

ST BRIDGET of Ireland

CATHOLIC CHURCH

1024 W. Main St. Berryville, VA 22611

September 15, 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.

Faith Direct: www.faithdirect.net

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:

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

Office of Youth Ministry:

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:

Parish Office 540-277-2943

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
Except for July and August
Christi McMullen
women@stbridgetberryville.org

St. Bridget's Bulletin Deadline Noon Monday

bulletin@stbridgetberryville.org

Ruth Hayes 540-277-2943



PASTOR'S WORDS

Some of you may remember the tagline from the 1970s film "Love Story": "Being in love means never having to say you're sorry." Whoever wrote that probably never loved anyone a day in his or her life. Saying "I'm sorry" and "I forgive you" are very much a part of the language of love.

In this weekend's Gospel reading, we hear the familiar "Parable of the Prodigal Son." There is much that we can reflect on in this beautiful and powerful story, but let's focus on the moment when the prodigal son decides to head home. When he makes his decision, he is occupied with the task of feeding pigs. He is starving. Even the food he is feeding the pigs begins to look good. He begins to think about home. In his father's house, even the servants have enough to eat. It is time to go back.

Along the way, he thinks about what he is going to say when he gets home. He can't just show up there and act as if nothing had happened: "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as you would one of your servants."

One can approach these words with a degree of cynicism. He just wants to go home so he can eat again. He'll say some pretty words so he can get in good with the father. He's not really sincere. Or is he? Since he has lost everything, since he has been stripped of every dignity and hit rock bottom, perhaps he is beginning to realize all that he has lost by leaving home. Perhaps he has come to understand the true goodness of his father and no longer considers himself worthy of that goodness.

I suppose the answer to that question lies in the unwritten sequel to the parable: what was the son's life like when he came home again? How did he respond to his father's mercy? Did he simply return to his former way of life, or did he change? That's where we can tell if his repentance was born of love or selfish gain.

Saying "I'm sorry" and "I forgive you" can be some of the most difficult words to say. It requires the greatest humility and love to say them.

To say the former, it takes the humility to acknowledge and accept that we have done something wrong. We could easily justify our wrongdoing, we could blame others for our actions, we could refuse to accept the consequences of our actions. It takes humility to accept that we have sinned. Love opens us up to the realization that what I did – whether intentionally or not – has hurt someone.

To say we forgive someone also takes humility and love. It takes humility to say that we won't hold something against someone. It takes humility to refrain from constantly throwing something back in someone's face. If an apology – a recognition of our pain and hurt – can bring us peace, words of forgiveness can bring them peace. That's where love comes in.

Inevitably we will have to say these words even to the people to whom we are closest: a spouse, a child, a best friend. We will say them even to God. That's what the sacrament of reconciliation is all about.

The test of sincerity will be what comes next. When we make the "Act of Contrition," we end with making a resolution to amend our lives. Do we follow through on that, or do we just go back to business as usual? When we apologize to someone, should that not involve a desire not to do that thing again? Do we not ask what we can do to make up for our wrongdoing? Or do we take mercy for granted?

*In Our Lord,
Fr. Paul Grankauskas*

Diocesan News & Events

Celebrating A Silver or Golden Wedding Anniversary This Year? Were you married in 1969 or 1994? Then join Bishop Michael F. Burbidge for the 2019 Mass for Jubilarians to be celebrated on Sunday, October 13th at 2:30 PM at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington, VA. Contact the parish office to register no later than **September 30th**. Visit www.arlingtondiocese.org/MJM.

A Collection Counters Meeting will be held Monday Sept. 16th at 7pm in the hall to discuss plans for scheduling additional mass collections.

Mass Times & Intentions

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

Monday September 16
Noon Mass † Raymond Florence Sr.

Tuesday September 17
Noon Mass † Joanne Derby

Wednesday September 18
9 AM Special Intention
Ion Rodel

Thursday September 19
Noon Mass Special Intention
David Witherow

Friday September 20
Noon Mass † Paula Moreno

Saturday September 21
9 AM Special Intention
Sean Nypaver
5:30 PM † Elaine Smyth

Sunday September 22
9 AM Parish Family

Prayer List

Remember the following in your prayers:

Bob Otey, Phyllis Keene, Mary Young, Lara Schafer, John Caroselli, Maryanne Jackson, Becky Jackson, Gayle Keenan, Fred Curtis, Katie Noland, Bob Lewis, Matthew Lewis, Michael Boyd, Jim Willis, Tony Tringale, Eileen Murray, Terry Lehman.

Please pray for in repose of soul of Nellie Sweeten and her family.

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.

FYI

Faith Direct is easy to use and directions can be found by visiting this website www.faithdirect.net. Our parish code is **VA605** or call **866-507-8757 (toll free)** for more information.

