SAINT BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

The Last Sunday after Pentecost

Contemplative Eucharist at 5 pm

November 22, 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 song.

Opening Song



Words and Music: *Heymonystraat*, John L. Bell (b. 1949).

The people stand with the presider.

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.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Together, let us pray.

All **Destitute King, one with the hungry, the naked and the scorned: may our faith be proved not in dogma and piety but in serving you in the last and the least; through Jesus Christ, the stranger's Lord. Amen.**

The people sit.

The Lesson Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Lector A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

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.

Hymn



Words: John L. Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (b. 1958).
Music: *Noel nouvelet*, Medieval French carol.

The Holy Gospel Matthew 25:31-46

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Presider Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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, Vicar

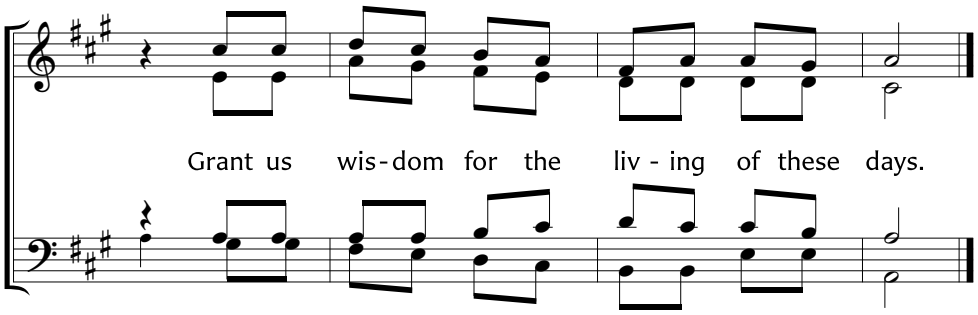
An extended period of silence is kept. The people stand.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor O God, you have been our refuge from one generation to another: hear the prayers we offer, and grant us wisdom for the living of these days.

We pray, O God, for our parish, St. Bartholomew's, and for the entire Body of the Church. Merge our personal interests into the community's needs. Mold us into faithful members who work tirelessly for the good of the whole.

People



Intercessor We pray, O God, for all the nations, for the leaders of our nation, our state, and our city, and for all who were recently elected to public office. Guide us in our efforts to be responsible citizens. Remind us also of our responsibilities to you.

People **Grant us wisdom for the living of these days.**

Intercessor We pray, O God, for those who suffer: the hungry, the thirsty, and the naked; the stranger, the prisoner, and the sick; the victims of violence and persecution. We include in our prayers those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

Rouse us from complacency and indifference, that we may attend to their needs.

People **Grant us wisdom for the living of these days.**

Intercessor We pray, O God, for the dying and those who have died, including those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

Bring them to that land where there is neither hunger nor thirst, neither sorrow nor crying, but the peace that passes all understanding.

People **Grant us wisdom for the living of these days.**

Intercessor We offer thanks, O God, for the blessings of our lives, including those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

Teach us to make prudent use of all you have provided. Inspire us to give generously from what we have received.

People **Grant us wisdom for the living of these days.**

Presider God of the poor, we long to meet you yet always miss you; we strive to help you, yet only discover our need. Interrupt our comfort with your nakedness, touch our possessiveness with your poverty, and surprise our guilt with the grace of your welcome in Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

The Welcoming of Newcomers

Presider Dear People of God, today we welcome new sojourners into this community of St. Bart's. We celebrate and honor their unique gifts and stories as together we seek to join the Holy Spirit in the work of transforming lives, transforming the church, and transforming the world.

Presenters I present these persons to be welcomed fully into the life of this parish.

Presider Do you desire to continue your journey into Christ in the fellowship of Saint Bartholomew's Church in the City of New York?

Newcomers I do.

Presider Will you commit yourself to seek and serve Christ in this community of faith and pledge to serve, pray, and give to build up our common life?

Newcomers I will, with God's help.

Presider Will you now help to welcome others as Christ has welcomed each of us?

Newcomers I will, with God's help.

