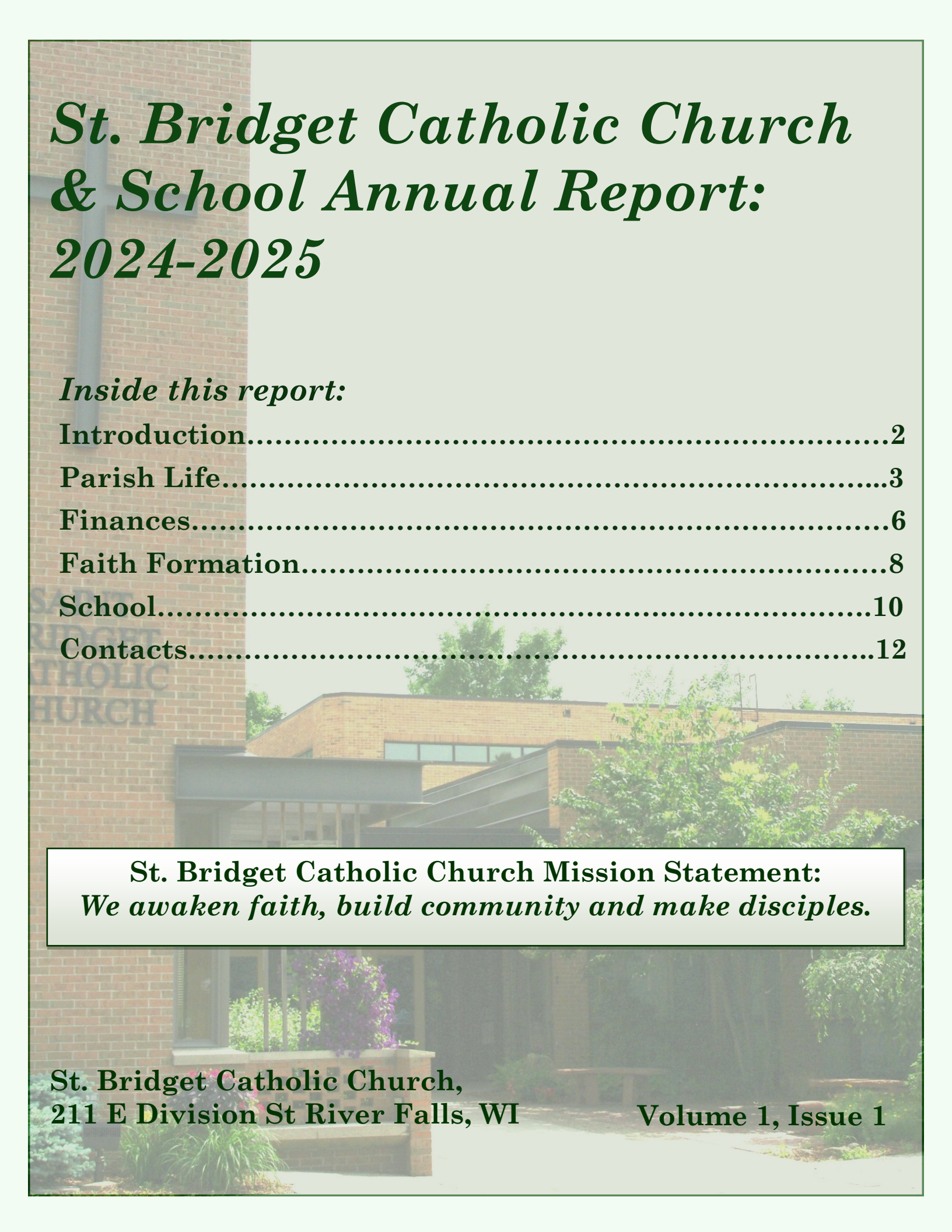




St. Bridget Catholic Church & School Annual Report: 2024-2025

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St. Bridget Catholic Church Mission Statement:
We awaken faith, build community and make disciples.

**St. Bridget Catholic Church,
211 E Division St River Falls, WI**

Volume 1, Issue 1

Dear Parish Family,



Greetings of grace and peace in the name of the Holy Trinity, our divine mother Mary, St. Joseph and our patron, Saint Bridget.

