

PARISH LIFE

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.

1) There will *not* be a Men's Breakfast in March. Instead, the men's group will be going to the **Iron Sharpens Iron Conference (ISI), Saturday, March 15th**. For more information about the ISI conference, contact John Krull.

2) **A New Sunday Bible Study** begins **March 9 and runs thru April 13**, 8:15-9:45am. The topic of this 6-week Lenten Study is ***“Building Healthy Relationships.”*** There is a sign-up sheet in the Fr. Amend Hall, along with more details on a tri-fold poster.

3) **Attention Women of St Bart's.** Save the date! On **Saturday, April 5, 2025** we will have a one-day retreat with a special guest speaker. We will be gathering to deepen our ability to hear God's voice in our day to day lives. Come be refreshed in the season of Lent. **Please contact Kacy Wandel for more details and/or to assist in continued planning, 570.815.5357**

SICK MEMBERS (SHUT-INS ITALICIZED): Russell Ballaro, *Dorothy Bamberg*, Joan Bella, *George & Carol Brock*, Dini Brown, John Calabrese, Joan Calamita, Richard Carter, Wanda Cosentino, *Fay Crane-Preda*, Tom Crane, Pam Fish, *Muriel Forte*, Kenny George, Steve Gradzewicz, Lauri-Anne Hammond, Craig Heer, Dick Herrmann, Rick Herrmann, Lee Hilliker, Marcia Hutt, Danielle Hyland, *Ken Johnson*, *Karen Kopper*, Carol Krieger, Jeremy Kyser, Sarah McGowan, Debbie McGuire, Frank Mure, Peter Passino, Jackie Petrillo, Jon Prohaska, *Florence Purchase*, Patricia Schreier, *Jan Smalter*, Linda Soltis, Bob Tackaberry, *Sharon Tarapata*, Susan and Ross Tobin, Edward Woeppel, Brittany Wilkowski

SICK LIST- FRIENDS & FAMILY:

1 Sheila Biles, Heather Lankes, Molly Tobin, Chrissy Vantrease, Debra Sereno, Mariana Floro, Anita Orton, Scott Smolen, Kaitlyn Sotka, Edna Barone, Ken Krieger, Mark Hunter
2 Cheryl Rossi, Lisa Ider, Al Schultz, John Ruch, Mathew Frain, Rosemond Ruhland, Janet Ballaro, Tim Herrmann, Scott Seifert, Kenneth Miller, Jennifer Conley, Abby Hoy, Nancy DiNicola, Louie Giammatteo, Paul Mure
3 Christen Rae Newman, Mary Tobin, Charlene Walker, Mark Doran, Jackie Maher, Debbie Traugott, Jeanne & Asher Connelly, Beth Zaker, Ginger Hobart, Pamela Boy, Johnny Wagner, Audrey Grant
4 Annette Hammond, Renee P., Jane Petrillo, Cathryn Dravis, Audrey Grant, Deborah Lentini, Donna Frey, Maddox Campbell, Luke Davis, Mary Clarke

If you would like an Assisted Hearing Device to use during the service please see an Usher.

Please notify the Church Office of any address, phone number, or email changes so that we may keep our records current.

Please have someone notify the Church Office if you are or will be hospitalized so one of our clergy may visit with you.

Music Appreciation to soloists Sarah Knecht, Miles VanSaders, and Warren Teall, the Adult Choir and Margaret Bukkosy, organist.

Welcome Visitors!

It is our joy to have you worshipping with us today. At St. Bartholomew's we are on mission to see lives gloriously transformed through a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. If this is your first time at an Anglican service we want to help you become better acquainted with who we are and what you will experience today.

Our Background

St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church was founded in 1955 not far from our current location. We are members of the Anglican Communion which has its roots in the Church of England and includes over 80 million members worldwide. Although formally established in the 16th Century during the Protestant Reformation our beliefs and worship have remained the same since the days of the early church. It might be helpful to think of Anglicanism as a "middle way" between Roman Catholicism and Protestantism. Today, St. Bart's continues its mission to our community. Even if you are not a member, we encourage all people to join us for our weekly services and bible studies, volunteer opportunities and outreach events.

The Liturgy

Anglican worship is defined by two commitments: 1) the authority of Holy Scriptures (the Word of God) and 2) the Sacraments (Holy Communion and Holy Baptism). Together Word and Sacrament point us to Jesus Christ and, in doing so, work to shape us into a faithful Christ-centered community. The way we express this worship is known as the Liturgy (our order of service). Far from empty ritualism, Anglican worship involves the active participation of the whole person: our mind, body, and spirit. Everything you see and experience in today's service — the prayers, the symbols, and the actions — all invite us to share in the good news of God's salvation. The reading and teaching of the Holy Scriptures (the Ministry of the Word) prepare us for the culmination of our service, which is the receiving of Holy Communion (also referred to as "the Lord's Supper").

Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion

All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion with us today. If you would like to receive it but are not able to come forward, please tell an usher. The priest would be happy to bring communion to your pew. If you are not baptized, or would prefer not to receive the sacrament, we warmly invite you to still come forward and receive a blessing. You may indicate this to the priest by crossing your arms across your chest. As our valued guest your only obligation in today's service is to keep your heart open to receive what God may desire to do in you!

Further Questions?

If you have any other questions, be sure to ask an usher, or even the friendly people around you! After the service, we invite you to meet with Fr. Ward.

