

SAINT BRIDGET OF KILDARE CATHOLIC CHURCH

JANUARY 2, 2022



The Epiphany
of our Lord

Mass Times:

Monday through Friday 8:00am

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 8:00 & 10:00am

First Saturday Latin Mass 8:00am

St. Bridget of Kildare

111 West Union Street

Parish and School Office 636-271-3993

Parish Office Hours Monday—Friday 8am - 4pm

Website: www.sbkparish.org

Adoration: Tuesday 9:00am—7:00pm

Confession: Tuesday 6:00pm—6:50pm,

Saturday 4:15pm—4:50pm, Sunday 7:30am & 9:30am

Baptisms: Parishioners are asked to please call the Parish Office.

Marriages: Parishioners are asked to make arrangements with the priest at least six months in advance.

Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday 12:00pm

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Mass Schedule		Mass Intentions	
Monday	1/03	8:00am	No Mass
Tuesday	1/04	8:00am	No Mass
Wednesday	1/5	8:00am	No Mass
Thursday	1/6	8:00am	No Mass
Friday	1/7	8:00am	No Mass
Saturday	1/8	5:00pm	Ronald Fredrick Kramer
Sunday	1/9	8:00am	Pro Populo
Sunday	1/9	10:00am	Margaret Miller

Liturgical Ministers St. Bridget Church

LECTOR: SATURDAY, January 8, 2022 5pm
Sue Rutledge

LECTOR: SUNDAY, January 9, 2022 8am
Chris Brickler

LECTOR: SUNDAY, January 9, 2022 10am
Amy Hennessy

IN YOUR PRAYERS FOR ST. BRIDGET Please remember the sick: Philip Black, Sally Hanneken, The Schmidt Family, Danny Gettemeier, Norma Litzau, Vicki Brinker, Faye Balsman, Veronica Kelly, Greg Gossage, Kristian McDonald, Daryl Denu, Keith Bruns, Tom Cross, Lawrence Lindemann, Marleen Hartzell, Tom and Lois Martin, Steve Rost, Shelly Fischer Haney, Rosemary Woods, Barbara Johnson, Sharon Trentmann, Toni Strothkamp, Liam & Lauren Viotrain, David Mueller, Bev Schneider, David Reincke, Laura Masson, Jerry Stewart, Cecilia Mueller, Marge Phelan, Emilia Wieczorek, Amber Luetkemeyer, Joshua Carson, Meg Gallagher, Christine Floyd, Martha Sheerin-Speck, Rose Schuessler, Becky Coyner, LeRoy Hirth, Robin Henry, Dave Whitt, Geraldine Carrico, Tim Brauer, Debbie Price, Bill Drimped, Christine Eilman, David May, Bev Duncan, Kathy Doak, Pat Gomez, Alice Thawley, Joe Quennoz, Stephen W. Flannery Jr., Dan Witte, Brandon Huels, Belle Tenny, Ron Phillips, Jack Drummond, Candy Cloak, Amy Short, Pat Herbst, Monica Dabbs, Mary Bradford, Sarah Gould, Preston Thompson, Barbara Johnson, and the home bound and nursing home patients.

Also those who serve our country: Steven Sutterer, Corey Dorsey, Sgt. Jeremy Ross, Jennings Casey, Chief Petty Officer Mike Murphy, Isaac Wiersma, Aaron Cooley, Alex Churchill, Jonathan Savala, Brandon Ell, Wade Iliff Jr., & Andrew Bornholdt

St. Bridget Stewardship
12/19/2021
Collection Envelopes
Our Weekly need is \$7500.00 received \$3002.06
Online Donations \$1602.50 SvDP \$80.00

12/25/2021
Collection Envelopes 69
Our Weekly need is \$7500.00 received \$4273.00

12/26/2021
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Our Weekly need is \$7500.00 received \$2438.51
Online Donations \$937.50 Parish Improvement \$20.00
Seminary \$ 2220.00 SvDP \$20.00

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If you have any questions or concerns about the program or would like help setting up your account, please call our parish office at 636-271-3993 x201

No 8:00am Mass January 3rd
through January 7th
No Confessions January 4th
Happy New Year!

Parish Staff

Pastor

Fr. Andrew Burkemper
frburkemper@sbkschool.org

Permanent Deacons

Rev. Dr. Michael Suden
mmeadg@outlook.com
Rev. Mr. Dean Mandis
deanmandis@archstl.org
Rev. Dr. Jim Bornholdt
james.m.bornholdt@gmail.com

Parish Secretary

Rachel Mataya
ParishOffice@sbkschool.org

School Principal

Mrs. Anne Hanneken
ahanneken@sbkschool.org

PSR Coordinator

Mrs. Michele Geatley
mgeatley@sbkschool.org

The Epiphany of our Lord

Happy Epiphany to All!

