



St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church

Our Vision: *Transforming lives through a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Our Mission: *To share Christ's love and His Word with our community and the world through Christ-centered outreach, worship, prayer, and biblical study.*

VOLUME 62, NUMBER 3

The Chatter

MARCH 2019

MAKING THIS YEAR'S LENTEN SEASON COUNT!

Psalm 90:12 reminds us to pray this prayer - *"Teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom."* In other words, take note of your life, the time you have, and make the most of the opportunities God has given you to not just enjoy life, but to let your love for God and others shine through. Taking the Church Calendar seriously is one way to do that. In the Anglican tradition, we believe that highlighting certain aspects of Christ's life is helpful for developing our own spiritual lives. It's why we celebrate more than just Christmas and Easter. Those two holy days are certainly considered the high points of the Church year for believers around the world. However, it is just as important to remember the low points and obstacles in Jesus' ministry - His temptation by the devil after fasting and praying for forty days, His opposition by His own people and the world, His bearing the weight of the world's sin upon Himself, His betrayal, arrest, torture and crucifixion, and His feeling abandoned by His Father in heaven. Lent gives us a healthy dose of reality; that what Jesus experienced was not only because He loves us but because mankind has a serious problem - sin and death. It reminds us that even after coming to Christ, we are still sinful, that we are still in a battle between good and evil, and that we still need to say no to the fleshly desires of our human nature. It shows us that the only way to grow spiritually and overcome our sinful desires is through spiritual discipline. Spiritual discipline comes only from a heart and mind that is willing to seek the things of God above all else; to put the Lord first while seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance and power. A discipline that then demonstrates itself in bodily action. So that means a commitment to prayer *and* fasting, public worship, the consistent study of God's Word, and getting involved in the community of faith as well as in the community at large. Lent prevents us from sugar coating the Christian faith. It confronts the sins of easy believism, moral relativism, and passive Christianity. It is not *"Gospel Lite"* but what the Gospel is really all about - Jesus setting us free from sin and death so that we can be transformed by His love and power, so that we can live holy, righteous, and fruitful lives until God calls us home! So during this year's Lent, may we all make it count; may we make it holy ("set apart") unto the Lord!

In Christ's name,
Fr. Ward

St. Bart's Web Information

www.stbartston.org

Also see our [Facebook](#) page for more!



St. Bartholomew's
Anglican Church
2368 Eggert Road
Tonawanda, NY 14150

VESTRY



Belong- Equip- Reach!

Core Team: Will be meeting later this month. They will continue to work towards developing materials and a strategy for reaching out to newcomers and visitors as well as to social media outlets.

Erik Ticen: Has 6 mos. left on his 18 month consultant contract. One of his major accomplishments is our new website. (Please take a moment to visit our new website.) In addition, he is in the process of developing new marketing items (stationery, pew prayer cards, business cards, etc. as well as advising us on how to create an identity that will bring new members into St. Bart's.

Organist: Please continue to welcome and support our "substitute organist", Aaron Tham, who has been diligently trying to fill Terry Gamble's "big shoes". As you may know, Terry is currently semi-retired, hoping to fully retire soon. While he is away, Aaron has agreed to temporarily take Terry's place. Aaron is the current organist and choirmaster at St. Stephen's RC Church on Grand Island.





BISHOP SCAIFE GUILD

Our Lenten Brunch will be **Saturday, March 23** at 10:00 AM. Everyone is welcome- MEN & women. There is no sign up sheet. Please bring a covered dish or breakfast item (coffeecake , muffins, etc.). Our speaker's topic will be "Crystal Beach".



There are several books available in the Gift Shop written by Bishop Bill Atwood. Stop by to check them out.

Our annual Spring Banquet will be Thurs., June 6.



BUNDLES FOR BABIES: Please leave marked baby items in the Gift Shop and they will be delivered to Cornerstone Manor.

illustrations of.com #94094

THREADS OF HOPE: Please bring kitchen items, etc. - mark them and leave them at the Gift Shop and they will be delivered.



DON'T FORGET TO DROP YOUR DASH'S RECEIPTS IN THE BAG ON THE GIFT SHOP DOOR!

Make Lent
40 DAYS
OF AWESOME

PRAY for those in the MILITARY

Please keep those from our Parish Family who are serving our country in the Armed Forces in your prayers.

Please let the church office know if there is anyone that should be added to or removed from this prayer list.

