

ST. BRIDGET CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



awaken FAITH



build COMMUNITY



make DISCIPLES

From the pastor...

There are no Masses being celebrated in the Diocese of Superior due to the coronavirus/ COVID19 pandemic beginning March 18 until further notice. There is a letter included in this bulletin from Bishop Powers describing the decision. The precautions that are being taken are very prudent. This "coronavirus flu" can be very deadly to those who have compromised health situations. It was hard to get my head around what was happening at first. But now I know we will get through this moment. Everyday there is new information and instructions. We have to be attentive and informed as we move forward.

I have spoken to many people who are concerned. I am, too. But, remember we have faith in God. God will not abandon us, God will never abandon us. Although we cannot gather on the weekends for a while, we can still pray and reach out to one another maintaining social distancing as best we can. Here are some ideas:

- Pray. Make a commitment to pray every day to get through this time.
- Make phone calls to a neighbor or relative who are unable to go out or have face to face conversation from social distancing.
- Offer to shop groceries and figure out a way to drop off the food without physical contact.
- Watch Mass from St. Bridget on Facebook or St. Bridget [website](#) or other churches on line. We will have Mass posted on Facebook Sunday morning.
- Our St. Bridget Mass is broadcast on Hudson Community Television channel 16, (ComCast customers only) Wednesday 8:00 p.m. and Thursday 8:00 a.m.
- Radio Mass from St. Bridget Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. on WEVR 106.3 FM and 1550 AM.
- Use FORMED The Catholic Faith. On Demand. I call it Netflix for Catholics. We have a subscription through the parish. You can use it for free. Thousands of movies and studies available. Go to saintbridgets.formed.org, enter your email and create a password (you'll need this to login later) and you are in. We recommend you start with *Presence* and/or *Brother Francis* (for youth)
- Finally, we want to continue our ministry here at St. Bridget and St. Mary's parishes and have the obligation to support our staff who give generously in working for us. I appreciate the uncertainty and worry affecting many of you. If you are able, please continue to provide your financial support to our parish. Since you cannot attend Mass, you may want to consider making a gift electronically if you do not already. You can contact the office for assistance or simply mail in your contribution. Contributions can also be dropped off in the church in the mail slot of the Joany Shepard Library during the day at St. Bridget. At St. Mary's there is a mail box drop at the rectory offices.

Please feel free to call Fr. Rich or myself if you want to talk.

"The St. Bridget, St. Mary Immaculate Conception, and Newman communities are praying for all of you and your loved ones: We are still here for you!" -Fr. Harris

FROM FATHER RICH

From Father Rich...

4th Sunday of Lent - Eye Witness

'Pope Francis tracks the blind man's path in the Gospel from spiritual blindness to light. Can you relate to your own spiritual blindness slowly turning to light in your life?'

"The path of the blind man... is a gradual process that begins with knowing Jesus' name. He does not know anything else about him. In fact, he says: "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes" (Jn 9:11). In response to the pressing questions of the doctors of the law he first says that Jesus is a prophet (Jn 9:17)) and then a man close to God (Jn 9:31). After he is thrown out of the Temple, excluded from society, Jesus finds him again and "opens his eyes" a second time, revealing to him his true identity: "I am the Messiah," he tells him. At this point, the man who was blind exclaims: "I believe, Lord!" (Jn 9:38), and prostrates himself before Jesus.

This is a passage of the Gospel that gives us a glimpse of the drama of the interior blindness of many people. And we glimpse our own interior blindness too because we sometimes have moments of such blindness. ...Let us open ourselves to the light of the Lord, he awaits us always in order to enable us to see better, to give us more light, to forgive us. Let us not forget this!"

Pope Francis March 30, 2014

DAILY WORD

Monday, March 23

Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday, March 24

Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday, March 25

The Annunciation of the Lord

Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday, March 26

Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47

Friday, March 27

Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday, March 28

Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53

Sunday, March 29

Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or
11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

All church events and outside activities that are held at the church are canceled until further notice. The church will remain open for individual prayer. Please note our new hours.

PRAYER LIST

- 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 - 220 - 7792.

