

ST. BRIDGET CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

CHURCH
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SCHOOL
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WWW.SAINTBRIDGETS.ORG

THOUGHTS FROM FATHER HARRIS

[Jesus told a story about a father who said to his son.] "Go and work in the vineyard today.' 'I don't want to,' he answered. But later he changed his mind and went."

Matthew 21:29-29

A man turned to drink. He also turned from God and his family. One day while walking along, repenting how his life turned out, he saw a bent, rusty nail in the gutter. It reminded him of himself and his life. So he picked it up and took it home. Placing the nail on the anvil, he began to straighten it out and clean it up. An hour later, it looked almost new again. Then it occurred to him. He could straighten out and clean up his own life in the same way. That thought triggered his conversion. He turned away from drink and back to God and to his family. Today, he keeps that nail, straightened and cleaned in his wallet.

Was there a time when I was almost like that bent, rusty nail? What changed me? [VISION, from Mark Link, S.J.]

Respect Life Month is October: Human Life and Dignity

For the Church, there is no distinction between defending human life and promoting the dignity of the human person. Pope Benedict XVI writes in *Caritas in Veritate*. . . that "The Church forcefully maintains this link between life ethics and social ethics, fully aware that 'a society lacks solid foundations when, on the one hand, it asserts values such as the dignity of the person, justice and peace, but then, on the other hand, radically acts to the contrary by allowing or tolerating a variety of ways in which human life is devalued and violated, especially where it is weak or marginalized.'" (no. 15).

As a gift from God, every human life is sacred from conception to natural death. The life and dignity of every person must be respected and protected at every stage and in every condition. The right to life is the first and most fundamental principle of human rights that leads Catholics to actively work for a world of greater respect for human life and greater commitment to justice and peace.

The bishops pledged to affirm the intrinsic value of human life and the dignity of every human being in a way that transforms the culture by implementing "The Life and Dignity of the Human Person" priority plan for 2010-2012. (continued on page 2)

DAILY WORD

Mon., 10/2	Zec 8:1-8/Mt 18:1-5, 10
Tue., 10/3	Zec 8:20-23/Lk 9:51-56
Wed., 10/4	Neh 2:1-8/Lk 9:57-62
Thu., 10/5	Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/ Lk 10:1-12
Fri., 10/6	Bar 1:15-22/Lk 10:13-16
Sat., 10/7	Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Lk 10:17-24
Sun., 10/8	Is 5:1-7/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43

COME JOIN US!

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Weekday and Holy Day Masses

Please consult the bulletin/website.

Reconciliation

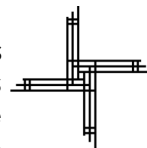
Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

St. Bridget Catholic Church is a Christian Community which exists to continue the mission of Jesus Christ under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. As such, we are committed to working for the coming of God's Kingdom. We accomplish this through worship, community life, Christian education and service to those who are in need.



OUR PARISH FAMILY

NEW PARISHONERS

We welcome the following new parishioners to our parish family:

Amy and Justin Hamlin
Lucas, Cole, Violet

Jen and Kris Novak
Tyler, Brookelyn

REST IN PEACE

We remember and pray for our deceased parish members and relatives:

Francis and Helen Ptacek
uncle and aunt of Jean (Jerry) Morrow

TITHES AND FINANCIAL NEWS

SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

Adult Contributions.....	\$10,412.00
Loose Collection	\$839.68
Debt Retirement	\$821.00
SCRIP (70 Orders)	\$670.49
Priest Emergency Fund	\$100.00
Donuts	\$250.00

FROM THE PASTOR (CONTINUED FROM FRONT)

To achieve this goal, the priority plan includes ongoing education, prayer, policy, and advocacy efforts to mobilize the Catholic community on issues of life, justice, and peace. In this way, the Catholic community celebrates the gift of human life and witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Sexual Abuse

The Catholic Church is working diligently to prevent sexual abuse by parish employees, volunteers, deacons, and priests. If you have been sexually abused by someone associated with the Church and would like to report or discuss the experience, we urge you to contact: Kathy Drinkwine 715-718-1110. The Diocese of Superior welcomes your call and understands how difficult it may be to reach out in this situation. The phone number provided is confidential and dedicated solely to these calls. Know that your call will be treated with respect, dignity, and compassion.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, October 2

- 8:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion
- 6:30 p.m. DivorceCare

Tuesday, October 3

- 8:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 10:30 a.m. Martha Quilting Group
- 5:15 p.m. Mass with Anointing of the Sick
+Int: *Art Dolan by Rose Marie Yunker*
- 7:00 p.m. Signs and Wonders Bible Study

Wednesday, October 4

- 9:00 a.m. School Mass
+Int: *Anne Grove by Joyce Grove and Family*
- 10:00 a.m. Signs and Wonders Bible Study
- 1:30 p.m. Mass at Comforts of Home - Falls
+Int: *Joshua and Mary Kurer by the Kurer Family*
- 1:30 p.m. Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion at Kinnic Health
- 3:15-4:30p.m. Grade 6-8 Faith Formation
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Choir Practice
- 5:30 p.m. Faith Formation Meal
- 6:30 p.m. Faith Formation Classes
- 7:45 p.m. Praise Team Practice

