

A sepia-toned photograph of the interior of St. Bart's Cathedral, showing a high, vaulted ceiling with intricate carvings and a series of arches. The text "ST BART'S ANNUAL REPORT 2020" is centered within a white circular frame.

ST BART'S ANNUAL REPORT 2020

A Word from the Rector



The Right Reverend Dean E. Wolfe
Rector, D.D.

Dear Friends,

No one can remember a year like 2020. Last March, New York City became the nation's epicenter for a global pandemic which infected 700,000 New York City residents and has taken the lives of more than 29,000 New Yorkers so far. More than 500,000 Americans have lost their lives to this virus.

And then it got harder.

The economic meltdown following the pandemic closed more than 6000 businesses in New York City. People lost jobs, businesses, and even their confidence in their ability to go on. Our parish lost rental income vital to its operations.

And then it became more complex.



A pattern of deaths among black men and women in the custody of the police sparked a national reckoning around racial equality and criminal justice. Hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers joined millions of Americans who marched in the streets for weeks in the name of justice and greater equality.

And then it became even more challenging.

After a presidential election, a violent mob stormed the Capitol building in an attempt to stop the Electoral College vote certification process. A variety of extremist groups, joined by some who believed they were following the instructions of their president, clashed violently leaving five people dead, many injured, and our nation's democratic institutions shaken to the core.

No one can remember a year like this one.

Jesus said,

**"These things I have spoken to you, that in me you might have peace.
In the world you shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer;
I have overcome the world."** (John 16:33)

So, what did St. Bart's Church do in the face of these enormous challenges?

How did our Midtown Manhattan faith community respond?

We didn't miss a Sunday of transcendent worship! We began offering worship online beginning Sunday, March 15th, 2020 and we're still offering worship online nearly a year later. Sermons which spoke to the issues of the day were delivered, heavenly music was offered by a dispersed choir, and an ambitious adult education program was created to respond to the urgent current events. Renowned speakers from around the world offered their insights and perspectives on important topics. Daily meditations and prayers were led. Clergy offered classes on the Bible, theology, prayer, spirituality, and the intersection of faith and current events. When infection rates allowed, we offered in-person worship. When they didn't, we became a national voice when more than 50,000 people from around the country participated in our Christmas liturgies.



The line for breakfast at Crossroads Community stretches around the block by 7 am on Sunday, April 12, 2020

We fed hungry people through Crossroads Community Services until we were unable to continue due to the pandemic. So, we stepped back, created new safety protocols, and then started again. We created zealous hygiene protocols in order to reopen the St. Bartholomew's Community Preschool. We offered compassionate pastoral care to the sick and to the frightened, and we extended comfort to the grieving and the dying. We buried the dead with honor and dignity.

In short, the very worst of times brought out the best in our clergy, our staff, and our congregation. At the beginning of 2020 we had a goal to transform lives, transform the Church, and transform the world.

We actually did those things!

- We transformed lives through worship, education, and pastoral care.
- We helped transform the wider church by creating best practices which were emulated by other parishes across the country.
- We helped transform the world by our care for those who were in the greatest need in a disastrous time.

In 40 years of ordained ministry I have never undergone a more difficult year... and I've never been prouder of what my lay and ordained colleagues and I have achieved. American novelist Ralph Ellison wrote, "It takes a deep commitment to change and an even deeper commitment to grow." We have not only changed as a parish. We have grown.

To Almighty God be the power and the glory.

Faithfully,

The Right Reverend Dean Elliott Wolfe, D.D.
Rector

A Word from the Wardens



Liza Page Nelson



John B. Gilliland

This time last year we encouraged people to try some of St. Bart's then new approaches to "being and doing Church and community". We didn't imagine how new and different some of these would become, or how quickly. Three weeks after the annual meeting, St. Bart's suspended in-person worship and closed buildings to the public because of the pandemic. Within the span of a single week, our clergy and lay staff remarkably pivoted St. Bart's to "virtual" church and soon thereafter innovated ways to sustain our community online. The Forum welcomed a stunning array of guests we couldn't have had but for Zoom. Pastoral care by phone and email increased, as did invitations to seek care in digital and social media communications, and live announcements. Staff and Crossroads volunteers improvised to safely offer pantry families and soup kitchen guests food and distanced fellowship.

The Vestry is tasked with stewarding parish finances and properties, and Wardens with the honor of reporting on these to you. Before we report, we acknowledge the myriad losses the pandemic has wrought, too many and too complex to name here. We also acknowledge the many moments replete with grace, and gratitude that St. Bart's was a source of respite and refreshment, worship and prayer, positive challenge, call to action, connection and community.

