

ST BRIDGET of Ireland

CATHOLIC CHURCH

1024 W. Main St. Berryville, VA 22611

December 9, 2018



St. Bridget (or Brigid) of Kildare is one of the three major patron saints of Ireland along with Saint Patrick and Saint Columba. Saint Bridget's faith and labors for the Lord are remembered among the Irish people through prayers, sacred places, blessings and customs. St. Bridget was an extraordinary woman of faith: strong in her mission, loyal to the Lord, faithful to the Church, generous to the poor and hospitable to missionaries. St. Bridget laid strong foundations for the Church in Ireland. Her feast day is February 1st, the first day of the Celtic Spring.

Sacramental Information:

Baptisms:

Sunday, after 9:00 AM Mass
Contact the Rectory Office at 540-277-2943

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9 AM - 4 PM

Marriage:

Contact parish priest at least six (6) months prior to proposed date of the wedding.
Contact the Rectory Office at 540-277-2943

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9 AM - 4 PM

Confessions:

Saturday 4 PM - 5 PM
Sunday 8 - 8:30 AM

Rosary:

The rosary is prayed after the 12:05 PM Mass on the 1st Friday of each month

Prayer List:

Contact Becky Jackson at 540-955-1715

FISH:

Food collection is in the narthex on the 2nd Sunday each month. Please give generously.

Mass Schedule:

Saturday

9 AM and 5:30 PM (Sunday Vigil)

Sunday:

9 AM

Weekdays:

Monday & Tuesday 12:05 PM
Wednesday 9 AM
Thursday & Friday 12:05 PM

Holy Days:

12:05 PM and 7 PM

Nationwide Mass Schedule:

www.thecatholicdirectory.com

Hospitalized and Homebound:

Notify the rectory at 540-277-2943 so that the hospitalized and homebound parishioners may receive the pastoral care of the church.

Website:

www.stbridgetberryville.org

Coffee & Donut Sundays:

1st Sunday: Men's Club
2nd Sunday: Knights of Columbus
3rd Sunday: Youth Ministry

Pastor:

Father Paul Grankauskas

Rectory:

P 540-277-2943 • F 540-277-2945
office@stbridgetberryville.org
Hours: Mon-Fri 9 AM - 4 PM (closed 12-1 PM)

Religious Education:

John Sengewalt 540-277-2948
dre@stbridgetberryville.org
Office Hours: Sun after class until 1 PM
Wed 9 - 3 / Sat by apt
Tue & Thur 9 - 4 in the rectory.

Office of Youth Ministry:

Michael Murrow OYM@stbridgetberryville.org

Music Ministry:

Stacy Sefton Music@stbridgetberryville.org

Organist:

Jenny Sorenson jtsorenson@comcast.net

Eucharistic Minister / Lectors:

Chet Lewandowski 540-722-7231

Servers:

John Sengewalt 540-277-2948

Sacristan:

Becky Jackson 540-955-1715

Ushers:

Jim Willis sargewillis@yahoo.com

Men's Club:

Meets the last Saturday each month
8 AM, in Hobert Hall (7:30 Breakfast).
Dick Drake men@stbridgetberryville.org

Women's Group:

Meets 1st Tues. each month after noon mass
Mary Kay Batka
women@stbridgetberryville.org

St. Bridget's Bulletin:

Deadline Noon Monday
bulletin@stbridgetberryville.org
Ruth Hayes 540-277-2943



PASTOR'S WORDS

During the season of Advent, the readings introduce us to two key characters in the Gospel, both of whom make this appearance this coming weekend: John the Baptist and Mary. John appears in this Sunday's Gospel reading, and I'll focus on him later. Mary, of course, appears in the Gospel reading for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

The Gospel reading focuses on the Annunciation, the moment when Gabriel announces that Mary has been chosen to be the mother of God's Son. Because of the choice of Gospel reading, I think a lot of

folks tend to think of the Immaculate Conception as being the moment when Jesus was conceived in the womb of Mary. Rather, the title refers to Mary. From the moment she was conceived in the womb of her mother, St. Ann, she was preserved by a singular grace from Original Sin. That's the Immaculate Conception. It is the teaching of the Church that Mary remained sinless throughout her life, that she remained one who was "full of grace."