Thursday, October 5

- 10:00 a.m. Unleashed Book Study
- 1:00 p.m. Afternoon Euchre
- 1:30 p.m. Mass at Wellhaven
+Int: *Glen Andersen by Karen and Dennis Rich*
- 7:00 p.m. SATB Choir Practice
- 7:00 p.m. RCIA

Friday, October 6

- 7:30 a.m. Rosary
- 8:00 a.m. Mass
+Int: *Darold Pechacek by Pat and Marilyn Simon and Family*

Saturday, October 7

- 7:30 a.m. Men's Group
- 9:00 a.m. Eucharistic Minister Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. Wedding: Iehl/Ebensteiner
- 3:00 p.m. Wedding: Deiss/Kelly
- 4-4:30 p.m. Individual Reconciliation
- 4:30 p.m. Van leaves for LIFELINE
- 5:00 p.m. Mass
+Int: *Living and Deceased Members of the St. Bridget CCW by St. Bridget CCW*

Sunday, October 8

- 8:45 a.m. Rosary
- 9:30 a.m. Mass
+Int: *Stanley and Jessie Kukuska by the Kukuska Family*
- 11:00 a.m. Mass
Int: *Churches of St. Bridget and St. Mary*
- 2:00 p.m. Spanish Mass at St. Mary's-Hammond
- 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group
- 7:00 p.m. Mass at St. Thomas More-UWRF Newman Center

PARISH LIFE

Radio/TV Mass Broadcasts

The radio broadcast is aired over WEVR 1550 AM and 106.3 FM on Sunday at 9:00 a.m. for our sick and shut-ins. Tune to Channel 16 on Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. or Thursday at 9:00 a.m. for a TV rebroadcast. The Mass for September 30 is in loving memory of Deceased Members of the Gavin and Wirth Families by Judy Reiersen.

The Gathering (for those 60 +)

Join us Tuesday, October 10 at 11 a.m. for a tour and tasting at Belle Vinez Winery After the tour, a meal will be served at St. Bridget. Register for The Gathering at the table in the main entry of the church. Meet at Belle Vinez (W10829 875th Ave, River Falls, WI 54022) at 11 a.m. Then join us around noon in the Fellowship Hall at St. Bridget for our meal.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

What is domestic violence? Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that can include physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, sexual abuse or financial abuse (using money and financial tools to exert control).

Domestic violence is a pervasive, life-threatening crime that affects millions of individuals across the United States regardless of age, sex, economic status, race, religion or education.

High-profile cases of domestic violence will attract headlines, but thousands of people experience domestic abuse every day. They come from all walks of life.

River Falls domestic violence hotline is: 800-345-5104 answered 24/7 or call 911. If you are not able to speak freely, text to 715-821-8626, 24/7.

Martha Group

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, October 3, in Lubich Hall from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Come anytime, and if you like, bring a sack lunch. You need not be a member of St. Bridget Church. Questions, contact Sue Meyer 715-425-5281 or sue.dmeyer4@gmail.com.

Accompanist needed for School Masses

St. Bridget is looking for an accompanist to play for our school Masses during the school year, mostly on Wednesdays at 9 a.m. This paid position will begin November 8. Pay is commensurate with experience. Proficiency in piano, and experience with accompanying singers is preferred. Music for Mass is led by the students along with an adult director who gather to practice 30 minutes before Mass begins. Contact Barrett in the office for information.

Do you come to Mass on the weekend?

If you do then we can use your help in one of our many liturgical/music ministries. Please consider helping out in one or more of these ministries: Greeters, Ushers, Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Video Operators, Projection Operators, Altar Servers, Youth Choir, SATB Choir, Praise Team, Cantors, Resurrection Choir, Adult Altar Servers for funerals, Dance Ministry, Eucharistic Ministers for Nursing Homes. Training and mentorship is provided. For more information on any of these ministries contact Barrett in the office. There are also short descriptions of each ministry on our church website under "opportunities to serve."

Do you play drums?

The Praise Team is looking for a drummer to play for the 11am Mass three Sundays a month. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings from 7:45-9 p.m. Can't make every week? No problem, we can work with your schedule. Contact Barrett in the office for more details.

FAITH FORMATION

Rake A Difference Day

One activity during this year's "Fall Stretch" for youth will focus on our Rake-A-Difference Day. This program will allow middle and high school youth of our parish along with adult volunteers to assist those in our community who need help with raking leaves. This family-friendly volunteer activity will take place in October. Stay tuned to future bulletins to learn how you can sign up to receive raking services and also how you can volunteer to help rake leaves.

One Confirmation Small Group Leader Needed

If you love high school teens, you will love being a group leader! You do not need to have all the answers. The discussion questions and lessons are provided. Your job is to sit with your small group of 6-8 youth each week and make it an inviting and fun group to be a part of. The time commitment is 6:30-7:30 p.m. each Wednesday. Contact Tessa if you're feeling called to help!

Classroom Aide for Grades 6 Needed!

