



*The Parish Church of
St. Bartholomew the Apostle*
PARISH PROFILE



Dear Candidate,

Warm greetings from The Parish Church of St. Bartholomew the Apostle (lovingly known as St. Bart's) located in the beautiful mountain town of Estes Park, Colorado. We extend to you a invitation to learn about our vibrant community. At the heart of its identity, St. Bart's champions the belief that God's love is boundless, embracing everyone regardless of where they find themselves on their journey of faith.

We are a parish family with a history of almost 70 years. We are small enough to know and care for each other. There is love present in our joyful celebrations and in our times of sorrow. While our recent life together at St. Bart's has been made difficult by the pandemic and the ultimate retirement of our well-respected rector, we are focused and excited about the future. In the words of our interim priests, "It's nice to be in a parish where there is a lot of joy!" (Fr. Peter) and "You all are a good group! You love each other and take care of one another." (Fr. Max). We believe in the transformative power of God's love and grace, which calls us to live out our faith in action, both within our parish walls and in the wider community around us.

We recently completed a parish survey with Holy Cow! Consulting. What the data told us are that we are an older congregation (96% over the age of 55), we are well-educated (53% of us have a graduate degree and 89% of us are college graduates), and we are ministry-focused. We are lifelong learners yearning for ways to grow spiritually, both as individuals and as a parish. Because we are a strong, capable group, we often find ourselves doing too much, often without focus. We are looking for a strategic leader who can sharpen our focus and empower us to serve. We are seeking a priest who can rebuild our sense of peaceful contentment in our church life and entrust our lay leadership to create more opportunities for learning and fellowship.

We ask that you read our parish profile with mind, heart, and soul open to our call, gaining a deep understanding of who we are as a parish and the Estes Valley community.

Love in Christ,
The Parish Church of St. Bartholomew the Apostle Search Committee



Dear God, We ask you to be present with us as we do our work.

We are seeking...

**The qualities we seek in a rector fall into three categories:
Teacher, Shepherd, and Leader**

Teacher

The type of teacher St. Bart's seeks is an individual deeply committed to guiding and nurturing the spiritual growth of our congregation. They must possess a profound ability to communicate theological concepts in a manner that resonates with people, fostering a deeper connection with God and one another. The ideal candidate will have a passion for lifelong learning, both as a teacher and a student of faith, demonstrating an eagerness to engage with the latest in theological research while honoring the rich traditions of our church. Because our parish has such a strong drive for ministry, we often forget to take care of our own spiritual life. We are looking for a teacher that will give us space to be vulnerable, time to look deeply within, and guidance in how to connect our faith to all aspects of our lives.

Shepherd

Due to the popularity of Estes Park as a retirement community, we have a large percentage of parishioners over 60 who do not have children at home. Our members need support, especially in dealing with health concerns, issues of aging, and spiritual guidance. The ideal candidate will have a deeply rooted faith and be adept at fostering meaningful relationships within the congregation, encouraging and nurturing the spiritual growth and participation of each member. We are in need of a pastoral leader who listens compassionately and keenly and can nimbly intercede for those of us who are suddenly in need of pastoral care and guidance. We seek a rector who is a good listener, with an eagerness to be part of our lives, offering guidance out of personal experience, and full of warmth, compassion, humility and humor.



To me, the "greatest strength" of St. Bart's is two-fold; the liturgy and the people. I draw such strength from both. I have been an Episcopalian for some 60+ years, and it still inspires me to attend a service. But, too, the people in the church are friends, and sharing with them on a Sunday is heart-warming. They, too, inspire me.

– Shirley S.

Let us be imbued with the Holy Spirit, as we discern next steps.

