



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 60, NUMBER 12

The Chatter

DECEMBER 2017

A REMARKABLE JOURNEY AND MINISTRY!

While this month is the time in the church year when we look forward to the coming of Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas and His eventual Return, this year's holiday season is extra significant. **Fr. Richard Molison will be retiring from active ordained ministry on December 31, 2017. We will be celebrating his wonderful ministry among us and the greater church at a 10 AM service of Holy Eucharist on Sunday January 7, 2018. There will be **NO 9:15 or 11 AM services that Sunday.** A sit-down dinner at Noon will follow in his honor. **ALL ARE WELCOME!!!****



Many of you have known Fr. Molison and his wife, Barbara for many years. They have been an integral part of the heart and soul of our parish family since 1962! Upon arriving at St. Bartholomew's, Fr. Molison and Barbara not only raised their three children, Krista, Karen, and Stephen in the church, but they became actively involved in our church's ministry and mission. Both served together as co-superintendants for our Sunday School. With his experience as a school teacher in the City of Tonawanda School District, Fr. Molison has always had a heart for instilling the truths of the Gospel in the lives of our children. As a layman, he taught confirmation class, trained our acolytes and lay readers, conducted Lenten Bible Study programs, and served on the Vestry and as Warden. He also developed the parish visitation ministry in the 1970s. Sensing God's call for further involvement, Fr. Molison pursued ordained ministry and in 1981, was ordained a deacon. **Continued on page 2**

St. Bart's Web Information

www.stbartson.org

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



St. Bartholomew's
Anglican Church
2368 Eggert Road
Tonawanda, NY 14150
Phone: (716) 831-1777

Fr. Molison, continued from page 1

As a deacon he played a pivotal role in supporting the ministry of our first rector, Fr. Russell Amend. In fact, reflecting on Fr. Molison's diaconal ministry, Fr. Amend said, "Richard always reflected the warmth of the Holy Spirit towards others. He was reliable and always prepared. He was a rock for our parish."

Sensing a call to the priesthood, Fr. Molison worked toward that goal and saw it granted by God's grace when he was ordained priest in 1996. That year was a year of mixed emotions as he and Barbara left St. Bartholomew's for the first time so that he could serve as assisting priest at Advent Episcopal Church in Kenmore. In 1998, he received the call to serve as Rector of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Niagara Falls where he took a broken and struggling parish to a place of wholeness and self-sufficiency. When in 2003, the Episcopal Church turned its back on God's Word and 2000 years of Church Teaching concerning Holy Marriage, Fr. Molison and the Vestry of St. Stephen's joined St. Bartholomew's and three other Episcopal parishes to defend the Faith and chart a course forward for those who in the Episcopal Church desired to remain faithful to the teachings of Jesus Christ and His Word. While he was unable to lead St. Stephen's out of the Episcopal Church due to his retirement in 2005, he provided them the foundation for how to remain faithful to the Lord.

After retiring from full-time ministry in 2006, Fr. Molison and Barbara returned to St. Bartholomew's. Since that time, they have continued to be active in the life and ministry of the church. We have been blessed by Barbara's involvement in the creation and maintenance of our library, in our monthly family movie nights, and her work with the Altar Guild and the Wednesday morning women's Bible Study. Fr. Molison has not only supported Fr. Ward in parish ministry by visiting and bringing communion to our sick and shut-ins, preaching, overseeing the lay eucharistic ministry, and until last year the kitchen ministry, he has also been instrumental in organizing and leading our travel club and the many special trips they have taken to the *Site and Sound Theater* in Lancaster, PA and the *Creation Museum* in KY, not to mention other local trips. Finally, during the last three years, Fr. Molison has worked with our Core Team as we have sought to develop a strategy and plan to impact our community with the Gospel. All in all, his has been a truly remarkable and blessed spiritual journey and ministry. We have been blessed by his and his wife's presence among us. Their active ministry will be missed but thanks be to God, they aren't going anywhere! They plan to remain with us for the foreseeable future, but in a less active role so they can enjoy some travel and time with the family.

