

ST BRIDGET of Ireland

CATHOLIC CHURCH

1024 W. Main St. Berryville, VA 22611

March 31, 2019



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:

Please check Mass Times and Intentions for weekly changes inside bulletin.

Saturday

9 AM and 5:30 PM (Sunday Vigil)

Sunday:

9 AM

Weekdays:

Monday & Tuesday Noon
Wednesday 9 AM
Thursday & Friday Noon

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

Knights of Columbus:

New: knights@stbridgetberryville.org
Bus. meeting 2nd Tue 7 PM Hobert Hall

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:

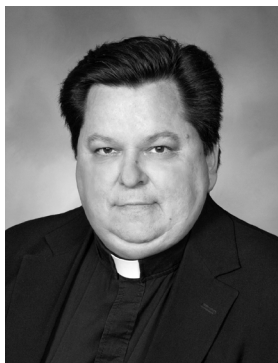
Meets the last Saturday each month
8 AM, in Hobert Hall (7:30 Breakfast).
Dick Drake men@stbridgetberryville.org

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

This weekend's Gospel reading is the familiar parable of the Prodigal Son. While we focus on and identify with the son who leaves home, the real star of the story is the merciful and generous father.

He has two sons that need to be reconciled to him: the one who leaves and the one who stays. The latter son was probably meant to represent the Pharisees, to whom the parable was originally addressed. They considered themselves the righteous ones, but it was through their slavish obedience to the law. The Pharisees don't seem to see the generous mercy of God. They complain because Jesus reaches out to the tax collectors and sinners. Salvation should be theirs.

In the parable, the older son is the dutiful one who stays at home, but he seems blind to the generosity of his father. The same father who gave his younger son his share of the inheritance would probably have done the same for the older son, but he never asks. His seems more of a slavish obedience to duty than a real love for his father. When his younger brother comes home, his sense of self righteousness will not let him rejoice at his return.

The star of the story is the merciful father who loves both of his sons and invites them both to come into his house and share all that is his. He is the merciful father who waited patiently and longingly for his younger son to come home and goes out to meet him when he does.

Of course, the father is our heavenly Father, who waits longingly and patiently for each one of us. How do we respond to the love of the Father who waits for each one of us? Perhaps the following prayer of St. John Vianney, patron saint of parish priests, can point us in the right direction:

I love you, oh my God, and my only desire is to love you until my last breath.

I love you, oh infinitely lovable God, and I prefer to die loving you than to live a single moment without loving you.

I love you, oh my God, and I long for heaven only in order to know the bliss of loving you perfectly.

I love you, oh my God, and I only fear going to hell because there I will never experience the sweet consolation of loving you.

Oh my God, if my tongue is not able to say at every opportunity that I love you, I want at least my heart to repeat it to you as many times as I take a breath.

My God, give me the grace of suffering out of love for you, of loving you while I suffer. Give me the grace of one day breathing my last out of love for you and at the same time feeling how much I love you.

The closer I come to my final end the more I beseech you to intensify and perfect my love for you. - Amen.

*In Our Lord,
Father Paul Grankauskas*

Diocesan News & Events

2019 Bishop's Lenten Appeal The Bishop's Lenten Appeal is critical to our diocesan needs and we are asking every household in our parish to support this appeal to the extent that they are able. The BLA funds many programs, services and ministries that serve people in need and furthers the Gospel mission of Jesus Christ in our diocese. Let us join together to do the Lord's work – works that touch the lives and souls of thousands of people. Thank you! St. Bridget of Ireland is at 88% participation and attaining our goal!

First Friday is April 5th with Mass & Rosary at noon then Eucharistic Adoration from 1 - 4:30 with Benediction concluding by 5 PM. Confession during Eucharistic Adoration. Please sign up to spend a little time with the Lord during Lent.

Keeping the Light On is confessions on Tuesday from 6:30 – 8 PM and April 2nd, 9th & 16th.

Mass Times & Intentions

Mass Intentions can be made at the Rectory office from 9 AM - 4 PM M-F

Monday, April 1

Noon Mass Special Intention

Rev. Mr. Will Nyce

1:30 PM Rose Hill † Parker Nielsen

Tuesday April 2

Noon Mass † Eleanor Morrell

Wednesday April 3

9 AM Mass † Joan Hickey

Thursday April 4

Noon Mass † Luther and Marguerite Long

Friday April 5

Noon Mass Special Intention

Frank Petrello

Saturday April 6

9 AM Mass Special Intention

Guillermo Gonzalez

5:30 PM Parish Family

Sunday April 7

9 AM † Eleanor Morrell

PRAYER LIST

Remember the following in your prayers:

Eric Myer, Matthew Lewis, Michael Boyd,
Luke Milhon, Sean Binning,
Mike Malucci, Dorothy Brennan,
Frank Petrello, Bill Drescher, David Odi-
orne, Frank Cefalu, Ellen Kravetz, Kim
Smith, Doug Kruhm, Jim Willis,
Tony Tringale, Bob Otey, Jenna Morell
and Therese Chahtahty

Please pray for the repose of the soul of
Jack Judge and Pete Dunning

Please contact Becky Jackson at
540-955-1715 for the person to **go on**
the prayer list and when the person **no**
longer needs to be on the list.