As we present this year's Parish Annual Report, I wish to express my deep gratitude to each of you for your faith, your generosity, and your dedication to the mission of our parish. This report is more than a collection of numbers and statistics—it is a testimony to how God has been at work among us through worship, service, education, and community life.

The pages that follow highlight the many ways our parish continues to grow in faith and stewardship. From our celebrations of the sacraments, to the outreach we extend to those in need, to the countless hours of volunteer service, to the gift of Catholic education at our St. Bridget Parish School—each represents your response to God's call to discipleship.

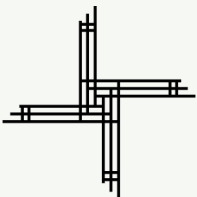
I also thank you for your continued financial support. Your gifts of time, talent, and treasure make it possible for our parish to carry forward its ministries, care for our facilities, strengthen our parish school, and plan for the future. In a special way, I acknowledge the work of our parish staff, finance council, pastoral council, school leadership, the other important committees, and volunteers who have helped prepare this report with great care and transparency.

As we look ahead, let us remain committed to building up the Body of Christ in our midst. Together, let us continue to be a community rooted in prayer, guided by the Gospel, and strengthened by the Eucharist.

Please know of my daily prayers for you, your families, and all those connected to the St. Bridget Parish School. May the Lord bless you abundantly for all you do to make our parish a vibrant home of faith.

Sincerely yours in Christ, your priest,

**-Father Balaraju Policetty,
Parochial Administrator.**



Lindsey Andrea, Administrative Assistant

Registered Families	1,772
Baptisms	22
Weddings	3
Deaths/Funerals	41

Building and Facilities

As you can imagine, with the size of our church, the school, rectory and the cemetery there is much to upkeep. **2024-25 fiscal year** was no exception. The list included replacing one of our five church boilers, the elevator CPU, updating security cameras at the church and adding security cameras both indoors and outdoors at the school.

Other updates include replacing all the interior doors at the school with the recommendation of the fire and police departments. The previous frames were wood and the doors were hollow and may have been original to the building, thus were updated to provide more security. We replaced them with steel frames and solid wood doors with a small window, a new handle and locking hardware.

Finally, we did some overdue remodeling at the rectory finishing off a bedroom, bathroom and a family room in the basement.

The total for these improvements was **\$280,511.05** and was paid for from our year end surplus and savings account.

Each year the building and facilities committee works hard to ensure that we protect and preserve our investment.

-Barrett Grove, Parish Administrator



St. Bridget Community & Parish Resources:

St. Bridget Parish makes resources for spiritual growth visible both in and outside of our parish. There are a couple of places that one can find information for both their personal life, events hosted by our parish, and events hosted in the greater community of River Falls.

The Information Desk at our parish highlights events that are currently happening at our parish that parishioners can look for and choose to partake in. Sign up sheets are also placed at the desk for these events for easy sign up, and online sign ups are offered as well.

The Resource Center by the East doors is a place for pamphlets, resources for personal and spiritual life and other such information. It also is the place that members can go for more information about our parish, faith formation forms and other related info.

The Joany Shepard Library is color coded and categorized for ease when searching for a specific topic. The library offers books & movies for all ages to enjoy. To view a full list of the books in the library, head to our **website** —> **About Us** —> **Joany Shepard Library**. There you may also find the color coded list.

Bulletin Boards are located by the Joany Shepard Library. The locked “**Save-the-Date**” bulletin board is a place for parish events that are happening in the future that are in our parish (or diocese) only. The other bulletin board is a place for community wide events that members may have an interest in. Please check in with Lindsey at the parish office for **approval** of posting something to the bulletin boards.