VESTRY



Installation of video cameras for Church security was approved by the Vestry.

The 2018 budget was approved. Pledge letters will go out shortly.



The annual Church election for Vestry will be Saturday and Sunday, December 2-3.

REMINDER: Christmas week services will be
Saturday, December 23 at 4:30pm;
Sunday, December 24 at 4, 7, & 11pm;
Monday, December 25 at 10am.

There will NOT be a service on Wednesday, December 27 or Saturday, December 30.

Sunday, December 31 will be regular schedule, but with NO Sunday School.





BISHOP SCAIFE GUILD

Our Christmas/Baked Goods sale totals: Baked Goods - \$416.75; Christmas Decorations - \$367.20 - Total - \$783.95.

Thanks to everyone that donated baked goods and items to the sale.

The Cookie Ingathering (Cookies for the Shut-in's) will be December 16.

Please bring your cookies (mark them "Cookies for shut-in's so they won't be used for the Sunday coffee hour) to the kitchen by Sunday morning so the boxes can be made up. If you want to bring them earlier they can be put in one of the freezers. The boxes will be put on tables across from the Gift Shop. If you can deliver any of them please pick them up after the 8:00 service.



Here's our calendar for the year:

Winter Soup Sale - Date to be announced

December 16 - Cookie Ingathering (Cookies for the Shut-in's)

March 10 - Lenten Brunch

June Banquet - Date to be announced



BUNDLES FOR BABIES: New and gently used baby items are always needed. Please bring them to the Gift Shop and mark them "Cornerstone Manor".

THREADS OF HOPE: Linens, small appliances, kitchen utensils are always needed. Please bring them to the Gift Shop and mark them "Carol Siock".



Please continue to drop your Dash's receipts in the bag!

PRAY for those in the ARMED FORCES

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

Jason Driscoll– US Army

Jason Duffy– US Army

Matthew Fildes– US Marines

James Kerins– US Army

A.J. Matteliano– US Army

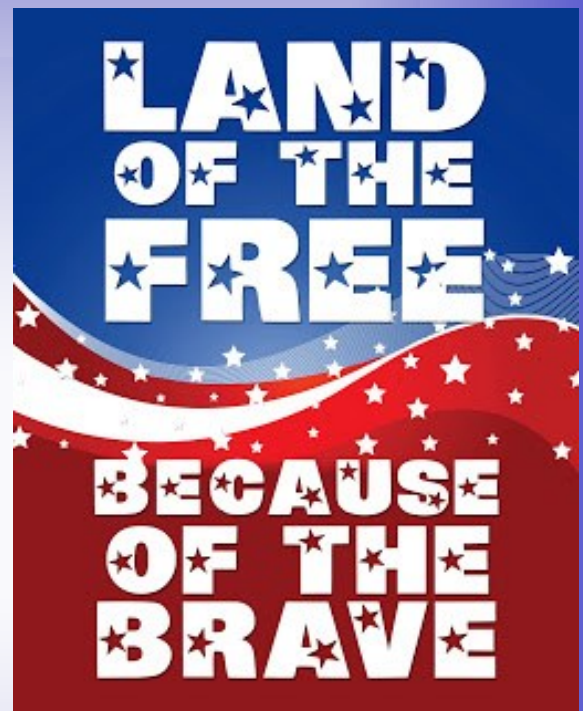
Anthony Prohaska– US Marines

Matthew Prohaska– US Air Force

Andrew Rebl– US Army

Brandon Schessl– US Army

Andrew Welkley– US Air Force



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

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Tuesday Night Women's Bible Study

On December 12th we will be having a time of fellowship and will be watching the movie, The Nativity Story.— “the journey of a lifetime, story for all time”

We meet from 6:30-8:00. Come and join us.

Check January's Chatter January meetings.



Prayer for Revival: Our next meeting will be **Monday, December 18** at 7 PM in the Sanctuary. Please join us as we *fast and pray* for the concerns facing our world, our nation, our community, and our church.

