



ST. BRIDGET OF IRELAND CATHOLIC CHURCH

1024 West Main Street • Berryville VA 22611

Sunday Mass Schedule
Saturday 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass
Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 12:00 p.m.

Weekday Mass Schedule
Monday & Tuesday 12:00 p.m.
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.
Thursday & Friday 12:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m.

Holy Days
12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Confessions
Mondays 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Saturdays 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

First Friday
Adoration following
12:00 p.m. Mass
Rosary &
Divine Mercy Chaplet

Eucharistic Adoration
Mondays during Confessions
from 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Father Paul Grankauskas
Pastor

John Sengewalt
Religious Education

Stacy Sefton
Music Program

Jenny Sorenson
Organist

JoAn Drake
EMHC & Lectors

Becky Jackson
Prayer List, Sacristan

Parish Office
Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
540-277-2943
office@stbridgetberryville.org
Stbridgetberryville.org

Baptism
Contact parish office for
information.

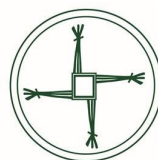
Marriage
Contact parish priest at least
six (6) months prior to
proposed date of the wedding.

Rosary
The Rosary is prayed after the
12:00 p.m. Mass on First Friday
each month.

Hospitalized & Homebound
Contact the parish office so that
hospitalized and homebound
parishioners may receive
pastoral care.

FISH of Clarke County
Food donations may be left
in the narthex on the second
Sunday each month.

E-Giving
Our e-giving partner is Faith
Direct. Our church code
VA605.



Bulletin
The bulletin deadline is
12:00 p.m. Friday one week
before publication.

Religious Education
540-277-2948
dre@stbridgetberryville.org
Religious Education classes are
held from the Sunday following
Labor Day until the first
Sunday in May. Classes are
Sundays from 10:15 a.m. to
11:30 a.m.

**Knights of Columbus
Council 16938**
Michael Murrow, *Grand Knight*
knights@stbridgetberryville.org
For more information please
visit KofCberryville.org.

Men's Club
George Darnell
men@stbridgetberryville.org
Meetings are the first Saturday
of each month at 10:00 a.m. in
Hobert Hall. Breakfast is served
following 9:00 a.m. Mass.

Women's Group
Ruth Hayes
women@stbridgetberryville.org
Meetings are the first Tuesday
each month following
12:00 p.m. Mass.

Veritas Young Adults Group
Laurel Morris
youngadults@stbridgetberryville.org
For adults in their 20s and 30s.
Join us for faith, service and
fellowship!

24th
Sunday
in
Ordinary
Time

"You wicked
servant! I forgave
you your entire
debt because you
begged me to.
Should you not
have had pity on
your fellow servant,
as I had pity
on you?"

Matthew 18:32-33

Twenty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

FIRST READING _____ SIRACH 27:30-28:7

Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight. The vengeful will suffer the LORD's vengeance, for he remembers their sins in detail. Forgive your neighbor's injustice; then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven. Could anyone nourish anger against another and expect healing from the LORD? Could anyone refuse mercy to another like himself, can he seek pardon for his own sins? If one who is but flesh cherishes wrath, who will forgive his sins? Remember your last days, set enmity aside; remember death and decay, and cease from sin! Think of the commandments, hate not your neighbor; remember the Most High's covenant, and overlook faults.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM _____ PSALM 103

*The Lord is kind and merciful,
slow to anger, and rich in compassion.*

Bless the LORD, O my soul;
and all my being, bless his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits. **R.**
He pardons all your iniquities,
heals all your ills.
He redeems your life from destruction,
crowns you with kindness and compassion. **R.**
He will not always chide,
nor does he keep his wrath forever.
Not according to our sins does he deal with us,
nor does he requite us according to our crimes. **R.**
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he put our transgressions from us. **R.**

SECOND READING _____ ROMANS 14:7-9

Brothers and sisters:

None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

I give you a new commandment, says the Lord; love one another as I have loved you.