St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church

2368 Eggert Road Tonawanda, NY 14150
(716) 831-1777 www.stbartston.org

The Seventh Sunday of Epiphany

Saturday, February 22, 2025 4:30pm HE
Sunday, February 23, 2025 8 & 10am HE

Prelude “Sonata” Franz Joseph Hayden
Margaret Bukkosy, pianist

Introit “The Gift of Love” Sarah Knecht and Miles VanSaders, soloists

Sacring Bell All stand when the bell rings.

Processional Hymn: #376 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Opening Sentences (Pr.Bk.p. 145)

Leader: I will make you as a light for the nations,

People: That my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.

Collect for Purity: (Pr.Bk.p. 124) Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Summary of the Law (Pr.Bk.p. 124)

The Seventh Sunday of Epiphany: (Pr.Bk.p. 603) O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers, and because, through the weakness of our mortal nature, we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Genesis 45:3-11, 21-28: Then Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Please come closer to me.” And they came closer. And he said, “I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. Now do not be grieved or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve

life. For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are still five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvesting. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant in the earth, and to keep you alive by a great deliverance. Now, therefore, it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his household and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father, and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, "God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall live in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children and your flocks and your herds and all that you have. There I will also provide for you, for there are still five years of famine to come, and you and your household and all that you have would be impoverished.'" Then the sons of Israel did so; and Joseph gave them wagons according to the command of Pharaoh, and gave them provisions for the journey. To each of them he gave changes of garments, but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver and five changes of garments. To his father he sent as follows: ten donkeys loaded with the best things of Egypt, and ten female donkeys loaded with grain and bread and sustenance for his father on the journey. So he sent his brothers away, and as they departed, he said to them, "Do not quarrel on the journey." Then they went up from Egypt, and came to the land of Canaan to their father Jacob. They told him, saying, "Joseph is still alive, and indeed he is ruler over all the land of Egypt." But he was stunned, for he did not believe them. When they told him all the words of Joseph that he had spoken to them, and when he saw the wagons that Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of their father Jacob revived. Then Israel said, "It is enough; my son Joseph is still alive. I will go and see him before I die."

Psalm 37:8-17 *Noli amulari (Prayer Book Page 314-315)*

- 8 Refrain from wrath, and let go of anger; fret not yourself, lest you be moved to do evil.
- 9 ***For evildoers shall be rooted out, but those who wait patiently for the Lord, they shall inherit the land.***
- 10 Yet a little while, and the ungodly shall be clean gone; you shall look for their place, and they shall not be there.
- 11 ***But the meek-spirited shall possess the land and shall be refreshed with an abundance of peace.***
- 12 The ungodly plot against the just and gnash at them with their teeth.
- 13 ***The Lord shall laugh at them in scorn, for he sees that their day is coming.***
- 14 The ungodly have drawn out the sword and have bent their bow to cast down the poor and needy, and to slay those who walk aright.
- 15 ***Their sword shall go through their own heart, and their bow shall be broken.***
- 16 The little that the righteous has is better than great riches of the ungodly.
- 17 ***For the arms of the ungodly shall be broken, but the Lord upholds the righteous.***

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:35-49: But someone will say, "How are the dead raised? And with what kind of body do they come?" You fool! That which you sow does not come to life unless it dies; and that which you sow, you do not sow the body which is to be, but a bare grain, perhaps of wheat or of something else. But God gives it a body just as He wished, and to each of the seeds a body of its own. All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one flesh of men, and another flesh of beasts, and another flesh of birds, and another of fish. There are also heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is one, and the glory of the earthly is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown a perishable body, it is raised an imperishable body; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. So also it is written, "The first MAN, Adam, BECAME A LIVING SOUL." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural; then the spiritual. The first man is from the earth, earthy; the second man is from heaven. As is the earthy, so also are those who are earthy; and as is the heavenly, so also are those who are heavenly. Just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we will also bear the image of the heavenly.

Hymn "I Have Loved You with an Everlasting Love" Warren Teal, soloist

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 6:27-38: "But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either. Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back. Treat others the same way you want them to treat 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 expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners in order to receive back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; and do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return."

Hymn "How Deep the Father's Love for Us"

The Sermon "Love Your Enemies?" Fr. Ward

Nicene Creed, Prayers of the People, Confession Pr.Bk.pp. 127-130

Offertory "Gift of Finest Wheat" Adult Choir

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Great Thanksgiving Pr.Bk.p. 132

Communion Hymn #335 "I Am the Bread of Life"

Thanksgiving and Priest's Blessing

Closing #657 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

The Dismissal LEADER: Let us bless the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude "Prelude and Fugue in A Minor" J. S. Bach

THE CALENDAR

- Sun. 2/23 8 & 10am HE 10am Sunday School
11:30am Cherub Choir 12pm New Member's Class
- Tue. 2/25 6:30pm Men's Discipleship & Ladies Bible Study
- Wed. 2/26 9:30am HE 10:30am Ladies Bible Study
6pm Youth Group
- Thur. 2/27 6:30pm Cont. Music
- Sat. 3/1 10am GriefShare 10:30am Conf. Class 4:30pm HE
FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION WEEKEND
- Sun. 3/2 8 & 10am HE 10am Sunday School
11:30am Cherub Choir 12pm New Member's Class

OUR LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

The Rt. Rev. Alan Hawkins, Bishop, Diocese of Christ Our Hope
The Very Rev. Arthur W. Ward, Jr., Rector
Fr. Jacob Bush, Associate Rector
Dn. Gary Wisniewski, Dn. John Reitz
Dn. James Kibby, Facility & Media Operations, Music Ministry
Mrs. Elizabeth Burkett: Director of Children's & Youth Ministries
Karen Wheaton, Cathy Reitz, Debbie Geis, Tammy Krull: Secretaries