Katherine Boy-US Marines

Virginia Boy- US Navy

Jason Driscoll- US Army

James Kerins- US Army

A.J. Matteliano- US Army

Matthew Prohaska- US Air Force

Andrew Rebl- US Army

Michael Wassinger Jr. -US Army

Andrew Welkley- US Air Force



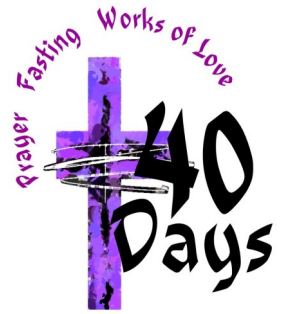
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

All material for the **APRIL Chatter** should be submitted no later than **MARCH 19**. Chatter deadline is **ALWAYS** the **3rd Tuesday of the month**. Thank you.

ASH WEDNESDAY March 6

Holy Eucharist at 6:45am, 9:30am and 7pm

Remaining Wednesday's in Lent will have a covered-dish dinner at 6pm. The church will also provide pizza. Holy Communion will follow Fr. Ward's 7pm Bible study.



Don't forget our Wednesday Night Family Night

6pm: Junior Choir (1st & 3rd Wed.); Contemporary Choir (2nd Wed.); Dinner during Lent (except Ash Wednesday)

6:30pm: Generation NeXt Youth Group every week

6:45pm: Missionettes (1st & 3rd Wed.); Parents in Prayer (1st & 3rd Wed.); LEGO Club every week

7pm: Senior Choir and Fr. Ward's Bible Study every week followed by Holy Communion

FOOD PANTRY

41 bags of food and \$294 collected SOUPER Bowl Sunday were donated in February. **Please try to remember collection is the first Sunday of each month.** Thank you for your continued support and generosity.



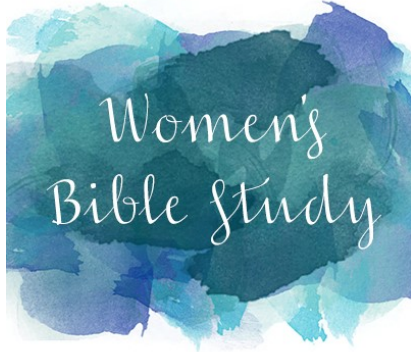
PRAYER FOR REVIVAL will meet Monday, March 18 at 7pm. Please join us as we pray for our church, our community, our nation and the world.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Women's Tuesday Night Bible Study



We will continue our study of The Acts of the Apostles. It's not too late to join us. Study guides are \$5.00.

We meet from 6:30-8:00 pm , the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, in the small fellowship hall. March meetings will be the 12th and 26th.

Any questions call Louise at (716) 874-0526



Movie Night

Monday, March 25 at 6:30pm

All are invited to join us for a movie that is sure to entertain.

The **Sunday School** will again be creating **Easter Cross stakes** for parishioners to display their Faith in the Resurrection. There will be two sizes, decorated with a drape of fabric and flowers. The crosses will be available during Holy Week. For those who have a cross from years ago but the decorations need refreshing, write your name on the back side and bring it in to the tote in the Parish Hall. We will happily restore it. Donations for the crosses will be sent to Heifer International, an organization helping people feed themselves by providing animals and agricultural training to families in need around the world.



dreamstime.com



Three youth and three adults attended AWAKEN 2019, Friday & Saturday, February 15 & 16. It was a weekend filled with music, dynamic speakers, games, and spiritual enlightenment. Those that attended had a great time, and look forward to next years event.

Generation Next News

March 2019

Events For grades 6th -12th

Wednesdays— from 6:30-8:30pm. A time of interactive Bible lessons and fun games.

March 6h or 10th —Kingdom Bound Meeting #1. See info to the right for details.

March 6th—No Youth Group due to Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm

March 20th —Lasertron Event from 6:00pm–9:00pm. Cost is \$15 and includes food

Save the Date—Throwback Youth Event Game Night! Friday, April 26th from 6-9pm.

For more information contact:
Liz Burkett
(Director of Christian Education)
Call or text me at —716-861-9911

Awaken was amazing! The Conference featured Wes Aarum, Reggie Dabbs and Eric Samuel Timm, as our large group session speakers. They reminded us about the importance of awakening our hearts and minds for Jesus and how we can only do that by having our silent time with the Lord and



His Word. It's that personal time with our Jesus that allows us to have order in our lives. We can't expect order to come out of disorder, so lets remember to start the day with Jesus!

We had great breakout sessions on a wide variety of topics, such as social media, mental health, self-harm, and relationships. These sessions Awakened us to helping those people around us who are lost and hurting and need the love and forgiveness of Jesus.