Creation Ministries Christian Movie in Theaters on **Thursday, January 11 at 7:00 PM** <http://alieninvasion.com/>

Alien Intrusion-Unmasking a Deception

Millions of people have seen UFOs and many even recall personal encounters with strange entities. The popular view is that these are advanced aliens visiting us from far away, but this compelling new documentary takes a deeper look at the events, the beliefs, the experts and the people who have shaped our views in the “otherworldly.” When one examines this phenomenon, one of the most disturbing but powerful affirmations of the spiritual realm, Christianity and the Bible becomes clearer. This documentary seeks to solve one of the most haunting and persistent mysteries of our time by addressing UFO sightings in every country, things seen on radar, what happened at Roswell, alien abductions, government cover-ups, and even a “new” religion

Elmwood Regal Center 16: 2001 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14207

Transit Center 18 Plus Imax: 6707 Transit Road, Williamsville, NY 14221

FOOD PANTRY: 74 bags of food and personal products were donated in November. There is always a need. Please continue to be as generous as you can. Thank You.



Articles for the JANUARY Chatter are due by December 19.

Thank you.

CHRIS WILSON

Songs Of Faith Concert
(as well as some of your favorite John Denver songs!)

*St. Bartholomew's
Anglican Church
2368 Eggert Rd.
Tonawnda, ny 14150*

*Saturday,
December 9, 2017
7:00 PM
(Reception to follow)*

Admission: FREE

*(There will be a free will
offering collected)*

www.chriswilson.us

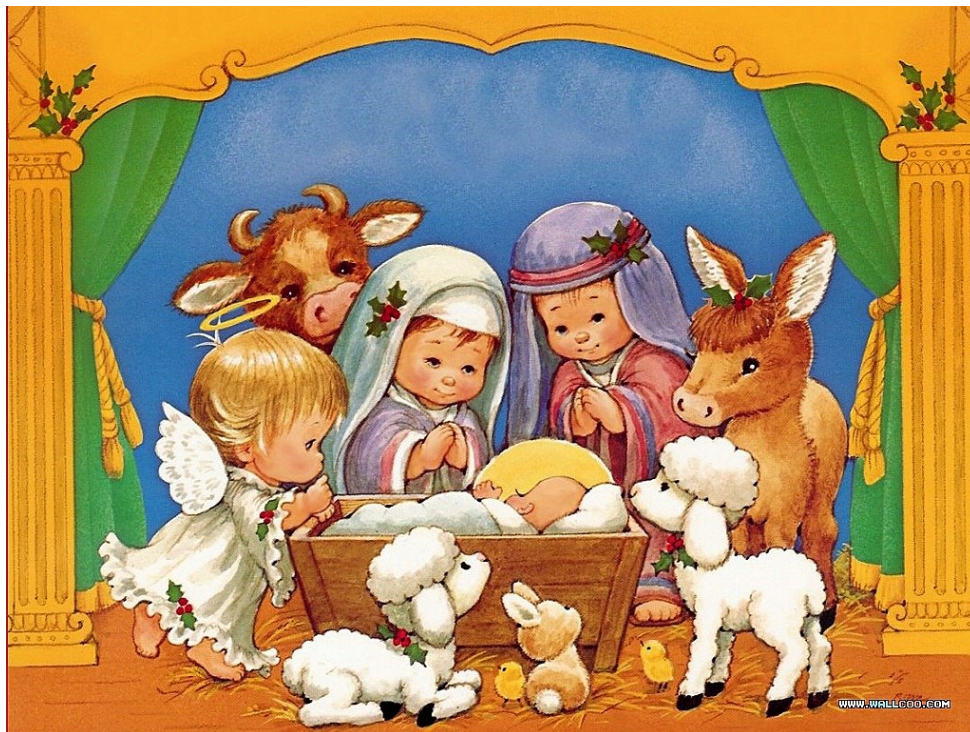


CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 17 at 4pm

Our youth (and adults) have worked so hard to bless us with this Christmas program. Please come out to show your appreciation and support them.



Dear Parishioners,

On November 26, 2017, Fr. Molison gave a very important sermon about giving to those we have yet to meet—the stranger! In doing so we are following Christ's instructions to feed the hungry, minister to the sick, and clothe the naked.

