

The Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

**Contemplative Eucharist at 5 pm** 

August 31, 2025



### 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.

### We are so glad you are here!

## **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.

### Hymn 35



Words: Mozarabic, 10th cent.; tr. Alan G. McDougall (1895-1964); rev. Anne K. LeCroy (1930-2016). Music: *Mighty Savior*, David Hurd (b. 1950).

The people stand with the presider.

### The Prayer for the Evening

Presider Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your

angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your

love's sake.

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 God of majestic glory, in humility you have revealed yourself in the incarnation of your

Son, Jesus Christ, who took the lowest place among us that we might be raised to the heights of divinity. Teach us to walk the path he prepared for us, so that we might take

a place at the table with all who seek the joy of his kingdom. Amen.

The people sit.

**The Lesson** Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

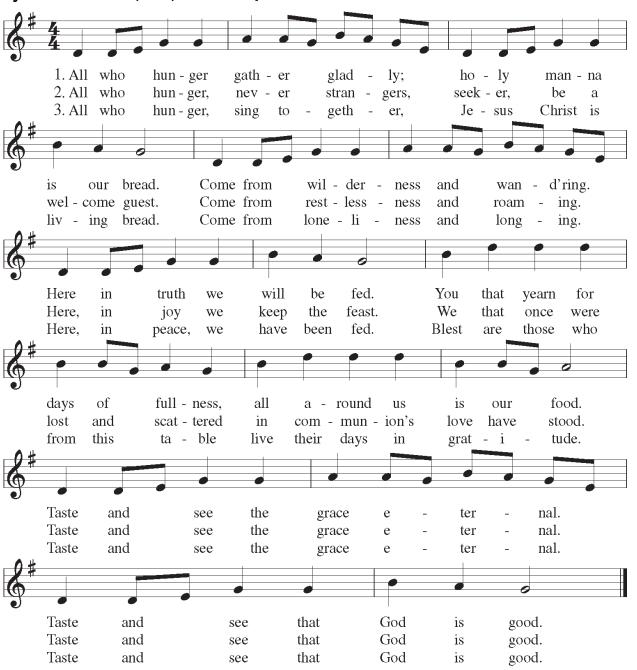
Lector A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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 from Wonder, Love, and Praise #761



Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993). Music: *Holy Manna,* from *The Southern Harmony,* 1835. **The Holy Gospel** Luke 14:1, 7-14

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Presider On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a

meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not

invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the

poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

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, Senior Associate Rector

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

### The Prayers of the People

Intercessor

O God, in your kindness, hear us, as we offer our prayers for ourselves and for the whole world.

We pray, O God, for wisdom. Turn us away from superficiality, materialism, and greed. Teach us to be honest, generous, and humble. Help us to put our faith in heaven and not in fleeting things that fade away.



People

Intercessor

We pray, O God, for courage. Give your Church the boldness to fight for truth and justice

in the face of opposition and obstruction. Empower us to be persistent in our prayers and

in our deeds.

People In your kindness, hear our prayer.

Intercessor We pray, O God, for love. Fill us with compassion and respect for all. Widen our circles to

include the marginalized and the rejected. Disturb our daily routines with the cry of those

in need. Guide us as we care for our enemies, our neighbors, and ourselves.

People In your kindness, hear our prayer.

Intercessor We pray, O God, for healing. Confront the demons that run rampant in us and in our

society. Release us from every ailment that causes pain. Surround with your healing

presence all who suffer, including those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

People In your kindness, hear our prayer.

Intercessor We pray, O God, for peace. Quiet the distractions and worries that keep us from resting in

you. Still the storms of violence that batter our nation and the nations of the earth. Bring

to eternal peace all who have died, including those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions.

People In your kindness, hear our prayer.

Intercessor We pray, O God, for grateful hearts. Bolster our praise for the good you make happen in

our lives, and remind us continually to be thankful for your gifts, including those we now

name.

The people may add their own petitions.

People In your kindness, hear our prayer.

Presider Almighty God, in your goodness, you provide for the needy. Remove from your people

the pride of place and the pursuit of power that mocks humility. Open our hearts in generosity and justice to the neglected and lonely, that in showing esteem for others, we

may honor and please you through Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

#### The Confession of Sin

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept.

All Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not

listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness,

through Jesus Christ our redeemer. Amen.

Presider May God have mercy on you, forgive you your sins through the love of Jesus Christ, and

sustain you in the power of the Spirit, now and always.

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!
- \*\* Many are surprised to learn that St. Bart's does not have a large endowment. We rely on the generosity of members and visitors alike to sustain our ministries for the future.
- \*\* Visit **stbarts.org/give** or place your offering in the plate as it is passed. Thank you for your support!



#### Interlude

The people stand.

### The Great Thanksgiving

Presider
People
And also with you.
Presider
Presider
People

May God be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
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, for you made us, most holy God. And before us, you made the world we

inhabit, and before the world, you made the eternal home in which, through Christ, we have a place. We praise you, O God, whom eternity cannot contain, for coming to earth

and entering time in Jesus.

We praise you for his life which informs our living, for his compassion which changes our hearts, for his clear speaking which contradicts our harmless generalities, for his disturbing presence, his innocent suffering, his fearless dying, his rising to life, breathing forgiveness and restoring us forever to you. For these gifts we praise and worship you. All that is spectacular, all that is plain, have their origin in you. All that is lovely, all who are loving, point to you as their fulfillment. Therefore, we gladly join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven:

Sanctus and Benedictus



Presider

Jesus was always the quest. In the homes of Peter and Jairus, Martha and Mary, Joanna and Susanna, he was always the quest. At the meal tables of the wealthy where he pled the case of the poor, he was always the quest. Upsetting polite company, befriending isolated people, welcoming the stranger, he was always the guest.

But here, at this table, he is the host. Those who wish to serve him must first be served by him. Those who want to follow him must first be fed by him. For this is the table where God intends us to be nourished. This is the time when Christ can make us new. So come, you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world. Jesus Christ, who has sat at our tables, now invites us to be guests at his.

On the night in which he was betrayed, and as they were sitting at a meal, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his friends, saying: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Later, after they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

So now we do as Jesus did. We take this bread and this wine, the produce of the earth and the fruit of human labor. In these, Jesus has promised to be present; through these, Christ can make us whole.

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. People

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We ask, merciful God, that you send, in kindness, your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread Presider

and wine and fill them with the fullness of Jesus. Let that same Spirit rest on us, converting us from the patterns of this passing world, until we conform to the shape of

him whose food we now share.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the

unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

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 We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

#### The Invitation to Communion

Presider Come to the banquet, 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

Holy God, we thank you for this feast of grace and life. As we have been served, help us to serve our neighbors. As we have been fed, help us to feed all who are hungry. As we have been loved, help us to love the world—because in Christ Jesus you have loved us. 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

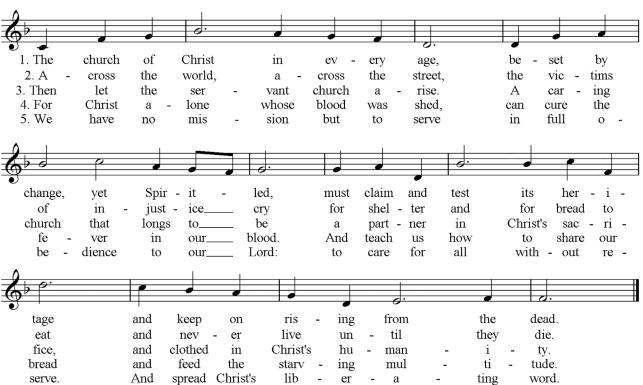
your people Israel.

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 from Wonder, Love, and Praise #779



Words: Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000). Music: *Dunedin*, Vernon Griffiths (1894-1985).

