

St. Bridget Catholic Community

January 25th & February 1st 2026

The Third and Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

I Want You To Meet Jesus In Others



A young sister was nervously beginning her first day in the hospital ward. She could see the dying men lying on their beds and she saw the other sister moving from bed to bed, pouring eater here, giving a kind word there, touching hands and giving medicine. The Mother Teresa came and said smiling, "Sister, come with me; I want you to meet someone."

The young sister followed Mother Teresa. Soon they arrived at a bed in the far corner of the ward.

On the bed lay a human skeleton. His eyes were sunk deep into his head. His hair was gone. He had only one tooth in his mouth. Mother Teresa took the old man's face in her own two hands and knelt down by the bed. "Sister Anna," she said to the young sister, "I want you to meet Jesus."

If God, despite all our faults and failings, unreservedly approves of us, why do we have to make so many conditions before we accept one another? If God, out of His love for us, became a human being, shouldn't we be able to find something lovable, something praiseworthy in one another? Let's also see God in others.

Every happening, great and small, is a parable, whereby God speaks to us, and the art of life is to get the message. -Malcolm Muggeridge

-Fr. Balaraju Policetty

New Photo Directory!

It's time for a new pictorial directory for St. Bridget Catholic Church, and we would love you to be a part of it!

Photo Dates: Tuesday - Saturday, March 10 - 14 and Wednesday - Saturday, March 18 - 21

Weekday Photo Hours: 2:00 - 8:30 | Wednesday, March 11 & all Saturday Hours: 10:00 - 4:00.

Head to our website to sign up by clicking [HERE](#)

Paper sign-ups will be available on the Information Desk **this weekend!** Please note that you will not be able to sign up online over the weekend when we have the paper sign ups out to avoid overbooking on the photography times. We will need volunteers to help us with greeting and checking people in on the photo days. Contact Barrett the office if you are able to help out with this!

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

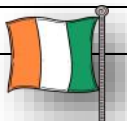
(651)-300-4028

www.saintbridgets.org

*we awaken faith,
build community,
and make disciples.*

St. Bridget Weekly Masses & Events...

JANUARY 25TH—FEBRUARY 1ST	
Sunday, January 25th: The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	
8:15 a.m.	Rosary
9:00 a.m.	Mass - Arnold Pechacek+
11:00 a.m.	Mass- Catholic Schools
Monday, January 26th	
8:00 a.m.	Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion
7:00 p.m.	Community Prayer Group
Tuesday, January 27th	
8:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer
9 a.m. - 7 p.m.	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
5:00 p.m.	Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion
Wednesday, January 28th	
	No 9am Mass or LWHC because of Catholic Schools Week
3:15 p.m.	7th & 8th Grade Faith Formation
5:00 p.m.	Faith Formation Meal
5:30 p.m.	K-6 Family Activity Night
6:30pm	The Chosen: The Last Supper
6:45 p.m.	7th-11th Grade Faith Formation
Thursday, January 29th	
8:00 a.m.	Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion
Friday, January 30th	
7:30 a.m.	Rosary
7:30 a.m.	Individual Reconciliation
8:00 a.m.	Mass- Tim Engel+
Saturday, January 31st	
3:30 p.m.	Individual Reconciliation
4:00 p.m.	Mass-Roger Bruggeman+
Sunday, February 1st: The Feast of St. Brigid, Our Patroness	
8:15 a.m.	Rosary
9:00 a.m.	Mass - Intention Open
11:00 a.m.	Mass - Saint Bridget, & Saint Thomas More Newman Center



FEBRUARY 2ND—FEBRUARY 8TH	
Monday, February 2nd	
8:00 a.m.	Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion
7:00 p.m.	Community Prayer Group
Tuesday, February 3rd	
8:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer
9 a.m.-7 p.m.	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9:30 a.m.	Martha's Quilt Group
2:00 p.m.	<i>Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion @ Bay Harbor</i>
5:00 p.m.	Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion
Wednesday, February 4th	
9:00 a.m.	Mass- Patricia Fevereisen+
3:15 p.m.	7th & 8th Grade Faith Formation
5:00 p.m.	Faith Formation Meal
5:30 p.m.	Kindergarten-6th Grade Faith Formation
6:30 p.m.	The Chosen: The Last Supper
6:45 p.m.	7th-11th Grade Faith Formation
Thursday, February 5th	
8:00 a.m.	Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion
1:00 p.m.	Euchre
2:30 p.m.	<i>Recorded Mass and Communion Offered @ Comforts of Home Gardens</i>
Friday, February 6th	
7:30 a.m.	Rosary
7:30 a.m.	Individual Reconciliation
8:00 a.m.	Healing Mass- Intention Open
Saturday, February 7th	
7:30 p.m.	Men's Prayer Group
8:00 a.m.	Women's Prayer Group
3:30 p.m.	Individual Reconciliation
4:00 p.m.	Mass- Deceased Members of the Elsie & Leo Schmidt Family+
Sunday, February 8th: The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
8:15 a.m.	Rosary
9:00 a.m.	Mass- Saint Bridget, & Saint Thomas More Newman Center
11:00 a.m.	Mass - Gary Arman+



