

**THE CHATTER**  
**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH**  
**P.O. BOX 265**  
**Tonawanda, NY 14151**  
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**www.stbartston.org**  
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**FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS**  
**PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH AND LOVE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, IN WORD AND IN DEED.**

**VOLUME 51 NUMBER 1**                      **EPIPHANY**                      **JANUARY 2008**

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A FULL MEMBER OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S?**



Fr. Ward will be leading the *Adult Inquirers' and New Members Class* beginning Sunday January 27, 2008 at 1:00 PM. This will prepare the members of the class to be confirmed or received into the Church, along with our children's class later this year.

If you are interested in attending this class, please contact the church office at 836-5454 or speak with Fr. Ward.

Adult Inquirers and New Members Class

**MISSIONETTES NEWS:**

We hope that everyone had a wonderful and joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year!

This month Missionettes will be meeting on Wednesday January 2, and Wednesday January 16. The Prims will be finishing up their unit on Music and the Stars will be putting on a puppet show for the Prims. If you have any questions about this ministry please contact Kathleen Ward at 623-0507 or Caroline Rudin at 875-6462.



**HEAD FOR THE HILLS! - AND SKI WITH ST. BART'S AT KISSING BRIDGE**

All youth (grades 6-12) are welcome to join us (their families are invited too) on the annual Ski Trip on Monday January 21. We will meet at the church at 7:00AM and return by 6:00PM. Their **SKI** or **SNOW BOARD** contracts need to be filled out and signed on or before January 14, returned to St. Bart's.

Girls are to bring munchies to share and boys a 2 liter or larger bottle of pop. We suggest you bring either a bag lunch or money to purchase lunch at Kissing Bridge. A change of clothing especially extra gloves, hat and socks.

The church will provide hot chocolate and paper products. **Ski rental forms, permission slips and payment information are available** from Deacon John Reitz, our Youth Director at 836-5454 .



**THE BISHOP SCAIFE GUILD**

The Lutheran Men's Quartet *Witness* was an inspiring addition to our Advent Christmas Ingathering on Tuesday, December 11. We invited men to join us this year and there were several in the audience. We made over 20 boxes of cookies to take to the shut-in's.

Thanks to all those who came and brought the delicious cookies.

We will have our budget for 2008 in the February CHATTER. It will designate which ministries we will support in 2008.

Please check the display case for gift items. Call Marilyn Alliger (877-8335) or Bonnie Fleischman (875-6402) to order. Donations are welcome.

Please continue to support the *Bundles for Babies* project that makes up bundles for the less fortunate in our communities. Baby items may be left in the basket under the table at the entrance. Diapers are especially needed. These items are taken to the Network of Religious Communities Office on Delaware where the bundles are made up. Thanks for all of the donations. They are greatly appreciated.

**DECEMBER VESTRY MEETING**

The Thanksgiving/Advent/Christmas offerings will be sent to *Angel Tree (a Prison Fellowship ministry that buys gifts for the convicts' children)*, *Life Saving Ministry*, *Cornerstone Manor* and *Anglican Relief and Development Fund*. The annual election was held Sunday December 9. Mark DiMaria, Linda Doran, and Mike Tarapata were elected to the Vestry for 3 year terms. Rocco Brindisi as Vestry Alternate, and Carl Calabrese was elected to a 2 year term as Warden.

Deacon Ed Kusmierczyk and his wife, Georgia, along with Deacon John Reitz, will be joining Fr. Ward on Bishop Ackerman's trip to Israel March 26—April 4.

Fr. Ward thanked the Vestry for another outstanding year, especially the outgoing members: Warden—Joe Albrecht and Vestry members Jon Arnold, Debbie Calabrese, and David Saunders.

**ST. BART'S SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY**

St. Bart's **Sunday Bible Study for men and women ages 18 and above** will meet beginning Sunday, January 13, 2007.

This lesson will be on *the Parables of Jesus*. The study will be held from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM. See the sign-up sheet on the table in the church entrance, or see Gary Wisniewski for more details.

**THE FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION OCCURS ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH!**

54 bags of food and 1 cash donation were taken to the Food Pantry in December. They send their many thanks.