Leader

We are searching for a strategic leader who is skilled in navigating the delicate balance between maintaining our cherished traditions and embracing new opportunities for growth and outreach. Their leadership style should be characterized by an ability to identify lay person strengths, empower lay persons to act, while collaborating and delegating to ensure that our church remains a vibrant, inclusive, and spiritually nourishing place for all. A commitment to developing and implementing strategies that welcome new members is crucial, as is a talent for preaching that connects deeply with people's lives. As our ministry and spiritual lives become more focused and enriched, so we must grow our generosity to and responsible stewardship for St. Bart's.

If you are a priest who is a lifelong learner, a deep thinker, has the heart of a teacher, is curious and self-aware, and are able to take on the mantles of shepherd, teacher, and leader, St. Bart's is waiting for you.

When I first visited St. Bart's, I was struck by the spiritual vibration in both the church and the service. I felt that it was form of expression of Christian faith that I had been seeking for so long without even knowing it.

-Sarasvati S.

St. Bart's has been my church-home-of-my-heart for over thirty years. I worship here because in this special space I feel loved by my parish family and by God. These people are my extra-family and I cherish my time with them. When I am absent, I miss St. Bart's so much!

- Ginger H.

I visited St. Bartholomew's in 1981 when my friends Corky and Muns Munson invited me to church. They said, « Come and see... »

- John B.

I come to St. Bart's because of the liturgy and because of the more liberal attitude of the Episcopal Church. Going to Sunday service each week is the one place where I am happy to be where I am in the moment. I am not thinking of what I need to do or places I need to go.

- Karen D.

Our task is to seek the knowledge, hopes, dreams, and needs of our

Worship

Currently, we gather for worship at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays. Because we have been served by interim and supply priests for the past year, we combined the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services to one at 9:00 a.m. Some parishioners attend Wednesday evening Compline held at 8:00 p.m. via Zoom. We would also like to resume the Wednesday 10:00 a.m. worship service. Until 2020, members of the parish family were provided an opportunity for Saturday late afternoon worship in the summer. These informal worship gatherings included contemporary music, were well-attended, and were followed by fellowship.

Throughout the year, we have special times of worship and celebration, and many are well-loved St. Bart's traditions, such as St. Bartholomew's Day. On the nearest Sunday we hold a parish picnic after the service.

It takes many dedicated individuals to make the Sunday-to-Sunday schedule function smoothly. Ushers welcome guests and parishioners before services, the Altar Guild sets and clears the altar and prepares the vestments for every service, Chalice Bearers and other altar servers assist the priest during the liturgy. Ushers, Lectors, and Coffee Hour Hosts are organized monthly. During the pandemic, worship was held via Zoom, and then YouTube, with the Host available for delivery. The parish family is thankful to be able to worship in-person again.

Sunday School for children has not restarted since the 2020 shutdown. We have had interim and supply priests during the last year who have provided limited spiritual formation classes for adults. St. Bart's has many Lay Sunday School teachers who can lend their knowledge and leadership to help re-build both the children's and adult Sunday School programs.

