thank you for joining us today. If you are new to St. Bart's, please visit **stbarts.org/hello** or scan the QR code above to fill out our online Connect Card.



Prelude

The people remain seated for the opening song.

Hymn



Words: *Phos hilaron*, Greek (3rd cent.), para. Marty Haugen (b. 1950). Music: *Joyous Light*, Marty Haugen (b. 1950).

The people stand with the presider.

The Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, creator of the stars of night, companion at the

evening table, breath over the deep waters.

All Amen.

The Prayer for the Evening

Presider Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the

brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of

your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Ministry of the Word

The Collect

Presider May God be with you.
Presider And also with you.

Together, let us pray.

All Holy God, whose presence is known in the structures we build, and also in their

collapse; establish in us a community of hope, not to contain your mystery, but to be

led beyond security into your sacred space, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

The people sit.

The Lesson 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Lector A reading from the Second Letter to the Thessalonians.

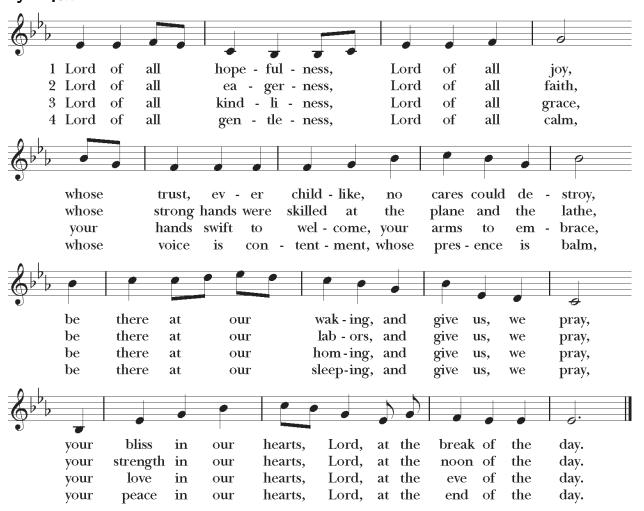
Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary

in doing what is right.

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

An extended period of silence is kept. The people stand as the music begins.

Hvmn 482



Presider

Words: Jan Struther (1901-1953). Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. *Hymnal* 1982.

The Holy Gospel Luke 21:5-19

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

> When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them. "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

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

After the preacher introduces the sermon, the people sit.

The Sermon The Reverend Meredith E. Ward. Senior Associate Rector

An extended period of silence is kept. The people stand.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor

Good and Gracious God, you have promised to hear those who cry to you day and night. Hear now our fervent prayers.

Protector of the persecuted, you call us to work for justice and to care for the oppressed. Open our eyes to the reality of suffering within this city and throughout the globe. Make us attentive to others' needs. Guide us as we hold the powerful to account and plead for the liberation of the poor.





Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994).

Intercessor

Healer of brokenness and disease, you wash away our sadness and our pain. Bind the wounds of all who are injured in body, mind, or spirit, including those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

Heal, too, the wounds of our world: end violence, soothe bitterness, and make us well.

Αll

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come and listen to me.

Intercessor

Keeper of Paradise, no one is ever fully dead to you. Send your angels to those who are dying and to those who have died, including those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

Receive them into your glorious inheritance, and comfort those who mourn.

All

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come and listen to me.

Intercessor

Source of all blessings, you have entrusted us with gifts beyond measure. We thank you for the Church of God throughout the world, for this remarkable community, in which we have each found a place, for food and shelter, for our family and our friends, and for every one of your gifts, including those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

Help us as we strive to be good stewards of St. Bartholomew's, our church home. In this time of transition, grant us the strength and perseverance to move forward together in faith, confident in what the future holds.

Αll

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come and listen to me.

Presider

God, who is faithful when all the foundations crumble: in the time of crisis, as holy places fall and nations stumble, give us the conviction to bear witness to love, whatever the

cost; through Jesus Christ, the Word and Wisdom of God.

All

Amen.

The Confession of Sin

Presider Let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept.

All We need your healing, merciful God: give us true repentance. Some sins are plain to us;

some escape us; some we cannot face. Forgive us; set us free to hear your word to us;

set us free to serve you. Amen.

Presider Through Christ, God has put away your sin. God forgives you: forgive others; forgive

yourself.

All Amen.

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ 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

- ** We extend a special welcome to all who are new to St. Bart's today Please visit **stbarts.org/hello** to let us know who you are!
- ** Many are surprised to learn that St. Bart's does not have a large endowment. We rely on the generosity of members and visitors alike to sustain our ministries for the future.
- ** Visit **stbarts.org/give** or place your offering in the plate as it is passed. Thank you for your support!





With confidence in our future as a parish, we invite you to make a pledge towards the 2026 pledge campaign, *Forward Together in Faith*. A list of those who have already pledged can be found towards the back of this service leaflet.



