



BELLTOWER

July 2021 - St. Bronislava Parish - www.stbrons.com

Dear brothers and sisters,

I'm happy and excited to introduce you to our new monthly parish newsletter, *Belltower*. Each month we will be bringing you all the information you're used to getting in the weekly bulletin, such as Mass intentions, financial reports, and upcoming events. In addition, each issue will feature in-depth articles about the difference our parish ministries are making in people's lives. It's important that we acknowledge and celebrate the great things God is doing in and through our parishioners.

The monthly *Belltower* will be supplemented by 28 weekly spotlights throughout the year. These smaller 4-page publications will feature specific events and provide more coverage and better encourage participation than the previous weekly bulletin could. All this is made possible by our advertisers. Please, be sure to patronize the businesses that advertise in *Belltower* and the weekly supplements. Even better, let them know you appreciate their support!

The transition from a weekly bulletin to a monthly newsletter and 28 weekly spotlights will take a little adjusting, and surely there will be some bumps along the way. But I'm convinced that in the long run, this will be a more effective and informative way of communicating with our parishioners – and the wider community. We welcome suggestions for future articles, and we hope to recruit various writers from among our parishioners. We want *Belltower* to be a truly collaborative effort.

Another transition taking place at St. Bronislava this month is a change in associate pastors. Father Brandon Guenther will be leaving us to serve as associate pastor to three parishes in Chippewa Falls. I am so grateful for his priestly ministry among us these past two years. It has been a blessing to work with him! This month we will also welcome newly ordained Father Eric Mashak as our new associate pastor. I know he is very eager and excited to serve our parish family. And he should be – St. Bronislava Parish is a truly amazing and graced place to be! ◆

God bless!

Father Ed



Mass Intentions for July

Sat, June 26	4:00 PM	Parish, <i>Eve Hamsing Kropp</i>
Sun, June 27	8:00 AM	Isabell Herek
	10:30 AM	James Adamski, <i>Marilyn Jurgella</i>
Tue, June 29	5:30 PM	Patricia Ostrowski
Wed, June 30	8:15 PM	Arnold Skibba
Thu, July 1	8:15 AM	John Rosenthal
Fri, July 2	8:15 AM	Sarah & Richard Pearse Jr & Dau. Susan, <i>Vic, Dylan & Juany Heck</i>
Sat, July 3	4:00 PM	Bridget Sankey
Sun, July 4	8:00 AM	Will Lehner
	10:30 AM	Parish, <i>Dale O'brien</i>
Tue, July 6	5:30 PM	John Stewart
Wed, July 7	8:15 AM	Louis A Rozner Sr.
	Lodge 1:30 PM	Family member of Mark Zurawski
Thu, July 8	8:15 AM	Pat Slowinski
Fri, July 9	8:15 AM	Deacon Rich Zietlow, <i>BJ Trzebiatowski</i>
Sat, July 10	4:00 PM	Parish, <i>Gregory Michelkamp</i>
Sun, July 11	8:00 AM	Dr. John Riordan
	10:30 AM	Arnold Skibba
Tue, July 13	5:30 PM	Nick Kranski & Frances Lemaster, <i>Deceased memb. of Uher Family</i>
Wed, July 14	8:15 AM	Jessica Newby
Thu, July 15	8:15 AM	Victoria Policht
Fri, July 16	8:15 AM	JoAnn & David Sankey, <i>Dawn Sankey</i>
Sat, July 17	4:00 PM	Bernice Sankey
Sun, July 18	8:00 AM	Parish
	10:30 AM	Janice Schulfer, <i>Marilyn Jurgella</i>
Tue, July 20	5:30 PM	Darrell Parks Sr.
Wed, July 21	8:15 AM	Robert Konkol
Thu, July 22	8:15 AM	Joseph & Caroline Kurszewski, <i>Jon Schlutter</i>
Fri, July 23	8:15 AM	Barbara Purcell
Sat, July 24	4:00 PM	Parish
Sun, July 25	8:00 AM	Keith Gostomski
	10:30 AM	Janet Manz
Tue, July 27	5:30 PM	Bert Trzebiatowski
Wed, July 28	8:15 AM	Florian Lasecke
Thu, July 29	8:15 AM	Joe & Martha Malek
Fri, July 30	8:15 AM	Jack Janssen
Sat, July 31	4:00 PM	Patricia Ostrowski
Sun, Aug 1	8:00 AM	Anniv. Blessing for Bob & Sue Simkowski
	10:30 AM	Parish, <i>Arnold Olds</i>