For St. Bart's leadership, the time of adjustment, adaptation, contingency planning and decision-making amidst uncertainties continues, because the "new normal" continues to unfold. It remains essential to bear in mind and heart St. Bart's mission to "transform lives, transform the Church, and transform the world." Resources must be allocated accordingly to core priorities: worship in the current virtual environment and then also in person; formation and education; outreach; and fostering beloved community that sustains and is sustained by them.

Wardens Liza Page Nelson and John Gilliland, Bishop Dean Wolfe, and Parish Administrator Raquel Murray speak at the Annual Meeting of the Parish, February 23, 2020



Finances

In March, Vestry and Staff leaders began planning for the potential impacts of the pandemic crisis. In a typical year, Rentals, Preschool, Summer Camp and the Bookstore account for ~40% of operating income; Stewardship and other gifts account for ~60%. We knew 2020 would not be typical in any scenario. So, cost reduction steps were taken immediately. By April's end we had Paycheck Protection Program loan funds in hand to defer any employment action as long as possible. In early June the Vestry approved a revised 2020 Mission Plan budget for restructured operations and reduced staffing. To keep the parish informed, we reached out with letters in April and June and held "town hall" meetings in June and September. Comparisons to "plan" in this report refer to the revised 2020 Mission Plan unless noted otherwise. Comparisons to prior year refer to audited 2019 results.

The 2020 headlines are very positive in light of the year. The revised Stewardship goal was \$2.0 million; the result was \$2.76 million. This is 38% better than the revised plan, less than 2% below initial plan, and on par with 2019's \$2.77 million. The pandemic necessitated building closure and suspension of most on-premise activities from March through December. That's why all mission-supporting activities together generated only \$640,000 of net income. This was 7% better than plan, but \$1.49 million (70%) below 2019. Total operating income was \$3.79 million, 31% better than plan but \$1.63M (30%) below 2019. The plan envisioned an operating loss of up to \$2.05 million before adjustment for the \$1.25 million PPP loan; after adjustment for the PPP, the loss could have been \$804,000. The year came in almost one million dollars better than plan. Thanks to the PPP and good work of the staff, what would have been an operating loss of \$1.08 million, was instead a positive \$168,000 as adjusted for the PPP loan. Actual loss in 2019 was \$64,000.

Stewardship was 73% of \$3.79 million total operating income, vs. 51% of the prior year's \$5.42 million. The 2020 result was driven by a few very large gifts and the many who reached to maintain and increase their giving. Other giving was 7% of income in 2020 and 2019.

Mission-supporting activities are presented on a "net" basis of revenues less direct and allocated personnel and operating expenses. Their \$640,000 was 17% of total 2020 income vs. \$2.13 million and 39% in 2019. Within these activities, Preschool was the driver at \$465,000 (12% of total), above plan thanks to better than plan enrollment, but 19% behind 2019 because enrollment was limited to ~75% of capacity. Income from all Rentals combined was \$178,000 (5%), a shortfall of \$122,000 vs. plan and \$1.14 million vs. 2019. Within Rentals, Cafe income was \$142,000, a downside surprise as Sodexo suspended operations entirely after a limited reopening. Athletic income of \$13,000 was behind plan because the pool didn't reopen as anticipated. Church and Community House income of \$23,000 was above plan. Summer Camp was not opened, resulting in a \$21,000 loss vs. income of \$153,000 the prior year.



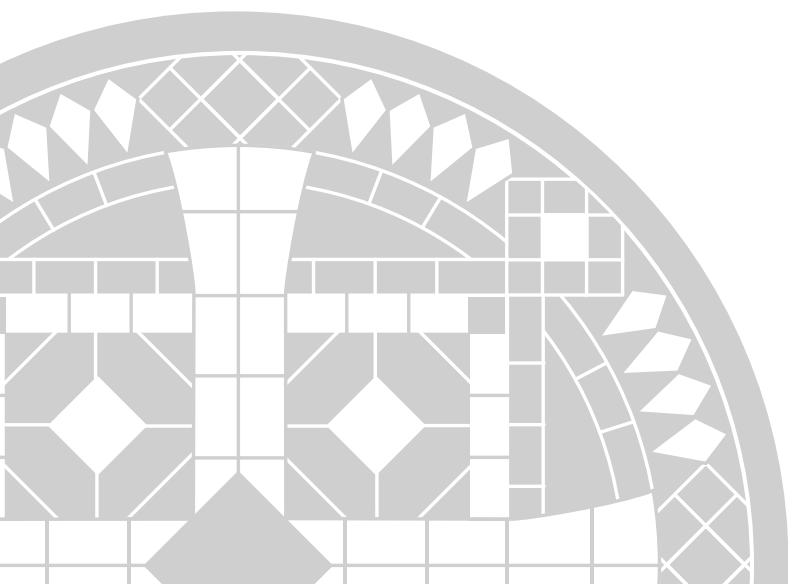
Overall, total costs for the year (including the activities) were intentionally reduced \$1.55 million (19%) vs. initial plan. Of this, personnel costs were reduced \$0.74 and operating costs \$0.81 million. Expenses of \$4.87 million not allocated to activities were 2% lower than plan, 18% lower than initial plan, and 11% below 2019. These expenses included: Personnel \$3.25 million (67%), Building \$655,000, (14%), Administrative \$333,000 (7%), Supplies and Equipment \$227,000 (5%), Professional Fees and Communications (3%), and Diocesan assessment of \$244,000 (5%). Personnel costs for the full year were 2% below revised plan, 11% below initial plan and 5% below prior year. Reductions began July 1, but staffing was not ultimately reduced as much anticipated when the restructuring was announced in early June. Personnel costs reflect the full year of payroll and unemployment costs.