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Laura Bowman | Sonia Steiner |
| Rod Cina | Steve Alberg |
| Linda Giardina | Grace Radtke |
| Judy Pechacek Harri | Shari Allenbach |
| Ann Holland | Sarah Roble |
| Barb Ickler | Katy Morris |
| Ray Belisle | Paula Flood |
| Joseph Pentusa | Karin Jarosch |
| Michelle Radtke | Gwen Paulson |
| Izabella Thompson | |

Rest in Peace

Dean Reis

Brother of Donna (Leo) Beskar and
Mary (Larry) Hanson



New Church Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Friday: 9:00 a.m. to Noon
 Closed Saturday and Sunday

New Church Building hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
 Friday: 8:00 a.m. to Noon.
 Saturday and Sunday: 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Free feel to call to talk during these time or leave a message and we will call you back. A list on extensions are on the back cover of the bulletin.

Where Can I Find the St. Bridget Sunday Mass?

Father will be recording a Mass on Saturday night. This Mass will be available on our [website](#) and our [Facebook](#) page on Sunday morning.

That Mass will also be aired Sundays at 9:00 a.m. on WEVR radio, 1550 AM/106.3 FM.

The Hudson Community Television channel 16, will also air this Mass on Wednesday 8:00 p.m. and Thursday 8:00 a.m. This is for Comcast customers only.

Radio Mass Aired Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

WEVR 1550 AM/106.3 FM

The Mass for March 21 is in loving memory of

Gerry Johnson



No SCRIP Sales Until Further Notice
 We are suspending all Scrip sales for the safety of our parishioners, volunteers and staff.

Welcome to our Faith!

Congratulations to Briana Lee Bauer who was welcomed into the Catholic Church at the 5:15 p.m. Mass on Tuesday, May 17 receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Briana was an RCIA candidate journeying through this process over the past few months. Briana's sponsor was her husband Nate and we congratulate them and their two boys as they grow together and deeper in their faith.

TITHES AND OFFERING WEEK OF MARCH 15

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Adult Contributions | \$7,127.00 |
| Loose Collection | \$267.82 |
| Future Parish Needs | \$886.00 |
| SCRIP Rebates (17 orders) | \$179.87 |
| Priest Emergency Fund | \$6,000.00 |
| Adult Contribution (ACH) | \$21,711.00 |
| School Tuition (ACH) | \$10,663.48 |

Pope Francis' Prayer to Our Lady, Health of the Sick, to Implore Her Protection During the Covid-19 Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

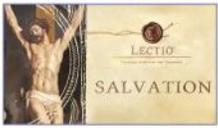
We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.



A huge thank you to our St. Bridget's community for all your concern, support and prayers. Extra thanks to Fr. Jerry, Barrett, Keith, George and the Resurrection as well as to Mary and all the funeral volunteers for being there for our family during this difficult time.

~ The family of Alvin Pechacek

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK



Lectio: Salvation
with Dr. Michael Barber

At every Sunday Mass, Catholics confess that Jesus came down from heaven "for us men and for our salvation." But what does "salvation" mean?

SIGN UP FOR FREE AT [FORMED.ORG/SIGNUP](https://formed.org/signup)

POWERED BY THE AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE®

Prayer for Healing of Coronavirus/COVID19

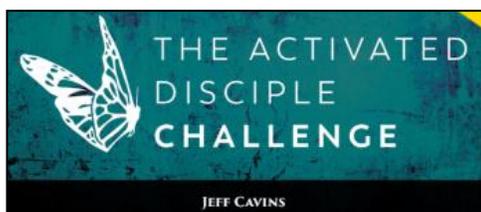
Lord Jesus Christ, our Divine Physician, we ask you to guard and protect us from Corona virus COVID - 19 and all serious illness. For all that have died from it, have mercy; for those that are ill now, bring healing. For those searching for a remedy, enlighten them, for medical caregivers helping the sick, strengthen and shield them. For those working to contain the spread, grant them success, for those afraid, grant peace. May your precious blood be our defense and salvation. By your grace, may you turn the evil of disease in to moments of consolation and hope. May we always fear the contagion of sin more than any illness. We abandon ourselves to your mercy. Amen

Pedro de la Cruz.

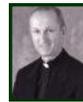
SPIRITUAL GROWTH

There is still opportunity to join an online book study of *The Activated Disciple*.

Email Jodie at spiritualgrowth@stbparish.com if you are interested. This one positive way for us to remain connected during this time.