Fr. Lynch Intentions are italicized

ST. BRONISLAVA PARISH MISSION
STATEMENT.

BEARING WITNESS TO
CHRIST
IN WORD AND DEED

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I've been so
blessed indeed!

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SUPPORT - May 2021



Gift Cards	\$ 254.00
Envelopes and Plate Offerings	\$ 51,229.12
Online Giving with WeShare	\$ 22,237.00
Go to stbrons.com to learn about Online Giving or email businessoffice@stbrons.com	

2020-2021 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL as of June 2021

Campaign Goal (Campaign ends June 30 th)	\$154,220.00
Pledged (427 out of 1800 households)	\$141,130.70
Short of Goal	\$ 13,089.30

Upcoming Weddings

Kylie Hodgson &

Jacob Barnes

July 17, 2021



May God bless their marriage!

"I've been so blessed indeed!"

A farewell from Father Brandon!

Dear St. Bronislava Family,

I guess we all knew this day would come, that my time here was never meant to be permanent, no matter how much we (or at least I) wanted it to last forever! I can hardly describe how sad I am to leave you all. As I alluded to when the movement announcement was made last month, although bittersweet, I am filled with gratitude for the time I've had here at St. Bronislava.

I remember the first Mass I celebrated here, a Tuesday evening. I told Fr. Ed I really didn't know what I was doing... I think he thought I was joking -- I really wasn't! It was maybe my 10th Mass ever! Nevertheless, everything went just fine.

No matter how much you learn in seminary, there is nothing like actually celebrating Mass in a parish. That is true of Mass, all the sacraments, and just about anything for the priesthood. St. Bron's will be the place where I had many of my "firsts" as a priest, first funeral, first anointing, first set of Sunday Masses, and the list could go on. After just two short (and too short!) years I am so much more comfortable in my new identity as a priest. In no small way, it is thanks to you for all your patience, kindness and love and for letting me make mistakes and learning what it means to be a priest.

I think I would be remiss if I didn't express my gratitude for Fr. Ed and all that he has taught me these last two years. Many of you remember Fr. Samuel McCarty who spent the summer of 2019 with us as a deacon. Of course, I asked him for the down low on Fr. Ed since he arrived well before my assignment began. All Fr. Sam said was, "He gets it." I think that is all I needed to know. This has certainly been true these last two years, I couldn't have hoped for a better pastor, mentor and a friend. Fr. Ed, thank you for teaching me what it means to love my parishioners and to sacrifice for them.

Further, I would like to mention the staff, the various parish organizations, and volunteers who I have had the privilege of working with these last two years. I have learned so much about what it means to run a parish and to minister to parishioners. I think I also learned to have a good time in the middle of all of it too! Thank you all for showing me what it means to be committed and loyal to your parish family.

Many priests have said how blessed I was to be here for my first assignment and they are absolutely right, I've been so blessed indeed! Thank you all for inviting me into your family. Know of my prayers for you and I hope I can be so bold as to ask you to pray for me. If you are ever in Chippewa Falls, please stop in and say hi!

In Christ,

Fr. Brandon Guenther



HOLY THUNDER

By Gary Oudenhoven & Joe Dietrich

Sunday, June 6th at 1:30 pm **Holy Thunder** could be heard leaving the parking lot at St Bronislava Parish. The weather was in the mid 80's with no rain in sight. The thunder was the roar of over 30 motorcycles on the second annual Motorcycle Blessing and Faith Run as they left the church for an enjoyable tour of almost 100 miles.