We want the prayer list to be relevant to
the needs.

Penance Services at Others

Sacred Heart – Tuesday, April 16th, at

7 PM **Saint John the Baptist**

Monday, April 15th, at 7 PM

FYI

Lenten Soup Supper is sponsored this week by Religious Education. Homemade soups and baked potatoes on menu. Please come and enjoy!

St. Brigid of Ireland Women's Group will meet April 2nd for its monthly meeting and luncheon after the noon mass. All are invited to participate in the planning of upcoming events for April, May and June. Abba baby shower is Sunday April 7th after the mass in the hall.

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. Thank You! Email M.K. Batka at women@stbridgetberryville.org.

March 31, 2019 Divine Mercy Said: "Look into My Heart and see there the love and mercy which I have for humankind, and especially for sinners. Look, and enter into My Passion." (St. Faustina Diary, 1663) "Used with permission of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the B.V.M."

Join us Today, March 31st for Week Four of a 10-week study and discussion series, Divine Mercy: The Second Greatest Story Ever Told and the Augustine Institutes DVD film series March 10-June 2, 2019 from 4:00-5:00 p.m. in the parish hall (excluding Easter Sunday April 21 and Mother's Day May 12). Series cost is \$20 and includes a copy of Father Gaitley's book and your personal Divine Mercy guidebook. To register contact the rectory at 540-277-2943 or email office@stbridgetberryville.org. *This is an ongoing study.*

OYM Office of Youth Ministry

Easter Egg Hunt! Holy Saturday, 11 AM April 20th. Prizes for each age group and goodies in the eggs. Sponsored jointly between the Knights of Columbus and the Office of Youth Ministry. Watch for more information or contact OYM@stbridgetberryville.org.

Religious Education Program

Confessions during Religious Education class resume during class this weekend

Written Confirmation Tests will be on April 7th.

Catholic Cafe: Come join us in Hobert Hall for coffee and a video each Sunday during CCD (10:15 - 11:30). We offer something new each week!

Vacation Bible School: Mark your calendars! From June 24th through June 28th, St. Brigid's will offer Vacation Bible School. We will meet each morning from 9:30 to noon and everyone aged 4 to 12 is welcome. See the flyer in today's bulletin. There will be lots of opportunity to volunteer as well.

Walking With Purpose Women's Bible Study at Sacred Heart of Jesus in Winchester invites you to Fearless and Free, a study of Ephesians. This 6-week personal and transformative study emphasizes healing and wholeness. Book is \$20. 3 class sessions available: Wednesdays 9:15-11 am, April 10- May 22./Thursdays 9:15 -11 am, April 11-May 23/ Mondays 7-9 pm May 6 -June 17th. If interested, email Michele at hislambstwo@gmail.com. Website: https://walkingwithpurpose.com/bible_studies/fearless-and-free/

Help Needed

Part-time custodian needed at St. Brigid of Ireland Church, for weekly cleaning of church, hall and rectory. Please email office@stbridgetberryville.org and place Custodian needed in subject line. Janitorial experience and handyman skills are a plus.

Seasons of Hope is a Christ-centered, facilitated support group for the bereaved, please call Reen Markland at Sacred Heart (540) 868-1447.

Wood from recently downed trees available for pickup, contact Anne at 703 431-3763.

Saint of the Week

St. Maria Crescentia Hoess:

Crescentia was born in 1682, the daughter of a poor weaver, in a little town near Augsburg. She spent play time praying in the parish church, assisted those even poorer than herself and had so mastered the truths of her religion that she was permitted to make her First Holy Communion at the then unusually early age of 7. As she grew older, she desired to enter the convent of the Tertiaries of Saint Francis. But the convent was poor, and because Crescentia had no dowry, the superiors refused her admission. Her case was then pleaded by the Protestant mayor of the town to whom the convent owed a favor. The community felt it was forced into receiving her, and her new life was made miserable. Conditions improved four years later when a new superior was elected who realized her virtue. Crescentia herself was appointed mistress of novices. She so won the love and respect of the sisters that, upon the death of the superior, Crescentia was unanimously elected to that position.

Under her, the financial state of the convent improved and her reputation in spiritual matters spread. She was soon being consulted by princes & princesses; bishops and cardinals too sought her advice. Bodily afflictions and pain were always with her. First it was headaches and toothaches. Then she lost the ability to walk, her hands and feet gradually becoming so crippled that her body curled up into a fetal position. In the spirit of Francis, she cried out, "Oh, you bodily members, praise God that he has given you the capacity to suffer." Despite her sufferings she was filled with peace and joy as she died on Easter Sunday in 1744. Crescentia's feast day is April 5th.

Spiritual Thought

"The miracle is not that we do this work, but that we are happy to do it"

- St. Teresa of Calcutta

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