

ST BART'S



2016 ANNUAL REPORT

A LETTER FROM THE WARDENS

“Anchors Aweigh”



Anne Adams Rabbino, Warden



Peter M. Kendall, Warden

2016 was another busy year at St. Bart's. After twenty-two months, your wardens are extremely pleased to welcome the Right Reverend Dean Wolfe as our thirteenth rector. The day of our Annual Meeting marks the beginning of his rectorship, and we will be very happy to pass the canonical “baton” to Dean. We are excited and look forward together with the rest of the vestry to supporting him as we meet the challenges of this year and tackle the opportunities of the years ahead.

We want to give special thanks to our search committee led by Co-chairs Mary Krueger and Tim Collins, who guided us through the discernment process that created an outstanding Parish Profile (still available on our website) and eventually resulted in the selection of Dean through the unanimous vote of the vestry. In addition, we'd like to mention the huge contribution of our regular clergy team – Lynn Sanders, Matthew Moretz and Edward Sunderland – who, under the leadership of Interim Rector, Bob Dannals, did a wonderful job of keeping the congregation's spiritual life in the forefront during the transition period from Buddy Stallings to Dean. We also continue to have a really dedicated lay leadership that, together with approximately 75 employees, operates and maintains our church and allows all the activities we offer to take place, from Sunday worship to the preschool, gym and swimming, choirs, gatherings, concerts, lectures and classes, among many others. Thank you all!

Financially, in 2016 we were not able to achieve our stewardship goal of \$2.76 million, missing our target by around 8%. As was the case in 2015, we made up some of the shortfall through above-budget performance of other revenue streams, such as the church and the Community House rentals, so that our total revenue shortfall was only 3%. Most of our expenses came in on or below budget, and we did not fill some open management positions until the end of the year, so overall operating income remained in the black. Achieving that result was based on the careful stewardship of our financial resources by our management team and the continuing generosity of major donors who have supported St. Bart's year in and year out. Thank you!

Ending both 2015 and 2016 with modest surpluses is a good result in transition years, but as we renew our call to mission under Dean's leadership, we need many parishioners to increase their giving in 2017 and beyond to support important ministries of this vibrant parish. We hope that our congregation will grow and attract new members, but we also hope that all of us who are here now to welcome Dean will be inspired to increase our giving.

As most of you know, at the end of 2015, we ended our parish capital campaign of over \$6 million to refurbish our landmarked buildings. In 2016 we completed the reroofing of the main nave and transept. In June, we began the largest capital project in over fifty years at St. Bart's, the refurbishment of our iconic dome. It is difficult to see what is going on through all the scaffolding and construction work,

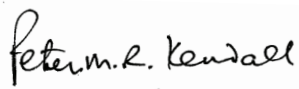
but we are pleased to report that the work has proceeded well and is on time and on budget. The new layers of waterproofing are currently being laid; the cleaned stone ribs will be shortly reinstalled; the new tiles will be arriving from the upstate manufacturer in March, and installation is expected over the spring. We expect the total project will be finished by this fall. In addition, the celestial rank of the largest pipe organ in New York has been removed for refurbishment while the dome work was under way and will be reinstalled later this year after that work has finished. We will continue with our building restoration work most notably repair and refurbishing of the southern façade of the Community House, part of which will start shortly. The maintenance and rehabilitation of our buildings is a continuous and relentless process, which is supported in part by funds raised through the St. Bartholomew's Conservancy chaired by Carole Bailey French. The Conservancy raised over \$2 million last year to provide the church with the funds to undertake restoration and repair of the exterior of our buildings.

Another milestone in 2016 was the passing of the Rev. Bruce Forbes, whose life was celebrated with a memorial service last fall where the Rev. Tom Bowers preached and remembered some of the highlights of the over fifty years of service that Bruce gave to St. Bart's; he will certainly live on in the memories of those who knew him so well. Another transition is the retirement of Anne Rabbino, who has spent eight years as co-warden and has seen several years of change and challenges, including the devastating financial shock of 2008 and the retirement of two rectors. This will be her last Annual Meeting as warden as she hands over her responsibilities to Liza Page Nelson. We also say "goodbye" as a vestry member to Michael Duffy, who has completed two three-year terms, and thank him for his commitment, energy and thoughtful deliberation he brought to vestry meetings and activities.

