# St. Bridget Catholic Community

# Sunday, August 24th and Sunday, August 31st

The Twenty-First & Twenty-Second Sundays in Ordinary Time.

# Power of Discouraging Words



A group of frogs were travelling through the woods, and two of them fell into a deep pit. When the other frogs saw how deep the pit was, they told the two frogs that they were as good as dead. The two frogs ignored the comments and tried to jump up out of the pit with all their might. The other frogs kept telling them to stop, that they were as good as dead.

Finally, one of the frogs took heed to what the other frogs were saying and gave up. He fell down and died.

The other frog continued to jump as hard as he could. Once again, the crowd of frogs yelled at him to stop the pain and just die. He jumped even harder and finally made it out. When he got out, the other frog said, "Did you not hear us?" the frog explained to them that he was deaf. He thought they were encouraging him the entire time.

There is power of life and death in the tongue. An encouraging word to someone who is down can lift them up and help them make it through the day.

A destructive word to someone who is down can be what it takes to kill them. Be careful of what you say. Speak life to those who cross your path. The power of words... it is sometimes hard to understand that an encouraging word can go such a long way.

Anyone can speak words that tend to rob another of the spirit to go on.

-Fr. Balaraju Policetty

St. Bridget Website



Church Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday: Closed Phone (715)-425-1870
Pastoral Emergency
(651)-300-4028
www.saintbridgets.org

we awaken faith, build community, and make disciples.

| Sunday, August 24th:The Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time |                             | Monday, Septem                              | ber 1st: Labor Day                                |
|--|-----------------------------|---|---|
| 8:15 a.m. Rosary   |                             |   | Parish Office Closed                              |
| 9:00 a.m. Mass - Bob & Dena C                                | Casey 40th Wedding          |   | No Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion        |
| Mass_St Bridget &  | St. Thomas More Newman      | Tuesday, Septem                             | ber 2nd: First Day of School                      |
| 11:00 a.m. Center  | R. THOHRES WORE I VEWITRALI | 8:00 a.m.                                   | Centering Prayer                                  |
| Ionday, August 25th  |                             | 9 a.m7p.m.                                  | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament                |
| 8:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Word w                              | vith Holy Communion         | 9:30 a.m.                                   | Martha's Quilt Group                              |
| 7:00p.m. Community Prayer G                                  | roup                        | 3:00 p.m.                                   | Mass @ Wellhaven                                  |
| uesday, August 26th  |                             |   | Family Night at Culver's                          |
| 8:00 a.m. Centering Prayer                                   |                             |   |   |
| 9 a.m 7p.m. Adoration of the Bless                           | sed Sacrament               | 4:30 p.m.                                   | Individual Reconciliation                         |
| 4:30 p.m. Individual Reconciliati                            | ion                         | 5:00 p.m.                                   | Mass- Joyce Grove+                                |
| 5:00 p.m. Mass- Intention Oper                               |                             | Wednesday, Sept                             | tember 3rd  |
| Vednesday, August 27th                                       | .1                          | 8:00 a.m.                                   | Mass- Dennis Johnson+                             |
| T  | II D' d I                   | 1:30 p.m.                                   | Mass @ Comforts of Home Lodge                     |
| 8:00 a.m. Mass- For Nora Supe                                |                             | Thursday, September 4th                     |   |
| 6:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus                                | _                           | 7:30 a.m.                                   | Rosary  |
| hursday, August 28th: Feast of St. Augus                     | tine our Diocesan Patron    |   | Individual Reconciliation                         |
| 7:30 a.m. Rosary   |                             |   | Mass- Monis Marsolek+                             |
| 7:30 a.m. Individual Reconciliati                            |                             |   |   |
| 8:00 a.m. <b>Mass</b> - <i>Dale &amp; Liz Jol</i>            | hnson+                      | 1:00 p.m.   Euchre<br>Friday, September 5th |   |
| 1:30 p.m. Mass @ Comforts of I                               | Home Lodge                  | 7:30 a.m.                                   |   |
| 6:00 p.m. St. Bridget Home & S                               | chool Movie Night @ Gym     | 7:30 a.m.                                   | Individual Reconciliation                         |
| riday, August 29th   |                             |   | Healing Mass- Dorothy Maule+                      |
| 7:30 a.m. Rosary   |                             |   | Baptism Prep—Second Child                         |
| 7:30 a.m. Individual Reconciliati                            |                             |   | Baptism Prep-First Child                          |
| 8:00 a.m.   Mass- Karen Deiss K<br>Frederickson+             | Kreye & Mary Huppert        | Saturday, Septem                            |   |
| aturday, August 30th   |                             | * -   | Men's Group                                       |
| 3:30 p.m. Individual Reconciliati                            | on                          |   | Women's Group                                     |
| 4:00 p.m. <b>Mass</b> - Frances Dusek                        | 7+                          | 3:30 p.m.                                   | Individual Reconciliation                         |
| unday, August 31st: The Twenty-second                        | Sunday in Ordinary Time     | 4:00 p.m.                                   | Mass- Jim Yanish+                                 |
| 8:15 a.m. Rosary   | , ,                         | Sunday, Septemb                             | per 7th: The Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time |
| 9:00 a.m.   <b>Mass</b> - <i>Meg &amp; Dave I</i>            | Byram+                      | 8:15 a.m                                    | . Rosary  |
| Mass_ St Bridget & S   | St. Thomas More Newman      | 9:00 a.m                                    | . Mass- Al Symicek+                               |
| 11:00 a.m. Center  |                             | 11:00 a.m                                   | Mass- St. Bridget, & St. Thomas More Newman       |
|  |                             | 11.00 4.111                                 | ·   Center  |