My favorite part was the music. It awakened my heart of how Jesus silences all fears and how my hope needs to be in Him. The conference will be returning next year, so you have another chance to be awakened by Jesus

KingdomBound will be here before you know it. Our first informational meeting will be **Wednesday March 6th in the youth room at 6:00pm or Sunday March 10th at 10:30am/in between services** upstairs in the confirmation room. There you will receive an



information packet and all the other paperwork that will need to be completed for the event. The cost for the event is \$250 and that includes tickets for the event, food and lodging. A \$25 registration fee is due by the Sunday, March 10th. Financial assistance is available so please let myself or Father Ward know how we can help, so we can make sure no one is left out of this great event.



For our Lasertron Event we will meet at the event center on N Bailey Avenue at 6:00pm. Pickup will also be at Lasertron. We will be doing two events Laser Tag and Cybersport. Pizza will also be provided.

Come join us at an awesome fun youth night called Throwback. We are going back in time with fun games and activities like

-Human Hungry Hippos, Antique Treasure Hunt, Decade Jeopardy and more! You don't want to miss out on these hilarious competitions, so bring a friend and have a great time! We



will also be serving children in other countries by making health kits so children around the world can have what they need to be healthy and happy. There is no cost for the event, but if you would like to donate towards the supplies for the health kits we will be making, that would be awesome.

If you have any questions about these events please feel free to contact me.

In Christ, Liz

PRAYER CORNER

PRAYER MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

CONTEMPLATIVE (ADORATION) PRAYER

An Interview with Karen Kristich

Q. What made you interested in Contemplative Prayer?

A. I had heard of it before, but it was my son who introduced this type of prayer to me. He is very disciplined about praying this way and I saw how it worked in his life.

Q. How has Contemplative Prayer changed your prayer life & relationship with God?

A. It has given me a new way to experience God. Instead of petitioning or "talking" to God, it has allowed me to come before the Lord in a peaceful way, where I can empty myself & hear from Him without all the noise. For me it becomes a form of Loving Attention where I look to God in Praise and Reverence. So in the end, you become more intimate with God and you find you carry this Love of God around with you throughout the day.

Q. What can a person expect when they engage with the Lord this way?

A. My answer here is going to be two-fold. For the most part, praying quietly this way for a typical person, the end result will be uplifting and positive and peaceful. I found for myself it took practice to learn to sit quietly. I am a fairly energetic & sometimes intense person, so it is harder for me. Over time it has gotten better as I learned to open my heart and be peaceful in my spirit. I started with 15-20 minutes and worked my way to a longer period of time. It is much easier to form this discipline when you start in shorter increments of time. Some people I know practice this prayer with others and meet once a week because being around others who care and want to nurture this discipline has a more positive outcome for them.

The second part of my answer is that people who are very troubled or struggling deeply, this listening in quiet before God can become a heavy time. You may become tearful or weepy.... It is not a bad thing, it is really an emptying, but God fills you up. Really, it is an inner healing. The first time I practiced this, that is what happened to me, and it is not uncommon. It was because I had a very heavy hardship in my life... But God let me know he loved me and was there for me.

Q. Would you encourage others to come before God in this Contemplative way of praying?

A. I definitely would. I think everyone should try it at least a few times to see how it may help you identify with God in a different way. If you find it didn't work for you, don't give up, try it again in a week or a month. This way of praying can be very hard for some, especially if the subconscious is opening up or where emotions from deep within come to the surface.... But over time you see how it changes how you see your problems or struggles. You are praising God when you come before Him contemplatively, but you are getting something in return. You will come away feeling the Love of God after practicing this way of prayer over time.

