

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

In the movie Beauty and the Beast, the story opens with an old hag showing up at a prince's castle, looking for one night's shelter from the cold. In return, she will give the prince a single rose. The prince refuses her, only to discover that the woman is a beautiful enchantress in disguise. She places a curse on the prince, transforming him into a beast. The curse will be lifted if he can make a woman fall in love with him before the last petal falls from the rose. Since it's a Disney movie, you can guess how it ends.

In the fifth chapter of John's Gospel, Jesus tells Jewish authorities, "The hour is coming and is now here when the dead will hear the voice of

the Son of God, and those who hear will live."

In John's Gospel, those words can be seen as a precursor to the last great miracle Jesus will perform before entering his Passion: the raising of Lazarus from the dead. After four days in the tomb, Lazarus hears the voice of Jesus calling him, and he emerges from the tomb, restored to life. The synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) relate other occasions when Jesus raised someone from the dead.

Today's Gospel reveals yet another way in which Jesus gives new life to someone who is dead.

The woman caught in the act of adultery is facing the end of her life. The scribes and elders are set to carry out the mandate of Mosaic law: she will be stoned to death. If there is any regret or remorse on her part, it is of no avail. The law shows no mercy. Neither do the scribes and elders.

When Jesus says to her he does not condemn her, his mercy restores her to life. She is free, both physically and spiritually. She has been forgiven, but there is that one caveat: go and sin no more. If she has been set free from sin, it would be foolhardy to go back to it.

The bottom line is that the mercy of the Divine Son opens the door to repentance and conversion.

Think about that each time you receive Holy Communion.

Think about who comes to us in that moment. It is the same Jesus who forgave the woman in today's Gospel, the same Jesus who raised Lazarus from the dead, the same Jesus who freed so many from physical and spiritual afflictions, the same Jesus who lovingly offered his Body and Blood on the cross as a sacrifice to atone for our sins. It is Jesus who comes to us, full of love. If we can recognize that one simple truth, that one simple reality, how can we not help but be transformed by that moment of Holy Communion? When we think about the beauty of his goodness, how he is loved by the Father and how he loves the Father; how he loved his Mother, Peter, Martha, Mary Magdalene, John; how he had compassion for repentant sinners and sought mercy even for his enemies; how could we not desire to be more like him?

Our senses tell us it is bread and wine; faith tells us it is much more. The gift of faith enables us to do something that selfish old prince could not: see beyond the ordinary. Eventually he was transformed by love. Holy Communion can only bear fruit in our lives—it can only transform and renew our fallen lives – when faith opens us up to recognizing who is coming to unite himself with us: the Divine Son of God who loved us even to the point of taking up a cross for us.

> 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 92% participation and attaining our goal!

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

Mass Times & Intentions

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

Monday, April 8

Noon Mass Special Intention Philip Briggs 1:30 PM Rose Hill † Parker Nielsen (rescheduled)

Tuesday April 9

Noon Mass Special Intention Theresa & Robert Jennings

Wednesday April 10

9 AM Mass † Edward Widzinski

Thursday April 11

Noon Mass Special Intention Daniel Reuwer

Friday April 12

Noon Mass Special Intention Ethan Gould

Saturday April 13

9 AM Mass Special Intention Frank Cefalu 5:30 PM † Richard Kobetz

Sunday April 14

9 AM Parish Family

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 Odiorne, Frank Cefalu, Ellen Kravetz, Kim Smith, Doug Kruhm, Jim Willis, Tony Tringale, Bob Otey, Jenna Morell, Sally & Lou Papa and Ray Borsella

Please continue to pray for the repose of the soul of Jack Judge & 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: Tues, April 16th, at 7 PM Saint John the Baptist: Monday, April 15th, at 7 PM

FYI

Lenten Soup Supper is sponsored this week by Youth Ministry with homemade soups and variety of sandwiches Please come and enjoy!

Abba Baby Shower is this Sunday after Mass in the hall. Please join us for the presentation to Abba Care organization. And thank you for your help on this Lenten Project.

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.

April 7, 2019 Divine Mercy Said: "My daughter, look into the abyss of My mercy and give praise and glory to this mercy of Mine. Do it in this way: Gather all sinners from the entire world and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy. I want to give Myself to souls; I yearn for souls, My daughter. On the day of My feast, the Feast of Mercy, you will go through the whole world, and bring fainting souls to the spring of My mercy. I shall heal and strengthen them." (St. Faustina Diary, 206) - Used with permission of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the B.V.M.

Join us *Today,* **April 7th for Week Five** of a 10-week study and discussion series, Divine Mercy: The Second Greatest Story Ever Told and the Augustine Institute's 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 you can email them at office@stbridgetberryville.org. *This is an ongoing study.*

Office of Youth Ministry (OYM)

Easter Egg Hunt! Holy Saturday, 11AM April 20th. Prizes for each age group and goodies in the eggs. Lunch will be available. 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

Class on Palm Sunday, April 14th, will be from 10:30 – 11:30.

No class on Easter Sunday, April 21st.

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. Bridget's will offer Vacation Bible School. We will meet each morning from 9:30 to noon and everyone aged 4 to 12 is welcome. 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. Three class sessions available: Wednesdays: 9:15-11 AM, April 10- May 22. Thursdays: 9:15-11 AM, April 11-May 23 and Mondays: 7-9 PM May 6-June 17th. If interested, email Michele at hislambstwo@gmail.com. Go to https://walkingwithpurpose.com/bible_studies/fearless-and-free/

Help Needed

Part-time custodian needed at St. Bridget of Ireland Church, for weekly cleaning of church, hall and rectory. Please email office@stbridgetberryville.org and place <u>Custodian needed</u> 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. Wood also available near rectory, help yourself.

Easter Schedule 2019

Holy Thursday: No Noon Mass, Mass of the Lord's Supper- 7 PM Good Friday: No Noon Mass, Stations of the Cross - 3 PM Liturgy of the Lord's Passion - 7 PM Holy Saturday: No Morning Mass Noon - Blessing of the Easter Food, 8:30 PM Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter Easter Sunday: 9 & 11 AM Mass

Saint of the Week

St. Walter of Pontoise:

Walter Gautier was born in Picardy, France, around 1030. A well-educated individual, he became a professor of philosophy and rhetoric. Later, he entered the Benedictine abbey of Rebais-en-Brie. When King Philip I appointed Walter as the first abbot of a new monastery at Pontoise, Walter reminded Philip that God was the one who conferred such honors, not the king. Seeking solitude, he fled Pontoise on two occasions, but both times he was forced to return. Walter then went to Rome to ask Pope Gregory VII for release from his position so that he could follow a life of solitude. However, the Pope told Walter to use the talents God had given him, and thus Walter resigned himself to staying at Pontoise. When he spoke out against simony and the evil lives of the secular clergy, this caused great outrage, and on one occasion he was beaten and thrown into prison. After his release, Walter continued to live a life of mortification, spending entire nights in prayer. After establishing the foundation of a convent in honor of Mary at Bertaucourt, Walter died on Good Friday in the year 1095. Walter's feast day is April 8th.

Spiritual Thought

"I want you to be concerned about your next door neighbor. Do you know your next door neighbor?"

- St. Teresa of Calcutta





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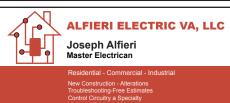


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