Finally, we have a lot to be thankful for in 2016; in many ways, we have grown stronger as a parish because individual members stepped up to take responsibilities and roles that were needed during our years of transition. Despite some stewardship headwinds, we were able to hold the financial ship together and undertake some remarkable projects such as the dome refurbishment. As Dean picks up the reins, we know that he has the competency and capability to lead this large enterprise. More importantly, we see him building on the spiritual and pastoral strengths of a long line of rectors and with our help will be able to craft a vision for St. Bart's that will excite us all and in his words "light our hearts on fire".



Anne Adams Rabbino



Peter M. R. Kendall



A LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

*For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers,
nor things present, nor things to come, nor height,
nor depth, nor any other creature,
shall be able to separate us from the love of God,
which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 8:38-39



The Right Reverend Dean E. Wolfe, Rector

Dear Friends,

There has never been a time when the parish church has been more crucial to the lives of individuals, or has had more opportunities to play a crucial role in public life. I am honored and humbled to serve as the rector at Saint Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in such a time. As a bishop of the Church, it feels like I am returning to the field at precisely the right moment. A member of the Search Committee with whom I met described St. Bart's as, "an aspirational parish" and that phrase has resonated with me. I understand it to mean St. Bart's holds high and holy objectives. It means St. Bart's has a higher purpose.

In an outstanding sermon preached at Christ Church, Alexandria, John Elbridge Hines, 22nd presiding bishop of The Episcopal Church, suggested some parishes are like some people.

- Some are timid and have lost their nerve.
- Others are living off the triumphs of the past, but have little nerve to engage the future.
- Still others are shallow, with a lot of exterior glow, but little intellectual, emotional or spiritual substance.
- And then, he said;
- *"Some parishes, like some people, are monumental in their strength and sensitivity and dedication. They exude an aliveness and vitality that derives from the cultivation of strong and valid convictions, coupled with compassionate courage. Such parishes are forever **questing**, and they are **unafraid of what their questing, in the name of Jesus Christ, is bound to encounter.**"*

Aspirational parishes are always questing and they remain unafraid of what their questing is bound to encounter. They quest with holy urgency and seek the deepest purposes without fear or hesitation. Great parishes are always searching and they remain remarkably unafraid of what they will finally discover.

Today, we begin a long journey together.
Today, we begin a great and courageous quest.

In Christ,

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



Christmas Eve 2016

2016 PARISH MINISTRIES ANNUAL REPORT

The Reverend Lynn C. Sanders, *Chief of Parish Ministries*

STAFF

Under the leadership of our interim rector, the Rev. Dr. Bob Dannals, Parish Ministries staff responsibilities were re-balanced for the areas of adult formation, liturgy, and parish life. The Rev. Matthew Moretz, David Bryan, and Manny Rodríguez readily stepped into their new roles and took on new challenges, assisted by coaching from colleagues with experience in those areas. These changes have enabled Parish Ministries to work more productively, sustainably, and joyfully as a team.

Bob Dannals also formed excellent search committees to fill the long-vacant, critical positions of director of communications and director of giving. Happily, the dedicated work of those committees brought to our staff Kara Flannery as director of communications in mid-October and Meighan Corbett as director of giving in late November. Both Kara and Meighan made immediate positive impact and have quickly become valued staff colleagues. Together, the Parish Ministries staff's re-balancing and Kara's and Meighan's coming on board have strengthened St. Bart's entire staff considerably. As a staff, we continue to work on improving inter-departmental communications.

A memorial service was held at St. Bart's on October 5 to celebrate the life of the Rev. Bruce Forbes, who served as associate rector at St. Bart's for over 50 years. Following his (second) retirement in March 2015, Bruce continued worshipping at St. Bart's (10th row, pulpit side) and enjoying NYC life until his death on May 31. At Bruce's memorial service, Bishop Andrew Dietsche presided, Bishop Allen Shin participated, and the Rev. Tom Bowers, tenth rector of St. Bart's, preached. The service was well attended by a number of other former St. Bart's clergy and parishioners, both past and present.