Contemplative Prayer Verses

Proverbs 8:17

Deuteronomy 4:29

James 4:8

Psalms 131:1-3

Psalms 46:10

Psalms 42:2-4

Psalms 84:1-4

2 Corinthians 3:18

Psalms 91:1

Psalms 62:5

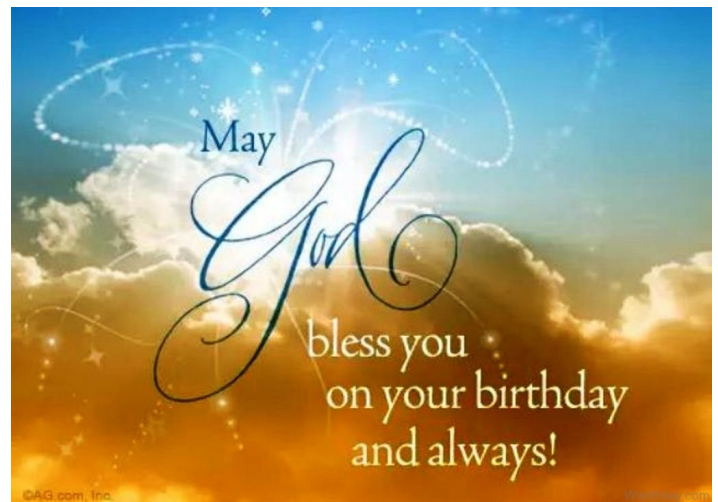
Lamentations 3:25-28

March Birthdays

March 1 Tina Gwizdowski
March 2 Evan Dake, Albert Prout,
Morgan Simon
March 3 Linda Cadena, Lynn Farley,
Michael Hoy, Mary Montanari
March 4 Janet McPherson, Richard Storey
March 5 Donna Danieli, Rosemary Taber
March 6 Louise Lipps
March 7 Patsy Winkler
March 10 Elaine DiMaria, Isabelle Hillestad,
Kenneth Sander
March 11 Karen Decker, Joseph Flatley
March 13 Robin Prohaska, Kelley Wojnowski
March 14 Thomas Brzeczowski
March 15 Thomas Crane, Christine Oliveri,
Steven Toth
March 17 Gerald Bella
March 18 Ashley Decker, Nathaniel Hillery,
Ryan Hillery, Alexandra Lakeman,
Albert Scgreier, Jeanette Smalter
March 19 Kate Hillestad, Sharon Hughes,
Brooke Vitaris, Freya Wilson
March 20 Kim Condon, Rich Heer, James Hyzy
March 21 Pam Ruisi
March 22 Janice Nolan
March 24 Jon Prohaska

March 25 Jon Arnold, Lauren Lipinoga
March 26 Patrick Santora
March 28 Linda Johnson, Anna Wilson,
Raphael Winzig
March 29 Nancy Militelle, Morgan Tobin
March 30 James Scott
March 31 Moriah Knowl, Thomas Tucker

April 1 Steven Callari, Carolyn Everett,
Pamela Morrison
April 2 Kyle MacLeay, Aidyn McAndrews
April 3 Jennifer Gradzewicz, Jackie Luckoski
April 4 KatieGrace Hillestad, Grayson Santora,
Edward Woepel
April 5 Joan Bella, Gloria Cross,
Makayla Johnson



If you notice a mistake in the birthday list please call (831-1777) or email the secretaries: secretaries@stbartston.org

MARCH CALENDAR

March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 8, 9:15 & 11am HE 9:15 & 11am SS 9:30am Bible Study 1pm New Member Class 1:30pm Sudanese Service	4	5 6:30pm Cmty. Crime Watch, Men's Discipleship 7pm Vestry	6 ASH WEDNESDAY 6:45 & 9:30am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 7pm HE	7	8	9 10:30 am Conf. Class 4:30pm HE
10 8, 9:15 & 11am HE 9:15 & 11am SS 9:30am Bible Study 1pm New Member Class 1:30pm Sudanese Service	11 7pm Persecuted Church Ministry	12 6:30pm Men's Discipleship & Women's Bible Study	13 9:30am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6pm Cent. Choir & Church Dinner 6:30pm Youth Group 6:45pm LEGO Club 7pm Sr. Choir, Fr. Ward's Bible Study & Communion	14	15	16 8:30am Men's Breakfast 10:30am Conf. Class 4:30pm HE
17 8, 9:15 & 11am HE 9:15 & 11am SS 9:30am Bible Study 1pm New Member Class 1:30pm Sudanese Service	18 7pm Prayer for Revival	19 6:30pm Men's Discipleship	20 9:30am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6pm Jr. Choir & Church Dinner 6:30pm Youth Group 6:45pm LEGO Club, Missionettes & Parents in Prayer 7pm Sr. Choir, Fr. Ward's Bible Study & Communion	21	22	23 Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Conf. 10am Bishop Scaife Guild's Lenten Brunch 10:30am Conf. Class 4:30pm HE
24 8, 9:15 & 11:15am HE 9:15 & 11am SS 9:30am Bible Study 1pm New Member Class 1:30pm Sudanese Service	25 6:30pm Movie Night	26 6:30pm Men's Discipleship & Women's Bible Study	27 9:30am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6pm Adoration & Church Dinner 6:30pm Youth Group 6:45pm LEGO Club 7pm Sr. Choir, Fr. Ward's Bible Study & Communion	28	29 11am Intercessory Prayer	30 10:30am Conf. Class 4:30pm HE
31 8, 9:15 & 11am HE 9:15 & 11am SS 9:30am Bible Study 1pm New Members Class 1:30pm Sudanese Service						

