

Devoting Support ^{to our}

FAITH

Community

STAYING CONNECTED

God's work continues during
the COVID-19 pandemic.

INSIDE

How COVID-19 has
impacted our parish

PLUS

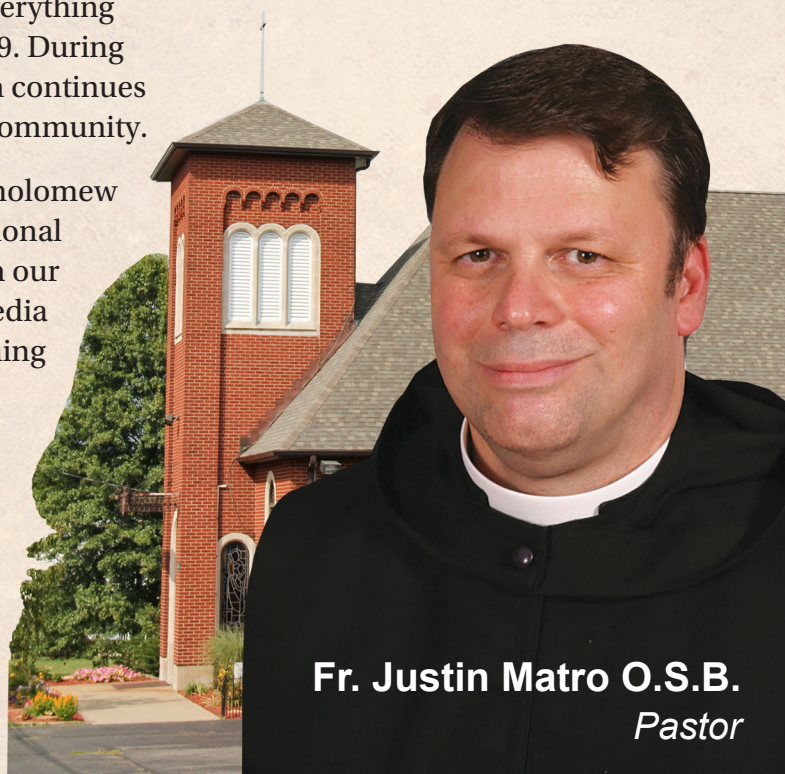
We need you! All the
ways you can be part
of our parish!



Staying Connected During COVID-19

I have been keeping the parishioners of St. Bartholomew in my prayers during this pandemic. I can't even imagine the difficulties you must be facing; balancing family, job, school and everything else that has been made more complicated by COVID-19. During this stress-filled time, I want you to know that our parish continues to care for the spiritual and material needs of our faith community.

Once our church building was closed in March, St. Bartholomew Parish began to stream Masses, devotions and informational updates to our parishioners via our website and through our YouTube Channel. This helped to increase our social media presence. This also offered another outlet for our streaming liturgies and educational opportunities. We created a phone outreach to the homebound and also mailed them our weekly bulletin. We also, once our church building opened, created volunteer cleaning crews to sanitize the church and restrooms after each use.



Fr. Justin Matro O.S.B.
Pastor

Ways You Can Give



St. Bartholomew Church
Box A, 2538 State Route 119
Crabtree, PA 15624



Parish Office Hours
Mon - Thur
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

For collection during weekend Masses, baskets are located in the hall for you to drop your collection envelopes.



www.stbartholomewcrabtree.org

Sadly, as you can imagine, the virus has greatly impacted every form of stewardship. If you are willing to give of your time and talent to help those in need, please look for our ministry listings and contact us to volunteer. Even though we cannot gather as we normally would, this may be an especially good time to consider a ministry in our parish so that when we do begin to gather, you will have an idea of how you want to serve our community of faith.

Additionally, as you might imagine, your continued financial support during this difficult time will help our parish to maintain and to continue God's work. And so, with great sensitivity to whatever your circumstances might be, I humbly ask, if you are able, that you consider an increase in your weekly or monthly offertory. You can make that commitment online or by sending those donations directly to the parish via U.S. Mail or by visiting our website for online offertory.

Giving to our Weekly Collection Online has four simple steps:

1. Go to our parish webpage: www.stbartholomewcrabtree.org
2. Click on the upper right hand corner that says Donate
3. Click "Create Profile"
4. Then you create an account!

COVID-19 and its Impact on our Faith Community

As you are aware, public attendance of Mass was suspended from mid-March until early June. Once the government enforced protective ban was lifted we resumed public celebration of daily Mass in the church, and weekend Masses in Marian Hall, as it is easier to space seats and maintain social distancing in that much large space. About one half of our regular numbers are currently attending regularly, while many prefer to attend online. Some who are rightfully wary of being in large groups due to age or pre-existing conditions, but are otherwise in good health, attend one or more daily Masses during the week, but attend remotely on weekends. As it is critical for your spiritual health to remain in communion with the Church, spiritually if not physically, please make every effort to attend Mass remotely, via television or social media.