Over the past several years St. Bart's Angels have done the latter with your help. We have all helped to comfort those on the street with warm clothing, and bring joy those in nursing homes as well as those whom may feel forgotten.



As of November 1st, we have delivered 100 hats, 35 scarves, 14 pairs of gloves, 66 blankets, 40 pairs of slippers, and 1000



hand written Christmas cards. This could not be accomplished without your love and support.

We wish to thank all who donated time and supplies, money and prayers to this outreach. If you are interested in learning more about our group contact Diane Herr at 716-810-3212.

**Merry
Christmas**

Thank you. Diane Herr, St. Bart's Angel Coordinator

AND A VERY BLESSED NEW YEAR!!



December Birthdays

December 1 Marcia Brock, Khloe Kibby

December 2 Lucas Fish

December 4 Thomas Slayton, Carolee Waite

December 5 Richard Herrmann,
Lindsay Tobin, Carol Woeppel

December 6 Thomas MacLeay

December 8 Audrey Dyrja, Kathleen Ward

December 9 Debra Allen, Marilyn Alliger

December 10 Dorothy Bamberg, Joan Brown,
Patrick Dake, Alexandra Zanni,
Karen Zuefle

December 11 Russell Ballaro,
Amanda Daniele, Susan Tobin

December 12 Robert Fish Jr.,
Catherine Hawthorn, John Hillestad II,
Jeremy Merrick

December 14 Joan Amend, Jim Hubbard,
James Kibby, Peter Passino

December 15 Louise Jones

December 16 Ronald Horvath,
Patricia Schreier

December 17 Kathy George

December 18 Frances Ballaro,
Jeremy Moyer, Emily Small

December 19 Jean DiMaria, Krista Glownia,
Linda Pollino

December 20 Joshua Merrick

December 21 Justin Dibble,
Jennifer Marcinelli, Caitlin Reed

December 24 Carol Krieger

December 25 Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ

December 26 Ann Miller

December 27 Janina Heacock, Kristie Kibby,
Margaret Wahl

December 28 Alexia Salvinski,
Sarah Scibetta, Madeline Wahl

December 29 David Buckley, Molly Delisanti,
Sarah Delisanti, Nicholas Jones

December 30 Anne Karam, Diane Lobdell

December 31 Lisa Boyle, Julie Ciccarelli,
Marietta Lipomi, Edward Reichard

January 1 Heather Craig, Robert Kyser,
Deborah Ryan

January 2 Joseph Calamita

January 3 Paul Etienne

January 4 Grace Delisanti, David Morrison



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

The Very Rev. Fr. Arthur W. Ward, Jr.

The Rev. Fr. Andrew J. Thebeau

The Rev. Fr. Richard Molison

Dn. Jacob Bush, Dn. John Reitz, Dn. Gary Wisniewski

TOWN OF TONAWANDA, NY

Dean & Rector

Curate

Assisting Priest

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES December 24, 2017

4 PM FAMILY HOLY EUCHARIST (with incense)

There will be a special Sunday School Children's Program for Pre K through 4th grade *upstairs* in the resource room.

7 PM HOLY EUCHARIST (with incense)

A SACRED MUSIC RECITAL AT 10:30PM ON CHRISTMAS EVE

11 PM MIDNIGHT HOLY EUCHARIST (with incense)

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE (No choir or incense)

10am Monday, December 25, 2017

No Wednesday service, December 27, 2017.

No Saturday service, December 30, 2017.

*****FR. MOLISON'S RETIREMENT SERVICE will be at 10AM on SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, followed by a dinner at noon in his honor. ALL ARE WELCOME!!!**

SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL RESUME ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2018 at 10AM!!

THE HOLY SEASON OF CHRISTMAS LASTS FOR 12 DAYS! - from December 25 - January 5, and is called the Twelve Days of Christmas. As the somber reflection and joyful expectation of the Advent Season ends, the members of Christ's Church are to break out with exuberant rejoicing and celebration in knowing that God has visited us in the Lord Jesus Christ! **Remember Christmas does not end on December 25, it only begins!**

THE ADVENT OFFERING ENVELOPE may be returned at any time during the Advent/Christmas season through any of the Christmas services, 12/24 - 12/27/17.