Presider Will you who witness these promises, do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People **We will.**

Presider Let us pray.
God of welcome and embrace, you make your home among mortals, and in you, we all have a place:
A place to belong and a place to become;

People **a place to pray and a place to play;**

Presider a place to be joyful and a place to grieve;

People **a place to believe and a place to receive;**

Presider a place to give and a place to grow;

People **a place to connect and a place to know;**

Presider a place to ask and a place to doubt;

People **a place to learn and a place to turn;**

Presider a place to love and a place to be known;

People **a place to be fed and a place to call home.**

Presider Give us grace, O God, to become what we proclaim and embody what we believe; in the name of the One who is Love Incarnate, Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

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!
- St. Bart's relies upon the generosity of the living to sustain its vibrant ministry. Whether you are a member or a visitor, your support makes a real difference to our community. To contribute, visit **stbarts.org/give**, scan the adjacent QR code, or place your offering in the plate as it is passed. We are grateful for your support.

Interlude

The people stand.

The Great Thanksgiving

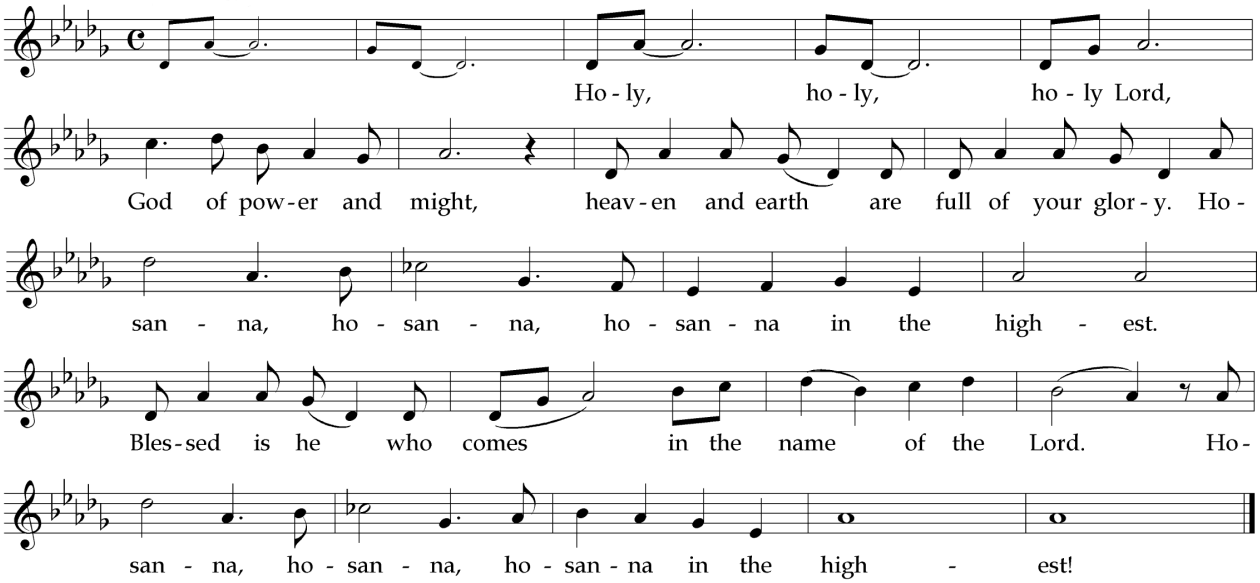
Presider May God be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them up to God.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ: the Good Samaritan, who tends the wounds of body and spirit with the oil of consolation and the wine of hope; the Sun of righteousness, who raises us to life on his healing wings. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus and Benedictus



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

Presider As the shadows lengthen, we bless you, sheltering God.

We glorify you for the endless, starlit sky, deep with the mystery of your creative labor through all time and space. We praise you for the fertile earth and for the life its darkness holds and births: plants of every variety, animals curled in sleep, humankind you shaped by your own hand. Stay with us, for it is evening.

People **Stay with us, for it is evening.**

Presider Through the night you led your people into freedom. At day's end you rained down manna in the wilderness. At sundown your Son brought healing to people in need. In the midday night when Jesus died on the cross, life came forth for all. Stay with us, for it is evening.