Outreach Ministry

While weekly contributions are down, several members have made large donations to assist in these difficult times. Our parish has a wonderfully rich spirit of volunteerism, and this has helped us to supplement collection income, i.e., our weekly Bingo normally produces \$100,000 annually and our festival normally earns \$35,000 to \$50,000 annually.

Happily this year we were able to celebrate our great tradition of devotion to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Unfortunately, the lack of income due to the cancellations of Bingo and the festival is currently making it difficult to meet expenses. Parishioners who are able are encouraged to temporarily increase their weekly offering, or make a one-time larger donation. However, I am working with others to develop a "social distanced" ongoing method to supplement our income. I am not exactly sure what format it will take, but I can assure you that you will be presented with the opportunity to assist when things are finalized!



Parish Statistics



Registered Households



2018: 540
2019: 501
2020: 486

Single Member Households



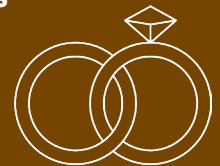
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Baptisms



2018: 13
2019: 19
2020: 6

Weddings



2018: 4
2019: 6
2020: 1

Funerals



2018: 33
2019: 25
2020: 16

Parish Financials

	2018	2019	2020
Offertory	\$ 294,781	\$ 291,136	\$ 269,005
Other Ordinary Income <i>(monthly collections, votive candles)</i>	5,233	7,687	2,527
Extraordinary Income <i>(bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)</i>	151,616	166,721	173,515
Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund	9,664	7,167	2,513
Other Non-Assessable Income <i>(The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements, and PPP Loan)</i>	30,724	52,518	56,737
Special Collections	25,231	24,624	21,238
Total Income	\$ 517,249	\$ 549,853	\$ *525,536
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 131,850	\$ 150,556	\$ 124,330
Church	60,084	33,060	21,935
Rector	26,633	29,574	30,128
Education and Ministry	63,820	61,168	50,883
General Expenses	179,125	168,666	156,567
Special Collections	25,947	25,628	20,878
Extraordinary Expenses	57,136	88,053	100,876
Total Expenditures	544,595	556,704	505,597
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (27,346)	\$ (6,851)	\$ 19,939

*July 2019 until June 2020

Capital Improvements

Your contributions to our parish help to maintain the facility, making it the center of prayer in our community.

Over the last three years, we have completely redone and put new carpeting in the Church, bought a new organ for the choir loft and installed a new security system.



Ministries at Saint Bartholomew

Since the celebration of the Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of the Catholic Church and our parish life, liturgical praise and worship are the primary works of the faithful gathered together in common prayer. Every parishioner, friend and guest of our beloved parish who opens up his or her heart and lifts up his or her voice creates a lovely and lively faith community. Therefore, all parishioners are invited and encouraged to participate in the liturgical ministries of the parish.

Altar Server

Altar servers cross generational lines. They include men and women as well as boys and girls of all ages who assist at weekend liturgies, weddings and funerals, and other special occasion needs.

Music Ministries

There are a number of liturgical music ministries within St. Bartholomew Parish in which interested parishioners may participate.

1. The Schola Cantorum Adult Choir (Ages 16+)
2. The Cantor/Psalmist Program
3. The Resurrection & Matin Choir (Funeral Choir)
4. The Instrumentalist Ministries (Any Instrument)
5. The Youth Choir (Ages 11-15)

To be a member of the cantor or choir ministries, one must have a pleasing voice and the desire to serve the Lord in song. Although the ability to read music is always helpful, it is not necessary in order to be a cantor or a choir member. You will be provided with the necessary training to sing the music of the liturgy. People who play brass, woodwind, string, percussion or keyboard musical instruments and read standard musical notation for those instruments may participate in the many instrumental music ministries, which are available within the church.

Communion Ministers to the Homebound

Communion to the sick and homebound is a ministry dear to the heart and soul of all parishioners who called St. Bartholomew Parish their spiritual and sacramental home. Men and women, as well as the pastor, carry our Blessed Lord present in the Holy Eucharist to the homebound on a weekly and monthly basis. All who cannot attend Mass in the church building should call and register to receive this gift of immense love at home.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Parishioners assist the priest in providing pastoral care to the sick and homebound of the parish. The ministers take Eucharist to the sick whether they are at home, a personal care home or a nursing home.

Lectors

Lectors are also registered parishioners, men and women, who serve the faithful by proclaiming the word of God during the liturgy of the word, and who assist in the proclamation of the prayers of the faithful.

Ushers

Ushers and greeters are registered parishioners, men and women, who provide a valuable service to all. Besides welcoming and seating, these good souls locate restrooms and worship aids, assist with movement within the worship space, and help with emergency services.