### The Dismissal

Go forth: spread the good news, follow Christ. **Thanks be to God.** Presider

People

### Postlude

### **Service Participants**

Presider and Preacher The Reverend Meredith E. Ward

**Lector** Adelaide Kent

**Altar Guild** Megan Krasney **Usher** Susanne Vorster

Associate Organist and Choirmaster Alexander Pattavina

**Director, Operations & Facilities** Charles Bryant

**Facilities** Anthony Thomas

### We continue to hold in our prayers

Roberto, Beth Ann, Stan and Susan, Marleny, Tatyana, Nia, Ayaan, Helen, Drayer family, John

### Source and Copyright Information

Collect of the Day: from Revised Common Lectionary Prayers, © 2002 Consultation on Common Texts, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Hymn at the Sequence: words © 1995 Patricia B. Clark. Concluding Collect at the Prayers of the People: from Revised Common Lectionary Prayers, © 2002 Consultation on Common Texts, admin. Augsburg Fortress. The Great Thanksgiving: *The Book of Common Worship*, © 2018 Westminster John Knox Press. Closing Hymn: Copyright © Brigid Pailthorp; Music: © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-709111 when applicable.



### Newcomers are welcome to all gatherings.

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

### \$\$ Service Project: Backpacks for Migrant Families 12:30 PM IN THE GREAT HALL

St. Bart's is proud to host our annual backpack assembly drive for migrant families. Help us reach our goal of preparing 100 backpacks by joining the assembly line today at Coffee Hour in the Great Hall at 12:30 pm. Backpacks will be distributed at the Row Hotel this Wednesday, September 3 at 3 pm, in partnership with city service organizations. To volunteer with distribution or to sponsor a backpack (\$50), please visit **stbarts.org/backpackdrive.** 

### ‡‡ Living Christ Sangha 3-4:30 PM VIA ZOOM

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



ST. BART'S

### September 7, 2025: The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Join us for a joyful celebration of the St. Bart's community as we launch a new program year and welcome back beloved former rector the Reverend Buddy Stallings.

### # 9 AM HOLY EUCHARIST IN THE ROUND

Sermon by the Reverend Buddy Stallings.

#### \$ 10 AM THE FORUM: BUDDY

The Reverend Buddy Stallings reflects on the decade since he retired as rector of St. Bart's and the state of the world today.



All kids, youth, and their families are invited to join us for breakfast, meet our volunteer leaders, and connect with other families, and celebrate the beginning of a new program year with us. Please register for the 2025-2026 school year at **stbarts.org/kids** and indicate any allergies or dietary restrictions on the form.



The Reverend Buddy Stallings, guest preacher. Bring your backpacks, briefcases, and bags to be blessed as we celebrate a new school year! Wonder Church for children in the Chapel



Food, bouncy castle, and entertainment for all ages. Meet other parishioners and get to know our leaders and staff. RSVP is appreciated at **stbarts.org/stbartsday**.

#### **♦ 5 PM CONTEMPLATIVE EUCHARIST**

Sermon by The Reverend Molly O'Neil Frank, Assisting Priest

### SUNDAY MORNING LIVESTREAM

LIVESTREAM OF THE FORUM AT 10 AM AND CHORAL EUCHARIST AT 11 AM IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE: (STBARTS.ORG/WORSHIP/LIVESTREAM) VIA YOUTUBE OR FACEBOOK LIVE (@STBARTSNYC).



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

HOLY EUCHARIST • TUESDAY-THURSDAYS 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.

SEE OUR COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF FALL PROGRAMMING AT STBARTS.ORG/FALL

### **Rector Search Update**

Thank you to all who joined the Rector Search Committee Town Hall on Sunday, August 24. If you were unable to attend, you can watch the video and learn more about the search for St. Bart's fourteenth rector at **stbarts.org/rectorsearch**. This Tuesday, September 2, the Parish Survey will be released. Please look for an email from the Rector Search Committee with the survey link. Your voice is vital to this process, and we look forward to hearing from you.

### **Music Opportunities for Children**

St. Bart's is proud to offer two free programs that help children grow through music:

**St. Bartholomew's Choristers** (ages 8+): A free musical education that teaches lifelong skills and values such as self-confidence, leadership, teamwork, dedication, and spirituality—all through singing at the Sunday 11am service

**Little Voices** (ages 5–8): A fun, playful introduction to music where kids sing songs, play games, explore instruments, and create art, all while developing an appreciation for sacred music. Learn more at **stbarts.org/choristers**.