GOSPEL _____ MATTHEW 18:21-35

Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times. That is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who decided to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the accounting, a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount. Since he had no way of paying it back, his master ordered him to be sold, along with his wife, his children, and all his property, in payment of the debt. At that, the servant fell down, did him homage, and said, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.' Moved with compassion the master of that servant let him go and forgave him the loan. When that servant had left, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a much smaller amount. He seized him and started to choke him, demanding, 'Pay back what you owe.' Falling to his knees, his fellow servant begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.' But he refused. Instead, he had the fellow servant put in prison until he paid back the debt. Now when his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were deeply disturbed, and went to their master and reported the whole affair. His master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?' Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers until he should pay back the whole debt.

So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart.”

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.



Prayer List

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Fr. Michael Dobbins | Jim Lewandowski |
| Jim Willis | Connie Guevremont |
| Matthew Lewis | Victoria White |
| Jack Cameron | Maria Yeager |
| John Caroselli | Patricia Cobb |
| Fred Curtis | Dan Purtill |
| Tony Tringale | Gayle Keenan |
| David Smith | Dick Drake |
| Mary Leps | Carol Ann Chaffin |
| Dianne Seaver | |



The Exaltation of the Cross consists in the fact that “the event of the Cross and Resurrection abides and draws everything toward life.” (CCC 1085). We exalt Christ’s cross whenever we freely take it up, filled with the certainty that the ultimate meaning and fulfillment we crave in life comes to us through this Passion. “With the cross we are freed from the restraint of the enemy, and we clutch on to the strength of salvation” (Saint Theodore the Studite). For salvation means death has died. It means freedom from all of our limitations and brokenness. “We cannot produce or give any other fruit,” writes Saint Catherine of Siena, “but the fruit we have taken from the tree of life.” No wonder that “the sign of the cross makes kings of all those reborn in Christ” (Saint Leo the Great).

Masses for the Week

† For the repose of the soul

Daily Readings

Numbers 21:4b-9
Psalm 78
Philippians 2:6-11
John 3:13-17

1 Corinthians 12:12-14,
27-31a
Psalm 100
John 19:25-27

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13
Psalm 33
Luke 7:31-35

1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Psalm 118
Luke 7:36-50

1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Psalm 17
Luke 8:1-3

1 Corinthians 15:35-37,
42-49
Psalm 56
Luke 8:4-15

Isaiah 55:6-9
Psalm 145
Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a
Matthew 20:1-16a

Mass Intentions

Monday, September 14
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
12:00 p.m.
Rev. Charles Pavlick

Tuesday, September 15
Our Lady of Sorrows
12:00 p.m.
† The people of Beirut

Wednesday, September 16
Saint Cornelius and Saint Cyprian
9:00 a.m.
Michael and Sharon Gormas

Thursday, September 17
Saint Robert Bellamine
12:00 p.m.
† Aurora Shea

Friday, September 18
12:00 p.m.
Andrew D’Andrea

Saturday, September 19
Saint Januarius
9:00 a.m.
† Januarius Mohr
5:30 p.m.
† Ellen Kenny

Sunday, September 20
Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00 a.m.
Parish Family
12:00 p.m.



PASTOR'S WORDS

This weekend's Gospel contains a parable about the master of a household who forgives a servant a great debt. The servant, in turn, refuses to show mercy to another servant who owes him a debt. The idea is that the servant should have followed his master's example.

Many of you know that one of my favorite lines from the Scriptures comes from the Psalm we are praying this weekend: "For as the heavens are high above the earth, so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he put our transgressions from us." I try to incorporate those words each time I hear confessions. I don't know if people get tired of hearing me repeat those words, but I think they are worth repeating.

When we confess our sins – when we acknowledge our debts – we are asking God to be patient with us, to be merciful with us. God wants us to ask for what we need, and we know that often we stand in need of His mercy. We know from readings these past few weekends that the Church has the power to bind and loose, a power given her by Christ. This means that when we hear the words of absolution being spoken, it is not just the priest speaking. It is Christ absolving us of our sins through the ministry of his priest.

Again, the Scriptures tell us that God does not want to see us perish in our sins. He wants and desires to show us mercy. He rejoices when we recognize our sins and turn away from them, when we seek what He so desires to give. When God forgives us our sins, they are cast behind us. We can say God "forgets" them in the sense that He no longer holds them against us. All of this comes when we have the humility to ask.

But, Christ commanded us at the Last Supper to love each other as he has loved us. Thus, if he is willing to be patient and merciful with us, He asks us to be the same with each other. Thus, the parable is not simply a story about a master of a household and a servant. It is about our heavenly Father and us.