The idea for this event actually started 3 years ago by Father Ed Shuttleworth and a group of St. Bronislava volunteers who took part in a pilgrimage to Lourdes, France.

It happened to be their big motorcycle rally weekend at the Marian shrine, famous for its healing waters. The organizers knew that Father Ed rode a Harley, so he was invited to take part in the Bikers' Mass and blessing of the motorcycles.

Father Ed figured if they do it at Lourdes, we should try and do it in Plover. Thus, last year began the first year of what he hopes will be an annual tradition. Also, due to COVID, the parish was looking for things to do that weren't indoors and could be socially distanced. The bike ride was a perfect fit.

The event started with a blessing of the motorcycles, under the carport of church, by Father Ed and associate pastor Father Brandon Guenther. Father Brandon rides a BMW motorcycle, and is known to record his rides. He has a helmet camera and microphone and refers to spiritual reflections during the rides. You can find the links on our parish website, www.stbrons.com.

During the blessing, Father Ed reminded participants that a blessing is an opportunity to give thanks to God. "Today we give thanks for the enjoyment motorcycling brings to our lives," he said, "in particular, the beauty of God's creation we witness on the open road, and the friendships that are forged by riding together." The blessing was also an opportunity to pray for a safe riding season.

Following the prayer, each motorcycle passed under the carport where Father Ed (on left) and Father Brandon (on right) sprinkled the bikes and their riders with holy water.

The ride began with a traffic assist from the Plover police, as everyone headed east on Plover

Road to Cty Hwy B.

The scenic route took the bikers through Shantytown and Galloway and through some beautiful rolling hills and winding county roads.

They made a "pit stop" at the Iola car show grounds and enjoyed refreshments provided by St. Bronislava Youth Ministry.



Continued on next page.....

HOLY THUNDER CONTINUED

The final leg of the run passed through Scandinavia and Amherst on the way back to Plover. In all, it was a very enjoyable ride through the countryside. The bikers even got a second “sprinkling” as they passed close to a farm irrigation system near Amherst!

Back at St Bronislava, the group was then treated to a meal by the St Bronislava Knights of Columbus with jumbo hot dogs, barbeque, fixings, ice cream dessert and refreshments. The riders spontaneously took up a collection which will be used for local charities.



St. Bronislava parish members, Carol & Lester Austreng of Plover, participated in their 2nd Motorcycle Blessing & Faith Run. "I know a few people here", said Lester. "We've been riding since before we were married." Lester & Carol have been married for over 50 years.

Several announcements were made at the meal. One worth noting is the “Christmas in July” ride

that goes from Bull Falls Harley Davidson in Rothschild to the Marshfield Children’s Hospital. It is sponsored by their local Knights of Columbus and is led by Santa on a Harley to bring toys and smiles to the children. Last year they collected over 3400 toys. This year’s event is Saturday, July 31st at 9:30 am.

See <https://www.christmasinulycharitywi.com/> for information and to donate to this very worthy cause.

If you were born to ride and would like to join a future event, contact St. Bronislava Parish Office at 715-344-4326 and they will steer you in the right direction. ◆



“TODAY WE GIVE THANKS FOR THE ENJOYMENT MOTORCYCLING BRINGS TO OUR LIVES,”

“IN PARTICULAR, THE BEAUTY OF GOD’S CREATION WE WITNESS ON THE OPEN ROAD, AND THE FRIENDSHIPS THAT ARE FORGED BY RIDING TOGETHER.”

Season of Grace

By Jody Glodowski and Anna McCarty

This past Spring, our families at St. Bronislava Parish experienced new life in a multitude of ways. We were able to come back to worship in-person. We saw winter fade to spring, flowers blooming, and bare fields tilled and planted with seeds. Just like these fields, we too witnessed new spiritual seeds that were planted in the hearts of our youth, especially as they celebrated receiving a sacrament. The celebration of a sacrament for the very first time is an extraordinary experience. Sacraments are celebrated throughout the year; however, in our Catholic tradition, the Easter season is a heightened time, a definite season of grace.

Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation:

Emily Klish story

The Easter Season at St. Bronislava was one of great joy! Traditionally, the Easter Vigil is one where any catechumens are welcomed into the Church. Catechumens are individuals who have expressed their desire to enter into the Catholic Church and receive the sacraments. Emily Klish is an 8th grader who is enrolled in the St. Bronislava Faith Formation Program, and she was the catechumen who was joyously welcomed into Church that holy Vigil evening.

Emily spent months as a catechumen studying and working to learn more about the Catholic Faith. With hopeful hearts, a congregation that had just recently come back together to worship, witnessed Emily become a full member of the Catholic Church. First, the life-giving waters of baptism flowed over Emily's head. Next, that sanctifying grace received at baptism was sealed by the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of Confirmation. Then, alongside her younger sister Kaylee, Emily approached the altar of God and received into her heart the precious, risen Savior in Holy Communion. And the Church rejoiced to welcome another member into their Church family! On recalling that special night Emily said,

"To me, the most important thing about receiving Jesus in Holy Communion is how Jesus is there with you as you are there with Him." Since her reception of these three sacraments, Emily commented on how they affected her relationship with Jesus.

She said, "My relationship with Jesus has changed since my experience and I feel that I was brought closer to Jesus." What a holy and memorable night. To God be the glory!



Continued on next page.....

Season of Grace continued



Baptism

What a joy it is to welcome a new child of God through the Sacrament of Baptism! Jared and Heidi Scherr reflect on some special moments experienced on their son's baptism day in May. "We were filled with joy on the date of Dawson's baptism, especially since the sacrament marked the beginning of his Christian life. We invited parents, siblings, nieces, nephews and grandparents to witness our son's Baptism. We very much appreciated Father Brandon's thoroughness as the celebrant and hospitality to our families. Dawson was definitely excited on the day, too!" They also felt well prepared for their child to be baptized using the parish materials and resources, which encourage active discussions between parents.

First Communion

During the Easter season, we had 46 children receive the Eucharist for the first time. First Communion preparation is a team effort – the home, the parish and faith formation.

Preparing for First Communion looked different this year. We developed a hybrid approach to preparing for receiving this sacrament. Meetings were on Zoom and materials were handed out in packets. Whether the child uses a home study curriculum, attends Catholic school, or enrolls into our Family Formation program, they all received the knowledge of who Jesus is, learned that we receive Jesus' Body and Blood in Communion, and practiced how to receive our Lord in holy Communion.

Some of our families and children shared their First Communion experiences. Choosing a dress for your First Communion can be a big deal. A white dress is to symbolize purity, such as the gown worn when baptized. Each year I see new dresses and dresses with stories. This year, Avery Gabbert, proudly wore a dress that not only did her mother, Lindsey, wear in 1996, but her aunt and grandmother also wore the very same dress.

Marie and Allan Jastromski said that their son, Matthew, was well prepared for the Eucharist.



Continued on next page.....

Season of Grace continued

As a family, they prayed and “practiced or reenacted the sacraments, so he would be comfortable and open to receiving them. The in-person [Family Formation] meetings and retreat really allowed Matthew to have ‘hands on’ time in church where he could learn through other teachers, be with his peers, and get to know Father Ed and Father Brandon better. This helped him be more acquainted with the church instead of intimidated.” Marie added, “The new format of faith formation helped develop/deepen my faith. Matthew feels very happy to get to receive His body each Sunday at Mass.



Sam and Chris Parker describe a highlight in their daughter’s preparation. Mari’s big sisters passed down their special things, like gloves, and each person in the family shared with her what it means to receive holy Communion. Mari says that receiving unblest hosts to practice ahead of time, helped to prepare her more. Mari has been waiting two years since her older sister received her first Communion.