First, a big "Thank You" to all who assisted in preparing for last week's beautiful celebration of Christmas: those who helped decorate, those who prepared and led us in song at Holy Mass, Rachel Mataya and Connie Pross in the parish office who did any number of "odds'n'ends," and so many more! All the preparation and effort resulted in a lovely celebration of our Savior's Nativity.

Second, this week there will be no 8:00am weekday Mass and no Confessions on Tuesday evening (January 4th). We will have Eucharistic Adoration from 9:00am-7:00pm on Tuesday, and Church will be open for prayer every other day from about 8:00am-4:00pm.

Third, a word about some of our Christmas decorations.

I received a number of comments about two different items making their first appearances at Christmas: our new Christmas trees and the altar cross.

After last Christmas, it was decided that our Christmas trees had "served their purpose well" and were ready to be moved on to the big Christmas tree lot in the sky. The six new trees currently in the sanctuary were purchased during the post-Christmas sales last year using a combination of parish money and donations, and they certainly add to the beauty of the decorations!

The bronze cross that is on the altar is an item of special importance for our parish, because it was used originally in the former St. Bridget Church. About two months ago, a parishioner approached me and said that he had been given this cross several decades ago and asked, if it could be used, would the parish be interested in making use of it, to which I gave an immediate, "YES!" After seeing it in person, it was decided to reserve it for the feast days of greatest importance during the Liturgical Year, so it made its first reappearance on Christmas Eve.

It is wonderful to pray with items that have enhanced the beauty of the Church and fostered the Faith for the generations of parishioners before us!

Finally, a word about today's Solemnity of the Epiphany. January 6th is the typical/historical date for this feast, but in the United States its celebration is transferred to the previous or following Sunday, depending on how the calendar falls.

The name for today's feast- "Epiphany"- comes from the Greek word *epiphania*, which means "manifestation" or "revealing." This is a very fitting name for today's feast, because Epiphany celebrates a three-fold manifestation/revealing of Jesus Christ to the world. We tend to associate the Solemnity of the Epiphany primarily with the arrival of the Magi, but the historical celebration of the feast seems to have focused primarily on the Baptism of the Lord rather than the Magi and also included a celebration of Jesus' turning water into wine at Cana.

Whichever event one primarily considers, each of them reveals Jesus Christ as God Incarnate. The visit of the Magi highlights Jesus Christ as the sole Saviour of all nations, which is why the first reading at Mass from Isaiah refers to all nations adoring God and why St. Paul speaks about Jesus as the Saviour of both Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews) in the second reading.

The Baptism of the Lord reveals Jesus Christ as the Beloved Son of God to Whom we should listen, and the wedding at Cana was Jesus' first public miracle, the first public revelation of His divine power. Today we joyfully offer God praise for revealing Himself to us- for these epiphanies in the life of our Lord- and we seek to respond with love, for each of these events teaches us more about Jesus Christ and invites us to seek and follow after Him as true God and Saviour of the world.

I pray that you and your family are having a Blessed Christmas and enjoy a wonderful Solemnity of the Epiphany!

In Christ, Fr. Burkemper

DEACON'S CORNER

Q. Deacon Mike, I'm having trouble understanding the Trinity. Can you fully explain it to me?

A. No one on Earth can fully explain the Trinity. Many have tried but all have failed. The finite mind just can't fully comprehend an infinite being. It's impossible. Even if God Himself condescended to explain this doctrine fully to us, we would still lack the capacity necessary to understand what God was trying to say. The Trinity is what we call a 'revealed mystery'. It is to be accepted as true because God teaches us that it is true. We can, however, try to explain this doctrine which all Christians must believe. There are 3 divine personalities in one divine nature—the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. These 3 Persons are equal in all things; equally God, equally eternal, equally powerful, equally omniscient, etc. God is an infinitely perfect and purely spiritual being, fully active in His knowledge and love. The knowledge that God has of Himself is a living and real personality called the Son. The mutual and reciprocal love between the Father and the Son is also a living personality called the Holy Spirit. There is no contradiction in this doctrine. We aren't speaking of three separate Gods united into one God. We also aren't speaking about three different natures becoming one. We are speaking about one Divine Nature manifested in three persons. We must remember that 'nature' and 'personality' are very different aspects when we are thinking about the Trinity. It's not like $1+1+1=3$ when we are dealing with the nature of the 3 persons of the Trinity. It's more like $1 \times 1 \times 1 = 1$. To repeat, the full significance of the triune nature of God is beyond the limited capacity of the human mind. We know the 'fact' of the Trinity only because God has chosen to reveal it to us. We believe it only because God has revealed it. Deacon Mike can be reached at mmeadg@outlook.com.

Thank you to everyone who donated their time and money to the St. Bridget's giving tree! It is a huge undertaking and we appreciate your time and effort. Merry Christmas!



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