ARE ALL YOUR PLEDGE ENVELOPES FOR 2017 TURNED IN?

Each unused envelope is a loss of anticipated revenue pledged to God, which will have to be made up by someone else.

BUDGET FOR 2018. Please turn in your pledge card if you haven't already done so. Offering envelopes for 2018 will be mailed directly to the homes of all who turned in a pledge card. Thank you!

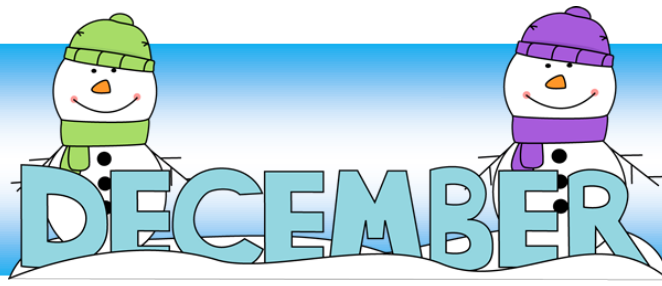
BISHOP SCAIFE GUILD COOKIE INGATHERING will be held on December 16th. See Chatter for more details.

ADVENT MANGER SUNDAY is scheduled for December 10. Children are asked to bring an unwrapped gift for needy children in Western New York.

*****ADULT NEW MEMBER CLASSES***** will begin January 21nd at 1pm on Sundays. Please see Fr. Ward if interested.

MANY THANKS TO the soloists and choirs for all the beautiful music throughout the year! **IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SING WITH US** for the Advent and Christmas season, please speak to Mr. Gamble. We would love to have you!

December 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 10:15 am Conf. class 4:30 HE Parish Election
3 8,9:15 & 11am HE 9:15 & 11am SS 9:15am Bible Study Annual Parish Election 6pm Pageant Reh.	4	5 6:30pm Men's Disc. 7pm Vestry	6 9:30am HE 10:30am Women's Advent Bible Study 6pm Junior Choir 6:45pm Missionettes & Youth Group 7pm Sr. Choir	7	8	9 10:15am Conf. class 4:30pm HE 7pm Chris Wilson Concert
10 8,9:15 & 11am HE 9:15 & 11am SS 9:15am Bible Study 6pm Pageant Reh. Manger Sunday	11 6pm Pizza & Movie Night	12 6:30pm Men's Disc. & Women's Bible Study	13 9:30am HE 10:30am Women's Advent Bible Study 6pm Contemporary Choir 7pm Sr. Choir	14	15	16 8am Men's Breakfast 10:15am Conf. class 10:30am Pageant reh. 11am Funeral 4:30pm HE Cookie ingathering
17 8,9:15 & 11am HE 9:15 & 11am SS 9:15am Bible Study Christmas Pageant	18 6pm BARRA 7pm Prayers for Revival	19 6:30pm Men's Disc.	20 9:30am HE 10:30am Women's Advent Bible Study 6m Jr. Choir 6:45pm Missionettes 7pm Sr. Choir	21 7pm Prayer Strategy Team	22	23 No Conf. class Altar Guild cleaning, decorating & brunch 4:30pm HE
24 4, 7:30 & 11pm HE Carol Sing at 7pm & 10:30pm	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 10am HE	26	27 NO HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study NO Choir reh. (resumes 1/3)	28	29 11am Prayer for St. Bart's Vision & Mission	30 No Conf. class No HE
31 8,9:15 & 11am HE NO Sunday School						