The situation is serious, but it is not dire. The initial mission plan contemplated significant investment in worship, music and programming with an operating loss of up to \$637,000. With crisis-induced income shortfalls for 2020 and 2021 in mind, the Vestry set that initial plan aside and secured a PPP loan. St. Bart's audit firm is advising on PPP, so forgiveness of the outstanding loan can be expected; and successful application for a second forgivable loan of similar size is anticipated in 2021. When St. Bart's can safely reopen and restart income-generating activities is unknown, as is the rate at which activities will ramp up.

St. Bart's and Sodexo are in conversation about the Café and how to go forward in a mutually beneficial way. Contingency plans for reopening at various times in summer or fall have been developed. We anticipate meaningful but not complete recovery of income from mission-supporting activities in 2021. Staff, lay leadership and volunteers are working to foster continued engagement and growth as we prepare to transition from all virtual to hybrid virtual and in-person worship and community life. It is not certain that financial support for St. Bart's in 2021 will be as strong as in 2020, yet we have good reason to hope and trust that it can be.

St. Bart's' balance sheet remains strong. We have no debt other than the PPP loan expected to be forgiven. The Vestry continues to believe that a portion of St. Bart's healthy cash reserves can be prudently allocated to cover operating losses for some years while we continue to position St. Bart's for a sustainable future. However, reserves will not be used for this purpose indefinitely, and the Vestry will earmark some funds for the endowment and capital projects along the way. For 2020, \$10,660 was allocated from cash reserves to top off the annual repayment to restricted funds.

Investment income is not reported in the Church operations statement because it has for many years been restricted to fund outreach programs or reserved to make repayments into the Church endowment. Investment income was approximately \$344,000, of which ~80% was endowment. We believe there is opportunity to prudently grow St. Bart's investment assets and generate additional income with appropriate risk. The Vestry has determined to transition from self-management to an "outsourced chief investment officer" model and to consolidate St. Bart's portfolio under a single investment advisor qualified through a comprehensive RFP process. The advisor will manage St. Bart's assets in accordance with Vestry-determined investment policies that balance risk, reward, holding horizon and liquidity.



Properties

Restoration of Community House exteriors commenced in 2019 and has now been completed on budget and, but for pandemic-related delays, on time. Masonry, steel, brick, windows, roofs, ductwork and waterproofing were repaired or replaced at a total cost of \$5.7 million. Restoration of a portion of the Church North Façade and roofing was completed on time and on budget at a total cost of \$800,000 to help stabilize the structure and keep musicians in the choir room and music offices dry when it rains. More than \$300,000 was spent on Church and Chapel roofs. These projects were funded with proceeds from the sale of transferable development rights (TDRs) to JPMorgan Chase that closed in 2019. The next major project to be funded from these proceeds is a more comprehensive restoration of the Church North Façade masonry, roofs, stained glass windows, and stone colonnade. The Vestry approved a budget of \$4.2 million for this work anticipated to commence in March of this year and be completed in early December.

In early June, St. Bart's entered into an agreement to sell 58,800 square feet of TDRs to a private realty company. If the deal closes in two to three years, which is not certain, St. Bart's net sale proceeds could be about \$15 million after paying the 10% Diocesan tithe. As with the prior sale, 75% of total net sale proceeds would be restricted for restoration of building exteriors. St. Bart's still has ample rights to sell, but we don't expect another transaction in the near to medium term.

There's always a building project to do that's not eligible for restricted TDR funds. For example, eight of the ten multi-stack HVAC units that keep Church and Community House cool and de-humidified reached the end of their useful lives and were replaced for \$92,000. The pool was refurbished (grouting, pipes, plumbing, masonry, acid-washing) for \$80,000. Additional air filtration and ventilation equipment was



Restored facade of the Community House

installed for \$40,000 to enhance Community House safety. The Dome exterior illumination project sponsored by the Church and St. Bartholomew's Conservancy was delayed because the construction caused some damage to the Dome's ribs and drains. We continue to mitigate the damage. We should be able to light up the Dome by summer.