RETIRED AND ASSOCIATED CLERGY ATTENDING ST. BART'S

The Rev. Robert Burger, Retired Episcopal

**The Rev. Robert Franken, deacon, Retired
Episcopal**

The Rev. Donald Goodheart, Retired Episcopal

The Rev. Bob Hector, Retired Episcopal

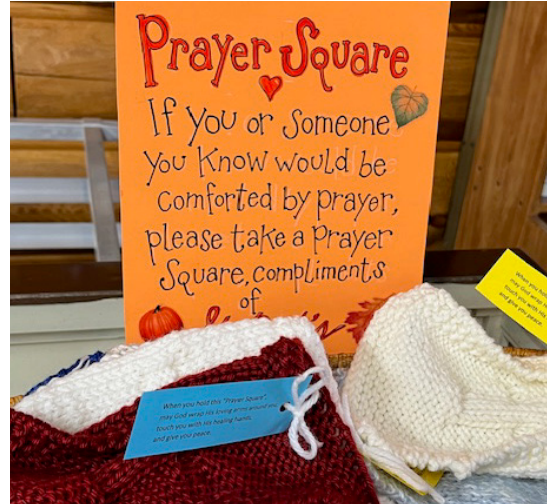


parish family. Dear God, touch the heart of each of us to open

Lay Ministries

WOMEN OF ST. BART'S

The Women of St. Bart's joyfully take responsibility for parish events, including coffee hours, fundraising, receptions, and fellowship activities. Fundraisers include garage sales, bake sales, and art sales. The funds raised enable the group to contribute to local, national, and world needs. Additionally, the Women's Evening Guild keeps an extensive prayer list for the parish. Estes Park is a wedding destination and St. Bart's was a facility frequently used for wedding services. We are interested in re-initiating this wonderful ministry.



DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

St. Clare of Assisi Order of Daughters of the King began at St. Bartholomew's in 2003 and meets twice a month. They have an active prayer shawl ministry and give shawls as an outreach to those in need of comfort and solace both within our community as well as nationally.

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group meets once a month in the Parish Hall for spiritual devotion, lunch, and fellowship. They sponsor a number of annual events including the parish picnic in August and they support the women's group in many of their fundraisers. Funds raised by the member donated lunches are given as outreach opportunities in the parish and community.

DIVINE DINERS

A gathering of parishioners in homes for small potluck dinners and fellowship resumed post-pandemic in the fall of 2023. The resumption of these small gatherings in parishioners' homes has been well received.

CURSILLO

Many of our parish members have attended a Cursillo weekend. While there are several Fourth Day reunion groups in the Estes Park area, Cursillo as a program within the Diocese of Colorado has been suspended.

our ears to hear the words that are not said, to open our eyes to see

Outreach

Research and the medical community encourage fun social activities for all of us as we age, especially for those with memory loss. With consideration for this concern, St. Bart's initiated **The Memory Café** in 2018 as a community outreach service. The Memory Cafe is a stress-free social gathering for community members who are experiencing memory loss due to any form of dementia as well as their caregivers, spouses, or friends. We stimulate engagement, attention, and memory retention by enjoying coffee/snacks, conversation, singing, and sharing remembrances through games and activities. Additionally, we work to support caregivers by cultivating connections and friendship.

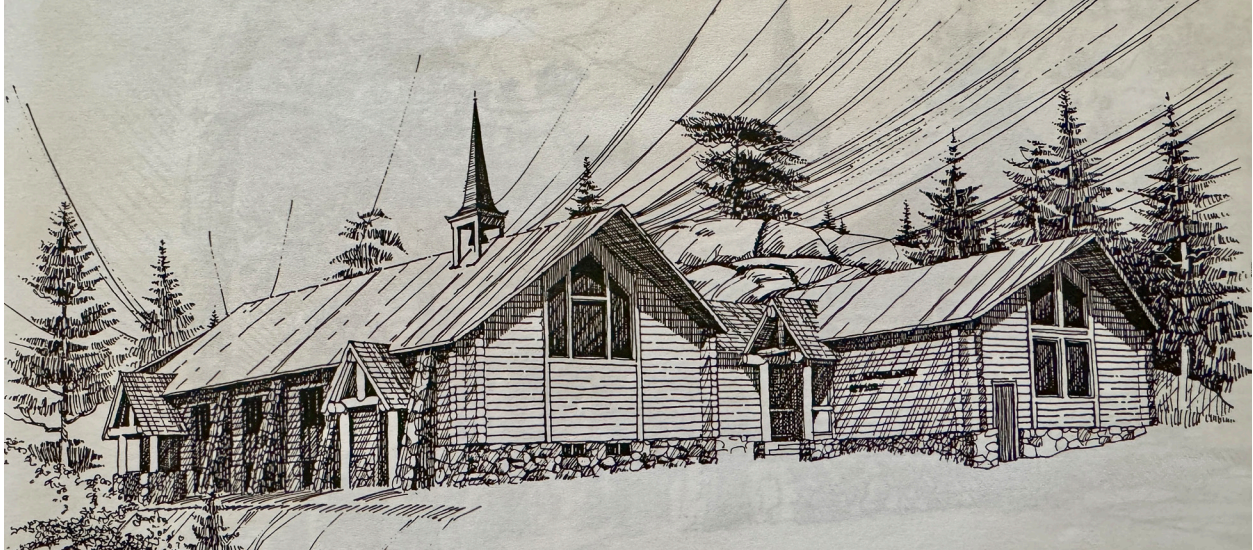
St. Bart's is the founder and continues to give support for **Crossroads**, our community food bank and supplier of short term aid for those in need. Crossroads began as a St. Bart's outreach project and has grown to a vital organization with its own building and staff. St. Bart's provides volunteers as well as annual financial support. We also provide financial and volunteer support for several nonprofits, including **Locally Haiti, Boys & Girls Club, Breakfast Buddies, Rotary scholarships, the Estes Valley Land Trust, and the Estes Park Education Foundation.** St. Bart's participates in **Bright Christmas**, a community effort to provide for needy families and children at Christmas and throughout the year. During the pandemic we established a **Broadcast Ministry** that continues today. We broadcast Sunday services weekly as well as special services and funerals. The broadcasts recorded and archived on YouTube. This ministry provides year-round connection to our seasonal members.

