

✧SAINT✧
**BARTHOLOMEW'S
CHURCH**
IN THE CITY OF
✧NEW YORK✧

Commemorating the Life and Witness
of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Contemplative Eucharist at 5 pm

January 18, 2026

325 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10022



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.

Welcome!

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 hymn.

Hymn

1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone has
your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
pow - er to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gath - ered to - day.

Words and Music: *Christ, be our light*, Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957).

The people stand with the presider.

The Opening Acclamation

Presider	Arise, shine, for our Light has come!
People	And the glory of God has risen upon us.
Presider	Lift up your eyes and look!
People	See and be radiant!
Presider	From east and west we have traveled;
People	from south and north we have gathered together.
Presider	Our hearts thrill and rejoice,
People	and we proclaim God's praise.

The Ministry of the Word

The Collect for the Feast of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Presider May God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Together, let us pray.

All **Almighty God, by the hand of Moses your servant you led your people out of slavery, and made them free at last: Grant that your church, following the example of your prophet Martin Luther King, may resist oppression in the name of your love, and may strive to secure for all your children the blessed liberty of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

The people sit.

The Lesson Ephesians 6:10-20

Lector A reading from the Letter to the Ephesians.

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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

Hymn



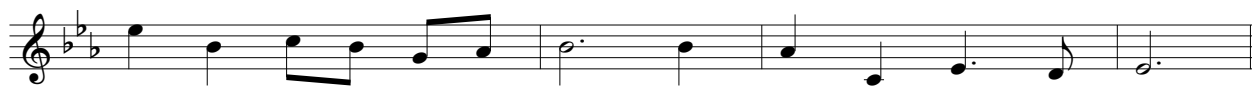
1 "I have a dream," a man once said, "Where
 2 But in this world of bit - ter strife The
 3 Fierce per - se - cu - tion, war, and hate Are
 4 So dream the dreams and sing the songs, But
 5 Lord, give us vi - sion, make us strong, Help



all is per - fect peace; Where all God's chil - dren,
 dream can of - ten fade; Re - al - i - ty seems
 rag - ing eve - ry - where; God calls us now to
 nev - er be con - tent; For thoughts and words don't
 us to do your will; Don't let us rest un -



black and white, Stand hand in hand, and all u - nite In
 dark as night, We catch but glimps - es of the light Christ
 pay the price Through strug - gles and through sac - ri - fice Of
 ease the pain: Un - less there's ac - tion all is vain; Faith
 til we see Your love through-out hu - man - i - ty U -



free - dom and in love, In free - dom and in love."
 sheds on hu - man - kind, Christ sheds on hu - man - kind.
 stand - ing for the right, Of stand - ing for the right.
 proves it - self in deeds, Faith proves it - self in deeds.
 nit - ing us in peace, U - nit - ing us in peace.

Words: Pamela J. Pettitt (1954–2005), alt.

Music: Repton, Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848–1918).

The Holy Gospel Luke 6:27–36

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Presider Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

Presider 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, Senior Associate Rector

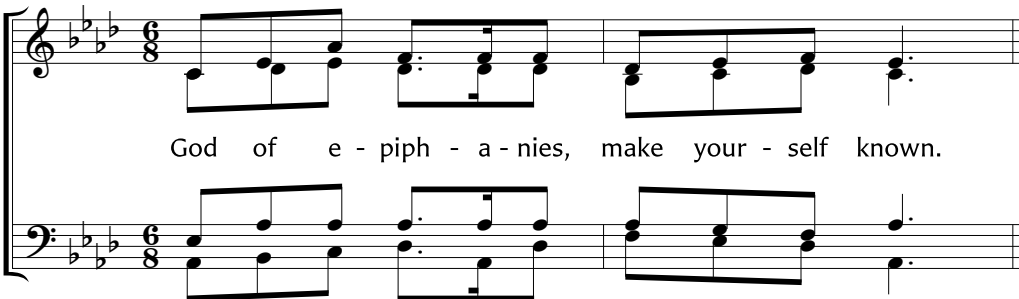
An extended period of silence is kept. The people stand as the music begins.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor God of epiphanies: in sudden moments of sacred insight, you burst through the heavens to reveal yourself on earth. Shine your light into our hearts, and make yourself known to us, we pray.