PERSECUTED CHURCH CALENDAR

March

Being the Body of Christ

Christians in Yemen are at the bottom of society, treated as outcasts because of their faith. And years of war in the country have only compounded their difficulties, as they struggle to meet basic needs for food and shelter. Today, VOM provides daily essentials like cooking oil and rice to help these believers survive. Through these gifts, they experience the body of Christ caring for them in their time of greatest need.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 MYANMAR Pray that Christians will stand strong in the face of increasing Buddhist hostility toward Christians.	2 SAUDI ARABIA Pray that the church in Saudi Arabia will grow and multiply.
3 VIETNAM Pray for our church. —Front-line worker	4 AZERBAIJAN Pray that church leaders will not be affected by widespread corruption in the society.	5 MALAYSIA Pray that God will use the new political climate to open hearts to the Good News.	6 SYRIA Pray for young Christian men who have been drafted into the army.	7 KENYA Pray that young people will follow Christ rather than Muslim ideology.	8 ERITREA Pray for the continued development of a Bible school for Eritrean believers.	9 IRAQ Pray that pastors will be encouraged in their work despite many challenges.
10 SOMALIA Pray for the protection of those in VOM training centers and for strong leadership.	11 YEMEN Pray for peace in Yemen.	12 ERITREA Pray for the government, those in authority and Eritrea's long-time leader, Isaias Afewerki.	13 INDONESIA Pray for the wisdom and boldness of mission training centers as they prepare new church planters.	14 SYRIA Pray for Syrian believers as they continue to endure unimaginable trials.	15 TURKMENISTAN Pray for Christian children, who are required to take an oath rejecting Christianity in school.	16 SRI LANKA Pray that God will raise up more Sri Lankan missionaries to work at home and abroad.
17 ETHIOPIA Pray for Christians who are persecuted by the Muslim community in eastern Ethiopia.	18 TAJIKISTAN Pray for the spread of the gospel, especially to unreached areas.	19 TANZANIA Pray for additional training for our pastors. —Front-line worker	20 CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC Pray for the comfort and faith of Christians living in constant fear of rebel attack.	21 BRUNEI Pray for church planters who risk their lives to spread the gospel.	22 CHINA Pray for Pastor Lu, whose church in Zhengzhou was shut down in 2018.	23 QATAR Pray for the boldness and joy of Qatari Christians as they grow in Christ.
24 TAJIKISTAN Pray that homes and churches will be protected from police raids.	25 LIBYA Pray for new churches that are being established.	26 SOMALIA Pray that believers will have access to Somali Bibles.	27 MALAYSIA Pray that local believers will love their neighbors through actions and words.	28 YEMEN Pray that those who lost family members during the civil war will take comfort in Christ.	29 SOMALIA Pray for a VOM-sponsored media ministry reaching some people around the globe.	30 MYANMAR Pray for the health of Christians serving in villages far from medical help.
31 IRAQ Pray for the safety of believers in the city of Baghdad.						

icommitto/pray.co

The Voice of the Martyrs

Our next prayer meeting is Monday,
March 11 at 7pm.

St. Patrick's Day

Why are Irish jokes so simple?

So the English can understand them!

What do you get when you cross a 4-leaf clover with poison ivy?

A rash of good luck!

Never iron a 4-leaf clover. Why?

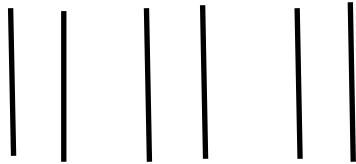
You don't want to press your luck!



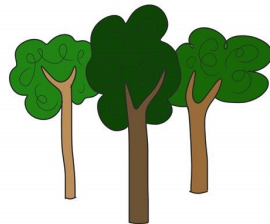
Murphy told Quinn his wife was driving him to drink. Quinn thought Murphy was very lucky. His wife makes him walk!

An Irishman went for a job interview with a very prestigious company. After the interview he was told he needed to complete a test. He was handed a piece of paper with 6 vertical lines on it, in pairs of two.

“Could you please show me a clever way to make nine?” asked the interviewer.



The Irishman took the pencil and drew a canopy of leaves on top of the 3-pairs of lines, and handed it back to the interviewer, who said, “This is not nine!”



“Yes, it is,” said the Irishman in his broad Irish accent.

“Tree and tree and tree makes nine!!”