# DAILY WORD

| DAILY WORD: AUGUST 24TH- AUGUST 31ST |   |  |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Sunday,<br>August 24th               | Isaiah 66:18-21 , Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13 /Luke<br>13:22-30           |  |
| Monday,<br>August 25th               | 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8b-10 /Matthew 23:13-22                      |  |
| Tuesday,<br>August 26th              | 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 /Matthew 23:23-26                             |  |
| Wednesday,<br>August 27th            | 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 /Matthew 23:27-32                            |  |
| Thursday,<br>August 28th             | 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13 /Matthew 24:42-51                            |  |
| Friday,<br>August 29th               | 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 / 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8                       |  |
| Saturday,<br>August 30th             | 1 Thessalonians 4:9-11 /Matthew 25:14-30                            |  |
| Sunday,<br>August 31st               | Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29,Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a /Luke 14:1, 7-14 |  |

| DAILY WORD: SEPTEMBER 1ST-SEPTEMBER 7TH |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Monday,<br>September 1st                | 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 /Luke 4:16-30               |  |
| Tuesday,<br>September<br>2nd            | 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 9-11 /Luke 4:31-37           |  |
| Wednesday,<br>September 3rd             | Colossians 1:1-8 /Luke 4:38-44                      |  |
| Thursday,<br>September 4th              | Colossians 1:9-14 /Luke 5:1-11                      |  |
| Friday,<br>September 5th                | Colossians 1:15-20 /Luke 5:33-39                    |  |
| Saturday,<br>September 6th              | Colossians 1:21-23 /Luke 6:1-5                      |  |
| Sunday,<br>September 7th                | Wisdom 9:13-18b,Philemon 9-10, 12-17 /Luke 14:25-33 |  |

### 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, contact Pat Purfeerst at:

pipurfeerst@gmail.com or 715-222-9533.

Michelle Radtke Linda Radtke **Dorie Deiss** Donna Pechacek Mary Ellen Vorwald Barb Ickler John Benusa Emily Hennemann Jeanne Rohl Andre Armstrong Marge Dusek Missy Tarnowski Kathleen Brown Sonia Steiner Russ Henke Raphael Timp Stanley Meyer Judy Pechacek Harri Kaye McFarland Jim McFarland Richard Andrea **Jim Carow** Karla Furlano Berra Beverly Benson

Mary Parsons Robb Scott Miranda Carlson Patricia Bujalski Matt Huppert Carol Ann Gregg Richard Bujalski Rvan Sell Fred Larson Virginia Steiner Angela Tatone Bernice Deiss Ed Hanson Mabel Rohl Kathy Vorwald Guillermo Guzmán Maverick Wyatt Dr. Kathleen Delander **David Trebus** Patricia Meyer Kathy Mills Chuck Kamrowski