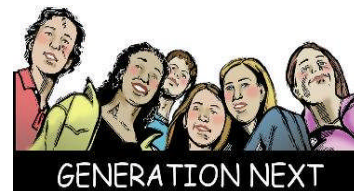
The Food Pantry is still very much in desperate need of some personal care items such as: bar soap, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes, razors, toilet paper, feminine products and paper and plastic bags. They continue to need the usual food items such as boxed dinners, fruit, peanut butter, pasta, etc. They also express their gratitude to the people of St. Bart's for their generosity.

Please bring your items on the **FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH** so that our "Food Pantry Delivery Angels" only have to make one trip.



**END OF YEAR STATEMENTS FOR 2007**

We hope that all statements will be received in an accurate and timely manner! We have been advised that all statements regarding income must be issued by January 31. Donation statements are not bound by the same rules. We understand that all would hope to have their statements by January 31, but if they are a bit late, we can provide a number for you to call for the year's total. Thank you for your patience.



**GENERATION NEXT IMPORTANT DATES**

**Senior Youth group dates –**  
January: Monday's - 7, 14, 28, from 7-9pm

**Junior Youth group dates –**  
January: Wednesday's - 9, 23 from 7-8:30pm

**Combined Events -**  
January 21 — Ski Trip to Kissing Bridge





**ST. BART'S SUNDAY SCHOOL IS HEADIN' TO THE BEACH!**

Join us for our annual Winter Beach Blast on Saturday, January 19, from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. It is for all children in Pre-K

through 6th grade. There will be whale watching, sand painting, footprints, games, and crafts. There will also be a special picture spot for a great photo opp. aboard the S.S. Bartholomew. Don't forget that our Boardwalk will be open with great snacks and drinks too!

The children should wear (or bring) their bathing suits or shorts and T-shirts. They must wear sandals or sneakers - no bare feet (except when they make their footprints). They should also bring a beach towel or a sand chair to do some whale watching.

This will be a great time for a break from the snow and the cold. Parents are welcome to stay and enjoy the fun too. If you plan to attend, please sign your child's name on the list on the pink clipboard in the lobby so we can be sure we have enough of everything for all the children.

So, bring your kids to St. Bart's Beach to learn about and enjoy all the gifts we have from our God of Wonders! You don't want to miss it!

*P.S. Anyone willing to help out please speak to Marilyn and watch for meeting details. We will begin meeting after the New Year.*

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

The Men's Fellowship Group is resuming on January 8, after the Christmas and New Year break. All adult males are invited to join us every Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:30 PM.



**WITH HEARTFELT THANKS**

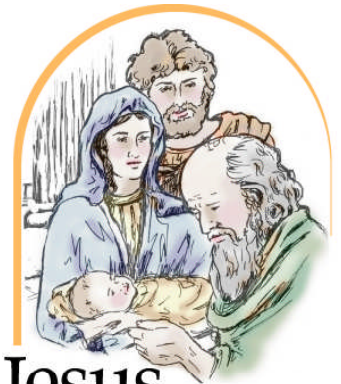
Janet Hadley, the daughter of Frank Shramek, on behalf of their entire family, wishes to express their deepest gratitude for the outpouring of love and sympathy by the people of St. Bartholomew's and the Bishop Scaife Guild. May God bless each and every one.

**HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR OFFERING CARD FOR 2008?**

There are still quite a few in our Parish Family who have not sent in their offering cards for 2008. Please do so as soon as possible, if you would like offering envelopes. Thank You!

**BIBLE PASSAGE**

**Luke 2:28-32** "Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."



**Jesus Presented in the Temple**

**W o m e n ' s Fellowship/Bible Study Group Spring 2008**

Please join us on Tuesday, January 8, 2007 at 7 p.m. for our new Bible Study. Please join us as we join in prayer and discussion to discover what the Lord wants us to do and that we find great joy in pleasing Him.



*Women's Bible Study*

We meet every other Tuesday evening beginning January 8 and again on January 22. If you would like further information, please call Elaine Henzler at 836-6725.

**ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS:**

If you are ill, homebound, or know someone in the parish who is and hasn't notified the Clergy, please call the Church Office. We certainly don't want anyone in our Parish Family to be forgotten.