Interlude

The people stand.

The Blessing of Pledges

Presider Generous God, you have graciously bestowed upon us all that we are and all that we

have: we thank you for this parish church and those whose giving helps to sustain it. Bless these pledges, symbols of our devotion to you and to this community. Help us to give freely from the fruits of our labor in gratitude for all that you have given us. In the name

of Christ we pray.

All Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider
People
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Presider
People
Presider
People
Presider

We lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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

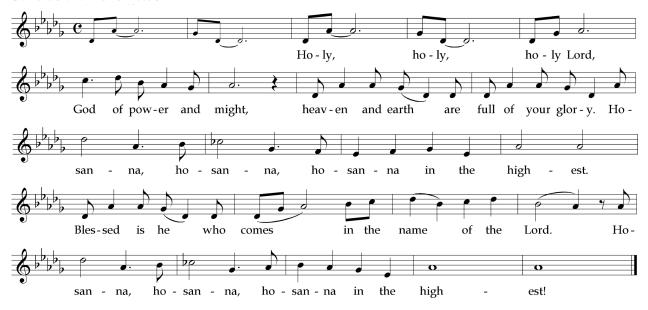
Presider It is truly right to give you thanks and praise, Relentless and Stubborn God, for you never

give up on any of us. When one sheep wanders off, you follow resolutely after. When one coin goes missing, you sweep the whole house until you have reason to rejoice. You welcome young and old, rich and poor, the arrogant and the humble, the greatest and the least. Sinners and doubters, complainers and fools—all alike have a place at your table.

You are only fully satisfied when everyone is present.

And so, grateful for your love—generous and extravagant, uncompromising and allencompassing—we bow before you and exclaim:

Sanctus and Benedictus



Music: from Mass for St. Bartholomew's, William K. Trafka (b. 1956).

Presider

Blessed indeed is Jesus, the Christ, who comes in your name. While we are still on the way, he heals us, delivering us from exclusion and shame. Frustrated by our petty divisions, he dares us to fight evil with good and urges us to treat others as we would like to be treated. In a tense and conflict-ridden world, strengthen us to be his disciples: to learn from his teachings; to emulate his example; to take up our cross and follow him.

On the night before he died for us, 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died.

Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Christ will come again

God of the living, Attentive and Compassionate One: we cry to you day and night for Christ's return, for the manifestation of your reign on earth. Do not delay long in hearing us: fill the hungry; grant justice to the oppressed; bridge the chasms that are fixed between us.

May this meal we now share be a foretaste of Paradise, of perfect unity with one another and with you. Send your Spirit upon this bread and this wine and upon all of us gathered here, that we may partake in Christ's Body and Blood and be Christ's Body in all that we say and do. Make this community a haven for the burdened and despairing and a beacon of your love and peace. Keep us longing for an end to falsehood and violence, and bless us with the endurance of the saints, who faced every kind of trial and still persevered.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the One who laid down his life for us, and who abides with you and the Spirit, Three in One and One in Three, forever and forevermore.

All AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider

Presider

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

All

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The Fraction Anthem

The presider breaks the bread. Silence is kept.

Presider We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The Invitation to Communion

Presider Here is Bread and here is Wine, Heavenly Food and Saving Drink: nourishment alike for

tax collectors and sinners, for enemies and friends, for you and for me.

The people sit.

At the Communion

- All are welcome to receive Holy Communion, including children. Please follow the instructions of the ushers. Both bread and wine are offered. After receiving the bread, please proceed to the chalice of wine if you would like to receive it. Wine is received by drinking from the common cup.
- 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.

The people stand.

The Prayer after Communion

Presider Let us pray.

All We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of

life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love

kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever. Amen.

The Evening Canticle and Antiphon

All Guide us waking, O God, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ,

and asleep we may rest in peace.

Presider Praise be to God, we have lived to see this day. God's promise is fulfilled, and our duty is

done. At last you have given us peace, for we have seen with our own eyes the salvation you have prepared for all nations, a light to the world in its darkness, and the glory of

your people Israel.

All Guide us waking, O God, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ,

and asleep we may rest in peace.

The Blessing

Hymn 635



Words: Georg Neumark (1621-1681); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829-1878), alt. Music: *Wer nur den lieben Gott*, Georg Neumark (1621-1681),

The Dismissal

Presider Go on your way. Be grateful. Love boldly. Persevere.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Service Participants

Presider and Preacher The Reverend Meredith E. Ward **Chalicer** Sarah Bessey

Lector Dickie Ann Boal Johnson **Usher** Sam Meyer

Associate Organist and Choirmaster Alexander Pattavina

Director, Operations & Facilities Charles Bryant

Facilities Anthony Thomas

We continue to hold in our prayers

Glenn, Virginia, Joanne, Norma, John, John



We are deeply grateful to the following individuals for their commitment to support St. Bart's in the coming year.