# **TITHES & OFFERINGS**

| August 10, 2025     |          |  |
|---------------------|----------|--|
| Adult Contributions | \$13,347 |  |
| Loose Collection    | \$912    |  |
| Scrip Rebate        | \$439    |  |

| August 17, 2025           |          |  |
|---------------------------|----------|--|
| Adult Contributions       | \$8,591  |  |
| Loose Collection          | \$774    |  |
| Scrip Rebates             | \$218    |  |
| Adult Contributions (ACH) | \$22,551 |  |

### **SACRAMENTS**

### PARISH LIFE

#### **Baptism**

Parents expecting their first child will need to prepare for their child's Baptism by involving themselves in a Baptism session.

Parents expecting their second child are highly recommended to review and consider their role in living out their Baptismal promises.

Sessions are held in the library on the first Friday of every month at 6:00pm for the second child, and at 6:30pm for the first child. Contact the office to join a session.

#### Marriage

Participation in the marriage preparation process is a requirement for all couples seeking to be married.

If you are interested in being married at St. Bridget Catholic Church, the first step is to call the parish office to secure your date.

Marriage prep must be done 6 months in advance from your wedding date.

#### Order of Christian Initiation

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the new name and is meant to invite candidates and catechumens into continuous process of spiritual formation.

As we move to "order" we strive to prepare the candidate and catechumen for an ongoing faith journey that will continue throughout their lives.

Contact the office if you are interested in OCIA.

#### First Friday Anointing/Healing Mass

There will be an opportunity for anointing and healing on the first Friday of every month at the 8:00 am Mass.

Contact the office if you have any questions.

#### **Confession Times**

Tuesdays: 4:30pm before the 5:00pm Mass. Thursdays: 7:30am before the 8:00am Mass. Fridays: 7:30am before the 8:00am Mass. Saturdays: 3:30pm before the 4:00pm Mass.

#### Social Justice: Poverty Simulation Workshop

Each year the University of Wisconsin River Falls Sustainability Group, in conjunction with other area nonprofits, puts on a program (a poverty simulation workshop) that gives people a birds eye view of the kinds of decisions poverty forces on people. The Simulation is at UWRF University Center Riverview Ballroom on Monday, September 29, from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.

To register and for additional information, check the University's website.

There is no fee to attend.

#### Social Justice: Monarca Program

UNIDOSMN is hosting a Monarca program at the Unitarian Church on August 27 from 6:30 to 8:30. The program is designed for people who are concerned about mass deportations and who are interested in helping the people caught up in these deportations.

If interested, check out the UNIDOSMN website at: <a href="https://unidos-mn.org/">https://unidos-mn.org/</a>

#### Thank You!

St. Bridget's Knights of Columbus Council 4902 wants to thank all the volunteers who came out to help with the PC Fair Food booth August 7 – 10, 2025. Thanks to all who helped with the setup and cleanup prior to the fair as well as all the volunteers who worked a shift, or several. All of you are greatly appreciated. May the good Lord continue to Bless each of you and St. Bridget's Parish for the generosity you so often display.

-Knights of Columbus PC Fair Committee

#### Dishwashers Needed

The Funeral Luncheon Committee is in need of dishwashers after funerals. Dishwashers must be available during the week, and need to be able to lift heavy dishes.

If interested, please contact the parish office.

#### In Remembrance

Diane Meyer-O'Keefe Anthony Jilek Charles Roth

### **MASS TIMES**

#### School Mass & Newman Center Mass

September 10th will be the first 9am School Mass.

Please note on your calendars that the 8am

Wednesday Mass will change to the 9am School Mass on September 10th.

September Tour.

#### St. Thomas More Newman

Center: 6pm Sunday night Masses will resume at the Newman Center starting September 7th, 2025.

All are welcome!



### PARISH LIFE

#### Strategic Plan Listening Sessions

Remember the brief Strategic Plan survey many of you completed several months ago? Well, our Strategic Planning Team is using those results to move forward with the process to create our Strategic Plan. We need your help with the next step.