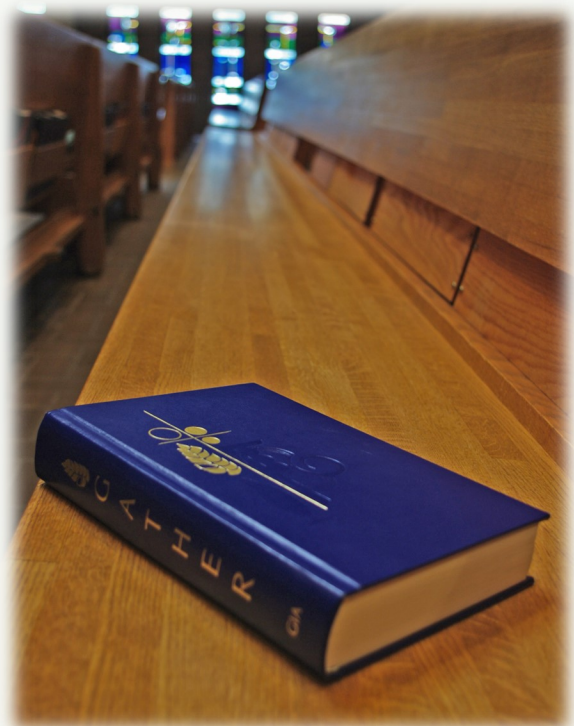
Tara Huebel, Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries

Ministry Groups:

- ♦ Altar Server (Adults & Children)
- ♦ Adoration Partners
- ♦ Baptismal Preparation Ministry
- ♦ Usher
- ♦ Eucharistic Minister
- ♦ Liturgy of the Word with Children Leader
- ♦ Eucharistic Minister of Care
- ♦ Reader
- ♦ Video Ministry
- ♦ Greeter
- ♦ Liturgical Decorating
- ♦ Sacristy Care
- ♦ Cantor
- ♦ Praise Team Band & Singers
- ♦ Adult Choir
- ♦ Youth Choir
- ♦ Musician
- ♦ Faith Formation Catechist
- ♦ Faith Formation Meal Volunteer
- ♦ Vacation Bible School Volunteer
- ♦ FOCCUS Marriage Preparation Couple
- ♦ OCIA Team/Sponsor
- ♦ Jail Ministry
- ♦ Donut Ministry
- ♦ Funeral Hospitality Group
- ♦ Childcare
- ♦ Indoor Plant Care
- ♦ Church Care
- ♦ Outside Gardener
- ♦ Skilled Work
- ♦ Prayer Shawl Ministry
- ♦ SCRIP Team
- ♦ Prayer Partners
- ♦ Prayer Line
- ♦ Parish Nurse
- ♦ Martha's Quilt Group
- ♦ DivorceCare
- ♦ Sunshine Card Ministry

Parish Organizations:

- ♦ Parish Council (elected)
- ♦ Finance Council (appointed)
- ♦ Liturgy Committee
- ♦ Social Justice Committee
- ♦ Evangelization & Spirituality Committee (Adult Formation)
- ♦ Youth Evangelization Committee
- ♦ School Executive Committee
- ♦ Strategic Planning Committee
- ♦ Facilities Committee
- ♦ Women's Prayer Group
- ♦ Men's Prayer Group
- ♦ Knights of Columbus



We invite and encourage all parishioners to participate in these ministries. If you would like a full descriptions, see our Welcome Packet at the Resource Center in Church, or contact the parish office.

**St. Bridget Income Statement
July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025**

INCOME: CHURCH & SCHOOL

Weekend Collections and Holy Days	\$955,567
Future Parish Needs [Donations]	\$53,710
Tuition	\$525,652
Unrestricted Gifts	\$192,701
Donor Restricted Gifts	\$393,567
Grants	\$44,032
Employee Retention Credits (ERC)	\$401,196
Cafeteria	\$41,895
Faith Formation Meals (Free-Will Offering)	\$5,934
General Activities	\$108,922
Fundraising	\$215,038
Gain on Investments/Interest	\$50,300
TOTAL INCOME	\$2,988,514

EXPENSES: CHURCH & SCHOOL

Salaries and Benefits	\$1,503,322
Contracted Services	\$65,774
Property and Liability Insurance	\$33,189
Tithes/Charity	\$12,686
Utilities	\$75,070
Grounds Upkeep	\$22,323
Maintenance/Repairs/Janitorial	\$38,200
Fundraising (Includes Gala Pledge Purchases)	\$98,381
Instructional Materials/Textbooks	\$47,051
Field Trips/Youth Camp/Retreats	\$31,122
Diocesan Paper Expense	\$9,680
Furnishings/Equipment	\$24,631
Adult Education/ Sacramental and Liturgical	\$17,035
Staff Education (Paid by donor restricted gifts)	\$11,994
Cafeteria Expense	\$41,112
Faith Formation Meals	\$12,736
Other Expenses	\$93,534
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,137,840
NET INCOME	\$850,674

The financial recap for the church and school for the fiscal year ending June 30th is shown to the left.