Pam and Michael Verhulst’s son, Gavin, attends second grade at Pacelli - St. Bronislava Catholic school and Pam says, “that even during these strange times, [it] has been a blessing.” She added, “he was very prepared for his sacraments with the lessons and teachable moments in his classroom.” The parish provided resources reinforced his lessons and through his preparation, “his heart was full of peace, confidence and excitement as he received his sacraments.”

At St. Bronislava Parish, our mission statement reads: “Bearing Witness to Christ in Word and Deed.” Celebration of the Sacraments is a wonderful and pivotal way to participate in this mission. With springtime flowers, warmer weather, the gardens growing, and the promise of new life, so springs forth hope in our hearts as we too celebrate a time where new life is born in the Season of Grace. ◆

Independence Day

God, source of all freedom, this day is bright with the memory of those who declared that life and liberty are your gift to every human being.

Help us to continue a good work begun long ago.
Make our vision clear and our will strong:
that only in human solidarity will we find liberty,
and justice only in the honor that belongs
to every life on earth.

Turn our hearts toward the family of nations:
to understand the ways of others, to offer
friendship, and to find safety only in the common good of all.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen



The Sacrament of Baptism

What a joy it is to welcome a new child of God through Baptism! It is a blessing for the Church and for the world.



Ryker Jarrett Brown, son of Richard and Diana Brown, celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism on June 20th.

God bless his parents and godparents as they together bring up the newly baptized to lead a life of grace in harmony with the Baptismal promises.

Queen of the May

By Jody Glodowski and Anna McCarty

Each year, St. Bronislava's Parish Council of Catholic Women invites the First Communicants to participate in a special recognition of Our Lady. As part of Mass on May 4th, ten children dressed in their First Communion dresses and outfits while processing in with flowers to be presented to Mary. Gavin Verhulst was chosen for the honor to carry in the beautiful flower crown on a white satin pillow and walked it to Father Ed, who led the blessing and crowned Mary.

Mary is our model of living Grace. Mary told God, "Be it done according to Thy Word". The Lord has great work to do in each of our lives, however, with the attitude in which we face him and react to his challenges, blessings, will make all the difference in what ultimately happens. The life we live is often one that we do not anticipate. Especially during this past year, it seems that our lives have completely shifted and changed, and some not for good. Though there has been a season of desolation, being deprived of many good things, a seemingly

'endless Lent', we have ultimately witnessed a season of blessings showered down and thus, grace bloomed - a Season of Grace. ◆



For Faith Formation news go to our web site

www.stbrons.com.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd - Volunteers Needed

St. Bronislava has an inactive Atrium due to the Covid year. We are looking to activate this opportunity for the children ages 3-6. We are looking for aides and assistants to help us get our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Atrium active. We are also looking for families with young children that would be available to attend our sessions which could begin as early as October.

To find out more, see our webpage: <https://stbrons.com/catechesis-of-the-good-shepherd.html>.

Calendar of events:

July 6-9th, Rocky Railway Vacation Bible Camp

July 8, 9, 10th, Iola Car Show

July 18-25th, Camp Covecrest

July 29th, Youth Bonfire 6:30-8:00 pm

July 2021 Movie on the Wall (showing at dusk):

- **July 8th** – Trolls World Tour
- **July 29th** – Leap!

Social Concerns next food collection is

July 17th & 18th for the Mobile Pantry.

This food pantry delivers to 50 plus recipients, which consists of elderly, people with disabilities, limited income, unreliable transportation and are unable to access food pantries in town.

Many items are needed; salt, pepper, 4# sugar, 5# flour, cooking oil, jam, jelly, ketchup, mustard, Bisquick, pancake mix, syrup, cake and brownie mixes, frosting, Healthy Choice soups, canned chicken, meals in a can (such as chili, stew, ravioli), pasta sauce, spaghetti noodles, Ramen noodles, instant potatoes, pork & beans, small coffee, apple and cranberry juices, Country Time lemonade mix & saltine crackers.

Monetary donations accepted to purchase meats, eggs, dairy, fresh fruits & vegetables.

Checks can be made out to "Mobile Pantry."