The role of an aide in a classroom is to support the teacher by handing out materials, guiding students who need extra help finding Bible passages, assisting in facilitating games, and helping to keep our youth focused during the lesson. We welcome high school seniors, college students, and adults for this role! Classes meet each Wednesday from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Aides are also needed for the 3-4:30 p.m. middle school class. Contact Tessa if you'd like to be an aide!

Faith Formation Year Kicked Off!

Last Wednesday, faith formation families gathered for Mass to begin the Faith Formation year. Please remember our youth in prayer as they grow closer to Christ during this Faith Formation year.

Loving Father,
thank you for bringing
us to the start of another faith
formation year.

Bless our students, our catechists
and their families as they
open their hearts and minds
to your Holy Spirit.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

RCIA

We have had our first gathering of the RCIA journey. Currently we have 7 inquirers beginning this journey:

Rich Jorgensen

Terry Ewy

Brandon Steffensen

Austin Mahanke

Andrew Coonan

Olivia Kessler

Tara Blonigen

Please keep them in your prayers. If you have been worshipping with us at St. Bridget and would also like to consider becoming a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church, it is not too late. Please contact Jodie Rubenzer or Father Harris at the church office. We'd love to share this journey with you.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Remember in Your Prayers

- If someone you know becomes hospitalized and would like a visit, please call the church office.
- Let us know if someone would like to be prayed for in church or be listed in the bulletin prayer list.
- To be included in the prayer line, call Virginia Magner at 715-684-2336.

Daniella Carrasco

Gary Cater

Gerald Cernohous

Erica Glover

Dorian Hintz

Ann Holland

Dawn Huberty

Barb Ickler

Kathy Mills

Rose Marie Ogden

Gwen Paulson

Kelli Schmidt

Izabella Thompson

AREA EVENTS

National Marriage Encounter Weekend

A two day National Marriage Encounter Weekend is scheduled for November 4 - 5 in Eau Claire. Marriage Encounter is designed for couples of all ages and denominations who are interested in having a closer relationship in their marriage. The weekend will begin on Saturday morning with 7:30 registration and close on Sunday afternoon by 3:45 p.m. For information contact Chippewa Valley Marriage Encounter, at 715-832-3296, rippsk@charter.net, or through our website at www.marriage-encounter.org/Affiliates/chippewa.htm

Moose Lodge Brunch: Sunday, October 8

There is a brunch to benefit Masonic Charities from 9 a.m. -1 p.m. on October 8 at the River Falls Moose Lodge. Cost: \$9; Youth 5 and under free.

See through the Scriptures Workshop

A seminar will take place on Saturday, October 21, 2017 at Ezekiel Lutheran Church (202 S. 2nd St., River Falls, WI). Rev. Dr. Gene Orr will be using Crossways International's highly acclaimed course and teaching visuals, See Through the Scriptures®. It makes the Bible more accessible by taking readers step-by-step through the entire biblical narrative, putting everything in clear context. With 44 full-color teaching graphics designed to help people grasp and remember the key events and concepts of the Bible, students gain a new appreciation for everything that preceded Jesus in order to more fully understand the deeper meaning of His ministry and message of love and servanthood. Tuition is \$75. Register online at www.crossways.org or you may call 800-257-7308. Registrations are due by Friday, October 13, 2017.

River Falls Run with the Cops

Join CVTC Criminal Justice Club, UWRF and local law enforcement departments for River Falls Run With the Cops October 10 at UWRF to benefit Special Olympics Wisconsin. The night will include a glow run (5K and 1 mile run/walk), law enforcement vehicle display, and kids' obstacle course/dash. Onsite registration begins at 5 p.m. with the glow run starting at 7:45 p.m. To register in advance, visit www.runwithcops.org.

PARISH STAFF

CONTACT INFORMATION



Fr. Gerald Harris, Pastor
715-425-1879 ext. 103, pastor@stbparish.com



Sue Steckbauer, Parish Administrator
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Kristin Miller, Office Assistant
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Susan Landry, Accountant
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Gregg Miller, Pastoral Minister/Visitor
715-425-1879 ext. 110, visitation@stbparish.com



Diane Wengelski, Elementary Faith Formation
715-425-1879 ext. 105, faithform@stbparish.com



Tessa Schuermann, Teen Faith Formation
715-425-1879 ext. 106, youthministry@stbparish.com



Amy Burns, Youth Minister
715-425-1879 ext. 107, hsleader@stbparish.com



Barrett Grove, Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries
715-425-1879 ext. 108, liturgy@stbparish.com



Jodie Rubenzer, Discipleship and Spiritual Growth
715-307-2524, spiritualgrowth@stbparish.com



Kelly Wengelski, Faith Formation Assistant
715-425-1879 ext. 111, FFsupport@stbparish.com



Emma LaPorte, Website Coordinator
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Randy Koller, Maintenance
715-425-1879 ext. 112, facilities@stbparish.com

Kitchen: 715-425-1879 ext. 117

Lubich Hall: 715-425-1879 ext. 118

St. Bridget Parish School



Jeanne McCoy, Principal
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