In December, we bid a fond farewell to Bob and Valerie Dannals, with deep gratitude for their ministry among us. Their leadership, presence and friendship during St. Bart's interim time were important gifts to our parish—and to our next rector.

With the announcement on November 13 of the election of Bishop Dean Wolfe as St. Bart's next rector, the staff joined with St. Bart's vestry and search committee in preparing for Dean and Ellen's arrival. We were excited to welcome Dean and Ellen for a "preview" visit on January 8, 2017, and look forward to having them with us full time on February 5.

The Reverend Robert S. Dannals, *Interim Rector*



ADULT FORMATION

In 2016, thanks to Bob Dannals' invitations, St. Bart's congregations enjoyed the inspiring preaching of several Sunday guest preachers. The Rev. Dr. James Forbes, Jr., senior minister emeritus at the Riverside Church, preached on May 15. The Rev. William McD. Tully, St. Bart's eleventh rector, preached on September 11. Mr. Tully and Senator George Mitchell also led the 10 am forum that morning. On January 11, 2017, Rabbi Angela Buchdahl, senior rabbi of Central Synagogue, preached at the 11 am service and taught in the 10 am Forum. All of these sermons and teachings were received with great acclaim.

In 2016, we were again delighted to be able to offer an evening class series taught by Dr. Patrick Hornbeck, St. Bart's parishioner and chair of Fordham University's Theology Department. Always an engaging and popular teacher, Patrick's fall class *The Politics of Church and "State"* explored the relationship between the church and the political order throughout the history of Christianity—an especially timely offering amidst our country's contentious election season. Each of this series' four classes drew a record attendance of about 50 people.

In winter 2016, St. Bart's hosted its second offering of "Money Made Simple," a five-evening series designed to promote financial literacy through teaching on credit and debt management, financial planning for studies/careers/housing, keys to successful investment, and planning for later life.

After much experimentation, in 2016 we finally found what appears to be an optimum time and location for adult classes: Mondays in Room 33 from 7 pm to 8:30 pm. We are continuing this format in 2017, with spring and fall series already scheduled.

**KEEP ON DOING
THE THINGS THAT
YOU HAVE LEARNED
AND RECEIVED
AND HEARD
AND SEEN IN ME,
AND THE GOD OF PEACE
WILL BE WITH YOU.**

PHILIPPIANS 4:9

Three series of EXPLORE classes (especially appropriate for newcomers/inquirers, but open to all) were offered in 2016 in winter, spring and fall. These classes fed into two Welcome Sundays (spring and fall), at which 25 new members were welcomed into the St. Bart's community during the 11 am service, with a festive reception following.

Our Sunday Forums continued virtually every week, with a variety of speakers, featuring a number of noted speakers/teachers both from within St. Bart's parish and from outside. Of particular note was the Advent series "The Nativity Narratives," led by Dr. Larry Welborn, professor of New Testament at Fordham University.

St. Bart's two Education for Ministry (EfM) groups continued solidly, as did our two Wednesday Bible Study groups and our Sunday Living Christ Sangha. Each of these groups is an important spiritual community within the larger St. Bart's community.

Two new meditation programs, a Reiki Healing Circle and Candlelit Yoga, were launched on an experimental basis. Both have been well received and will likely continue on past their stated completion dates. We continued to offer our six ongoing weekly meditation practices: Meditation Mondays, iRest®—Yoga Nidra, Yoga, Tai-Chi, Centering Prayer, and the Living Christ Sangha, with steady or growing attendance in most.

St. Bart's Grief Group, led by parishioner Betsy Scott, LCSW, a licensed family therapist and grief counselor and ordained interfaith minister, offered two six-week series (spring and fall). Our Dream Group, led by parishioner Annette Thies, spiritual director and dream coach since 1997, met regularly through the winter and spring, took a break during fall, and is resuming meetings in winter 2017.

The Reverend Lynn C. Sanders teaching the EXPLORE Class



9/11 Service, the Reverend Bill Tully preaching



CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

This past year CYF engaged two consultants for an evaluation and dreaming process to help us see where we have come from, what we are doing, and look to the future by formulating a series of concrete steps to move forward. In 2017, we aim to grow our parent involvement, increase our Sunday school offerings, and create more opportunities for parents to engage with each other and with experts in the parenting field.