In September we will be holding Listening Sessions where any parishioner can provide constructive input on communication, transparency, youth

participation, welcoming culture, and evangelization. This is your parish and we're inviting you to attend one of the following scheduled **Listening Sessions**. Two sessions are being held on Sunday evenings for your added convenience and opportunity to attend. All sessions will be held in the **Garden View Room**.

| Sunday, September 7    | 6:30 PM          |  |
|------------------------|------------------|--|
| Saturday, September 13 | After 4 PM Mass  |  |
| Sunday, September 14   | After 9 AM Mass  |  |
| Sunday, September 14   | After 11 am Mass |  |
| Saturday, September 20 | After 4 PM Mass  |  |
| Sunday, September 21   | After 9 AM Mass  |  |
| Sunday, September 21   | After 11 am Mass |  |
| Sunday, September 21   | 6:30 PM          |  |

Thank you for participating and helping St. Bridget Parish become a growing, vibrant faith community.

### PARISH SCHOOL

Hello St. Bridget Families! First and foremost, after six years of dedicated service, our beloved maintenance and janitorial staff member, Mr. Mike Kongshaug, is retiring. We

**Kongshaug**, is retiring. We are deeply grateful for his hard work, commitment,



and the care he has shown our school community. He will be greatly missed, and we wish him all the best in this next chapter of life!

A great resource currently available is our Uniform Swap—a chance for families to donate outgrown uniforms and pick up the sizes they need. **Thank you** to everyone who attended our Park & Popsicles event at Glen Park! If you missed it, don't worry—we've got another fun event coming up:

Family Movie Night - Thursday, August 28 at 6:00 PM in the gym. Come in your PJs for a slumber party-style showing of Encanto!

A big thank you to the volunteer who reinstalled the funnel ball game—students will be thrilled to have it back! New trees and fresh mulch have been added by the playground, made possible by generous donors and hardworking volunteers—thank you! A special shoutout to the Boy Scouts who donated their time and strength to move equipment and materials.

Our teachers have been busy this summer participating in a wide range of professional development, including: Principal leadership training (Mrs. Nordstrom), NWEA MAP Growth assessment Training, Responsive Classroom training, a full staff

retreat at **St. Anne's on August 20**, and upcoming inservice days as we fine-tune preparations for the year. Before the River Falls Days parade, three St.

Bridget siblings hosted a lemonade stand fundraiser to support the Fire Department. Last week, they presented Chief Wilson with a donation of \$272. Way to go, kids! *Mark your calendars*!

Family Night at Culver's – Tuesday, September 2 from 4 –7 PM at the River Falls location

A portion of proceeds will benefit St. Bridget Parish School.

Important Dates to Remember:

**Student Orientation Day:** Wednesday, August 27th from 11 AM - 6 PM

First Day of School: Tuesday, September 2nd.

### **FAITH FORMATION**

#### Faith Formation Registration

We invite all in Kindergarten – 12<sup>th</sup> grade to join Wednesday Faith Formation **beginning Sept. 24**.

- Grades K-6 are invited to weekly classes that are grade specific and involve faith activities, Scripture, and prayer. On the 4th Wednesday of each month, the whole family is invited for Family Activity Night.
- Grades 7-11 are invited to participate in small group and large group Faith Formation each Wednesday, 6:45-8pm.
- **Grade 12** is invited to consider being a leader of a younger group and/or joining a group of seniors who want to grow together in faith this year.



Register <u>online</u>, or by <u>paper form</u>. Printed forms are available at the

information desk. Contact Tessa or Jessie in the church office with questions.

#### Liturgy of the Word with Children

We are excited to invite children ages 4 – 1<sup>st</sup> grade to participate in Liturgy of the Word with children during the 9:00 a.m. Mass beginning October 5th. After the opening prayer at Mass, Father Bala will invite the children to proceed with leaders to the Multi-Purpose

Room.

There they will hear the readings proclaimed in words they



understand, participate in an activity, and prayer.

They will return to their families in church after the Prayer of the Faithful. Though it is not required, we will invite parents to sign their children up to help us plan.

A sign up sheet at the information desk, and online will be available in the coming weeks.

Contact Tessa in the church office with questions.

# MUSIC MINISTRY WORKSHOP

The Nineteenth Annual Diocesan Music Ministry Workshop: "Pastoral Musicians as Partners in Preaching."