Looking ahead, we anticipate investments in 2021 to modernize building electrical and wiring systems and to enhance lighting, sound and video in the church, and probably a roof or plumbing will need some TLC.



Restored facade of the Community House, 109 East 50th Street entrance.

Gratitude and Hope

Peter de Menocal, Mary Krueger, Chantal Stevens and Susannah Wade Lewis completed their terms of Vestry service. This will be Liza Page Nelson's last annual meeting. After nine years on our Vestry, the last four as a warden, and the prior four as treasurer, Liza steps off the Vestry and passes her responsibilities into Catherine Belford Budd's capable hands.

We extol and thank St. Bart's clergy and lay staff: their imagination, initiative, diligence, courage and care brought strength and hope to us all in this extraordinary time in St. Bart's life.

It has been so very good to see and hear one another in YouTube chat, Facebook comment, town halls Q&As, surveys and the St. Bart's census. It has been joyful to more literally see and hear in livestream and recorded worship and music, Zoom Coffee Hours, groups gathered virtually for study, conversation and prayer, our musicians, and the growing cadre of lectors, chancel speakers, cantors and Forum guests. Our clergy speak to this far more eloquently than we, as do many of you.

We give thanks to all of you whose financial support and volunteer service make St. Bart's possible in an extraordinary year. Please continue the spiritual work of giving and serving as you are able. We give thanks to all who have joined in worship and online offerings, including those who gave it a go but just don't feel it and prefer to wait. Rest assured that you are precious members of our community whether you join us only online, or only in person, or both. Online and videoconference opportunities for worship, education, fellowship and action will be offered even when we regather physically in our Church, Chapel and Community House.

It is uncertain how the past year and pandemic crisis will affect us individually and collectively, but certainly it shall. A Pierre Teilhard de Chardin prayer speaks of impatience with "being on the way to something unknown, something new." The prayer says progress is "made by passing through some stages of instability" and we may "above all, trust in the slow work of God." We have made it this far together.

With God's help and one another's, St. Bart's will do more than survive this crisis. Together, we will come through it to thrive.

Faithfully,



Liza Page Nelson



John B. Gilliland



Looking back at 2020

Transforming Lives
Transforming the Church
Transforming the World

Livestream worship, October 11, 2020





Pastoral care took on even deeper importance due to the pandemic and the resulting enforced physical and social distancing. After shifting to online worship, the clergy endeavored to initially offer pastoral care through a multitude of phone calls to parishioners. We also discovered that parishioners were taking on lay leadership roles during this time and forming small “care groups” of people who would check up on one another on a regular basis. We are a community that cares for one another.

Sunday March 8, 2020, our last Sunday before in-person worship was suspended.



The Reverend Deborah A. Lee
Associate Rector for Discipleship and
Community Life

Socrates wrote, “The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new.” The year 2020 gave us ample opportunity to put these words into practice and build upon the new challenges that we faced. Not only were our personal lives completely reoriented due to the coronavirus, St. Bart’s underwent a huge learning curve in order to do ministry. We had to create and construct new ways of doing the work of the Church and basically build the plane while we flew it. All the while, God was our guide and compass, showing us how to move forward into uncharted territory, and our faith was our constant companion.

Much work continues still, as we serve God and our parishioners during this tumultuous time. Ministry never has a day off! Through it all, the Lord continues to be our guide and compass and the one who sustains us on this journey, and we are ever grateful for all of you who partner with us in this holy work.

In May, the Reverend Deborah Lee launched **This is Another Day**, a video series of three-minute reflections on scripture offered at 7 am weekdays on YouTube and Facebook. The series is a source of peace, spiritual sustenance, knowledge and encouragement with hundreds of views each day. People far and wide continue to carry This is Another Day in their daily spiritual backpack, with emails received about the ministry coming from as far as Pakistan!

Before the pandemic, we were on the cusp of launching the **St. Bart's Connects!** small group ministry with several groups of six to eight people who planned to meet in parishioners' homes around the city or in the church building in order to foster connection, spiritual growth, fellowship and faith. After taking a hiatus for several months after the pandemic hit in order to reorganize, St. Bart's Connects! launched its online groups in the fall of 2020. Many thanks to Manny Rodríguez-Leach for his hard work in helping to establish these online groups. Currently we have about a dozen groups meeting, and there is always room for more people to join in!



Mr. Manny Rodríguez-Leach, Welcome and Parish Life Associate



This is Another Day video series



The Reverend Canon Andrew J. W. Mullins
Assistant Rector

My ministry has been primarily from our apartment and mostly by telephone, emails or Zoom. It has become increasingly more pastoral in nature and involves talking with those who have been suffering the hardships, trials and loneliness of this past year.