We might be jealous of such a gift. We might think this grace made life easy for her. However, if Our Lord himself experienced temptations, as he did in the desert, then we can imagine that Mary must have faced her own temptations. But I invite you, in this season to Advent, to consider the following: Mary was given special graces, but so are we.

Consider the grace of Baptism. That's when we were set free from Original Sin and became a part of God's holy people. That's when we were anointed with the Holy Spirit and were given a share in the Divine Fellowship of the Trinity. It's so easy to lose sight of the dignity that is conferred on us in our Baptism. We choose sin instead of holiness, vice instead of virtue.

Consider the grace of Reconciliation. When we become aware of our sins, when we experience the grace of sorrow for our sins, all is not lost. We have the hope of reconciliation through the Sacrament of Confession. We have something the Devil and his minions do not. God knows we're not angels, He knows we are weak creatures, and He delights in showing us His mercy.

Consider the Eucharist. We receive the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our Lord Jesus Christ. We become partakers, sharers, of his divine nature and life. Not even the angels experience this.

Mary was given a grace in proportion to her calling to be the Mother of our Redeemer. She needed that grace to weather the sorrows she would experience at the foot of the cross, sharing in his sacrifice. But, let us, with Mary, consider the graces all of us have been given through her Son, whose birth we are preparing to celebrate. Mary's Advent was one of silent contemplation of the son in her womb. While the world was going about its business, she was thinking about the message of an angel. The world goes about its business today, preparing for "the holidays," the "sparkle season," etc. We contemplate Christ, the real reason for the season, who quietly comes into the world as a little child.

I close with the words of Pope Benedict XVI, from volume 1 of Jesus of Nazareth: "What did Jesus actually bring, if not world peace, universal prosperity, and a better world? What has he brought? ... He has brought God, and now we know his face, now we call upon him ... Jesus has brought God and with God the truth about our origin and destiny: faith, hope, and love. It is only because of our hardness of heart that we think this is too little."

*In Our Lord,
Father Paul Grankauskas*

Diocesan News & Events:

Msgr Krempa will be saying the Masses on Dec. 11, 12 and 13th this week while Fr. Paul is away.

FYI:

Website/ Weekly Bulletin: Visit our beautiful website at www.stbridgetberryville.org for Mass, confession times and past bulletins. Submissions for our bulletin are due at **noon**, the Monday **before** the date of the weekly bulletin. Email submissions to: bulletin@stbridgetberryville.org.

Mass Times & Intentions

St. Bridget of Ireland Mass Intention Book for 2019 is open and intentions can be made at the Rectory office from 9 AM - 4 PM M-F.

Monday, December 10:

Noon Mass Special Intention
Msgr Krempa

Tuesday December 11:

Noon Mass Special Intention
Msgr Krempa

Wednesday December 12:

9 AM Mass † Julius Lee

Thursday December 13:

Noon Mass Special Intention
Msgr Krempa

Friday December 14:

Noon Mass Special Intention
Msgr Krempa

Saturday December 15:

10 AM Special Intention
Msgr Krempa
5:30 PM Special Intention
Msgr Krempa

Sunday December 16:

9 AM Parish Family

PRAYER LIST:

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Cara Kravetz, Tony Tringale,
Donna Surina, Josephine Vesey,
Larry Krasinski, Jim Willis,
Peggy Dillon, Laurie Custidero,
Bob Otey, Christopher Cowne,
Doug Kruhm and Anne Murray.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rodney Moore.

If you would like to add someone to this list, please contact Becky Jackson at 540-955-1715.

Knights of Columbus Council at St. Bridget of Ireland The St. Bridget Knights of Columbus council 16938 is sponsoring a "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign. We are selling Christmas cards in Hobert Hall after masses for the next several weeks. KIDS: We are also sponsoring a Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest, entries due by Dec. 16th. There will be prizes and the winners will be displayed in Hobert Hall. Visit www.KofCBerryville.org for more information and complete rules.

The 2018 St. Bridget's Giving Tree is now empty of ornaments. We await the purchased gift, wrapped with the attached ornament and return to the Narthex under the tree by Sunday, Dec. 16th. Thank you for generously making this Christmas special for those less fortunate. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Huff 317-696-4143.