In May 2016, we held our first youth-led service in many years. St. Bart's youth served in all aspects of that 9 am service; our excellent youth preachers, Taeron Hamlett and Kaelin Thomas-Suh, shared with us what unity can actually look like.

In fall 2016, we experimented with making three 9 am services especially family-friendly, calling them "Family Services." St. Bartholomew's Boy and Girl Choristers helped lead the service music. Young people read scripture and served as acolytes. At the Eucharist all young people were invited to join the priest at the table to help celebrate. Families then streamed up to the third floor for food and fellowship. Then kids went into their Sunday school rooms, while parents had a time of their own learning, led by Julie Ross, longtime parishioner and parenting expert.

During school breaks and holidays, we were especially delighted and proud to welcome back many of St. Bart's former youth leaders who are now away at boarding school and college.

PARISH LIFE

During 2016, 26 people became baptized members of St. Bart's, and another 25 were welcomed into the St. Bart's community during our two Welcome Sundays. At Bishop Stacy Sauls' visitation on May 15, ten people were confirmed, six were received, and three reaffirmed their faith.

In his new role, Associate for Welcome, Parish Life & Stewardship Manny Rodríguez has reinvigorated presence at the Welcome Table and follow-up with newcomers.

We continue to seek better ways for integrating both new and existing parishioners into the life of St. Bart's, and for reaching out beyond our doors to the community at large.

On September 18, St. Bart's offered for the first time in many years the "Bartholomew Fair," a back-to-church fair, a time for fellowship, fun and re-connection featuring the many parish ministries and groups, with photo booth, bouncy castle and refreshments.

Special parish fellowship time was offered at coffee hour each Sunday, and at special festive receptions such as those following the Easter Vigil and Advent Lessons and Carols services. In 2016, we instituted a "Shrove Sunday" coffee hour following the 11 am service on the last Sunday before Lent, in place of a more traditional Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras dinner on the night before Ash Wednesday.

Manny and a group of dedicated parishioners assumed responsibility for St. Bart's Christmas décor this year. The results, which received much positive

feedback, were gorgeous and strictly within budget. A similar plan is in place for decorating the church for Easter, with goals of enhancing our already beautiful space with elegant, festive decorations for less cost, while also providing more opportunities for fellowship and for talented parishioners to offer their gifts.

Building on efforts begun several years ago, St. Bart's fledgling Flower Guild has launched! A group of dedicated parishioners led by Sally Armstrong and guided by Manny will create altar arrangements on approximately ten significant Sundays during 2017.

St. Bart's many affinity/fellowship groups continued meeting regularly. The 20's/30's group met for monthly brunch, and gathered throughout the year for potluck dinners, picnic and museum outings, as well as joining and hosting other church groups from the Diocese of New York for social events.

NOW THERE ARE
VARIETIES OF GIFTS,
BUT THE SAME SPIRIT

1 CORINTHIANS 12:4

Family service on Christmas Eve



Confirmation on May 15





Welcome reception with new members and Manny Rodríguez (far right)



Boy and Girl Choristers

The 40s/50s Plus group met monthly for brunch, as did the LGBTQ Fellowship. The LGBTQ group also sponsored St. Bart's participation in the Pride March on June 26 and an annual Christmas gathering.

St. Bart's Garden Guild out-did themselves in making our outside gardens on Park Avenue, 3rd floor terrace, and in the garth flourish beautifully year-round.

St. Bart's Movie Group, Mindful Eating Group, and Cursillo Group continued their regular meetings, as did St. Bart's Chapter of Episcopal Peace Fellowship (EPF). EPF also offered special initiatives through the year, such as their January 15, 2017 interfaith prayers for peace reception held at St. Bart's. Over 40 people of diverse religions, races and ethnicities attended.

PASTORAL

The Rev. Deacon John Wirenius and the Rev. Lynn Sanders collaborated to form a new Eucharistic Visitor team for St. Bart's. Twelve parishioners were trained and licensed by the Diocese of New York to assist St. Bart's clergy in visiting and bringing communion to parishioners who are unable to attend services. During 2017, we plan for this group to be formally commissioned during a Sunday service, equipped with further resources for this ministry, and begin making Eucharistic visits.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

With David Bryan in the new role of liturgy coordinator, and with the dedicated, cheerful teamwork week in and week out of our ushers, altar guild, lay ministers and welcome committee (about 200 people in all), St. Bart's liturgies seem to be running more smoothly than ever. We continue to recruit and train new lay leaders for the various roles in our services.