We tend to think of clergy as worship leaders at the altar or in the pulpit and that is certainly central. However, the time-consuming work of clergy is more often the pastoral needs of the congregation which by its very nature might be unseen unless you are the personal recipient. All of this is to say that I have been more deeply engaged in pastoral ministry this past year than anytime in my 50+ years in the priesthood, perhaps challenged only by the attack of 9/11. I know that many of you have reached out to friends and family in many similar ways...it is the mutual ministry to which we are called as Christians and which we carry in our hearts and prayers.



Average Sunday Attendance
January 5 through March 1

386

Average 11 am Eucharist views
March 15 through December 27

1633

Holy Week	18,621
Easter Day	5,127
Christmas Eve & Day	30,941
Christmas (Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Candlelight Carols, in partnership with The Episcopal Church)	50,843



Single most viewed service
Candlelight Carols on December 20

19,942



The Reverend Peter Thompson
Associate Rector for Formation and Liturgy

COVID-19 forced us to rapidly shift our approach to liturgy and formation. Practically overnight, we transitioned the Forum, the Sunday 11 am Eucharist, and weekday classes online. Much of the routine to which we had become accustomed vanished, but our new ways of “being church” dramatically expanded the reach and scope of our work. Our educational and contemplative prayer offerings multiplied three- or fourfold as quarantined parishioners found time to enrich their spirits and their minds; a community developed around our 8:30 pm Night Prayer services, often parishioner-led; and, thanks to the power of livestreaming, hundreds, if not thousands, participated in the Forum and our Sunday 11 am Eucharist for the first time. We don’t want things to be the way they are now forever, but we also don’t want to go back entirely to the way things were before. As we crawl towards a post-COVID era, we are exploring how we can sustain the vitality of this unusual period even in a world in which more “normal” ways of gathering will be possible.

The Forum in 2020

Top 5 Most-viewed installments of The Forum

June 7



The Assumptions of Whiteness and the Challenge of Discipleship with Father Bryan Massingale, Professor, Fordham University

August 16



White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity with Robert P. Jones, CEO & Founder of the Public Religion Research Institute and Patrick Hornbeck, Professor, Fordham University

November 1



Heaven and Hell: Contemplating the Ultimate Future with Bart Ehrman, Professor, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

July 19



Responding to COVID-19 Across the Anglican Communion with Robert Radtke, President & CEO of Episcopal Relief and Development

May 31



Pentecost 2020: Reflections in the Aftermath of George Floyd's Murder with The Reverend Canon Dr. Stephanie Spellers, Canon to the Presiding Bishop for Evangelism, Reconciliation and Creation

THE FORUM AT ST. BART'S	Views on Facebook	Views on YouTube	Total Views
June 7	1572	456	2028
August 16	694	1155	1849
November 1	211	1181	1392
July 19	1086	205	1291
May 31	573	555	1128



In-person worship service, Fall 2020

Other notable speakers

- Emma Green, Staff Writer, *The Atlantic*
- The Reverend Dr. Randall Balmer, Professor, Dartmouth College
- The Right Reverend Andrew Dietsche, Bishop Diocesan, The Episcopal Diocese of New York
- Matthew Lopez, Tony-nominated playwright, *The Inheritance*
- David Blight, Professor, Yale University, and Pulitzer-Prize winning author
- Elaine Pagels, Professor, Princeton University
- The Right Reverend Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori, 26th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church

Parishioners at The Forum

- Richard Bayles, former Warden, on Kenya Water Project
- Julie Ross, Executive Director, Parenting Horizons
- J. Patrick Hornbeck II, Professor, Fordham University
- Robert Radtke, President & CEO, Episcopal Relief & Development
- James Ferrara, MD, Professor, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine
- Jim Marion, MD, Professor, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine
- Peter Scardino, David H. Koch Chair, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
- Michael Duffy, President, Great Oaks Foundation
- Clay Williams, Founder & CEO, Medaptive Health



At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the St. Bart's clergy recorded two weeks' worth of brief daily meditations for The Episcopal Church's social media platforms. These meditations were viewed by thousands of people across the country each day.

Comprehensive look at Adult Education/Formation in 2020

Guest facilitators

- The Reverend Dr. Randall Balmer, Professor, Dartmouth College (The Checkered History of American Evangelicalism)
- Larry Welborn, Professor, Fordham University (Early Christian Response to Disease)
- The Reverend Dr. Bob Flanagan, priest, The Episcopal Diocese of New York (Advent 2020: Finding Joy, Peace, and Hope—Even Now)

Parishioner facilitators

- J. Patrick Hornbeck II (The Hybrid Parish)
- Dana Catharine (Celtic Spirituality and Mexican Traditions)
- Kathleen Breiten and Manny Rodriguez-Leach (Centering Prayer)
- Diane Kaldany, Andrea King & Elaine Olaoye (The Peace Book Club)
- Clay Williams (Living Christ Sangha)