To make your own commitment to the 2026 pledge campaign, visit **stbarts.org/pledge**. A revised list of participants in the 2026 pledge campaign will be included in the 2025 annual report alongside a list of 2025 donors.



Anonymous (3 pledges)

Mary Abraham and Rob Radtke

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Mr. Ian Anderson

Ms. Jill P. Anderson

Mr. Raul Aranas and Mrs. Mary Aranas

Ms. Sally Armstrong

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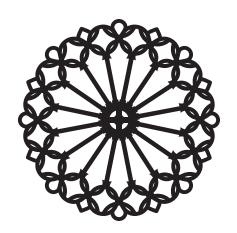
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Ms. Alice F. Yurke and Mr. Robert H. Davis

Mr. Mark P. Zeisler





Newcomers are welcome to all gatherings.

Learn more at **stbarts.org/sunday.**

Coffee Hour

12:15 PM IN THE GREAT HALL

* St. Tabitha's Guild

12:30 PM IN THE GREAT HALL

Children, Youth, and Families Lunch

12:15 PM IN THE GREAT HALL

EXPLORE Class for Newcomers

12:30 PM IN ROOM 33

For anyone new to St. Bart's or The Episcopal Church and interested in learning more. Sign up at **stbarts.org/explore**.

Theology Odyssey: Wrestling with the Core Questions of Christian Faith

1 PM IN THE VESTRY ROOM

Living Christ Sangha

3-4:30 PM VIA ZOOM



The 2026 Pledge Campaign at St. Bart's

The 2026 Pledge Campaign at St. Bart's, "Forward Together in Faith," concludes today with a celebration and blessing of all pledges at the 9 am, 11 am and 5 pm services. If you have not yet declared your pledge, we encourage you to join the campaign now as we reach our \$1.5M goal (**stbarts.org/pledge**). Please contact Susannah Wade Lewis at swadelewis@stbarts.org with any questions.



November 23, 2025

The Last Sunday after Pentecost

- \$\text{\$\text{TOIN US IN PERSON AT 9 AM, 11 AM, AND 5 PM.}}\$

 YOU MAY ALSO JOIN OUR SUNDAY MORNING LIVESTREAM SERVICE AT 11 AM on our website (stbarts.org/worship/livestream), via YouTube or Facebook Live (@stbartsnyc).
- ☆ THE FORUM AT 10 AM
 Making Sense of Our Mortality

As Christians, how do we face our mortality while holding fast to the hope of eternal life? Can being mindful of our mortality bolster our spiritual practices—and even serve as a spiritual practice itself? Eva Ting, founder of Here to Honor, considers how to make sense of our mortality in light of our faith.



Weekday offerings to recenter your soul in God's grace and goodness.

HOLY EUCHARIST • WEDNESDAY-THURSDAYS AT 12:05 PM IN THE CHAPEL

NIGHT PRAYER • MONDAY-FRIDAY AT 8:30 PM VIA ZOOM

BIBLE STUDY • WEDNESDAYS AT 1 PM VIA ZOOM

IMAGINE WORSHIP NYC • THURSDAYS AT 7 PM IN THE CHAPEL

CENTERING PRAYER • FRIDAYS AT 9 AM VIA ZOOM

ONGOING AND UPCOMING

THE CHURCH IS OPEN MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, 9:30 AM-4:30 PM FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION.
THE BOOKSTORE IS ALSO OPEN DURING THESE HOURS.

SEE OUR COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF FALL PROGRAMMING AT STBARTS.ORG/FALL

Midtown Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 6 PM AT SAINT PETER'S CHURCH (619 LEXINGTON AVENUE)

St. Bart's joins other local congregations for an interfaith Thanksgiving service, held at Saint Peter's Church. A reception follows. Please note that a separate Thanksgiving Eve service will not be held at St. Bart's this year. Visit **saintpeters.org/interfaith2025** to watch online.

Braver Angels: Did New York City Choose the Right Mayor?

