

The Second Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist in the Round at 9 am

December 8, 2024

325 PARK AVENUE AT 51ST STREET NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022



We invite you to make this place yours.

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.

We are so glad you are here!



Welcome

The people stand.



Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Psalm* 42, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572).

The Opening Acclamation

PresiderBlessed are you, holy and living One.PeopleYou come to your people and set them free.

The Confession

Presider	In the wilderness, a voice cries out, "prepare the way of the Lord." Heeding its call, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence is kept.	
All	God of justice, we confess that we are not ready for your coming among us. Distracted by pleasure, weighed down by worry, we are too attached to things besides you. Clear away the clutter that keeps us from being your disciples, help us to share from what we have, and make us alert to your presence, that we may have strength to stand on the day of judgment and in the world to come. Amen.
Presider	My friends, hear the good news: God has mercy on you and forgives you all your sin. Go and bear fruits worthy of repentance.
All	Amen.

The Ministry of the Word

The Collect	
Presider People	May God be with you. And also with you.
Presider All	Together, let us pray. Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The people sit.

The Lesson Baruch 5:1-9

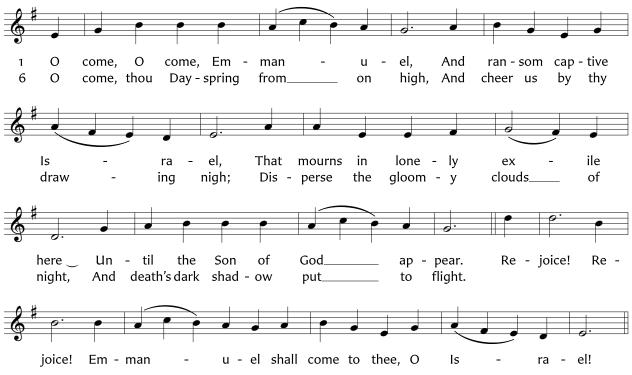
Lector A reading from the Book of Baruch.

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Lector	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

The people stand as the music begins.

Gospel Acclamation



Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, *Processionale*, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890).

The Holy Gospel Luke 3:1-6

Deacon	The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People	Glory to you, Lord Christ.
Deacon	In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.""
Deacon	The Gospel of the Lord.
People	Praise to you, Lord Christ.

After the preacher introduces the sermon, the people sit.

The Sermon The Right Reverend Dean E. Wolfe, Rector

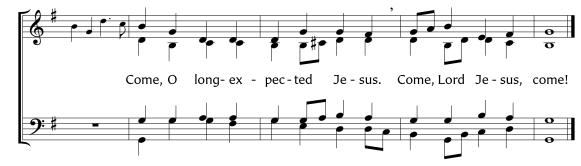
An extended period of silence is kept. The people stand as the music begins.

The Prayers of the People

Presider

All

Come, O Long-Expected Jesus. Hear the requests we now make known. Fill us with Advent hope as we watch and wait.



Music: based on Cross of Jesus, John Stainer (1840-1901).

Intercessor I	Come and strengthen your Church. Grant us insight and knowledge. Increase in us our love for one another and our love for you.
All	Come, O Long-Expected Jesus. Come, Lord Jesus, come!
Intercessor II	Come and bless us with peace, that wars may cease in every land and all the nations may live secure.
All	Come, O Long-Expected Jesus. Come, Lord Jesus, come!
Intercessor III	Come and execute justice in our midst. Bring down the powerful, lift up the lowly, and fill the hungry with good things.
All	Come, O Long-Expected Jesus. Come, Lord Jesus, come!
Intercessor I	Come and relieve the afflicted, including those we now name.
The people may	add their own petitions.
All	Come, O Long-Expected Jesus. Come, Lord Jesus, come!
Intercessor II	Come and shine the light of heaven on all who have died, including those we now name.
The people may	add their own petitions.
All	Come, O Long-Expected Jesus. Come, Lord Jesus, come!
Intercessor III	Come and give us grateful hearts. How can we thank you enough for all the joy we feel? Accept our appreciation for every blessing you have bestowed, including those we now name.
The people may	add their own petitions.
All	Come, O Long-Expected Jesus. Come, Lord Jesus, come!
Presider	Out of the embrace of mercy and righteousness, you have brought forth joy and dignity for your people, O Holy One of Israel. Remember now your ancient promise: make straight the paths that lead to you, and smooth the rough ways, that in our day we might bring forth your compassion for all humanity.
All	Amen.