Music classes with The Reverend Peter Thompson and Dr. Paolo Bordignon

- The Passion(s) of Jesus Christ
- Requiem: Musical Reflections on Death and the Afterlife
- My Lord, What A Morning: Advent Reflections on the Spirituals

Clergy-led Book studies

- *Stand Your Ground: Black Bodies and the Justice of God* (Kelly Brown Douglas)
- *The Irony of American History* (Reinhold Niebuhr)
- *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith* (Barbara Brown Taylor)
- *Laughing at the Devil: Seeing the World with Julian of Norwich* (Amy Laura Hall)
- *Queer Theology: Beyond Apologetics* (Linn-Marie Tonstad)
- *Secrets in the Dark: A Life in Sermons* (Frederick Buechner)
- *Almost Everything: Notes on Hope* (Anne Lamott)
- *Living into God's Dream: Dismantling Racism in America* (edited by Catherine Meeks)
- *Fourth of July Oration* (Frederick Douglass)
- *How to Be an Anti-Racist* (Ibram Kendi)
- *Following Jesus: Finding our Way Home in an Age of Anxiety* (Henri Nouwen)
- *Heresies and How to Avoid Them: Why it matters what Christians believe* (edited by Ben Quash and Michael Ward)
- *The Cost of Discipleship* (Dietrich Bonhoeffer)

Peace Book Club studies

- *My Beloved World* by Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor
- *A More Beautiful and Terrible History* by Jeanne Theoharis
- *Beloved* by Toni Morrison
- *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo
- *The Universal Christ* by Richard Rohr

Classes facilitated by St. Bart's Clergy

- The Transformed Life: Growing Deeper in the Christian Faith and Anglican Tradition with the St. Bart's Clergy
- Weekly Bible Study with the Rector
- Make Me an Instrument of Peace: A Guide to Civil Discourse with the Reverend Susan Anderson-Smith
- How the Light Gets In: Love in the Age of Coronavirus, and Thomas Cromwell in the Light and the Mirror: A Look at a Leader in the English Reformation with the Reverend John Wirenius, Deacon
- Peter Rollins' Atheism for Lent with the Reverend Peter Thompson

Yale Bible Study virtual classes

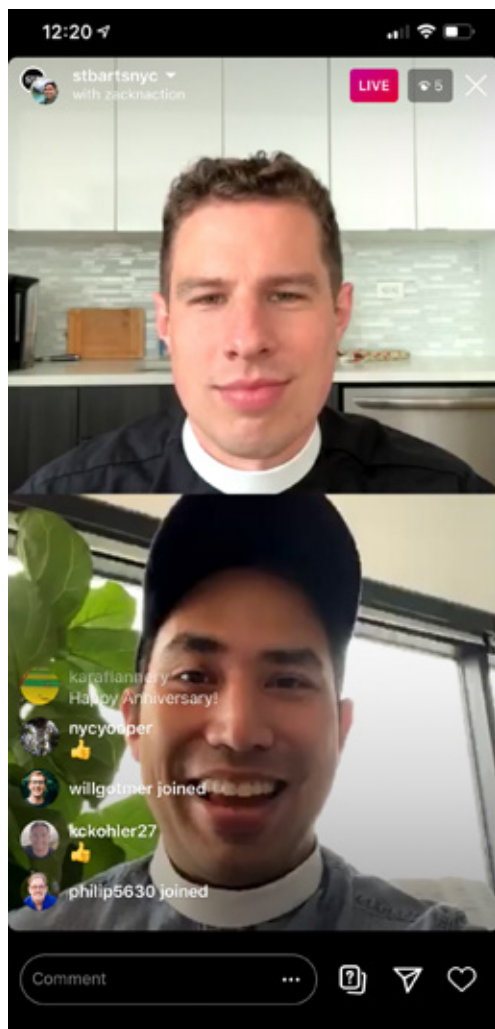
- Easter and Passover
- Women in the Bible

Podcast reflection group

- Brené Brown's "Unlocking Us"

Lectionary Live

- Instagram Live sessions hosted by the Reverend Peter Thompson



Lectionary Live on Instagram @stbartsnyc with the Reverend Peter Thompson and the Reverend Zack Nyein, Associate Rector, All Saints Episcopal Church in Atlanta

The story of music at St. Bart's in 2020 is one of transformation:

great music continues to enrich our lives thanks to extraordinary resourcefulness and adaptation in a time when choral and congregational singing are not possible.

Without the benefit of rehearsal, or the camaraderie and community of singing, St. Bartholomew's Choir, joined on festival days by St. Bart's Singers and a few intrepid Choristers, record in isolation at home. They are guided by videos prepared by Organist and Choirmaster, Paolo Bordignon, who edits their recordings together into an ensemble performance.