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 7-9 PM, ROOM 33

The Braver Angels New York City Alliance invites you to a free Local Community Debate on NYC's mayoral choice, where participants from across the ideological spectrum will have the opportunity to speak and ask questions. Sign up at **stbarts.org/braverangels.**

Art for Advent

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1:30-2:30PM VIA ZOOM

Join the Reverend Meredith Ward, Senior Associate Rector, and the Reverend Dr. Ayla Lepine, Associate Rector of St James's Church, Piccadilly, in London, for Art for Advent. This virtual-only event will feature conversation and meditations on Advent themes using four objects from museums in London and New York. Register at **stbarts.org/artforadvent.**

Lawyering in Faith: Navigating Ethical and Professional Complexities

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19 AT 6:30 PM, ROOM 33

What happens when a lawyer's personal faith or beliefs conflict with a client's interests or legal obligations? St. Ives' Guild at St. Bart's and The Episcopal Diocese of New York jointly present an interactive program to discuss this timely, ethical dilemma. Panelists include the Rev. Dr. Patrick Cheng, Alice Yurke, and J. Patrick Hornbeck II. Register at **stbarts.org/lawyeringinfaith.**

Trans Day of Remembrance

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

5:15 pm Community Meal in the back of the church **6 pm** Trans Day of Remembrance service in the church **7 pm** Imagine Worship in the chapel

St. Bart's is once again partnering with the Translatinx Network of New York to host a Trans Day of Remembrance observance. A community meal and music from the Imagine Worship Choir will precede a multi-faith service honoring lives lost and celebrating resilience. Imagine Worship will still take place in the chapel as usual at 7 pm. Learn more and volunteer at **stbarts.org/tdor.**

20s/30s Friendsgiving

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 6:30-8:30 PM IN ROOM 33

St. Bart's 20s/30s group is hosting our annual Friendsgiving potluck in the Community House! It's a potluck, so all items, big and small, homemade or store bought, are welcome. St. Bart's will be providing a couple of mains (including one vegetarian option) and a few sides. Sign up at **stbarts.org/20s30s.**

Fare Share 2025

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Crossroads' annual Fare Share 2025 will take place on the Friday after Thanksgiving. Over 400 guests will enjoy a holiday carry-out dinner and choose gifts from a Holiday Bazaar. Learn more and help Crossroads reach their fundraising goal at **crossroadsnyc.org**.

Advent Fair

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30 AT 12:30 PM IN THE GREAT HALL

Prepare for the festive holiday season with interactive crafts, refreshments, music, and other fun.

Advent Lessons & Carols

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30 AT 5 PM

Our combined choirs offer Advent carols and anthems in alternation with readings of the beautiful prophecies of the coming of Christ. The reception following this beautiful service is a festive celebration including home baked goods and store bought treats. If you'd like to add something savory or sweet to our bountiful table, please contact Paul Rodriguez at **prodriguez@stbarts.org** to learn more.

Caroling on the Steps

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2 AT 5:45 PM

Join us on the steps of St. Bart's for our annual Midtown Carol Sing-a-long, followed by hot cocoa and refreshments—a welcoming way for parishioners, friends, and commuters to pause together in pre-Christmas joy!

Book Launch: Church Tomorrow?

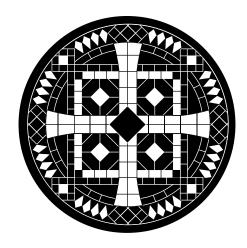
THURSDAY, DEC. 4: 6 PM BOOK LAUNCH, 7 PM WORSHIP

The Reverend Canon Stephanie Spellers will join in conversation with a panel of voices featured in her new book, *Church Tomorrow?* about the spirituality of Millennials and Gen-Z. Afterwards, stay for Advent worship and dinner.

Welcome Sunday

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 AT 9 AM, 11 AM AND 5 PM

Anyone who has found their way to St. Bart's in the past year and considers it their spiritual home is invited to be recognized and blessed. A reception will be held in the Great Hall at 12:30 pm. You belong already. Let's make it official! Sign up at **stbarts.org/welcomesunday**.



Clergy and Staff

Vicar and Interim Rector The Reverend Peter D. Thompson (pthompson@stbarts.org)
Senior Associate Rector and Pastor of Imagine Worship The Reverend Zack Nyein (znyein@stbarts.org)
Senior Associate Rector The Reverend Meredith E. Ward (mward@stbarts.org)
Canon in Residence The Reverend Canon Stephanie Spellers (sspellers@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) +
Deacon The Reverend Deacon John F. Wirenius (jwirenius@stbarts.org) *

Organist and Choirmaster Dr. Paolo Bordignon (pbordignon@stbarts.org)
Associate Organist and Choirmaster Mr. Alexander Pattavina (apattavina@stbarts.org)
Administrative Associate for Music Mr. Ian Anderson (ianderson@stbarts.org)

Director of Parish Life and Events Ms. Veronica Shea (vshea@stbarts.org)
Associate for Parish Life and Events Mr. Paul Rodriguez (prodriguez@stbarts.org)
Associate for Community Engagement Mr. Curry Brinson (cbrinson@stbarts.org)
Associate for Next Generation Ministries Ms. Effie Diprenda (ediprenda@stbarts.org)
Director of Development Ms. Susannah Wade Lewis (swadelewis@stbarts.org)
Manager of Development Mr. Brian Van Steen (bvansteen@stbarts.org)
Head Verger Ms. Sarah Bessey (sbessey@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.

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