People **Stay with us, for it is evening.**

Presider In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Our hearts burn within us as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Presider Like a mother hen, hold us close through the coming night. Watch with those who labor, accompany those who long for peaceful sleep, welcome those whose waking will be only in you. Into our deepest night, come, Lord Jesus.

People **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Presider Come, Holy Spirit, make here the body of Christ: in the breaking of the bread, in justice for our broken world, in rest for the weary, come, Holy Spirit.

People **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Presider To you, O God, painter of both night and day, guiding star and healing sun, breath of peace and wind of change, be all glory, all honor, all praise this night unto the coming dawn, now and forever.

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 God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.

People **Happy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.**

The Invitation to Communion

Presider Come to the table for all is now ready; taste and see that God is good.

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



Words: Albert F. Bayly (1901-1984).
Music: *Beach Spring* from *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm, by Ronald A. Nelson (1927-2014).

The Dismissal

Presider Go forth to serve Christ in others.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Service Participants

Presider and Preacher The Reverend Meredith E. Ward
Chalicer Adelaide Kent

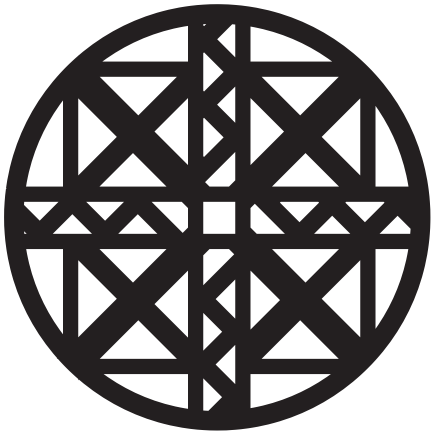
Lector Vivian Roston
Usher David Glatzl
Altar Guild Luke Failla

Organist and Choirmaster Dr. Paolo Bordignon

Director, Operations & Facilities Charles Bryant
Facilities Anthony Thomas

We continue to hold in our prayers
Ebony, Artemis, Tamara, Artemis, Katherine, Don, Norma, Charles, Michael, Douglas, Steve

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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
- **Guided Tour of St. Bart's**
  12:15 PM IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH
- **Peace Book Club**
  1:30 PM VIA ZOOM
- **Living Christ Sangha**
  3 PM VIA ZOOM

MEETING THIS MOMENT AS ONE · 2027 PLEDGE CAMPAIGN

The 2027 Pledge Campaign at St. Bart's

The 2027 Pledge Campaign at St. Bart's, "Meeting This Moment As One," has concluded with more than 330 pledges, exceeding our $1.6M goal. It is a tremendous result that was made possible by the hard work and participation of so many. Thank you!

If you have yet to declare your 2027 pledge, you still can at **stbarts.org/pledge**. The campaign goal represents roughly 50% of our 2027 stewardship budget, so new commitments will be gratefully received. Please contact Susannah Wade Lewis at **swadelewis@stbarts.org** with any questions.

NEXT SUNDAY AT ST. BART'S

November 29, 2026: The First Sunday of Advent

- **JOIN US IN PERSON AT 9 AM, 11 AM, AND 5 PM**
  OR 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**
  Everlasting Jesus: Timeless Wisdom for Modern Living
  Author Rick Hamlin discusses his latest book about how Scripture can speak to the modern moment.
- **CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACTIVITY HOURS**
  9:45 am–12:45 pm: Nursery Care in Children's Playroom
  10 am: Kids' Club for Grades K-5 in Room 33
  10 am: Youth at the Center for Grades 6-12 in Room 32
- **ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS AT 5 PM**
  Our combined choirs offer Advent carols and anthems interspersed with readings about the coming of Christ. A festive reception follows in the Great Hall.

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

Holiday Closure

The Church and Community House will close at **1 pm on Wednesday, November 25**, and remain closed until Sunday morning at 8:30 am. Crossroads Community Services will be hosting their annual Fare Share event in the church on **Friday, November 27**.

Fare Share Friday

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27
Support our partners at Crossroads Community Services this holiday season as they work to ensure that everybody can eat. Visit **bit.ly/fareshare2026** to learn more.