DAILY WORD

DAILY WORD: JANUARY 25TH—FEBRUARY 1ST

Sunday, January 25th	Isaiah 8:23—9:3, 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17 / Matthew 4:12-23 or 4:12-17
Monday, January 26th	2 Timothy 1:1-8 / Mark 3:22-30
Tuesday, January 27th	2 Samuel 6:12b-15, 17-19 / Mark 3:31-35
Wednesday, January 28th	2 Samuel 7:4-17 / Mark 4:1-20
Thursday, January 29th	2 Samuel 7:18-19, 24-29 / Mark 4:21-25
Friday, January 30th	2 Samuel 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17 / Mark 4:26-34
Saturday, January 31st	2 Samuel 12:1-7a, 10-17 / Mark 4:35-41
Sunday, February 1st	Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13, 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 / Matthew 5:1-12a

DAILY WORD: FEBRUARY 2ND— FEBRUARY 8TH

Monday, February 2nd	Malachi 3:1-4 / Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
Tuesday, February 3rd	2 Samuel 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3 / Mark 5:21-43
Wednesday, February 4th	2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17 / Mark 6:1-6
Thursday, February 5th	1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12 / Mark 6:7-13
Friday, February 6th	Sirach 47:2-11 / Mark 6:14-29
Saturday, February 7th	1 Kings 3:4-13 / Mark 6:30-34
Sunday, February 8th	Isaiah 58:7-10, 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 / Matthew 5:13-16

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: ppurfeerst@gmail.com or 715-222-9533.

Michelle Radtke	Patricia Bujalski
Linda Radtke	Matt Huppert
Dorie Deiss	Carol Ann Gregg
Donna Pechacek	Richard Bujalski
Mary Ellen Vorwald	Ryan Sell
Barb Ickler	Fred Larson
John Benusa	Virginia Steiner
Emily Hennemann	Angela Tatone
Jeanne Rohl	Bernice Deiss
Andre Armstrong	Ed Hanson
Marge Dusek	Kathy Vorwald
Missy Tarnowski	Guillermo Guzmán
Kathleen Brown	Maverick
Sonia Steiner	Wyatt
Raphael Timp	Dr. Kathleen Delander
Stanley Meyer	Patricia Meyer
Judy Pechacek Harri	Chuck Kamrowski
Kaye McFarland	Greg Wells
Jim McFarland	Wayne Staab
Richard Andrea	Josias Franco
Jeff Carow	Boyd Huppert
Karla Furlano Berra	Susan Murray
Mary Parsons	Chris Plana
Robb Scott	Doris Cernohous
Miranda Carlson	

TITHES & OFFERINGS

January 11, 2026

Adult Contributions	\$9,720
Loose Collection	\$901
Scrip Rebate	\$374
Adult Contributions (ACH)	\$21,701

FINANCIAL

Contributions July 1, 2025-December 31,			
	Actual	Budgeted	Shortfall
Adult Envelopes	\$462,507	\$482,068	\$19,560
Loose Collection	\$21,751	\$22,191	\$439

PARISH LIFE

SDCCW Mary Jane Morancyk Hennessy Scholarships

The Superior Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will award four (4) \$1000 scholarships to women **completing their second year of post high school education or continuing their education** for career advancement or returning to the work field.

Applications may be obtained by contacting the SDCCW Scholarship Committee, Mary Werner, W5490 County Road O, Medford WI 54451 - Telephone 715-748-4709, email werner@tds.net
Applications are available from the SDCCW website: <https://sdccw-wisconsin.weebly.com>

The Committee will notify the winners by phone or email. Applications will be accepted starting February 1st and all materials need to be available for the scholarship committee by May 15th.

Men's Rally for Christ: February 28th

Men's Rally speaker, Mike Sweeney and his wife, recently returned from a private audience with Pope Leo XIV where they had a little baseball fun.

This Knights of Columbus-sponsored event will bring men from throughout western Wisconsin to St. Bridget Church to embrace the challenge of sainthood. Mike will be joined by several others, including Dominic Hietala from our parish.



To register, use your phone to scan the QR Code or pick up a flyer at the Info Desk.



PARISH LIFE

Catholic Schools Week 2026: Shaping Hearts and Minds

Mark your calendars for **Catholic Schools Week 2026**, our annual celebration of faith-filled education, from **Sunday, January 25th, through Saturday, January 31st!**

Our Diocese comes together as a community to recognize the profound importance of our 14 Catholic schools in shaping the hearts and minds of our children. Our schools will feature special events, including Masses, open houses, and activities that highlight the core pillars of Catholic education: **Faith, Knowledge, and Service.**

Let's celebrate and renew our commitment to building a future of faith and excellence in education. Join us in embracing the journey of learning and growing in the light of our Catholic faith!