The church is available to groups from the community. **AL-Anon** and **Alcoholics Anonymous** hold weekly meetings in our undercroft, and the **Riverside Ramblers Jazz Band** practices weekly in the Parish Hall. Many local non-profit organizations such as **The Art Center of Estes Park/Plein Aire Painters** and **local HOAs** use our Parish Hall on an as-needed basis.



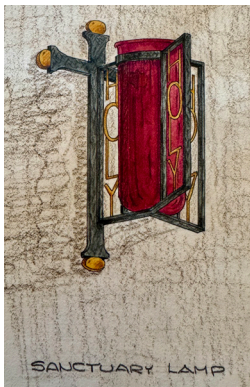
what is not written, to open our sense of touch to feel what can't be

Our History



Episcopal Church services began in the Estes Valley during the summer in 1925. In 1955, a petition for an organized mission was submitted to the Diocese. On December 29, 1955, the Bishop of the Diocese of Colorado granted the congregation mission status, giving it the name of St. Bartholomew's Chapel. Excavation for the building began in September of 1957.

The first services in the new chapel were celebrated on Sunday, May 25, 1958. The chapel was dedicated on August 24, 1958, St. Bartholomew's patronal feast day.



- In 1974 an addition was built on the southeast corner of the chapel to provide space for the vicar's office and better storage areas.
- St. Bart's was elevated to parish status on September 10, 1975.
- In the early 1990's, the parish embarked upon a successful capital campaign and built the current parish hall and additional office space.
- Ten years later, another successful capital campaign raised funds to remodel the undercroft to provide a bride's dressing room, a multi-purpose meeting room, nursery, small kitchen, additional restrooms, storage, and an additional office.

Private donations contributed to the purchase of a pipe organ built by the Buzard Pipe Organ Builders of Champaign, Illinois. It was installed during March, 2004, and was heard for the first time on Palm Sunday of that year. The organ consists of 17 ranks of pipes across two manuals and pedals. The technicians said that the organ is exactly perfect for our church.

expressed. Awaken in us the reality that you are always present in

Our Facilities

The Parish Church of St. Bartholomew the Apostle is a log and stone structure nestled in a picturesque rocky setting on two acres. A natural stream runs in front of it and majestic rock out-croppings rise behind it. It is surrounded by pine trees and aspen. Behind the church is the churchyard, a peaceful place for contemplation or a meditative walk through our simple labyrinth. A garden of wildflowers graces the area adjacent to the columbarium and a children's playground is nearby.