The Welcoming of Newcomers

Rector	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.
Priest	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.
Priest Newcomers	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? I will, with God's help.
Priest Newcomers	Will you now help to welcome others as Christ has welcomed each of us? I will, with God's help.
Priest	Will you who witness these promises, do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?
People	We will.
Presider People	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; a place to pray and a place to play;
-	
Presider People	a place to be joyful and a place to grieve; a place to believe and a place to receive;
Presider People	a place to give and a place to grow; a place to connect and a place to know;
Presider People	a place to ask and a place to doubt; a place to learn and a place to turn;
Presider People	a place to love and a place to be known; 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.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

- Please place your offering in one of the plates as it is passed. Offering Envelopes are available at the table in the back of the church. Ushers can assist you.
- *You may also give by scanning the QR code to the right with your mobile device or visit stbarts.org/givenow.* Use the same link to set up a monthly, recurring gift.
- To make an instant donation with your credit card, Apple Pay, or Google Pay, use one of the tap devices found in the back of the church.



Anthem St. Bart's Singers

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming As men of old have sung. It came, a flow'ret bright, Amid the cold of winter When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The Rose I have in mind: With Mary we behold it, The virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright She bore to men a Savior When half-spent was the night.

This Flower, whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air, Dispels with glorious splendor The darkness everywhere. True man, yet very God, From sin and death He saves us And lightens every load.

Words: St. 1-2 German, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934). St. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859): tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925). Music: *Es ist ein Ros,* melody from *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1599, arr. Hugo Distler (1908-1942).

The people stand.

The Great Thanksgiving

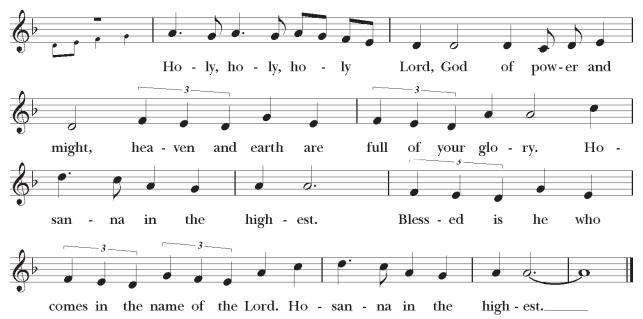
Presider	May God be with you.
People	And also with you.
Presider	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them up to God.
Presider	Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.
People	It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Presider	Mystery of the Winter skies, we thank you in the darkening ho

Mystery of the Winter skies, we thank you in the darkening hour for opening our eyes to see your starlit beauty; for parting the wide heavens to send your gentle light; for offering your word to take our mortal flesh.

Jesus was promised by those who shared your dream of peace; John the Baptist cleared his way with words of desert fire; Mary and Joseph accepted his coming with tenderness and faith; we know that he draws near again to show us who we really are with honesty and love.

Now we take up the song of hope that we might awaken to his coming among us and the world might be touched by the footfall of his glory:

Sanctus and Benedictus



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932).

Presider We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon us and upon these gifts, that these fragile, earthly things may be to us the body and blood of our lord and brother, Jesus Christ; who, on the night that he was betrayed, gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom. Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me." As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste beyond all words can hold.

All Great is the mystery of faith: *Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.*

Presider Therefore, in our eating and drinking we are filled with the life-giving presence of Christ; we proclaim him as creation's host; transforming poverty into plenty in the reckless generosity of love.

Inspire us with hope that one day death and greed will be no more and people without number will come from east and west, north and south, to share the kingdom meal. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be yours, Mother of blessings, for ever and ever.

All AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

PresiderAs our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,AllOur 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. 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. Those who do not choose to drink from the common cup may cross their arms to indicate that they would prefer not to receive wine. They are also invited to touch the chalice should they wish.
- In the interests of public health, St. Bart's discourages intinction (dipping the bread into the wine). The Episcopal Church teaches that the Sacrament is fully present even when received in only one kind. If you do not wish to drink from the cup, please be assured that you are still a full partaker in the Eucharistic feast.
- 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.



Chant

Words: Taizé Community. Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994).

The people stand.

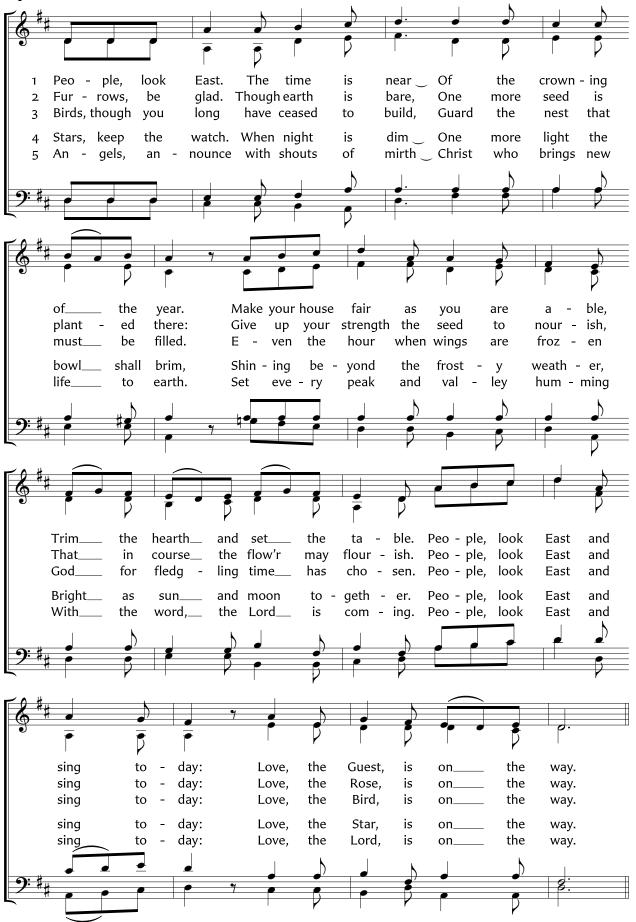
The Prayer after Communion

Presider All Let us pray.

Eternal God, for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life: keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before Christ when he comes again. Amen.

The Blessing

Hymn



Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965). Music: *Besançon Carol,* traditional French.

The Dismissal

Deacon People When Christ comes, may we be watching and waiting. **Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

Postlude



Immediately following this morning's 9 am service, we warmly welcome you to the Forum in the Great Hall.

Engaging Others, Knowing Ourselves

The Reverend Margaret Rose, The Episcopal Church's Deputy for Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations, discusses our denomination's commitment to relationships with other faith traditions and reflects on how such engagement may both deepen our own faith and help in the building of peace.

Service Participants

Presider The Reverend Meredith E. Ward
Preacher The Right Reverend Dean E. Wolfe
Deacon The Reverend John F. Wirenius
Assisting Clergy The Reverend Zack Nyein, The Reverend Canon Stephanie Spellers
Lector Sutton Blanchard
Intercessors Sutton Blanchard, Miriam Schneider, Ana Marie Forsythe
Ushers Jung Griffin, Frank Mugabi
Altar Guild Megan Krasney

St. Bart's Singers Organist and Choirmaster Dr. Paolo Bordignon **Associate Organist and Choirmaster** Alexander Pattavina

Director of Facilities Charles Bryant **Director of Maintenance** Willie Gonzalez **Facilities** Anthony Thomas

We continue to hold in our prayers

Penny, Gavin, Brett, Linda, Clifton, Diana, Gina, Lauren, Michelle, Jose, Sandy, Michael, Gabrielle, Vladzimir, Marlen, Will

Source and Copyright Information

Collect of the Day: from The Book of Common Worship, © 2018 Westminster John Knox Press. Prayers of the People: from Revised Common Lectionary Prayers, © 2002 Consultation on Common Texts, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Concluding Collect: from Revised Common Lectionary Prayers, © 2002 Consultation on Common Texts, admin. Augsburg Fortress.). Confession and absolution: adapted from The New Zealand Prayer Book, © Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia. The Great Thanksgiving: *from A New Zealand Prayer Book,* © *Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.* The Prayer after Communion: *Evangelical Lutheran Worship,* © 2006 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Sanctus and Benedictus: © 1985, by Marcia Pruner, Church Publishing Inc. Closing Hymn: words © The Church Pension Fund. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-709111 when applicable.