The Choir has led us not only in new music each week, but in the full line-up of Advent and Christmas repertoire so loved by our community. Outside of liturgies, their performances attracted over 150,000 views online, they have set the standard for choral singing in this way, and it continues to inspire us to greater action for the common good.



Dr. Paolo Bordignon
Organist and Choirmaster

Despite difficult and discouraging circumstances, the Choir enriched our lives as a community connected in prayer week after week, including Advent and Christmas services that drew **over 50,000 viewers**.

Outside of worship, choral and organ music from St. Bart's attracted **over 150,000 views** on social media even before Christmas.

St. Bartholomew's Choir, Choristers, and St. Bart's Singers recording from home.





Greg and Kathleen Harper with Bishop Wolfe at St. Bart's Centennial Celebration, 2018.



In 2020 the Welcome Center at St. Bart's was transformed into a broadcast quality control room, thanks to the extraordinary gifts of time, talent and treasure from two wonderful St. Bart's parishioners. An anonymous donor made a generous financial commitment to underwrite the cost of livestream equipment, and long-time parishioner Greg Harper volunteered dozens of hours to design, engineer, test, and install a livestream system specific to our needs at St. Bart's. The remarkable pivot to virtual worship came just in the nick of time on Sunday, March 15. Over the course of the year, we continued to work on improving the quality of our livestream, adding audio enhancements, additional camera angles, and graphics to make the worship experience more engaging. It is wonderful to know that we can now literally "meet people where they are," and this work is made infinitely more meaningful each Sunday as we "go live" and see a virtual congregation begin to assemble—greeting one another in the chat, asking questions, passing the peace, praying, and sharing the service with others.

St. Bartholomew's Community Preschool

closed as New York City went into lockdown in March, and teachers amazingly offered remote learning for the remainder of the school year. Preschool staff worked all summer devising a strategic plan that would allow the school to reopen safely in September 2020 for in-person learning five days per week. The classes have staggered arrival and dismissal times, and separate entrances to allow for social distancing. All classes operate in a learning pod approach and do not mix with one another. Careful scheduling ensures classes do not pass in the hallway or stairs, and classrooms are cleaned twice a day while the children play on the rooftop playground.

As of February 24, 2021, the school has had only one case of asymptomatic Covid-19, which required one class to learn remotely for seven days. The affected class experienced no other positive cases, which is a testament to the safety protocols currently in place.

While we know things are far from "Normal," the children are not aware of this. They are happy and thriving. They love school and their friends. St. Bart's Preschool celebrates that we have been able to continue to operate safely together!



New air filtration units disinfect the air in preschool classrooms





Raquel Murray
Parish Administrator

Parish Administrator Raquel Murray and her team in the finance department moved into high gear as the Vestry grappled with revising our budget to meet the changing landscape of the pandemic. April and May was spent analyzing budget lines, compiling reports, presenting multiple scenarios for consideration, and the arduous work of completing the application for the PPP Loan. Throughout 2020, they succeeded in keeping our payroll on schedule and invoices paid amidst a challenging time of unpredictable cash flow.

Over the summer Parish Administrator Raquel Murray met weekly with Facilities Director Corey Durney and Human Resources Consultant Cory DiSalvo to develop systems and protocols to ensure the safety of St. Bart's staff and preschool students. Remote access was set up for all employees who were able to work from home, and a daily Covid-19 screening process was put in place for all staff who work in the building. Signs were developed to help everyone adhere to expectations and safety protocols, and hand sanitizer stations were installed at elevator stops on all floors. Air filtration units installed in our preschool classrooms use HEPA filtration and needlepoint bipolar ionization to disinfect the air. Even in our large classrooms (1,000 square feet) the units will turn over the air 7 times per hour. The ionized air that is exhausted from the unit kills viral particles and can even kill viruses on surfaces. These units were installed in each of our five classrooms. We invested \$40,000 in the units and other equipment—because the health and safety of our community is our highest priority.

The facilities staff worked throughout the entire summer in preparation for the reopening of the preschool in September—cleaning, painting, installing new air-conditioners, and new HEPA filtration units. The facilities team are the “front line workers” at St. Bart's, providing security and screening, and meticulously following strict cleaning protocols throughout the day. And when winter storms dumped heavy snow on our sidewalks in December, the facilities team worked through the night to make sure our sidewalks were clear by morning.





Live from St. Barts

Fare Share Friday streaming live from St. Bart's, Friday, November 27, 2020

Justice and Reconciliation ministries at St. Bart's were alive and well thanks to St. Bart's members working to realize God's dream of the beloved community.

The Creation Care Task Force began looking at issues of environmental racism, and continued to explore the role of faith-based organizations in confronting this crisis right here in New York. Our partnership continues with GreenFaith with several task force members meeting regularly on calls to learn more about how we can heal the earth and heal each other.