Last year, we received three of four installments of funds under the federal **Employee Retention Credit (ERC)** program-a tax credit established under the CARES Act for organizations that retained employees during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We also received a generous, donor-restricted gift. These two sources of income contributed to a strong financial position, allowing us to address maintenance needs at the school, church, and the rectory.

**2025-2026 Capital
Improvements approved by the Finance
Council**

(Paid for with Employee Retention Credits)
School:

- Replace middle school boilers and engineering.
- Replace roof on school steps/corridor.
- Fill cracks in school parking lot and sealcoat.
- Partial purchase of new gym bleachers.

Church:

- Replace all west side upper room windows.
- Church parking lot curb, drain work, and mill/overlay.

Rectory:

- Replace furnace.

-Susan Landry, Accountant.

St. Bridget Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2025	
Current Assets: Church & School	
Checking	\$290,296
Money Market *	\$919,547
Restricted Funds	\$847,642
Certificate of Deposit	\$517,734
Total Current Assets	\$2,575,219
Fixed Assets: Church & School	
Land Improvements	\$139,655
Building Improvements	\$830,317
Total Fixed Assets	\$969,972
Total Assets	\$3,545,191
Liabilities	\$182,452
Equity	\$3,362,739
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$3,545,191

***The 2025–2026 budget includes \$435,172 for repairs and capital improvements, as approved by the Finance Council.**

2024-2025 Tithes

A total of **\$12,686.00** was given in tithes to the organizations below. Tithe recipients are recommended by the Social Justice Committee and are approved by the Parish Council and Father Bala. Each year St. Bridget tithes from our total adult envelope income.

2024-25 recipients:

River Falls Community Food Pantry, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Our Neighbors Place, Options for Women, Servant of the Shepherd Outreach, Among Friends, Grace Place, Tools for School, ARC, and Tabora Mission Appeal.

In addition to tithes, we care for those in need by helping people with gas and grocery cards, taxi punch cards, with rent, utility bills, and car repairs.

Thanks to all of you for allowing us to make a difference in our community.

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation Mission Statement:

To evaluate, support, and guide the Faith Formation and Youth Ministry programs of St. Bridget parish to ensure that they provide youth with opportunities to encounter Christ, become disciples, and grow in relationship with Him and each other.



Our Faith Formation program serves students in Kindergarten through 12th grade, providing a comprehensive religious education rooted in the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church. The program is designed to support families in nurturing the faith of their children and helping them grow in knowledge, understanding, and love of God.

Throughout the year, students engage in age-appropriate lessons that explore Scripture, Church teachings, The Bible, prayer, the lives of the saints, and Catholic values. In addition to regular classroom instruction, our program includes preparation for the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation—milestones that mark important steps in a young person's journey of faith.



Our dedicated team of catechists and volunteers work closely with families to ensure each child receives both the spiritual guidance and personal support they need. Faith Formation is not only about learning *about* the faith—it's about living it. Through service opportunities, parish involvement, and participation in the liturgical life of the Church, our students are encouraged to embody their faith in daily life. We are blessed to walk with our young people as they encounter Christ, deepen their relationship with

Him, and grow into active, engaged members of our Catholic community .

-Tessa Schuermann Pre-K –8th grade & Jessie 9th-12th grade.