Advent Fair

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29 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 29 AT 5 PM
Join us for one of the most beloved services of the season! Our combined choirs offer Advent carols and anthems interspersed with readings about the coming of Christ. A festive reception follows in the Great Hall. Eucharist in the chapel is offered after the service for those who wish to attend. Join us in person or via livestream.

Advent Lessons & Carols Reception

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SERVICE, IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH
Our annual Advent Lessons & Carols Reception is a joyful St. Bart's tradition and an opportunity to come together as a parish to begin the Advent season. Whether you're a whiz in the kitchen or simply enjoy sharing good food, we'd be grateful for your contribution. Bring a treat to share or volunteer to help with setup and cleanup. Contact Paul Rodriguez at **prodriguez@stbarts.org** to learn more.

Tree of Gifts

St. Tabitha's Guild at St. Bart's is sponsoring a Tree of Gifts, offering their handmade needlecrafts for Advent and Christmas. Your donations of new hats, scarves, and gloves are welcome and can be placed on the tree. All items will be donated to Crossroads and Coalition for the Homeless. The Tree of Gifts will be in the narthex of the church from November 29 through January 3.

Caroling on the Steps

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1 AT 5:45 PM
Join us on the steps of St. Bart's for our annual Midtown Carol Sing-along! Singing starts at 5:45 pm, then we head inside at 6:15 pm for hot cocoa and community. (We will be outside singing rain or shine!) Come help us spread a little pre-Christmas cheer to Midtown and everyone passing by on Park Avenue.

The Adoration of The Magi

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 AT 7:30 PM
Jeff Morrissey returns to St. Bart's with their popular Christmas program inspired by the elegant paintings that adorn the 1919 Ethel Parsons Paullin and Telford Paullin mural in the chapel. The beautiful *Adoration of the Magi* and the 13 medallions surrounding it depict scenes connected with the Nativity of Christ. Enjoy traditional carols, carols from around the world, spirituals and popular Christmas favorites. Tickets at **mmpaf.org**.

A Joyous Christmas Concert

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8 AT 7:30 PM
The musicians of St. Bartholomew's Choir frequently appear at many of the city's most prestigious venues: from Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, to Broadway stages and New York's finest Jazz clubs. Hear them celebrate the holiday season in our beautiful sanctuary with beloved traditional carols as well as festive new arrangements of sacred and secular Christmas favorites, all accompanied on our famed pipe organ. Tickets at **mmpaf.org**.

Advent & Christmas at St. Bart's

Plan your holiday season with St. Bart's! Our full schedule of Advent and Christmas services, music, and celebrations is now available online. We look forward to sharing this joyful season with you. Explore the schedule at **stbarts.org/adventchristmas**.

St. Bart's Sermons and The Forum Now Available as Podcasts

You can now listen to sermons and The Forum on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and other podcast platforms. Subscribe to Sermons at St. Bart's and The Forum at St. Bart's on your favorite podcast app to receive new episodes each week.

Visit the St. Bart's Book Store

Advent calendars and stuffed Nativity sets for children are now available in the Book Store. Also available is *Christianity: The First Three Thousand Years* by Diarmaid MacCulloch, recommended by Dr. Brooks Ishler.

Clergy and Staff

Priest-in-Charge The Reverend Peter D. Thompson (pthompson@stbarts.org)
Vicar The Reverend Meredith E. Ward (mward@stbarts.org)
Senior Associate Rector and Pastor of Imagine Worship The Reverend Zack Nyein (znyein@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 Ms. Loriel Merritt (lmerritt@stbarts.org)
Assistant for Community Engagement Ms. Kimberly Tellus (ktellus@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,
Ken Johnson, James Marion, Elizabeth Min, Caroline Naralasetty,
Kari Parks, Robert Radtke, Robert Sweeney, Mary Kate Wold

Chancellor Alice Yurke-Davis
Assistant Chancellors Patrick MacMurray, Anne Rabbino, Douglas Tanner
Honorary Wardens Fletcher Hodges III, Percy Preston, Jr.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

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