Friday, September 26 and Saturday, September 27, 2025

St. Joseph Church, Amery Presenter: Fr. James Marchionda, OP

Our presenter writes: "As musician, composer and preacher, I have come to realize that both the Church and the world are in considerable need of renewed passion, energy, and creativity in the presentation and preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Although there are various ways to preach the Gospel, one of the most beautiful, most unique, and truly most inspiring ways is through pastoral music ministry. [...] Over a half-century ago, the Second Vatican Council stated: 'The musical tradition of the universal Church is a treasure of immeasurable value, greater even than that of any other art...' Following the Council's lead, the U.S. Bishops Conference added: 'Music, in addition to expressing texts, can also unveil a dimension of meaning and feeling, a communication of ideas and intuitions which words alone cannot yield.' Pastoral musicians, that's what we are called to facilitate, reflect, and effect: a dimension of meaning and feeling, a communication of ideas and intuitions which words alone cannot yield! Pastoral musicians, we are gifted, talented, generous instruments of the Church who are, in fact, partners in preaching. We are partners in preaching. What a calling!" Registration and program details are now available online **HERE!** 

### HOMESCHOOL CONFERENCE

### Homeschool Conference | September 27

Whether you have been homeschooling for years, just beginning, or even just thinking about your educational options, we would love to spend the day with you exploring this calling. Join the Diocese of Superior for the 4th Annual Homeschool Conference at St. Joseph in Rice Lake on September 27th from 9:00am - 3:00pm with an optional Q & A from 3:00pm - 4:00pm.

Details and registration can be found **HERE**.

### ST. ANN PARISH



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

#### The Bible and the Virgin Mary

Mondays, September 8th 2025, through October 27th, 2025, 6:30-8:30pm.

Immaculate Conception: 151 S. Washington Ave. New Richmond, WI 54017.

Facilitated by Deacon Mel Riel.

Sign up today! There are 4 ways to register:

1.Scan QR code

2. Visit: icspcatholic.com

3.Call: 715-246-4652.

4. Email: catholicformation@icspcatholic.com

The cost is \$20 for workbooks.

### ST. PATRICK PARISH

# The Blessed Solanus Casey Traveling Museum & Healing Mass

**Saturday, September 13 - M**onday, September 15, 2025

Hours vary by day - see description below for open viewing hours

Saint Patrick Parish Social Hall

Discover the inspiring life and spirituality of Blessed Solanus Casey through this special traveling museum. Stop by during open hours to explore the exhibit and join us for a special Healing Mass with a blessing from a relic of the True Cross.

#### Viewing Hours:

Saturday, September 13 | Noon - 7:00 PM Sunday, September 14 | 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Monday, September 15 | 9:00 AM - 8:30 PM Healing Mass: (includes blessing with a relic of the True Cross)

Monday, September 15 | 8:00 AM or 6:30 PM



### St. Bridget Catholic Church Contact Information



Fr. Balaraju Policetty, Pastor Office (715) 425-1879 ext. 103 Emergency: (651)-300-4028 pastor@stbparish.com



Deacon John Woehrle 715-425-1870 deaconjohn@stbparish.com



Barrett Grove, Parish Administrator 715-425-1879 ext. 102 parishadmin@stbparish.com



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



Lindsey Andrea, Administrative Assistant 715-425-1870 ext. 101 recept@stbparish.com



Sophie Kolars, Communications Coordinator 715-425-1879 ext. 111 <a href="mailto:communications@stbparish.com">communications@stbparish.com</a>



Tara Huebel, Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries
715-425-1879 ext. 108
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Randy Koller, Maintenance 715-425-1879 ext. 112 facilities@stbparish.com



Adrian Amundsen, Housekeeping



Tessa Schuermann, Prek-8th grade Faith Formation 715-425-1879 ext. 106 <a href="mailto:childrensFF@stbparish.com">childrensFF@stbparish.com</a>



Jessie O'Malley, 9-12th grade Faith Formation 715-425-1879 ext. 105 teenFF@stbparish.com



Dannell Nordstrom, Interim Principal 715-425-1872
<a href="mailto:principal@stbparish.com">principal@stbparish.com</a>

#### St. Thomas More Newman Center



Mallory Schneider, Campus Minister St. Thomas More-Newman Chapel, UWRF 715-425-7234 campusminiter@uwrfnewman.org