2024-2025 Faith Formation Enrollment

PreK	3 students
Kindergarten	11 students
1st Grade	9 students
2nd Grade	32 students
3rd Grade	13 students
4th Grade	10 students
5th Grade	15 students
6th Grade	9 students
7th Grade	14 students
8th Grade	12 students
9th Grade	20 students
10th Grade	24 students
11th Grade	25 students

2024-2025 Faith Formation Sacraments Received

First Reconciliation	37 students
First Communion	37 students
Confirmation	25 students

2024-2025 Event Participation:

- Extreme Faith Camp: 23 Middle Schoolers, 4 High Schoolers, 5 Adults.
- Rake A Difference: 22 volunteers raked 17 yards.
- Vacation Bible School: 48 children.
- Vacation Bible School Leaders: 31 teen leaders, 14 adults.
- July Food Frenzy: 15 middle schoolers, 2 high schoolers.
- High School Discipleship Weekend: 3 students & 2 adults.
- Spiritus Confirmation Retreat: 19 students.



Dannell Nordstrom, Interim Principal

Mission Statement:

St. Bridget Parish School is a welcoming, innovative Catholic Community which focuses on faith, family, and individual excellence — fostering living examples of God's presence in our world.

Core Values: Stewardship, Prayer, Excellence, Community, Respect & Responsibility.



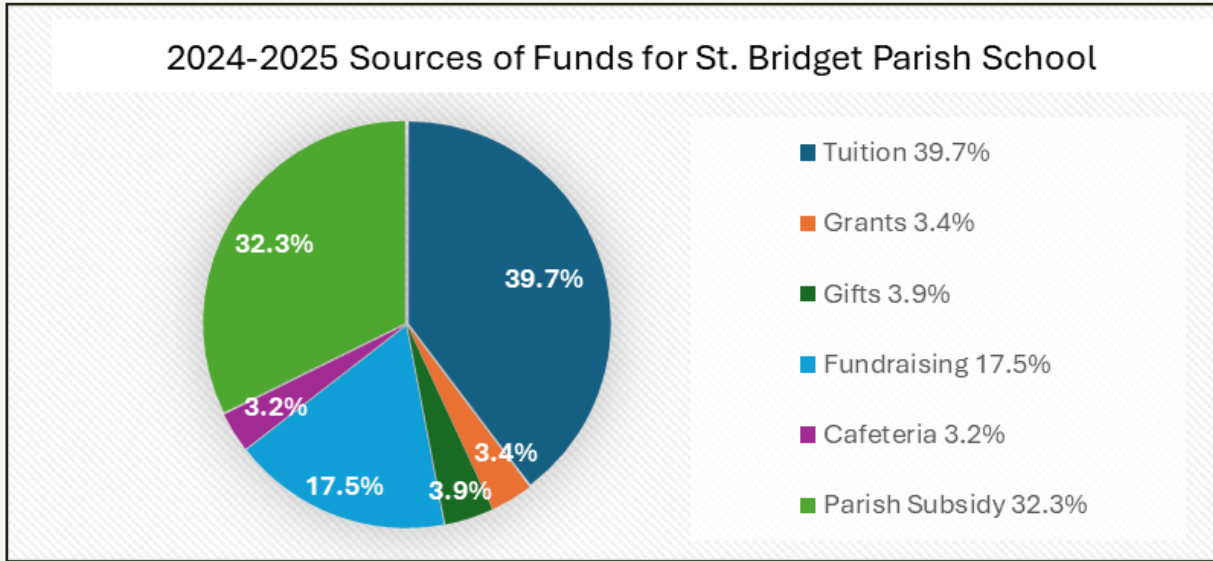
2024-25 St. Bridget Parish School Overview

St. Bridget Parish School staff would like to share our gratitude for your support. Your dedication, encouragement, and partnership play a vital role in shaping a positive learning environment for our students. Over the last year our school has celebrated many successes and faced challenges. Your support and involvement, whether through prayer, volunteering in the classroom, participating in events, or working behind the scenes has made a difference. As we continue to move forward, we are reminded of how much we can accomplish when we come together as a community. Your support not only empowers our students to reach their fullest potential, but it also reinforces our core values of excellence, community, prayer, stewardship, respect, and responsibility. Thank you for being an integral part of our school's journey. We look forward to all we will continue to achieve together. We are grateful for our generous donors who have supported our mission this past year. Together, with their support, we have enhanced student learning opportunities, provided teachers with professional development, and added on to our playground and sound system. We are also excited to announce the beginning of the St. Bridget Orchestra program, which is the direct result of generous donations.

