

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 and Noon

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

This weekend's Gospel reading tells a beautiful yet sad story.

It is beautiful insofar as we see Our Lord heal ten lepers. The lepers call to him from a distance. They were forbidden to approach him because of their condition. So that others could avoid contact with them, lepers had to cry out "unclean" as they were walking along roads. They were forced to live in their own communities, separated out from everyone else. Our Lord hears the cry of these poor souls

and they are made clean. Once declared so by the priests, they can return to society.

The sadness of the story lies in the fact that only one of them returns to Our Lord to thank him. Luke says he realized he had been made clean. Did not the other nine realize the same thing? At least one realized that the cleansing did not come from anything he did, but from the power and goodness of Jesus. Did not the other nine realize the same thing? Why, then, did they not also come back and thank Jesus? ...Good question.

The Gospel doesn't tell us. Maybe they realized they were healed and decided that, once they saw the priest, they could just get on with living their lives. Maybe they decided it was time to party. Maybe they simply told themselves it was no less than something they deserved after suffering for so long.

One would think that after experiencing a miracle, they would be a little more grateful. It doesn't always work that way. Someone recently told me some stories about people healed in the waters of Lourdes, France. Recall how the Mother of God appeared to a young girl name Bernadette and, on one occasion, asked her to dig for a spring. Today, those waters continue to flow and people who bathe in it continue to experience healings of body and soul. Unfortunately, the follow-up is not the same for everybody. In one story, a person began taking their faith seriously and seemed to recognize the blessing given. In another story, a person just went and partied. Eventually they came back to the Church, but it was not immediate.

Each week, we have the privilege of receiving the Eucharist. In the Blessed Sacrament, Our Lord shares with us the gift of his own divine life. Do we recognize the profound gift we are given and give thanks to God for giving us something that He alone can give us, or do we simply walk away without thinking about it?

If we have ever considered ourselves blessed by God, we certainly have reason to give thanks to God. Our hearts should ring with praise like that of Our Lady's: "The Almighty had done great things for me and holy is His name."

In Our Lord, Fr. Paul Grankauskas

Diocesan News & Events

Columbus Day: Parish office will be closed on Oct. 14 in honor of Columbus Day.

FY

Msgr Krempa will be saying Mass each day that Fr. Paul is in Ireland, please come by and celebrate Mass with him and visit.

Visit Nuns at St. Dominic's Monastery in Linden Virginia: Experience the joy, peace, and beauty of St. Dominic's Monastery on Friday, November 8. Interested St. Bridget of Ireland parishioners are invited to gather at church parking lot at 10:00 AM and carpool to the Monastery in time for 11:00 AM Mass. Then we will enjoy a short visit with the nuns followed by lunch at nearby Fox Meadow Winery before returning to our church around 3:00 PM. Space is limited. There is no charge, but donations to St. Dominic's Monastery are welcome. To register email women@stbridgetberryville.org or call Victoria Hughes 703 434-0070

Mass Times & Intentions

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

Monday October 14Noon Mass † Jose Ortiz

Tuesday October 15Noon Mass † Ada Kalbian

Wednesday October 16 9 AM † Grace Sturm

Thursday October 17Noon Mass † John McCloskey

Friday October 18
Noon Mass † Richard Kobetz

Saturday October 19 9 AM † Virginia Weidner 5:30 PM Parish Family

9 AM † Margaret Ann Peterson Noon Mass † Mike Solma

Prayer List

Remember the following in your prayers:

Maggie O'Connor, Theresa Vesey, Bill Drescher, Bob Otey, Phyllis Keene, Lara Schafer, John Caroselli, Gayle Keenan, Fred Curtis, Bob Lewis, Michael Boyd, Jim Willis, Tony Tringale and Eileen Murray

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Cletus Black and for his 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.

St. Bridget Book Club 'Retreat': Join fellow St. Bridget parishioners beginning Sunday, October 27, 2019 for *33 Days to Morning Glory*: A St. Bridget's Group and Do-It-Yourself Retreat in Preparation for Marian Consecration on December 8.