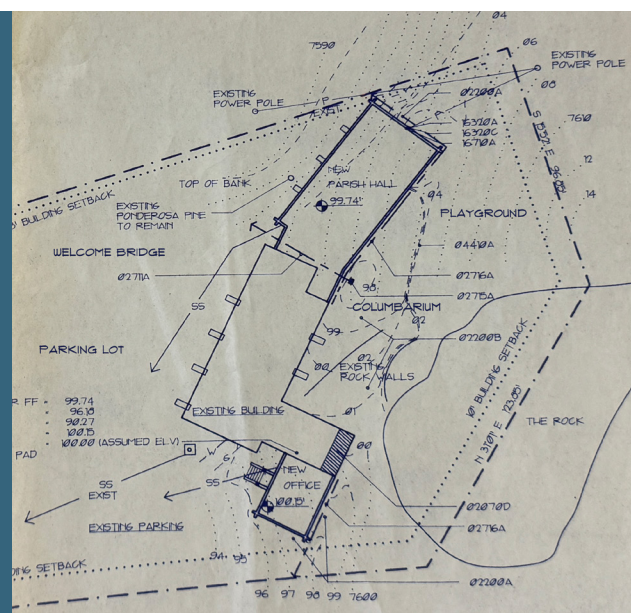
The church seats approximately 130 people and the Parish Hall can hold 100+ for a seated dinner. The focus of the sanctuary is the marble altar standing below a clear glass window framing a magnificent view of the front range of the Rockies. There is a unique open metal crucifix positioned in the center of the window. The simple Stations of the Cross line both sides of the nave between windows made of a linear stained glass pattern.

Offices for the Rector and Parish Administrator, the sacristy, and vesting room are located on the south side of the church adjoining the building. The Nave and Narthex, Parish Hall, kitchen, and restrooms complete the first floor. The undercroft houses a dual purpose room (small Sunday School room or bride's dressing room), a larger, multi-purpose meeting room, nursery, small kitchen, restrooms, storage, and an additional office. The total square footage of the building is about 7000 s.f.

As a member of St Bart's for 62 years I have always felt it is home. As with any family there have been hard times but faithful members have held us together as we struggled and worked our way through them.

When I arrive at St Bart 's and find my place, I feel peace and forgiveness. I am home. What a blessing!

**"I was glad when they said unto me let us go into the house of the Lord. "
Psalm 122 - Rosa T.**



us and in our world. Energize us in heart and mind and spirit to

Our Finances

260 Members and Participants

\$298,600 in Pledges and Other Income

\$270,000 Pledged from 54 Households/singles

\$360,700 Operating Expenses

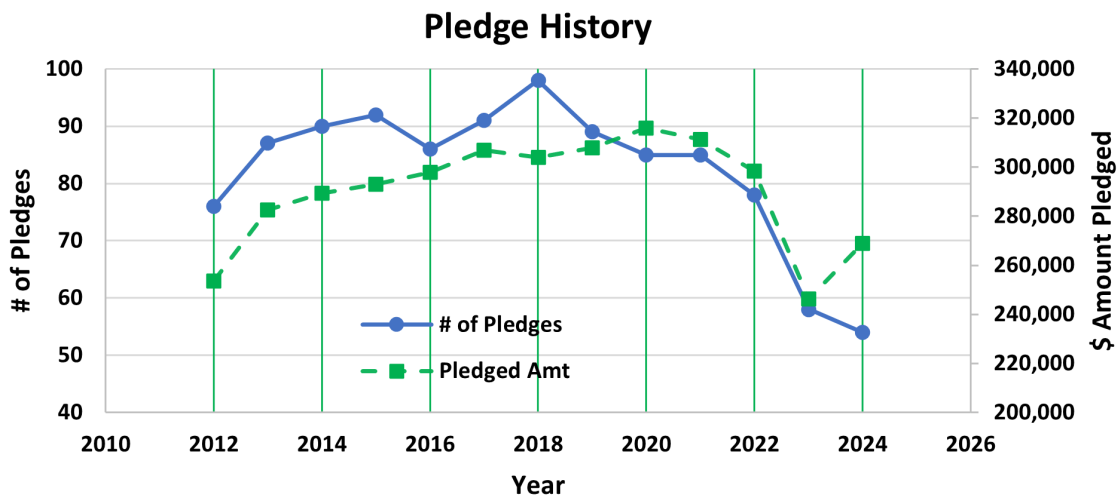
**Average Sunday Attendance
Summer: 75, Winter: 60
YouTube video views: 30**