From September through early June, our youth acolytes and youth vergers serve each Sunday in the 9 am liturgy, as well as at other special services during the year, such as Easter and Christmas. St. Bart's continues to be particularly fortunate in our youth vergers, who lead us all (even the clergy!) with admirable awareness, grace, and poise.

During 2016, St. Bart's again offered about 850 regular worship services —16 each week, plus special services for Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, and Christmas. Easter services drew 2,000 people, while Christmas services drew 2,500. In addition to our worship services, we held 13 weddings, 2 renewal of vows ceremonies, and 15 funerals/memorial services. All were offered with St. Bart's customary excellence and "elegance without stuffiness."

All three of St. Bart's Choirs are thriving. St. Bartholomew's Boy and Girl Choristers have experienced major growth since the institution of the Junior Choir two years ago, feeding many new singers into the program. In addition to their participation

in the Joyous Christmas Concert, Summer Festival, and annual appearance at the Twelfth Night Party at the Lotos Club, the Choristers annually host over 50 guest singers from the Tri-State area in a spring choral festival conducted by Gordon Atkinson from Perth, Australia, which will be repeated this coming May. The Choristers' principal future initiatives will raise funds for their residency at Exeter Cathedral, UK in the summer of 2018. Plans for this include a Chorister recording and concert in February 2017.

St. Bart's Singers continues to grow with new faces, wonderful new singers and many additions to their already large repertoire, participating in over 60 services a year, including the Summer Festival of Sacred Music and the Spring Choral Festival.

St. Bartholomew's Choir has experienced changes in personnel with exceptional singers being welcomed into the ensemble. Repertoire for the group continues to grow, especially with recent additions of works by Janáček and Ešenvalds. The choir will also sing Arvo Pärt's *Passio* in April as part of The Great Music Series.

Important work on St. Bartholomew's organs is being completed by the Foley~Baker Organ Co., the present curators of the organs. In conjunction with the restoration of the dome, the celestial organ (in the dome) is being completely restored at the Foley~Baker factory in Tolland, CT and will be reinstalled upon completion of the dome project.

MMPAF

The Mid-Manhattan Performing Art Foundation (MMPAF), under the leadership of Kathryn McKenzie, has had a very successful 2015-2016 season presenting the Great Music Series of Concerts. In 2015, the board of directors made a decision to focus its programming into concerts of early music and new music with performances by cutting edge ensembles and performers such as Third Sound and John Zorn. That decision has reaped important benefits including an increased MMPAF presence in the press in the last year. The holiday favorites have remained a part of the mix however, with last December's Joyous Christmas Concert attracting a record-breaking attendance. In May of 2017, MMPAF, in conjunction with Goodspeed & Bach, will sponsor a tour of Germany, visiting the towns and cities where J. S. Bach thrived as a church musician. The tour will be led by St. Bart's parishioner William Fulton along with William Trafka, who will play Bach's organ works in the churches for which they were most likely composed.

CROSSROADS

The Crossroads Community board, staff, volunteers, and other constituents continued to manage and support the programs which started out as the Community Ministry of St. Bartholomew's Church. The Haas Fund of St. Bart's now provides 25% of the income which supports the programs of Crossroads. The board continued its growth this year with our second United Way grant and anticipates further growth in 2017.

Highlights from 2016 include:

The third annual Fare Share Friday was held, with The Intercontinental Hotel and the Hilton Midtown joining the Waldorf, Palace Hotels, and the Four Seasons Hotel to provide the elegant feast.

The soup kitchen provided 87,515 prepared meals.

The shelter was open 365 nights, and 15 of the women from the shelter moved into permanent housing.

The pantry provided groceries to replace 102,249 meals.