Ways to Support St. Bridget School:

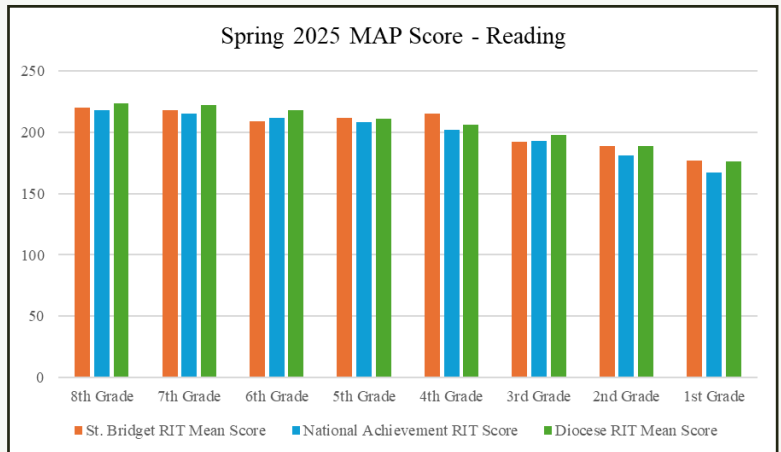
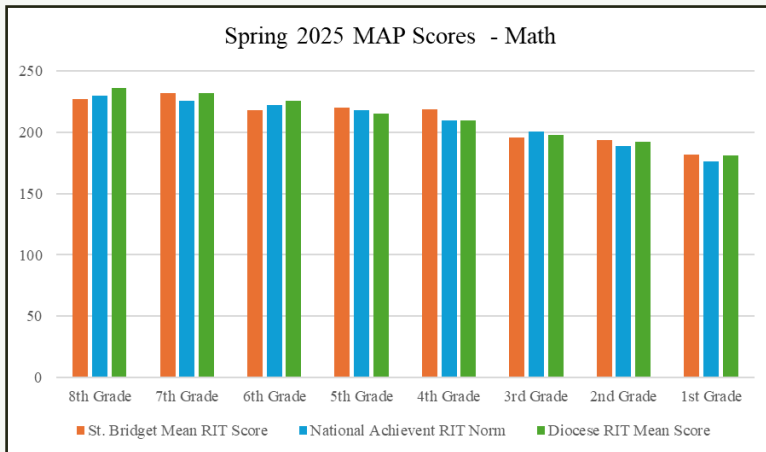
Pray for our staff & students. Participate in SCRIP, attend fundraisers, donate your time, talent, & treasure – don't forget about employee match programs. Prayerfully consider including St. Bridget School in your estate planning.

The cost to educate a student at St. Bridget Parish School for the 2024-2025 school year was approximately **\$9,113**. This pie chart is the financial breakdown of how the cost to educate the student is funded.



MAPs Test

Students at St. Bridget Parish School take the Measurement of Academic Progress (MAPs) test twice a year. This assessment process helps the school evaluate the curriculum and identify areas to strengthen instruction. During the **2025-2026** school year St. Bridget Parish School will continue using the MAPs assessment to test in the areas of Math, and Reading and will add in Language Usage, and Science tests. The graphs depict how student's test scores at St. Bridget compared to students tested throughout the Diocese of Superior as well as across the nation.



School Pledge:

Today I promise to keep Jesus in my mind, on my lips, and in my heart. I promise to always do my best and to treat everyone with respect and kindness. I promise to take care of everything God has given to me, and to have the courage to do what Jesus wants me to do. Today I promise to live what St. Bridget Parish School teaches.

Staff Members:

Fr. Balaraju Policetty-Parochial Administrator
715-425-1879 ext. 103
pastor@stbparish.com

Barrett Grove-Parish Administrator
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Deacon John Woehrle
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deaconjohn@stbparish.com

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Dannell Nordstrom-Interim Principal
715-425-1872 ext. 201
principal@stbparish.com

Laura Jo Jarchow-Director of Faculty
ljjarchow@saintbridgesschool.com

Parish Council Members:

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Chris Plana - Education Executive Committee
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