

ST BRIDGET of Ireland

CATHOLIC CHURCH

1024 W. Main St. Berryville, VA 22611

April 19, 2020



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).
George Darnell 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



Divine Mercy Sunday

Sometimes it seems that one of the great struggles in the spiritual life is letting go of past sins. We go to confession, but we do not seem to be able to forget them, especially if they are serious. Every time we think about them, we begin feeling guilty again, we lose our peace of soul. For some, this may lead to feeling a need to confess the same sin over and over.

Think about the woman caught in the act of adultery (Jn 8;1-11). When Jesus says to her he does not condemn her, we know she has been forgiven. She knew she was being shown an incredible act of mercy. Can we imagine her spending the rest of her days doubting whether she had been forgiven? Can we imagine her spending day after day torturing herself with questions about her worthiness for such a gift? Instead, can we not imagine rejoicing in that gift? We can almost hear her saying, "Yes, I sinned. But that man forgave me. God forgave me. I have been given new life by that man. By God's grace, I have been made new."

We should be able to say the same after each confession. Memories of past sins linger beyond the moment when the words of absolution are spoken, but we need to remember who it is who really absolved us of our sin: Jesus Christ. If Jesus could look at that woman and say, "I do not condemn you," and send her on her way to lead a new life without looking back, why should we doubt that he says that to us each time we go to confession? It is Christ who is speaking to us through the priest. The words of absolution, which cast our sins behind us, are powerful words because it is Christ who absolves.

We might not forget things we have done, we may feel terrible about them, but if they have been confessed, then God looks at those sins as being behind us. He desires to forget them. Why should we let them trouble us? We should be able to say, too, that God's mercy has made of us a new creation. There may be sins that we seem to struggle with over and over, but even that should never prevent us from trusting the mercy of God.

Pope St. John Paul II declared that the Sunday after Easter should be called Divine Mercy Sunday. In the 1930s, Our Lord spoke to a Polish nun named St. Faustina Kowalska. He asked her to promote devotion to Divine Mercy. To help spread this devotion, he asked for an image to be struck, a chaplet to be prayed, and a Church feast day to celebrate this most beautiful and powerful attribute of God. John Paul II worked hard to bring St. Faustina's message to the world.

Given that we so often struggle with our histories of sin, we can begin to see why this feast day is so important. In her diary, Saint Faustina records the following words, spoken to her by Jesus:

299 - "The two rays (white and red rays depicted on the Divine Mercy image) **denote Blood and Water. The pale ray stands for the water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls...**

The two rays issued forth from the very depths of My tender mercy when my agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the cross.

Those rays shield souls from the wrath of my Father. Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold of him, I desire that the first Sunday after Easter be the Feast of Mercy.

300 -- On this day ... tell the whole world of my great mercy; that whoever approaches the Fount of Life on this day will be granted complete remission of sins and punishment. Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My mercy.

301 -- Oh, how much I am hurt by a soul's distrust! Such a soul professes that I am Holy and Just but does not believe that I am Mercy and does not trust in my goodness. ... My heart rejoices in this title of Mercy.

Proclaim that mercy is the greatest attribute of God. All the works of My hands are crowned with mercy.

Note the moment when Jesus says he is hurt by our distrust of His mercy. If we are allowing ourselves to be tormented by memories of past sins, if we are allowing them to make us question our

Mass Times & Intentions

Mass Intentions made at the Parish office
GF-Green Field RH-Rose Hill

All intentions will be said at
private Mass

Monday April 20

Noon Special Intention
Fr. Paul

Tuesday April 21

Noon Mass Special Intention
Msgr Stanley Krempa

Wednesday April 22

9 AM + Mr. & Mrs. David Stinson

Thursday April 23

Noon + Everett Joyce

Friday April 24

Noon + Alexander Coutney

Saturday April 25

9 AM
5:30 PM

Sunday April 26

10 AM Parish Family

Prayer List

Remember the following in your prayers:

Bill Dresher, Brian Dixon,
Laurie Custidero, John Blair,
Fr. Michael Dobbins, Jim Willis,
Matthew Lewis, David Smith,
Michael Gessner (Military Service, Iraq),
Tricia & Courtney Dabney, Phillip Wilcox,
Jack Cameron, Maggie O'Connor,
John Caroselli, Fred Curtis,
Michael Boyd, Tony Tringale,
Jim Lewandowski and Ryan Otey.

Please contact Becky Jackson at
540-955-1715 to be added
or taken off prayer list.

worthiness of God's love, perhaps we need to ask ourselves: Do I really trust in his mercy? Do I see God as continually holding my past sins against me and that He will never forget them?