Retreat for those Facing Serious Illness will be held October 4-6 at the San Damiano Spiritual Life Center in White Post, VA. Sponsored by Catholic Charities, and staffed by a compassionate team of physicians, nurses, priests and other volunteers, it offers a unique time of spiritual renewal and refreshment for those facing serious physical illness. Enjoy prayer times, talks by the priest directors, quiet time, the celebration of the liturgy, and ample periods of rest. There's no cost to attend. Brochures with details and registration info are available in the parish office.

Seasons of Hope is a Christ-centered, facilitated support group for the bereaved, helping us explore mourning through scripture, prayer, reflection activities and faith sharing. There are four different 6-week programs offered throughout the year, and participants may attend any of them. **Our next series begins on September 10th from 6:00-8:00pm. For more information and to register (by September 6th), please call Sacred Heart of Jesus Church's parish nurse, Reen Markland (540) 868-1447.** Brochures are available in the narthex. A Christ-centered support group may be for you if any of these are true: you are looking for friends in Christ to share your journey of sorrow; you've been trying to figure out the meaning of your grief; you want to get on with life but haven't been able to; you find comfort in the teaching of Christ; you are open to new ways of coping with your grief; you don't want to feel alone anymore.

Backpack Ministry: Donations of tuna or Chef Boyardee are greatly appreciated and have started back up now that school is back in session. We are helping to pack backpacks of food for 38 children in CCPS. Put donations in tubs in the Narthex. Thanks for your generosity! Any questions, please email M.K. Batka women@stbridgetberryville.org.

September 15, 2019 Divine Mercy Said: "Pray for souls that they be not afraid to approach the tribunal of My mercy. Do not grow weary of praying for sinners. You know what a burden their souls are to My Heart. Relieve My deathly sorrow; dispense My mercy." (St. Faustina Diary, 975)

- Used with permission of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the B.V.M.

Veritas Young Adults Group: The Young Adults of Saint Bridget are going apple picking at Hartland Orchards on September 21st. See Flyer in the bulletin and members of the VYAG in the narthex after Mass for more information or email us at youngadults@stbridgetberryville.org.

Coats and Blankets will be collected by our Knights of Columbus council after Masses for the next two weeks. (Sept 14, 15, 21, 22) Collected goods will be donated to FISH and the homeless of our region. Cold weather is just around the corner, please help keep our neighbors warm. www.KofCBerryville for more information.

Religious Education Program

Confirmation Parent Meeting (for those being confirmed in Fall 2020 / 21) Sept. 17th at 7 PM.

Confirmation Mass celebrated by Bishop Burbidge September 23rd at 7 PM.

Office of Youth Ministry (OYM)

RALLY 2019! The Arlington Diocese annual youth rally for 9th through 12th grades will be on Sunday October 20th. Mark your calendar.

Help Needed

Custodian for the Parish – Full time (30 hr. wkly) needed at St. Bridget of Ireland Church, for weekly cleaning of church, hall and rectory. Janitorial experience required and handyman skills are a plus. You can email office@stbridgetberryville.org and place **Custodian needed** in subject line. Or call the parish office at 540 277-2943 or mail St. Bridget of Ireland 1024 W Main St. Berryville, VA 22611

The Second Mass on Sunday will be at noon starting October 6th. If you are interested in active participation in the liturgical celebration or assisting in the services needed in ushering and counting, please submit your name to the parish office or to Fr. Paul directly. Training and certifications will soon be provided, and we need to get new scheduling prepared by October.

Saint of the Week

St. Ludmilla:

Ludmilla was born at Mielnik, Bohemia, c. 860. She married Boriwoi, the first Christian Duke of Bohemia. She and her husband were baptized, probably by St. Methodius, in 871. Pagan fanatics drove them from their country, but they were soon recalled, and after reigning seven more years they resigned the throne in favor of their son Spitignev and retired to Tetin. Spitignev died two years later and was succeeded by Wratislaw, another son of Boriwoi and Ludmilla. Wratislaw was married to Drahomira, a pretended Christian, but a secret favorer of paganism. They had twin sons, St. Wenceslaus and Boleslaus the Cruel, the former of whom lived with Ludmilla at Tetin. Wratislaw died in 916, leaving the eight-year-old Wenceslaus as his successor. Jealous of the great influence which Ludmilla wielded over Wenceslaus, Drahomira instigated two noblemen to murder her. She is said to have been strangled by them with her veil. She was at first buried in the church of St. Michael at Tetin, but her remains were removed to the church of St. George at Prague before the year 1100, probably by St. Wenceslaus, her grandson. She is venerated as one of the patrons of Bohemia. Her Feast Day is September 16th.

Spiritual Thought

"If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives.
Do good anyway."

- Found written on the wall in Mother Teresa's home for children in Calcutta



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