Youth Ministry WINTER DANCE Saturday Dec 15. 6:30-9:30 PM St. Bridget's OYM will be participating in a winter dance sponsored by Sacred Heart Youth Ministry. All 8th -12th grade youth are invited. Many youths from neighboring parishes will be attending. Bring your friends! Contact St. Bridget's OYM for details, dress code and tickets.

Parishioners in their 20's and 30's are invited to join young adults from neighboring Catholic churches at the St. John the Baptist Young Adult Social & Holy Hour on Thurs., Dec 13th from 6-8 PM. We'll gather at Happy Creek Coffee & Tea (18 High Street, Front Royal, VA). Board games provided. Following the social we will spend an hour with Jesus in the St. John's Chapel from 8-9 PM. Email OYM@StBridgetBerryville.org for more information.

December 9, 2018 Divine Mercy's Mother said: "I desire, My dearly beloved daughter, that you practice the three virtues that are dearest to Me... and most pleasing to God. The first is humility, humility, and once again humility; the second virtue, purity; the third virtue, love of God. As my daughter, you must especially radiate with these virtues." (St. Faustina Diary, 1415)

Backpack Ministry Donations of tuna or Chef Boyardee are greatly appreciated. We are helping to pack backpacks of food for 38 children in CCPS. Please put donations in tubs in the Narthex. Thanks for your generosity! Any questions, email M.K. Batka women@stbridgetberryville.org.

St. Bridget Window Books Great Christmas gifts! Did you know that there are 16 stained glass church windows and 12 depict something indigenous to Virginia or local spots of interest and history? Books are \$10 and can be purchased in the rectory office.

Christmas Poinsettias for decorating church in memory/honor of a loved one can be requested through the Christmas Flower envelopes in the narthex or a collection envelope. The names will be placed on a poinsettia pot that can be taken home after Epiphany Sunday.

Help Needed:

ALL Masses Need Ushers: We are steadily growing as a new parish, so are our needs for ushers at both Masses. Please contact office@stbridgetberryville.org or call (540) 277-2943.

Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers are needed also. Please contact office@stbridgetberryville.org, call (540) 277-2943 or talk to Fr. Paul.

Human Life International is seeking a part-time development employee. The position is 25 hr per week. Data entry skills and proficiency in Excel are required; relational database experience is a plus. Knowledge of the Catholic Faith, its beliefs, practices, liturgy, structure, and protocol and complete understanding of organization's position on life issues is required. If interested, please call 540-635-7884 for application.

Advertising: We have a few more ad spaces to fill. Contact Ruth Hayes in the in the Rectory, phone: 540-277-2943 or email: office@stbridgetberryville.org.

FISH of Clarke County is a Christian organization of volunteers. There are several vacancies on both the Help Line and Driver sections. For the Help Line, we are asking for one day a month to answer our Help Line phone. Training will be provided. For volunteer Drivers with good driving record, there is a need to drive to medical appointments roundtrip from Clarke County to Winchester. Please call the FISH Help Line (955-1823) and Volunteer!

2018-19 Religious Education Program

Saint of the Week: Saint Maria Crocifissa Di Rosa:

Paolina Francesca di Rosa was born, into a wealthy family, in the city of Brescia, Italy on November 6, 1813. First educated in a convent by the Visitation Sisters, she left school after the death of her mother and by age seventeen she was running her father's household and caring for the girls in her father's mill and estate. During the cholera epidemic of 1836 she worked in the hospital in Brescia and became well known as she directed a home for girls and began another residence for deaf and mute young ladies. In 1840, she became superior of a community that evolved into her congregation, taking the name, Maria Crocifissa di Rosa. The chief apostolate of the Handmaids of Charity (also called the Servants of Charity), was the care of the poor, the sick and the suffering. The women of the Servants of Charity ministered to the wounded on the battlefields of northern Italy and in hospitals. Maria's spirituality was grounded in the imitation of Christ's suffering on the Cross. This was the basis of her teaching and contemplation. In her love of the crucified Christ, she translated her dedication to him towards the suffering members of his Mystical Body. Maria died at Brescia on December 15, 1855. She was canonized by Pope Pius XII. Maria's feast day is December 15th.

December classes will be on the 9th, and the 16th.

No class the 23rd or the 30th for our Christmas break.

Spiritual Thought

"Joy is prayer; joy is strength; joy is love; joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls."

St. Teresa of Calcutta

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