St. Bridget Church



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



Fr. Richard Rhinehart, Associate Pastor
715-425-1870 frich@stbparish.com



Megan Carlson, Parish Administrator
715-425-1879 ext. 102, parishadmin@stbparish.com



Tammy Pitzen, Office Assistant
715-425-1879 ext. 101, recept@stbparish.com



Susan Landry, Accountant
715-425-1879 ext. 104, accountant@stbparish.com



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



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



Amy Burns, Youth Minister
715-425-1879 ext. 107, youthminister@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



Meg Andrea, Website and Communications
715-425-1879 ext. 111, media@stbparish.com



Randy Koller, Maintenance
715-425-1879 ext. 112, facilities@stbparish.com



Lynn Simons, Connections Minister
715-425-1879 ext. 109, connections@stbparish.com

St. Bridget Parish School



Brenda Steward, Principal
715-425-1872, principal@stbparish.com



Hillary Gilles, Office Assistant
715-425-1872, office@stbparish.com

Office Contact Information

Phone: 715.425.1870 **Pastoral Emergency:** 715.869.6122 **Website:** www.saintbridgets.org



DIocese of Superior Office of the Bishop

March 17, 2020

To the faithful of the Diocese of Superior,

My dear brothers and sisters, as we find ourselves in the uncertainty, confusion, and fear of the day, may we find comfort and hope in the One in whom we can be certain of. In the words of the breast plate prayer of St. Patrick:

Christ be with me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me, Christ in me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me.

In my letter of March 12, I stated that I would keep you updated as the COVID19 situation warrants. With all that has happened over the weekend and especially with the CDC limiting public gatherings to 50 or less, (with the high probability that will be reduced further) I find it necessary to take this next drastic step.

Effective Wednesday, March 18, I am suspending the public celebration of Masses until further notice. This action is something I take very seriously. The celebration of the Eucharist is the “indispensable source and summit” of the Christian life. Historically, in times of crisis the faithful naturally turn to the Church for comfort and direction and we need to do whatever we can to support our people. Therefore, although the public celebration of the Mass is suspended, I ask that we as bishop and priests, the spiritual shepherds of the Diocese, continue to celebrate weekday and Sunday Masses including the Sunday “pro Populo” Mass as required by canon law. I also ask, that where possible, our churches remain open at least part of the day for private prayer and that you encourage your people to reserve some part of their day for private prayer and devotions.

We know that a natural part of parish life includes the celebration of weddings, funerals, and baptisms. At this time, these celebrations should still take place. HOWEVER, you need to work with families to try and limit attendance. Communal reconciliation services should be cancelled and confessions should be limited to individual confession, and I suggest behind a screen. Some of you have called about communal Anointing of Sick services. I suggest these be cancelled. If you would want to do anything, set a time for 30-60 minutes where you will be available for any who would want to come to be anointed. Also, as we find ourselves in the middle of the Lenten season, one of the important elements for our elect is participation in the scrutinies. Please let all those involved know that I am dispensing individuals from these.

In this time of uncertainty, while it is important that we remain as pastoral as possible, it is also important that we be prudent in our course of action. Therefore, effective Wednesday, March 18, ALL non-essential Parish gatherings should be postponed (including Friday evening fish fries). During times like this, we know how important it is to let those who are in elderly living situations and the homebound know that they are not forgotten. Although many of these facilities are probably locked down to outside visitors, it is important that we keep in touch with them via the telephone or technological forms of communication.

As you also know, our Catholic and Public schools are discontinuing in-school instructions as of the 18th and all classroom Religious Education programs should be stopped as well. Mrs. Peggy Schoenfuss, Superintendent of Catholic Schools and Director of Catholic Formation, has been in contact with school principals in helping to develop plans for online and other homeschooling possibilities. She is also going to be meeting with our Religious Ed leaders to help them move forward with home-based catechesis at this time.

The Priests Assembly has been cancelled as well as the “public” celebration of the Chrism Mass. I do plan to celebrate the Chrism Mass and we are looking into having it live streamed from the Cathedral.

Once again, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to let me, Deb Lieberg, or Paul Birch know.

Lastly, let us hold each other in prayer during this time of concern. Together, we can pray this Spiritual Act of Communion.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never
permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.

As we journey through this most difficult time may the Lord guide, guard, bless and protect each and everyone of us.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



†James P. Powers
Bishop, Diocese of Superior