Finally, we continue the tradition of the **Special Diocesan Collection for Catholic Schools**. Your response to this appeal is an expression of discipleship and unity with our school communities, providing an additional, immediate source of support for schools based on the number of students. Your generous gift will help ensure a vibrant Church and sustain the mission of Catholic education in northern Wisconsin.

Life in the Spirit - what's it all about?



Deepen your relationship with Jesus and the Holy Spirit through presentations, testimonies, group discussions, prayer, and praise & worship. Then invite the Holy Spirit to enrich

the gifts you received at Baptism and Confirmation. The program is led by:

- **Fr. (Bala) Balaraju Policetty**, pastor at St. Bridget Church
- **Fr. Derek Gilde**, St. John the Baptist Church New Brighton, MN
- **Ann Schwalbach**

Friday, March 6 6:30-9:00 pm Saturday, March 7 all day, followed by Mass at 4 pm.

St. Bridget Lubich Hall.

Cost: \$10 per adult payable at the door (covers snacks, lunch and materials).

For details and to register, use your phone to scan the QR code and click the link OR pick up a flyer at the Info Desk.



FAITH FORMATION

First Communion Parent & Child Meeting – Sunday, February 1 at 1:00 p.m.

Children in 2nd grade and older are welcome to prepare for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion this spring. Each candidate should bring a small box or plastic container to the meeting, to be decorated and made into a Love Bank. We will begin in church. Contact Tessa with questions.

Confirmation Retreat

The 10th grade confirmation students went on a retreat in the beginning of January. They had an amazing experience learning about their faith from the Spiritus missionaries. Please pray for our students as they continue to learn more about their faith and stay on fire for Christ!

PARISH LIFE

Knights of Columbus Scholarships Opportunity

Our River Falls Knights of Columbus Council 4902 will be awarding up to **two \$1,000 scholarships** to 2026 graduating high school seniors!

To apply for this award, you must be a high school senior student at an area high school on schedule to graduate in spring of 2026, and planning to continue your education at a two or four-year university/college, or vocational school program. You also must be an active member of St. Bridget's, or St. Mary's @ Big River. Applications will also be accepted from home-schooled students.

Click [HERE](#) for the scholarship page and requirements.

The Chosen Resumes!

On Wednesday January 28th at 6:30pm through Wednesday March 25th, the Chosen Season 5 Last Supper will be shown. Each episode will be followed by discussion in the Fellowship Hall. The first episode will be shown in Lubich Hall on January 28th. All are welcome!



PARISH SCHOOL



Although the warmth of spring still feels far away, things are heating up at **St. Bridget Parish School!** There is so much happening, and we have plenty to be excited about.

Catholic Schools Week is quickly approaching, and we have a lot of fun planned for our hard-working students and staff. We can't wait to share all the exciting activities taking place each day as we celebrate our wonderful Catholic school community.



As part of Catholic Schools Week, we will be hosting an **Open House on Wednesday, January 28, from 4:00–5:30 PM and 6:30–7:00 PM.** Stop by to check out our school, then stick around to cheer on our basketball team as they take the court! Pizza, pop,

and more will be available at concessions for cash purchase.

We recently hosted our first home basketball game after several weather cancellations, and it was a thriller! Our cheer team has also been practicing hard and proudly showcased their skills at the game. We are so proud of both teams!

Catholic Schools Week also brings a great opportunity to come together and support our students through our **Meat Raffle**. Join us **Friday, January 30, from 5:30–8:00 PM** at the **River Falls Golf Club**. Come try your luck, raise funds for our students, and enjoy a fun evening with a great group of people.

In **Physical Education**, many of our students have been enjoying roller skating! What a fun and active way to get moving!

We are also beginning to share more information about our **Gala coming up in April**. Be sure to follow our Facebook page to stay up to date on all things Gala-related.

We hope you are staying warm during this chilly January, and we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

QUARTERLY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT

"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: **Bonnie Thom (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.

The Diocese of Superior is bound by civil and canon law to report sexual abuse of a minor to civil authorities. Anyone who believes that they have been sexually abused is strongly encouraged to report as well."

"La Iglesia Católica está trabajando arduamente para evitar que sus empleados, voluntarios, diáconos y sacerdotes cometan abuso sexual. Si usted ha sido abusado sexualmente por alguien asociado con la iglesia y le gustaría poder reportarlo o hablar con alguien, le pedimos que por favor se comunique con : **Bonnie Thom (715) 718.1110**.