### **Imagine Worship this Fall**

### THURSDAYS AT 7 PM RESUMING SEPTEMBER 4

Pray your way into the weekend with an informal service of Holy Eucharist including soulful music and timely preaching in a warm community atmosphere. Stay afterward for food, conversation, and connection. Learn more at **stbarts.org/imagine**.

### **Explore Class Online**

### MONDAYS SEPTEMBER 8, 15, 22 AT 7 PM ON ZOOM

Explore is for anyone new to St. Bart's or the Episcopal Church and interested in learning more. This three-week series provides an overview of Christian belief and practice, through a progressive and open-minded lens. No question is off the table, and all are welcome. Sign up at **stbarts.org/explore.** 

## In Solemn Remembrance of September 11, 2001

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 AT 11 AM

On the twenty-fourth anniversary of September 11, 2001, St. Bart's will once again offer a service of Holy Eucharist in solemn remembrance of all who died on that day. Both in-person and online worshipers are welcome. Members of the New York City Fire Department will be in attendance. All are welcome.

# Migrant Ministries Fair & Postcard Party

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 AT 12:30 PM IN THE GREAT HALL

Meet representatives from local immigration organizations, learn how to get involved, and write postcards to public officials advocating for sanctuary protections for faith communities.

## Theology Odyssey: Wrestling with the Core Questions of Christian Faith

### SUNDAYS, SEPTEMBER 14-NOVEMBER 16, 1-2:30 PM IN PERSON

Who is God? Who is Jesus? Why does evil exist? St. Bart's parishioner and university professor Dr. Brooks Ishler leads a ten-week journey through some of the most fundamental questions addressed by the Christian faith, exploring their theological significance and introducing the historic discourse surrounding them. Register at **stbarts.org/odyssey**.

### **Open Enrollment: St. Bart's Connects**

#### SIGN UP BY SEPTEMBER 14

St. Bart's Connects is a parish-wide initiative that aims to help our members get to know one another better in more intimate settings. New small groups will be formed this fall with in-person, virtual-only and hybrid options available. Register at **stbarts.org/connects** even if you are already part of a group.

## A Choral Feast: Music of Schubert for Choir & Orchestra

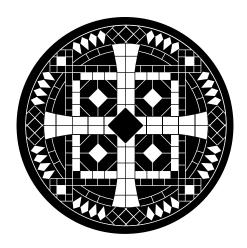
#### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 AT 11 AM**

St. Bartholomew's Choir will present Franz Schubert's, *Mass in C Major, D. 452* with chamber orchestra. Franz Schubert's sacred music for choir and orchestra carries the torch of Viennese Classicism passed to him by Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven. First written in 1816 at age 19, it has many hallmarks of Schubert's particular brand of classicism, including a sense of melody that seems effortless, careful texturing, balance, and a lightness of touch. **stbarts.org/choralfeast**.

#### We Believe

#### TUESDAYS, SEPT 16-OCT 28, 7-8 PM VIA ZOOM

This year marks the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea when a group of bishops gathered to codify what Christians believe. Today, the Nicene Creed remains the central statement of our faith. In this series of classes, we will read Luke Timothy Johnson's book, *The Creed: What Christian's Believe and Why it Matters to* explore what the Nicene Creed says and what it means for us today. Register at **stbarts.org/webelieve.** 



### **Clergy and Staff**

Vicar and Interim Rector The Reverend Peter D. Thompson (pthompson@stbarts.org)
Senior Associate Rector and Pastor of Imagine Worship The Reverend Zack Nyein (znyein@stbarts.org)
Senior Associate Rector The Reverend Meredith E. Ward (mward@stbarts.org)
Canon in Residence The Reverend Canon Stephanie Spellers (sspellers@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 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, Natalie Johnson, Mary Robin Jurkiewicz, James Marion, Lizzie Min, Kari Parks, Robert Radtke, Robert Sweeney, Mary Kate Wold

Chancellor Patrick MacMurray

Assistant Chancellors Anne Rabbino, Douglas Tanner, Alice Yurke-Davis

Honorary Wardens Fletcher Hodges III, Percy Preston, Jr.

#### ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

325 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10022
212-378-0222 # CENTRAL@STBARTS.ORG



@STBARTSNYC STBARTS.ORG