The Retreat works this way: Each day, for 33 days, a participant will read and ponder a very brief section of Father Michael Gaitley's book, 33 Days to Morning Glory. Under the guidance and direction of our own Father Paul, participants will then meet as a group once a week for 6 Sundays from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM in Hobert Hall to discuss their thoughts and ponderings on the week's brief readings and listen to short DVD lectures by the book's author, Father Michael Gaitley. The retreat will consist of 5 group meetings from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM on the following Sundays plus the consecration day on Sunday, December 8. Oct 27, Nov 3, Nov 10, Nov 17, Nov 24, from 4:00 to 5:30 PM No meeting on Sunday December 1 due to Thanksgiving holiday weekend Consecration Day. December 8, 2019: 4:00 to 5:30 PM. The Youth Ministry of High school age students, led by Antonia, will also participate from 6-7 PM in this same retreat.

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

Knights Of Columbus: Catholic men do you want to make a difference in our community, celebrate and develop Faith and Fellowship with other Catholic men? Be part of a tradition with almost 2 million members who last year donated over \$185 million to charity and over 75 million hours of hands-on service. Join us! Knights@stbridgetberryville.org

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. For more information call Sacred Heart of Jesus Church's parish nurse, Reen Markland (540) 868-1447. Brochures are available in the narthex.

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, email M.K. Batka women@stbridgetberryville.org.

October 13, 2019 Divine Mercy Said: "The soul's true greatness is in loving God and in humbling oneself in His presence, completely forgetting oneself and believing oneself to be nothing, because the Lord is great, but He is well-pleased only with the humble. He always opposes the proud." (St. Faustina Diary, 1711)

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Veritas Young Adults Group: The Young Adults of Saint Bridget are sponsoring one more event in October: Wayside Farm Night Corn Maze on October 26th (not October 19th). We are also hosting a 7-week bible study/discussion every Wednesday at 7 PM; September 11th through October 23rd. See Flyer in the narthex or email us at youngadults@stbridgetberryville.org for more information.

St. Bridget "Tai Chi For Health" Class meets on Wednesday fom 9:30-11AM in the hall. Call or text Victor (540) 532-4372 to register, \$5 fee required.

Religious Education Program

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

Help Needed

It's Autumn and that means we need to prepare the parish grounds for Winter. There will be a grounds clean-up on November 2nd after 9 AM Mass. Please watch subsequent bulletins for more details.

Help is requested of a wonderful woman who could use some rides to daily Mass. If you can help, please call the parish office 540-277-2943.

Saint of the Week

St. Thecla of Kitzingen:

Thecla was born in the 8th Century in England. She became a nun at Wimborne Abbey, England, under St. Tetta. Thecla was sent to Germany with other nuns under St. Lioba to give aid to the missionary cause then being undertaken by St. Boniface. She lived for some time at Tauberbischofsheim. until St. Boniface appointed her Abbess of the newly founded abbey at Ochsenfurt. Later, on the death of St. Adelheid, the foundress and first Abbess of Kitzingen on the Main, she was called to rule that abbey while still retaining the government of Ochsenfurt. St. Boniface seems to have had a threefold purpose in summoning these Anglo-Saxon nuns as his auxiliaries: to propagate the full observance of the Benedictine Rule by new foundations; to introduce it into already founded monasteries, and to restore its observance in others; and finally to bring their gentle influence to bear on the fierce Teuton women, both by example and by the education imparted to their children. Ochsenfurt gradually declined, most probably owing to its proximity to Kitzingen. There is no record of it having any other Abbess after St. Thecla. The tombs of St. Thecla and St. Adelheid in the church at Kitzingen were profaned in the Peasants War of 1525; by a fanatic of Kitzingen who used the heads to play at skittles; and when the church was rebuilt (1695), the venerable bodies were covered with rubbish. Her Feast Day is October 15th.

Spiritual Thought

"The biggest men and women with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men and women with the smallest minds. Think big anyway."

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



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