PERSECUTED CHURCH CALENDAR

DECEMBER

VOM supporters send Family Med Packs to Iraqi and Syrian refugees as a tangible blessing from their brothers and sisters in the United States.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 MOROCCO Pray that Mohammed VI, king of Morocco, will write freedom of religion into the constitution this year.	4 YEMEN Pray for an end to the food-shortage crisis.	5 UNITED ARAB EMIRATES Pray that the royal family will come to know Jesus Christ.	6 COLOMBIA Pray for the unreached tribes in Colombia's Amazon jungle.	7 KYRGYZSTAN Pray that Christian families in remote villages will find ways to share the love of Christ with their neighbors.	8 UNITED ARAB EMIRATES Pray for the safety of underground believers.	9 VIETNAM Pray that government officials will distinguish between Christian witness and social activism.
10 MYANMAR / BURMA Pray that VOM's Bible distributions reach northern parts of the country this year.	11 CUBA Pray for an end to civil unrest throughout the country.	12 SIERRA LEONE Pray that the church will be an instrument of grace to the many families decimated by Ebola.	13 INDIA Pray for front-line workers ministering in India's Red Corridor, an area threatened by Maoist groups hostile to the gospel.	14 ETHIOPIA Pray that the government will resist the rise of Islam and influence of neighboring Islamist countries.	15 MYANMAR / BURMA Pray for front-line workers sharing the gospel with the Muslim Rohingya people.	16 BAHRAIN Pray that Bahrain's relative freedom will provide opportunities to spread the gospel in the Arab Peninsula.
17 KYRGYZSTAN Pray for evangelistic work among Uzbeks in the southern part of the country.	18 UZBEKISTAN Pray that Christians will continue to meet in homes despite heavy fines and intimidation.	19 SUDAN Pray that Christians affected by the government bombing campaign in the Nuba region will retain the peace of God.	20 SIERRA LEONE Pray that President Ernest Koroma will bring economic stability, prosperity and continued peace to Sierra Leone.	21 ALGERIA Pray that all Algerian churches will become more passionate about outreach.	22 JORDAN Pray that Jordanians will notice and be touched by the way Jordanian Christians are serving Muslims.	23 TAJIKISTAN Pray for VOM's efforts to provide pastoral and evangelistic tools in the Tajik language.
24 IRAN Pray that the spiritually lost in Iran will hear the gospel and believe.	25 IRAQ Pray that the Kurdish church will continue to grow and spread the gospel throughout Iraq.	26 EGYPT Pray that the Lord will sustain and comfort new believers as they face persecution from their families.	27 PAKISTAN Pray that the government will end the blasphemy law, which is used as a weapon against Christians.	28 ISRAEL Pray for Messianic believers in Israel, who face pressures due to their faith in Christ.	29 SAUDI ARABIA Pray that persecuted Christians will experience God's presence.	30 SRI LANKA Pray for President Sirisena and a government that is trending toward greater religious freedom.
31 NEPAL Pray for the distribution of Bibles on MP3 players in one of Nepal's least-reached districts.						



The Voice of the Martyrs

For updated prayers visit icommittopray.com

The Twelve Days of Christmas

One English Christmas carol well-known world wide today is, however, more than a repetitious tune with pretty phrases and strange gifts. “The Twelve Days of Christmas” is a song with different levels of meaning. From 1558 to 1829, the Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. During this period, “The Twelve Days of Christmas” was written in England as a catechism song for young Catholics. The hidden meanings of the song’s gifts were intended to help the children remember lessons of their faith. Instead of referring to an earthly suitor, the ‘true love’ mentioned in the song refers to God himself. The ‘me’ who receives the presents is symbolic of every baptized Christian. The ‘partridge in a pear tree’ is Jesus Christ.

The meaning of the other symbols are:

Two turtle doves: the Old and New Testaments

Three French hens: Faith, Hope and Love

Four calling birds: the four Gospels

Five golden rings: the first five books of the Old Testament

Six geese a-laying: the six days of creation

Seven swans a-swimming: seven gifts of the Holy Spirit

Eight maids a-milking: the eight Beatitudes

Nine ladies dancing: nine fruits of the Holy Spirit

Ten lords a-leaping: the Ten Commandments

Eleven pipers piping: the eleven faithful disciples

Twelve drummers drumming: the twelve points of belief in the Apostles’ Creed.



Excerpted from
A Handbook of Catholic Sacraments,
written by Ann Ball.