PRESCHOOL AND SUMMER CAMP

Our St. Bartholomew's Preschool enjoyed strong enrollment in the fall of 2016 with 67 students in our 2-5 year classes and another 25 children attending our playgroup program (16-29 months). The school offers an enriched, nurturing program that includes dance/movement, chapel, library, music and swimming. Afterschool activities offered include science, math, art, cooking, french, and tennis. The school community also raised funds which were used to renovate our third floor bathrooms, upgrade lighting in the third floor and basement hallways, and resurface our rooftop playground. After 44 years, the school continues to be a nurturing place where a love of learning is fostered.

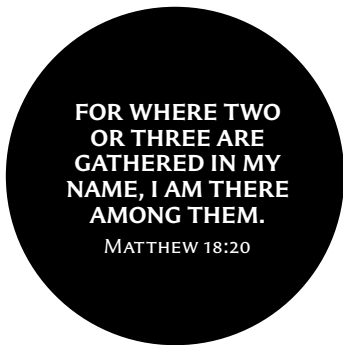
Summer camp had another successful year! The campers enjoyed the traditional and daily instructional swimming, sports in the gym, arts and crafts, dance and movement, roof top playground, as well as weekly cooking classes. This summer's campers were also the first to experience weekly fun in the camp's very own bouncy house, as well as visits from the Animal Farm, a magician, a clown and a puppeteer. As for the adventure campers, they continued to explore the city by attending a variety of fun trips, including a Yankee game, Rye Playland and Chocolate Works.

Joyous Christmas Concert on December 12



Crossroads Community Fare Share Friday on November 24





STAFF

Rector The Right Reverend Dean E. Wolfe

CLERGY AND PASTORAL STAFF

Chief of Parish Ministries The Reverend Lynn C. Sanders

Director of Community Ministry The Reverend Edward M. Sunderland

Associate Rector The Reverend Matthew J. Moretz

Deacon The Reverend J.D. Clarke

Deacon The Reverend John Wirenius

Executive Assistant to the Rector Millard Cook

Interim Director of Children, Youth and Family Patrick Bergquist

Liturgy Coordinator David Bryan

Welcome, Parish Life & Stewardship Manny Rodríguez

MUSIC

Organist and Director of Music William K. Trafka

Associate Director of Music Director of the Choristers Jason Roberts

Curator of the Organ Doug Hunt

Music Librarian Christopher Carter

STEWARDSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

Director of Giving Meighan Corbett

COMMUNICATIONS

Director of Communications Kara Flannery

Assistant Communications Director Ben Castellanos

Printing and Mailing Services Eddie Gagli

FINANCE

Director of Finance Raquel Murray

Senior Accountant Steven Patterson

Accounting Analyst Yvette Clement

Accounts Receivable Associate June Constant

ADMINISTRATION AND PROGRAMS

Human Resources Manager Novlette Stephenson

Information Technology Manager Wendy Boyd

Director of St. Bart's Central and Bookstore Veronica Shea

Assistant, St. Bart's Central Polina Nikolova

Director of Marketing and Events Heather Bond Bryant

Athletic Facility Coordinator Natalie Palmer

Athletic Facility Office Manager Nicole Jaquez

Athletic Facility Director of Logistics Eric Tsang

Director of Summer Camp Eileen Lamb

Assistant Director, Summer Camp Maria Hanakis

FACILITIES

Director of Facilities Corey Durney

Chief Engineer Charles Bryant

Engineer Brian Dixon

Director of Maintenance William Gonzalez

Maintenance: Renato Galang, Curtis Bryant, Jeremias Hipol,

Letroy Lowery, Tyrone Phillips

Church Operations John Kilfoyle

Security and Safety Officer James Thrapp

COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

Director Allison O'Melia

Administrative Director Petunia Chmiel

Admissions Director Mary Ponce

Faculty: Whitney Civitillo, Linda Cortes, Caroline Drew, Karen DaSilva, Jennifer Hartman, Efthemia Hanakis, Eileen Lamb, Margaret Lewis, Sarah Nickerson, Louise Perazzo, Jeneane Schmidt, Francoise Standaert, Melissa Wilson-Van Sant, Newell Zelarayan, Ruth Zelarayan



EVERYBODY
NEEDS
A PLACE

ST BART'S

325 PARK AVENUE
AT 51ST STREET
212-378-0222
CENTRAL@STBARTS.ORG
STBARTS.ORG



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