\$2,385,000 Net Property and Equipment

\$1,205,000 in Investment and Cash Assets

Our finances are overseen by a treasurer, a paid accountant, our finance committee, and our vestry. We comply with all diocesan requirements for contributions and controls. St. Bart's has no outstanding loans.

Our current 2024 pledges and other income totals \$298,600. Our projected 2025 expenses will be \$360,700, creating a potential deficit. Our investment and cash assets, as well as periodic gifts received, regularly cover deficits when and if they occur. We are comfortable with our capability to support a full-time rector.



Look for and find you here and now. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen

Our Community

Town of Estes Park

Estes Park is a place of extraordinary beauty, giving unsurpassed access to the natural world, and inspiring a lifestyle that offers unique opportunities for spiritual growth. In so many ways our natural surroundings feed the soul!

Nestled at the eastern gateway to Rocky Mountain National Park, Estes Park boasts a rich wildlife habitat, including moose, elk, and bighorn sheep, and offers diverse year-round outdoor activities like hiking, snowshoeing, fishing, and mountain biking. The Estes Valley Recreation Center offers golf, pickleball/tennis, swimming, excellent gym facilities, and community events.

The town sits at an elevation of 7500 feet. Census data for 2022 indicate that the year round population is approximately 5900 within the town limits with a total of 10,300 in the Estes Valley. The population includes a number of part-time residents and a large visitor population during the busy summer season. The local economy depends on recreational tourism and the cost of living in the town and surrounding areas is high.

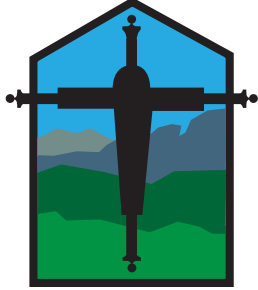
Highways 34 and 36 provide easy access to the front range towns including Boulder, Loveland, Longmont, and Fort Collins. Denver and Denver International Airport are approximately 75 to 90 minutes away. In the winter, the city and state highway crews do an excellent job of clearing the highways, and many residents commute to the front range cities for work, travel, or recreation.

The websites below provide more information about housing, education, and demographics.

<https://estepark.colorado.gov/>
<https://www.esteschools.org/>

<https://www.visitestepark.com/>
<https://esteschamber.org/>





ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Staff

Interim Rector: Fr. Max Bailey
Parish Administrator: Katrina Carlson
Sexton: Larry Airgood
Organist: John Breed

Vestry

Senior Warden: Gail Albers
Junior Warden: Hays Hutton
Treasurer: Dave Stookesberry
Clerk: Kathy Brazelton
Vestry Members: David Brewer, David Czapp, Robin Howard, Nancy Kinney, Carolyn Shirey, Pete Sinnott

Search Committee

Randy Kampfe, chairperson; Ginger Harris, Laura Hutton, MaryAnn Martin, Kieran Rowser, Peter Sinnott, and David Czapp, Vestry liaison

Church Contact

Physical Address: 880 MacGregor Avenue Estes Park, CO 80517
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1559, Estes Park, Colorado 80517
Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday from 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Phone: 970-586-4504 Email: office@stbartsepiscopalchurch.org
Website: www.stbartsepiscopalchurch.org

Colorado Diocese of the Episcopal Church, Bishop Kym Lucas

Any inquiries about the rector position should be sent to Rev. Canon Vanessa Stickler Glass, Canon for Transition and Wellness: Vanessa@EpiscopalColorado.org.