La diócesis de Superior entiende que es difícil pedir ayuda en casos de abuso sexual. Por eso el número telefónico es estrictamente para reportar estos casos y la llamada es confidencial. Su llamada será tratada con respeto y dignidad. Conforme a la ley civil y de la iglesia, la diócesis de Superior está obligada a reportar a las autoridades cualquier reporte de abuso sexual a un menor. A cualquier persona que piense que ha sido abusada sexualmente se le sugiere o recomienda reportarlo."

If there are questions about the above notice, please contact **Dan Blank, Director of Administrative Services: (715) 394.0211, dblank@catholicdos.org**.

Si tiene preguntas sobre el aviso anterior, por favor contacte **Dan Blank, Director of Administrative Services: (715) 394.0211, dblank@catholicdos.org**

PARISH LIFE

Safe Haven Sunday—Equipping the Family: Safety Through Connection

The constant flood of influence that comes through the internet and social media in all of its various forms, along with social pressures from peers make it difficult for children to live virtuous and holy lives.



And regrettably, internet pornography is teaching our children how and what to think about sex and marriage. **February 21st and 22nd 2026**, St. Bridget Catholic Church will be celebrating *our third annual Safe Haven Sunday*.

This weekend of awareness will provide free resources to you to give you confidence for how to talk to your children about internet dangers, as well as their personal online and offline choices. Please join us with your prayers and presence as we prepare for this unique event.

New Lenten Program: Crux

This Lent, we are going to willingly do hard things. That's where God wants to meet us—in our weakness.



One way we are doing this is by participating in Ascension's new Lenten program, Crux, with Fr. Columba Jordan, CFR. *Crux: Daily Lenten Meditations* is a daily devotional that helps you build a habit of Scripture reading and prayer, keeping your eyes fixed on your Lenten goals and reminding of your true identity in Christ.

The devotionals will arrive soon, and there will be weekly small groups meetings, complete with prayer, a discussion, and a weekly video with Fr. Columba, are being organized (more information to come soon).

Tiny Home Summit

You are invited to join six River Falls churches in cooperation with Our Neighbor's Place to learn about a project to build Tiny Homes to help lessen homelessness in our community.

The Tiny Home Summit will be Thursday, January 29 at 6:00 pm at Luther Memorial Church in River Falls.

Feast of St. Brigid: Patroness of St. Bridget Parish & School



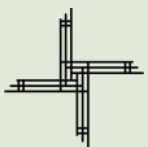
Saint Brigid by Patrick Joseph Tuohy

The patroness of St. Bridget Parish is St. Brigid of Kildare. St. Brigid was born in **451** in Ireland and was born to a Christian slave and a pagan chieftain. Inspired by St. Patrick, Brigid became a Christian like her mother. This proved to be a problem for Brigid as her father did not understand her and tried to sell her to the King of Leinster. While the two were speaking, Brigid gave away her father's sword to a man in need. The King recognized Brigid's generous nature and commanded her father to leave her alone so she could practice her Christian faith.

St. Brigid went on to live in Kildare, Ireland where she built 2 monasteries.

Traditionally, the **February 1st** was celebrated in Ireland as the first day of spring.

At church on the weekend of **January 31st and February 1st** to commemorate this feast day, we will have a special *Reflection of Symbols* procession. We will also have children's bulletins, coloring sheets and fact sheets available at our Information Desk and printable versions on our website if you would like to learn more about our patroness.



The logo for St. Bridget Church and School, is the St. Brigid Rush Cross. Legend has it that St. Brigid helped a dying man become Christian after she wove him this type of cross out of rushes!

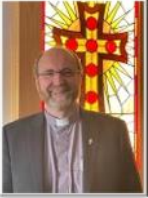
St. Brigid of Kildare, pray for us!

Info taken from The Catholic Company.

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 (part-time)
715-425-1879 ext. 104
accountant@stbparish.com



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

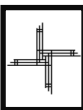


Sophie Kolars, Communications Coordinator
715-425-1879 ext. 111
communications@stbparish.com

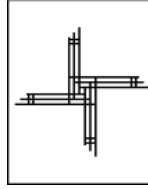
Parish Council Chair & Finance Council Chair Contacts



Frank Ginther: Parish Council Chair
fgginther@yahoo.com



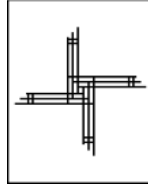
Craig Gasior: Finance Council Chair
cjgasior@gmail.com



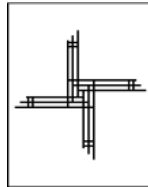
Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries



Randy Koller, Maintenance (part-time)
715-425-1879 ext. 112
facilities@stbparish.com



Lacey Niesl, Custodian (part-time)



Head of Maintenance



Tessa Schuermann, Prek-8th grade Faith Formation (part-time)
715-425-1879 ext. 106
childrensFF@stbparish.com



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



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

St. Thomas More Newman Center



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