In Bethlehem of Judea, you appeared to travelers from the East, transcending the boundaries of nationality, religion, and race. Make yourself known to outsiders of every kind, and teach us to build bridges with people of different backgrounds and life experiences.

All God of e - piph - a - nies, make your - self known.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves, a treble staff on top and a bass staff on the bottom. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 6/8. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics 'God of e - piph - a - nies, make your - self known.' are written below the staves, with the words 'e - piph - a - nies' aligned under the treble staff and 'make your - self known.' aligned under the bass staff.

Intercessor Over the river Jordan, you appeared like a dove, announcing your love for all to hear. Make yourself known in this and every land. Descend like a dove into our world's strife, and transform its discord into a love that resembles yours.

All **God of epiphanies, make yourself known.**

Intercessor By the sea of Galilee, you appeared to your disciples, urging them to follow you. Make yourself known to the Church throughout the world. Empower us to pursue the mission you have asked us to fulfill. Inspire us to fish for people, even in the face of difficulty and fear.

All **God of epiphanies, make yourself known.**

Intercessor High on a mountain, you appeared to large crowds, proclaiming the blessedness of those who hunger and thirst. Make yourself known to all who are suffering or in need, including those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

All **God of epiphanies, make yourself known.**

Intercessor Dazzling and transfigured, you appeared with Moses and Elijah, bridging the gap between the living and the dead. Make yourself known to the dying and those who have died, including those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

All **God of epiphanies, make yourself known.**

Intercessor Like a great light in the midst of deep darkness, you have appeared among us, again and again. Hear now our prayers of thanksgiving for all the ways in which you have made yourself known in our lives, including those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

All **God of epiphanies, make yourself known.**

Presider God of epiphanies, you urge us beyond all reason to love our enemies and pray for our oppressors. May we embrace such folly not through subservience, but strength; that unmeasured generosity may be poured into our lap, through Jesus Christ.

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!



Interlude

The people stand.

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **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 thank and praise you, O God, radiant and resplendent, beauty so old and so new. You live forever in light we cannot see—brightness too dazzling for our eyes. And yet glimpses of your glory still manage to break into our troubled world.

Basking in every fragment, each ray that you send, we join with the angels of heaven to sing the everlasting hymn:

Sanctus and Benedictus



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r__ and God of might.



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry, Ho - san - na in the High - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of__ the Lord,__



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Puer nobis*, melody from *Trier MS.*, 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621).

Presider Blessed indeed is Jesus, who entered our gloom and despair. He shared our flesh and blood and became like us in every respect. Born a tiny infant, he grew in strength and wisdom until, in time, he claimed his mission: to fish for people—to teach, to preach, and to heal. From his earliest days to his last, multitudes attested to his greatness: rulers came to pay their respects; prophets deferred to his standing; Moses and Elijah appeared alongside him. Christ is still our guiding Lamp, our bright Morning Star. We adore your Beloved Child, in whom you are well-pleased.

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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Great is the mystery of faith:

People **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Presider Open the heavens, O God, and send down your Holy Spirit to bless these gifts of bread and wine we offer, that they may be for us Christ’s Body and Blood. By that same Spirit, who anointed Jesus at the river Jordan, anoint us to be your Church: a joyous community, united across difference, free of anger and violence, full of love and affection, devoted to the outcast and the poor. May Christ come quickly to usher in the dawn of justice and peace and to gather us with the people of every race and nation on that holy mountain-top, where we will see you face to face.

Confident in the glory about to be revealed, we make our prayer through Christ who, with you and the Spirit, shines forever in brilliance that never fades.

All **AMEN.**

The Lord’s Prayer

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 for all the broken, who sit in the shadow of death.
People **May the light of Christ shine into every darkness.**

The Invitation to Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God: more precious than gold, more fragrant than incense, more soothing than myrrh. Christ, who has received our gifts, now gives himself to us.

