

Welcome to the Parish Community of
Saint Bridget

We choose to be the presence of
Christ on the Northside

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 25, 2021



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Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Pastor's Corner

A departed Dominican friend of mine was an itinerant preaching, with two main focuses in his ministry: parish missions and retreats for clergy. He also taught us homiletics at The St. Paul Seminary.

At parish missions, he would hear about the clergy. At retreats for clergy, he would hear about the parishioners. Man, did he ever get an earful from both groups.

Given the nature of the American Catholic parish today -- *during an age of extreme shortage of priests, growing tendency for newer priests to embrace a pastor-centric decision-making model, and increasing needs from an aging population and financial shortages from decreasing attendance at church* -- the job has become impossible for one priest to do.

But lots of them try! They become like the mama bird with one worm and lots of little open mouths!

Eventually they suffer burnout. Meanwhile parishioners, because of the model being followed by their pastors, are left frustrated and resentful. And those gravitating to a pastor-centered parish increasingly see all ministry as "Father's job" anyway.

To appreciate this Sunday's Gospel message, you need to first go back a Sunday. Last Sunday's gospel -- Mark 6:30-34 -- starts out quite comically. Jesus and His disciples need to get away and rest from the crowds hungering for wisdom. Jesus and the Twelve leave in a boat for a deserted place ... and the crowd runs around the shore and beats them to the landing site. In effect saying, *You can run, but you can't hide!*

Jesus has compassion for the crowd, and decides to preach and teach some more.

Now we come to today's Gospel, we hear St. John's version of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes (John 6: 1-15). When Jesus realizes that the crowd may go hungry, he poses a question about food to His disciples. They shrug and point to the logistical problems of feeding a large crowd.

What Jesus does is bless the meager resources ... and then delegates the disciples to figure out, likely with those in attendance, how to distribute them!

Bishops, pastors, staff and parishioners around the world should pay attention to this model of leadership of communities Loving God, Loving Others (even "them"), Loving Oneself. (Remember, by "Love" Jesus means to be aware of, to care about, to actively care for. At the very least, to respect another's human dignity.)

Respectful discernment in common, followed by delegation and division of labor, is just about the only way that works under current conditions in American parish life. In fact, Vatican II calls for such mutuality, such collaboration.

Bishops, pastors and their staffs have to realize that they are not potentates with answers to every problem, not the only disciples who can do the work of God. Parishioners should engage in all the sacramental, pastoral and evangelizing work of the parish.

Working together, everybody will get bread and fish.

~ Fr. Paul Jarvis

Community Life

SCHOOL DAYS, SCHOOL DAYS!

Summer is moving quickly and our Scholars will soon return to school! There is a great need for school supplies for Sojourners Truth Academy. In an effort to aid our scholars, we will once again be collecting supplies through mid-September. You can use the containers in the entrances of the church or drop them off at the office during office hours. Whatever you can give is greatly appreciated by the scholars, their parents and the staff at Sojourners. We appreciate your generous hearts. THANK YOU!!

Prayer Request

Sharon Brisk, Annette Haehn, Karron Willis, Jim Carter, Shirley & Richard Peterson, Joan Roos, Paul Daugherty, Ann Lasky, Laura Walsh, Gene Theisen, Carol Wolney, Arlene & Jerry Scherber, Mary Ann Carter, Duane Pfarr, Emmett Mulcare, Rosie Bloomberg, Emmett Peterson, Kristin Majkozak, Scottie Kyles Jr., Eleanor Dietrich, Brian Brixius, Missy Moore-Schmidt, Chuck Dellwo, Carol Borman, Ralph Wolf, Mary Franklin, Kathleen Klath, and Jeff Moore.

Save the Date

ST. BRIDGET'S RECONNECTING GATHERING!!

Join us on Saturday, Aug. 14 for our 4:30 Mass with hospitality following in the back of church. Join us on Sunday, August 15 for our 9:30 Mass. We will be processed in by a bag piper, followed by a pancake breakfast and be entertained with our friend, Barb, the accordion player. We hope you invite, alumni, friends and your families to join us and celebrate our reconnecting after many months apart due to COVID. We hope you can join us!!

Ask the Liturgist

WHEN SHOULD WE BOW AND GENUFLECT DURING MASS?

Bows and genuflects are two of a variety of bodily gestures or movements used as external signs of respect or reverence during Mass. We see the priest process, bow and kiss the altar at the beginning of mass, but when are the rest of us instructed to bow and genuflect?

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) last revised in 2002 presents norms about the actions used to express reverence and respect at Mass and includes directions about when to genuflect and when to bow. The GIRM reminds us of the ancient tradition of seeing the altar table as representing Christ, the Living Stone. A bow of the body is prescribed as a gesture toward the altar as if toward Christ himself. All ministers bow at the beginning of Mass, the Priest and Deacon before proclaiming the Gospel and all of the faithful during the Creed at the words...'became man.'

A bow of the head is also prescribed when the persons of the Trinity are named together, such as the sign of the Cross, at the name of Jesus and his Mother, and the name of the Saint of the Day. The US Bishops have also determined the sign of reverence before receiving Communion is a bow of the head.

The genuflection is reserved for Eucharist and veneration of the Cross on Good Friday. The priest genuflects during the institution narrative of the Eucharistic Prayer and then after the Sign of Peace.

If the tabernacle is located in the sanctuary of the church, like at St. Bridget, the priest and ministers, including the assembly-all of us-genuflect when **arriving** for mass and when **leaving** at the end. DURING mass, the faithful are not instructed to genuflect at any other time. OUTSIDE the celebration of the Mass, it is appropriate to genuflect whenever passing in front of the tabernacle. This movement of prayer or physical gesture reminds us that Christ became like us in all things, the Word became flesh, that our Catholic faith is incarnational. It also reminds us that we are the Body of Christ and that we worship God not just with words or thoughts, but with our entire being.

In Memory

May we continue to hold in prayer the families of Steve Schuett and Ron Witte. May eternal rest be granted unto them, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Mass Intentions

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 25, 2021

Sun. July 25 Mass 9:30am/The Parish Community of St. Bridget

Mon. July 26— No Word & Communion Service

Tues. July 27 — Mass 8am/St Anthony of Padua (OFS)

Wed. July 28— Mass 8am/Mike Vales (Friend)

Thurs. July 29— Mass 8am/†Dick & Leone Jarvis (Grand Knight Council 4451)

Fri. July 30—Mass 8am /†Collette Palmquist (Alice Wortman)

Weekend Liturgies

Sat. July 31— Mass 4:30pm /†Kevin Fried (Family)

Readings For This Week



1st Reading: 2 Kgs 4:42-44

Resp. Psalm: Ps 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18

2nd Reading: Eph 4:1-6

Gospel: Jn 6:1-15

Tidbits from the Administrator



Repairs:

Work on the ramp wall in our parking lot is expected to take up to a week and a half to complete.

Volunteers needed:

Hospitality Coordinator
Hospitality core group

Please contact me directly with any questions
612-529-7779 or jonis@stbridgetnortsde.com

~Joni



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