To forgive others does not always come easy to us. We are not divine, after all. We are only human. For a little help in this area, I close with some words from Father Jacques Phillippe, a French priest and writer/spiritual director. If you have not read any of his books, I highly recommend you do. Listen to what he says, and you'll see why:

"When it is hard to forgive, this is a grace we must ask for. Sometimes our human strength is not enough, and we must ask God in humility and prayer. Sometimes it takes time to receive this grace, and this is normal. When we're very deeply wounded, receiving this grace can take time and a lot of prayer, patience, and humility. ... It is difficult to say, 'I forgive you.' It is easier to forgive the way Jesus does. When Jesus forgave his enemies from the cross, he turned to the Father and said, 'Father, forgive them. They do not know what they do.' When we, too, find it hard to say, 'I forgive you,' we, too, must turn to the Father and say those words of Jesus, 'Father, forgive him – or forgive her – because he (or she) does not know what he (or she) is doing.' ... To forgive, we have to go through the heart of the Father."

Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Paul Grankauskas

R.C.I.A., the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process developed by the Catholic Church for prospective converts to Catholicism who are above the age of infant baptism. Candidates are gradually introduced to aspects of Catholic beliefs and practices. It is also a program for baptized Catholics who wish to complete their Sacraments of Initiation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. If you want to learn more about our upcoming RCIA classes, please call the parish office.

Religious Education: Classes will begin on September 13.



ST. FAUSTINA OF DIVINE MERCY SAID: "Jesus gave me the grace of knowing myself. In this divine light I see my principal fault; it is pride which takes the form of my closing up within myself and of a lack of simplicity in my relations with Mother Superior. The second light concerns speaking. I sometimes talk too much. A thing could be settled in one or two words, and as for me, I

take too much time about it. But Jesus wants me to use that time to say some short indulgenced prayers for the souls in purgatory. And the Lord says that every word will be weighed on the day of judgment..." (St. Faustina Diary, 274)

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

Women's Bible Study: Walking With Purpose (WWP) is a Catholic Bible study that aims to bring women to a deeper personal relationship with Jesus by offering personal study and small group discussions that link our everyday challenges with solutions given to us through the teaching of Christ and the Roman Catholic Church. This study is for women of all ages and stages. No prior scripture knowledge is required. All are welcome! A weekly zoom meeting will be held this year, with the intention of bringing this life-changing program to St. Bridget Parish in person in the future. For more information, contact Marcia Cochran by email cochran.marcia@gmail.com or call 757-409-7165.

Mass for Marriage Jubilarians: Mass Celebrating Golden & Silver Jubilarians (Married in 1970 and 1995) will be held at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington on Sunday, October 4, at 2:30 p.m. Bishop Michael Burbidge will be the principal celebrant and homilist. A light reception of cake and punch with an opportunity for a photograph with Bishop Burbidge will follow in Burke Hall. Please call the parish office to register no later than **September 18**. Register even if you cannot attend and the Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life will send you a certificate commemorating your 25 or 50 years of marriage.

Saint of the Week

Saint Gabriel Taurin Dufresse

Gabriel Taurin Dufresse was born December 8, 1750 in Lezoux, France. He was ordained a priest of the Society for Foreign Missions of Paris at the age of twenty-four. Two years later, Gabriel arrived in China to undertake his missionary labors in the country's Szechwan Province. The renewed persecution of Chinese Christians in 1784 led to Father Dufresse's arrest. He soon escaped from prison and was taken in by a Chinese Catholic family. Father Dufresse subsequently surrendered himself to the pagan authorities after an auxiliary bishop instructed all the priests staying with families to turn themselves in rather than expose their hosts to the danger of arrest. Father Dufresse was imprisoned and then exiled to Macao. In 1789 he managed to return to Szechwan Province. In the years that followed, his missionary labors were blessed with increasing success. In 1800 he was consecrated an auxiliary bishop. The resumption of intense anti-Christian persecution in 1805 put Bishop Dufresse in so much danger that he had to change his place of residence almost daily. In May of 1815, he was re-captured, and suffered beheading on September 14, 1815. His Feast Day is September 14.