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 **God of all holiness, in this temple we have seen and tasted your salvation. Send us now in peace to proclaim your revelation to every people and share your light with all the world. In Christ's name we pray. 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 from *Lift Every Voice and Sing, II* #227

We shall o - ver - come, We shall o - ver - come,

We shall o - ver - come some - day; Oh,

deep in my heart, I do be - lieve, (Oh)

We shall o - ver - come some - day. day.

2. We'll walk hand in hand, today.
3. God is on our side, today.

4. We are not afraid, today.
5. We shall live in peace, someday.

Words: Traditional.
Music: African-American Spiritual; arr. Carl Haywood (b. 1949).

The Dismissal

Presider Go in the peace of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Service Participants

Presider and Preacher The Reverend Meredith E. Ward

Lector Miriam Schneider

Ushers Sam Meyer

Altar Guild Luke Failla

Organist and Choirmaster Dr. Paolo Bordignon

Director, Operations & Facilities Charles Bryant

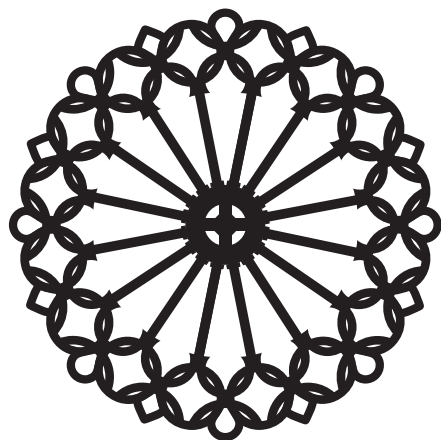
Facilities Anthony Thomas

We continue to hold in our prayers:

Robert, Channing, Ernestine, Alison, Roseann, Ekaterina, Jeanie, Vladzimir, Nancy, Paul, Jenna, Greg, Velvareth Family

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**MEET US
AFTER
CHURCH**

Newcomers are welcome to all gatherings

Learn more at stbarts.org/sunday.

⚡ **Coffee Hour**

12:15 PM IN THE GREAT HALL

⚡ **Children, Youth, and Families Lunch**

12:15 PM IN THE GREAT HALL

⚡ **Living Christ Sangha**

3 PM IN ROOM 33

**PARISH
NEWS**

Rector Search Committee Town Hall

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1 AT 12:30 PM IN THE GREAT HALL

Members of St. Bart's Rector Search Committee will host a Town Hall to share an update on the search process for our 14th rector, including key themes from the Parish Profile survey and Roundtable listening sessions. This is an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about this important work. The event will be livestreamed for those unable to attend in person. If you have general questions about the process, please send them to rectorsearch@stbarts.org.

**NEXT
SUNDAY
AT
ST. BART'S**

January 25, 2026

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

⚡ **JOIN 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](https://www.facebook.com/stbartsnyc)).

⚡ **THE FORUM AT 10 AM**

The Wonder Church of My Research Laboratory

Dr. James Ferrara, Ward-Coleman Chair in Cancer Medicine at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine and longtime member of St. Bart's, speaks about his vocation as a physician-scientist.

**WEEKDAYS
AT
ST. BART'S**

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

HOLY EUCHARIST • TUESDAY–THURSDAY 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 AND FRIDAY, 9:30 AM-4:30 PM
AND TUESDAY - THURSDAY, 8 AM - 4:30 PM FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION
THE BOOKSTORE IS ALSO OPEN DURING THESE HOURS.

Welcome back, Effie!

This Sunday we are very glad to welcome back Effie Diprenda, Associate for Next Generation Ministries, as she returns from parental leave. Congratulations to Effie and her husband Brian on the birth of their son Leonidas in September!

Lost and Found at St. Bart's Central

Have you misplaced something at St. Bart's? Our Lost and Found at St. Bart's Central currently includes hats, scarves, and even car keys, so please stop by soon to see if something waiting there belongs to you.