As part of our ongoing support of **Crossroads Community Services**, St. Bart's was a co-host for the first-ever virtual Fare Share Friday fundraising event, with in-person meals distributed in the narthex. We also worked with Crossroads and their community partners to provide restrooms while Crossroads' facilities were closed.



The LGBTQ+ Community celebrated Pride month online with a Blessing of the Pride Flag liturgy, films on LGBTQ+ immigration issues and transgender issues, a speaker from The Trevor Project, and a “Celebrate Us” video to wrap up the month. We also sponsored and participated in the Trans Day of Remembrance 2020.

St. Tabitha’s Guild met bi-monthly for knitting at a distance and conversation, continuing their work crocheting and knitting afghans and shawls for Crossroads, hats and scarves for the Seamen’s Church Institute, and baby garments and blankets for a young mothers’ shelter in Brooklyn.

St. Bart’s participated in the non-partisan NYC Interfaith Coalition working with **Reclaim Our Vote (ROV)** to combat voter suppression and encourage voter registration in several states. Parishioners did heroic work in postcarding throughout the summer (over 50,000 cards sent from the coalition).



The 20s/30s Group at a socially distanced picnic in Central Park

Blessing of the Pride Flag, Tuesday, June 2, 2020



St. Bart's Staff

Rector The Right Reverend Dean E. Wolfe, D.D.
Parish Administrator Ms. Raquel Murray

Clergy and Pastoral Staff

Associate Rector for Discipleship and Community Life The Reverend Deborah A. Lee
Associate Rector for Formation and Liturgy The Reverend Peter Thompson
Assistant Rector The Reverend Canon Andrew J. W. Mullins *
Assisting Priest The Reverend Clayton Crawley *
Deacon The Reverend Deacon John Wirenius *
Welcome and Parish Life Associate Mr. Manny Rodríguez-Leach
Executive Assistant to Bishop Wolfe Ms. Liz Gillespie

* Non-stipendiary

Music

Organist and Choirmaster Dr. Paolo Bordignon
Administrative Assistant for Music and Music Librarian Mr. Christopher Carter

Stewardship and Development

Interim Coordinator of Stewardship & Development Mr. Michael C. Collins

Communications

Director of Communications Ms. Kara Flannery
Assistant Communications Director Mr. Ben Castellanos
Director, St. Bart's Central and the Bookstore Ms. Veronica Shea

Finance

Senior Accountant Mr. Steven Patterson
Accounting Analyst Ms. Yvette Clement

Administration and Programs

Human Resources Consultant Ms. Cory DiSalvo
Information Technology Manager Ms. Wendy Boyd
Director of Marketing and Events Ms. Heather Bond Bryant
Athletic Facility Coordinator Mr. Barry Warner
Director of Summer Camp Ms. Efthemia Hanakis

Facilities

Director of Facilities Mr. Corey Durney
Engineering Supervisor Mr. James Foure
Director of Maintenance Mr. William Gonzalez
Church Operations Coordinator Mr. Charles Bryant
Engineer Mr. Bhekram Shivprashad
Maintenance Mr. Curtis Bryant, Mr. Tyrone Phillips, Mr. Anthony Thomas
Security and Safety Officer Mr. James Thrapp

Community Preschool

Director Ms. Allison O'Melia
Administrative Director Ms. Petunia Chmiel
Admissions Director Ms. Mary Ponce

Faculty

Ms. Christina Auricchio, Ms. Whitney Civitillo, Ms. Kristen DeVito,
Ms. Tantivy Gubelmann, Ms. Efthemia Hanakis, Ms. Rebekah Herr,
Ms. Vima Joyeux, Ms. Margaret Lewis, Ms. Noreen Navin,
Ms. Louise Perazzo, Ms. Maria Platis, Ms. Jeneane Schmidt,
Ms. Francoise Standaert, Ms. Melissa Van Sant, Ms. Joanne Webb

Vestry

Wardens John B. Gilliland, Liza Page Nelson ◇
Chancellor Peter Sullivan
Assistant Chancellor Douglas Tanner

Christina Brandt-Young
Kathleen Breiten †
Catherine Belford Budd *
Archer Christian Burke
David Lee Carson ‡
Peter B. de Menocal ◇
Rachel Farrar ‡
James Ferrara
Bill Fry
Robert Gutheil
Astrid Horan
J. Patrick Hornbeck II
Mary Robin Jurkiewicz
Mary Krueger ◇
Keith Rook †
Miriam K. Schneider ‡
Craig Simmons ‡
Susannah Wade Lewis ◇
Chantal N. Stevens ◇

* Nominee for Warden 2021

† Nominee for Reelection 2021

‡ First-time Nominee 2021

◇ Concluding January 2021



EVERYBODY NEEDS A PLACE

We invite you to make
this place yours.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

TRANSFORMING LIVES + TRANSFORMING THE CHURCH + TRANSFORMING THE WORLD

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