Thank you in advance for your generosity to our neighbors.

~Social Concerns Committee

July Events Here & There



- 3** Farewell Gathering for Father Brandon after 4 pm Mass
- 4** Independence Day
Farewell Gathering for Father Brandon after all Masses
- 5** Parish Offices Closed
- 6-9** Vacation Bible Camp - St. Bronislava Parish
- 8** Movie on the Wall - St. Bronislava, 7:30 pm at Dusk,
Feature: Trolls World Tour
- 13** KC Meeting - St. Bronislava Mary Room, 6:30 pm
- 15** PCCW Mtg - St. Bronislava Mary Room, 6:30 pm
Festival Mtg - St. Brons JR 6:30
- 17/18** Food Collection Mobile Pantry - St. Bronislava Gathering Space
- 18** Youth Covecrest GA Trip Departure- St. Bronislava Youth
- 29** Movie on the Wall - St. Bronislava, 7:30 pm at Dusk,
Feature: Leap!
- 31** St. Florian Parish Picnic - Hatley, visit www.stflos.org for info.

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“Project Fresh Start 2021”

Drop off for project Fresh Start begins June 28th and runs through August 16th. Please drop off items in boxes located in gathering space. Items in most need:

Durable back packs for older grades, washable markers, highlighters, dry erase markers, 3 x 5 index cards, colored pencils, rulers, adult scissors, sharpeners, pencil boxes, glue bottles and sticks, composition notebooks, single subject notebooks (wide and college ruled) & two pocket folders.

For Cash Donations: Cash/check donations are accepted. Checks should be made to Project Fresh Start. If a receipt is needed, please contact United Way at 715-341-6740.

Thank you in advance for supporting students in the Stevens Point area!

*Any child 4K-12 who meets the free or reduced-price meals financial guidelines through a Portage County school is eligible to receive free school supplies. Preregistration is required and can be done online: <https://forms.gle/e1MJpRFx1QRNukgW7> or by downloading and printing a registration form at: www.VolunteersRock.org/PFS

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St. Bronislava Parish ~ Information

Pastor

Very Reverend Edward J. Shuttleworth 715-344-4326 Ext. #110
fathered@stbrons.com

Associate Pastor

Reverend Eric Mashak 715-344-4326 Ext. #109

Director of Liturgical and Adult Ministries

Deacon Vernon R. Linzmeier 715-344-4326 Ext. #101
deaconvern@stbrons.com

Parish, Business, Facility & Music Offices

715-344-4326
parishoffice@stbrons.com

Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

715-341-6700

St. Bron's School Office

715-342-2015

PCS Central Office

715-341-2445

Catholic Cemetery Association

715-341-3236

Parish Website

www.stbrons.com

Facebook Page

St. Bronislava Parish

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St. Bronislava Youth Ministry

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Online Giving - link at stbrons.com

Parish Address & Hours

3200 Plover Rd, PO Box 158,
Plover WI 54467-0158

Parish offices open 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, M - F.
all the Parish at 715-344-4326 for Parish Office
Hours and Faith Formation Office Hours

**For a complete listing of Staff emails go
to stbrons.com - Welcome - Contact Us**

St. Bronislava Parish General Information

Weekend Mass Schedule: Saturday, 4:00 pm,
Sunday, 8:00 am (Live-Stream), Sunday, 10:30 am

Weekday Mass Schedule: Tuesday, 5:30 pm (Live-Stream),
Wednesday - Friday, 8:15 am (Live-Stream)

Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Evening prayer & Benediction: Thursday, 5:00 pm

Confessions: Saturday, at 9:00 am

All Parish Offices are closed on:

New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day (and the day after), Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.
If the holiday falls on a weekend, the office will be closed on a Friday or Monday.

PCES - St. Bronislava School and PCS Information

St. Bron's School Office - 715-342-2015 - Monday - Friday: 7:30 - 3:15 - school year

PCS Central Office - 715-341-2445 - PCS Early Childhood Center - 715-341-2878



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