Saturday Mornings at St. Bart's

SATURDAYS, JAN 10-FEB 28 AT 10 AM VIA ZOOM

The Saturday morning discussion group turns to Walter Brueggemann's *The Prophetic Imagination*. Newcomers welcome. Register at stbarts.org/saturdaymornings.

Grievance and Grace: A Journey into Shakespeare's *The Tempest*

TUESDAYS, JAN 13-FEB 3, 7-8:30 PM VIA ZOOM

How do we live in community after harm has been done? Explore the concepts of revenge, retaliation, and grace in Shakespeare's play *The Tempest* with St. Bart's parishioner and classical actor Esther Williamson. Experience with Shakespeare is not required. Please register at stbarts.org/tempest.

Pop-Up Immigration Legal Clinic: Translators and Support Needed

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 9:30 AM-2 PM

St. Bart's Migrant Welcome Committee is partnering with the Diocese of New York, El Barrio Angels, and NYLAG to host a pop-up clinic helping asylum seekers apply for work authorization, now subject to a new \$560 federal fee. We are seeking volunteers fluent in Spanish and/or French to serve as translators, as well as donors to help make this clinic possible. Visit stbarts.org/popup for complete details.

This We Believe: Finding God through Interfaith Conversation

TUESDAYS, JAN 27-FEB 10, 6:15-7:15 PM, IN PERSON

The Reverend Meredith Ward and Rabbi Sarah Berman of Central Synagogue facilitate a three-week series to learn how our different faiths understand God and community in challenging times and how people of faith can find common ground. Using texts from different moments in history, we will explore how those teachings speak to our lives today. Participation in all three sessions is requested. Registration is required at stbarts.org/interfaith.

January 27: Antiquity Era meets at Central Synagogue

February 3: Enlightenment Era meets at St. Bart's

February 10: Post-Holocaust Era meets at St. Bart's

The King's Singers, Live in Concert

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4 AT 7:30 PM

From mystical forests to stormy seas, The King's Singers will take us on a journey through landscapes and ages, with a program celebrating much-loved British composers. We're excited to welcome the acclaimed a capella group, with their trademark sound and humor, back to New York! Purchase tickets at mmpaf.org.

Annual Parish Meeting

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8 AT 10 AM

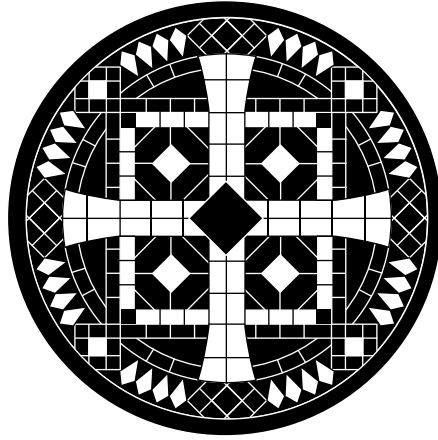
In accordance with the Church's Bylaws, the Vestry has set the time and place for the annual parish meeting and election of Vestry officers. These will take place on Sunday, February 8 at 10 am in the nave of the church and online. All are invited to attend. Only qualified voters are eligible to vote. Visit stbarts.org/annualmeeting for additional information. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Liz Gillespie in the Office of the Rector: lgillespie@stbarts.org or 212-378-0263.

Pathfinders

IN-PERSON: SUNDAYS, FEB 22-MAY 10 AT 12:30, ROOM 33

ONLINE: WEDNESDAYS, FEB 25-MAY 13 AT 7 PM ON ZOOM

Explore the Episcopal Church and the Christian faith in this welcoming, clergy-led course at St. Bart's. Together, we will dig into the Bible, prayer, church history, the liturgical year, and the sacraments, concluding with the opportunity for Confirmation, Reception, or Reaffirmation at St. Bart's during Bishop Shin's visit on May 17, as well as an optional retreat. Learn more and register at stbarts.org/pathfinders.



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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