Learn more at **stbarts.org/sunday.**

Coffee Hour Sponsored by St. Tabitha's Guild 12:15 PM IN THE GREAT HALL

Join us immediately after the service for coffee and other refreshments sponsored by St. Tabitha's Guild.

* Peace Book Club 1:30 PM VIA ZOOM

Discuss the book *The Heat Will Kill You First: Life and Death on a Scorched Planet* by Jeff Goodell.

 Christ Sangha

 3-4:30 PM VIA ZOOM

Weekly meditation practice with sitting and walking meditation, reading and sharing.



The 2025 Pledge Campaign, Planting Seeds of Love, continues to be a huge success! We currently have over 185 donors, and every day we get closer and closer to our goal. Every pledge counts, and every pledge matters. Our pledge page remains open until December 31, 2024—so it's never too late to join us and make a difference.

Pledges are prayerfully and gratefully accepted for 2025. To pledge, please visit **stbarts.org/pledge.**

The Christmas Music and Flowers campaign is underway and will continue through December 15. To make a gift in memory, honor or in gratitude, please visit **stbarts.org/christmas.**



December 15, 2024: The Third Sunday of Advent

- Solve and a state of the sta
- 🗱 THE FORUM AT 10 AM
 - Uncertainty

The Reverend Dr. Serene Jones, President of Union Theological Seminary, speaks to the challenge of living in times of social uncertainty and points to the Christian tradition as a source of hope and strength.



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

- **HOLY EUCHARIST** TUESDAY-THURSDAYS AT 12:05 PM IN THE CHAPEL
- SIGHT PRAYER MONDAY-FRIDAY AT 8:30 PM VIA ZOOM
- SIBLE 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 AM-5 PM FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION. THE BOOKSTORE IS ALSO OPEN DURING THESE HOURS. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT **STBARTS.ORG/CALENDAR**.



Christmas Music & Flowers

At Christmas, we remember loved ones and express gratitude for special people and blessings through gifts of flowers and music to the church. Our Christmas

Eve and Christmas Day service leaflets will list these tributes—those remembered, honored, or celebrated in gratitude. Please submit your gifts online at **stbarts.org/christmas** by December 15 to ensure inclusion in the leaflets.

Christmas Parties

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, AT 5-7 PM

All **LGBTQ+ friends and allies** are invited to our annual holiday celebration. This year's event will be held immediately preceding the Joyous Christmas Concert (tickets sold separately). Join us for an evening of food, refreshments, and music! RSVP **stbarts.org/lgbtqparty.**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 AT 5 PM

Adults in their 20s and 30s are invited to join the **20s/30s Group** for their annual Advent Party in Room 33 immediately following the 5 pm service. RSVP **stbarts.org/20s30sParty.**

The Joyous Christmas Concert

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, AT 7:30 PM

Hear St. Bartholomew's Choir as we celebrate the holiday season in our beautiful sanctuary with beloved traditional carols as well as festive new arrangements of Christmas favorites, all accompanied on our famed pipe organ. Tickets and more information at **mmpaf.org**

Art for Advent

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, AT 2 PM VIA ZOOM

Join the Reverend Meredith Ward, Associate Rector for Pastoral Care, and the Reverend Dr. Ayla Lepine, Associate Rector of St James's Church, Piccadilly, in London, for Art in Advent. This virtual-only event will feature conversation and meditations on Advent themes using four objects from the Victoria & Albert Museum in London. Register at **stbarts.org/artforadvent.**

Adoration of the Magi

Jeff Morrissey and William Trafka offer their popular Christmas program inspired by the beautiful 1919 Chapel and medallions depicting the Adoration of the Magi and scenes of the Nativity of Christ. Enjoy traditional carols, carols from around the world, spirituals and popular Christmas favorites. Tickets at **mmpaf.org**.