Nothing would seem to be farther from what God has revealed to us through the Scriptures (Psalm 103) and through His Son. That's why we need the feast of Divine Mercy

FYI

Bulletin: We are publishing the bulletin in the office and are placing them on our website weekly and a few copies in the narthex if you cannot get it on our website - StBridgetberryville.org

Parish office will be CLOSED Friday April 10th until Monday April 20th for staff to have time away at home.

Collections during this temporary period is being handled in the parish office. We really want to accommodate your generous offertory and requests a few favors, please. If you want to keep up your weekly donations and mail them to us, we are good with that. If you want to make a monthly payment, just send us one regular envelope with that month's payment. You may also include the second collection offerings in the appropriate envelope, as we always count and deposit it for the purpose it was meant to be used for. If you want to give cash in your envelopes, please DO NOT MAIL. You may drop them off in the poor box at the back of the church. We do regular pick-ups of both the candles and poor box. We are very blessed in our church family with the most generous of parishioners. Please let us help you during this uncertain time. The church is open from 9 AM - 9 PM for personal prayer, not more than 10 in the church at one time. And Thank You.

Faith Direct: St. Bridget of Ireland needs your support now more than ever! Join the parishioners who are using Faith Direct for automated giving to our parish. Faith Direct offers a safe and secure way to donate to our parish in this time of uncertainty. There is no cost to you, and the program provides a great benefit to our parish. Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/VA605, or text 'Enroll' to (Text-to-Give Number).

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

Make It Sew is a group of parishioners who are busy making cloth masks for the 10,000 requested from the community by the Winchester Med. Center for daily use by the many workers throughout the hospital. If you want to help, contact Christi McMullen at women@stbridgetberryville.org or call the parish office and we can get you involved.

St. Bridget Women's Group: We are still collection baby items in the narthex for the ABBA Center in Winchester. The Baby Shower has been canceled but the items will be delivered to Abba later. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Men's Club Email List: To receive our emails send an email to men@stbridgetberryville.org

April 19, 2020 Divine Mercy Said: "...that whoever approaches the Fount of Life on this day will be granted complete remission of sins and punishment. Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My mercy. Oh, how much I am hurt by a soul's distrust! Such a soul professes that I am Holy and Just but does not believe that I am Mercy and does not trust in My Goodness. My Heart rejoices in this title of Mercy." (St. Faustina Diary, 300) "Proclaim that mercy is the greatest attribute of God. All the works of My hands are crowned with mercy." (St. Faustina Diary, 301) "Used with permission of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the B.V.M."

Veritas Young Adults Group: Following the guidance/example of Bishop Burbidge and civic leaders, we will be adopting the preventative measure of canceling ALL Young Adult events until further notice. youngadults@stbridgetberryville.org.

Pilgrimage to the St. Ann Shrines of Quebec has been postponed until August 2021. If you are registered, stay registered if you want to go.

Someone has a BIG birthday this week and their name is on the mass intention list along with Msgr Krempa who has a birthday also! Send them Blessings in abundance!

Saint of the Week

St. Franca Visalta:

Franca was born in 1170 in Piacenza, Italy. She was placed in the Benedictine convent of Saint Syrus at Piacenza, Italy in 1177 at age seven and she joined the Order at age 14. Franca became abbess while still young but was removed from the office due to the severe austerities she imposed, and she became isolated from most of her sisters. However, one of the sisters, Carentia, agreed with her discipline. When Carentia entered the Cistercian noviate at Rapallo, Italy, Franca persuaded her parents to build a Cistercian house at Montelana, Italy which they both then entered. Franca became abbess of the community, which later moved to Pittoli, Italy. Franca always maintained the strict austerities she imposed on herself, even in the face of failing health, and spent most nights in chapel, praying for hours. Her Feast Day is April 26th.

Education Program

Chelsea Academy: A private, Catholic school for grades 4-12 in Front Royal is accepting applications for the 2020-21 academic year. Please go to www.chelseaacademy.org or call 540 635-0622 for more information, or email admissions director Nora Mulhern at nmulhern@chelseaacademy.org. Preparation for College, Preparation for Life.

Save the Date: St. Bridget Church will be conducting its second annual Vacation Bible School June 22-26. All students age 5-12 are welcome. More details to come.

RE Classes will be virtual for the rest of the 2019-20 school year.

Spiritual Thought

"Jesus: 'My child, life on earth is a struggle indeed; a great struggle for my kingdom. But fear not, because you are not alone. I am always supporting you, so lean on Me as you struggle, fearing nothing. Take the vessel of trust and draw from the fountain of life – for yourself, but also for other souls, especially such as are distrustful of My goodness.'" (No. 1488)



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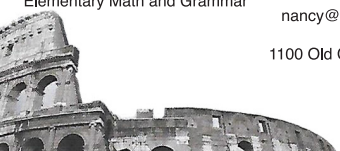


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