To see our complete schedule for Advent and
 Christmastide visit stbarts.org/adventchristmas.

Light in the Darkness —A Service of Hope

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 6 PM

The days leading up to Christmas can be some of the most joyous ones in the year. But they can also be especially difficult for those who are grieving or struggling. On this longest night of the year, come and celebrate the Light that shines through every kind of darkness in this contemplative and hopeful service.

Candlelight Carols

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, AT 5 PM

Hear the Christmas story and sing your favorite carols in this majestic service that includes music by our combined choirs and an awe-inspiring candlelit procession.

Casting Call: Come-You-Are Christmas Pageant

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 AT 4PM

All children and youth are welcome to participate in this treasured New York holiday tradition. You don't have to be a member of the church, or even a resident of the city or state to join the fun! Learn more and sign up at **stbarts.org/pageant**.

Christmas at St. Bart's

CHRISTMAS EVE — TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24
12:05 pm • A Quiet Christmas Eucharist
4 pm • Christmas Pageant and Holy Eucharist
7 pm • Festival Choral Eucharist
11 pm • Festival Choral Eucharist
CHRISTMAS DAY — WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25
11 am • Choral Eucharist

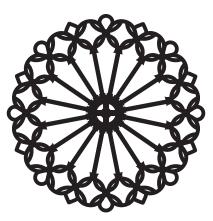
Tree of Gifts Through January 5

St. Tabitha's Guild is sponsoring a Tree of Gifts for the 2024 holiday season, located in the narthex. The tree features their handmade needlecrafts for Advent and Christmas. Your donations of new hats, scarves, and gloves are also welcome and can be placed on the tree. All items will be donated to Crossroads and Coalition for the Homeless.

Faith in Action: Dinner Service

FIRST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH, 4:30-6:30 PM

Caring for our community is of vital importance at St. Bart's—this fast-paced and fun volunteer opportunity is the perfect place to start as we hand out pre-made takeaway meals to our neighbors who line up around our church each evening. Learn more and register: **stbarts.org/faithinaction**.



Clergy and Staff

Rector The Right Reverend Dean E. Wolfe, D.D. (dwolfe@stbarts.org) Vicar The Reverend Peter D. Thompson (pthompson@stbarts.org) Senior Associate Rector The Reverend Zack Nyein (znyein@stbarts.org) Associate Rector for Pastoral Care The Reverend Meredith E. Ward (mward@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) Assisting Priest The Reverend Canon Stephanie Spellers + Deacon The Reverend Deacon John F. Wirenius *

* Non-stipendiary + Part-time

Organist and Choirmaster Dr. Paolo Bordignon (pbordignon@stbarts.org) **Associate Organist and Choirmaster** Mr. Alexander Pattavina (apattavina@stbarts.org) **Administrative Associate for Music** Ms. Olivia Greene (ogreene@stbarts.org)

Associate For Parish Life Ms. Veronica Shea (vshea@stbarts.org) Associate Manager of Social Outreach Mr. Teagan Sage (tsage@stbarts.org) Seminarian Mr. Nathan Peace (npeace@stbarts.org)

#

The Vestry of St. Bart's

Wardens Miriam K. Schneider, Ray Vandenberg

David Carson, Rachel Farrar, James Ferrara, Dall Forsythe, Jennifer Fuller, David Hilder, Tim Hook, Natalie Johnson, Mary Robin Jurkiewicz, James Marion, Robert McKinney, Kari Parks

Chancellor Patrick MacMurray **Assistant Chancellors** Anne Rabbino, Peter Sullivan, Douglas Tanner

Honorary Wardens Fletcher Hodges III, Percy Preston, Jr.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

TRANSFORMING LIVES # TRANSFORMING THE CHURCH # TRANSFORMING THE WORLD

325 PARK AVENUE AT 51ST STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022 212-378-0222 * CENTRAL@STBARTS.ORG



@STBARTSNYC

STBARTS.ORG