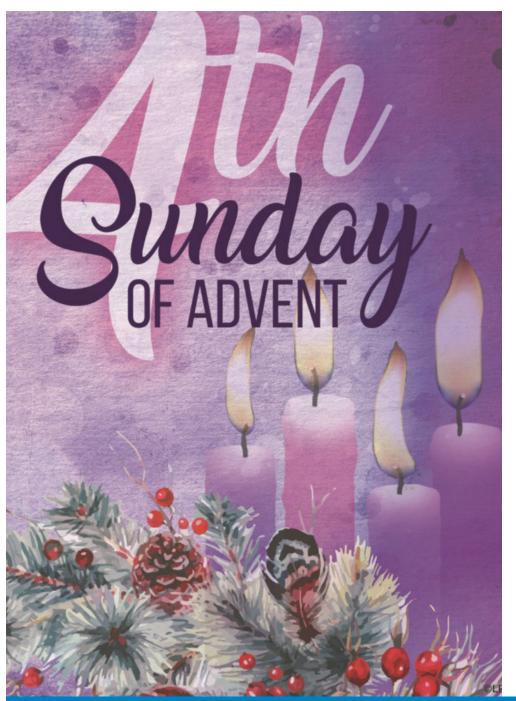


St. Bridget of Sweden

Catholic Church



13060 Lake Boulevard • Box 754 Lindstrom, MN 55045 • 651-257-2474 www.stbridgetofsweden.org



December 19, 2021

4th Sunday of Advent

Pastor, Fr. David Kohner frkohner@comcast.net

Parish Office

Phone—651-257-2474
Fax—651-257-1498
Hours—M-Th 9 AM-4 PM,
F 9 AM-1 PM
Emergency Line after office hours:
612-840-8378

Prayer Calling Line

Call 651-257-2474 x25 hgieske@stbridgetofsweden.org

Eucharistic Liturgies

Weekend

Saturday 5 PM; Sunday 8 & 10 AM

Weekday

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9 AM Tuesday 12:00 PM

Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00-4:40 PM Tuesday 5:00-6:00 PM or by appointment

Adoration

Tuesday 9:00 AM-9:00 PM Benediction 12:30 PM

Baby Blanket

651-257-2474 x34 651-304-0432 cell info@thebabyblanket.org Thursday 9:30 am-12:30 pm Saturday 9:30 am-12:30 pm

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER DAVE

ADVENT DRAWS TO A CLOSE

If you are reading this bulletin on the weekend of December 18/19, hang on just a little bit longer. We are in the final stretch of our journey through Advent culminating in the joy of our Christmas celebration.

The light has grown stronger week by week, and as we now light the final candle on our Advent wreath we have the assurance that on this Monday December 21st at 9:58 am we have reached the shortest day of the year and from then on the light returns ever more intense day by day. It is not pure coincidence that our ancestors set the date of the great feast of Christmas, December 25th, to symbolically celebrate the birth of the One who brings all light to this world, each year at a time when the darkness most desperately needs to be banished and the light of the sun grows ever stronger. It is Jesus Christ after all who conquers darkness in all its forms.

In preparation for again celebrating Jesus' birth, we focus in this weekend's Gospel on the story from St. Luke of Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth after the Angel Gabriel's to Mary in Nazareth announcing God's saving plan for humankind and her unique and pivotal role in it. Although surely not fully understanding the magnitude or implications of her YES to the angel, Mary never the less trusted that in whatever God had in mind, she would willingly play her role as His faithful servant. In a sense, that attitude of humble availability is the very posture that we all hope to have achieved at the end of our weeks of Advent preparation. If so, or even if we are still struggling with our readiness, the time is about to arrive to welcome our Newborn King!



A CHILD IS BORN FOR US....

What gift can we possibly give to each other that compares with God's gift of His Son to us? December 25th is the time to pull out all the stops and celebrate that gift. The wait is over. The darkness is vanishing. The light has dawned.

I hope that your Advent has been fruitful and I am deeply grateful to all who will be able to be safely present at St. Bridget's to celebrate our Christmas liturgies. Compared to last year, our celebrations and decorations

will return to more of the full blown traditional appearance with the stable returning to it's place next to the sanctuary, as well as the complement of Christmas trees, wreathes and poinsettias. Please note the enclosed bulletin insert from the Archdiocese. You will note that they RECOMMEND wearing a mask at the crowded Christmas Masses, but THIS IS NOT A MANDATE. We leave it to your discretion. For those who are nervous about close together seating in the main church, we will as usual be running a live video feed to the Social Hall, with communion also being brought to the Social Hall.

Our regular Christmas schedule remains. The Mass times are:

Christmas Eve – 4:30 pm (Largest attendance) Christmas Night – 10:00 pm ("Midnight" Mass) Christmas Morning – 8:00 am (Early risers Mass) Christmas Morning – 10:00 am (Late risers Mass)

My hope is that we can each celebrate the beauty of this wonderful feast with hearts brimming with joy in honor of the birth of our Infant King.

My wish, and that of our parish staff, for each of you present with us at Christmas in person or by video, is that the joy and peace which Christ's birth represents may flood your life and your home all through this upcoming year. I love the opening prayer for the Christmas Mass at Dawn in the old translation, captured so well as stated below:

May the newborn King whose birth we celebrate, bless you and all those you care about during this Christmas time and beyond.

P.S. With attendance still not back to pre-covid levels, I would ask for your to help support our finances by being generous with your Christmas contribution to St. Bridget's as much as you are able. THANK YOU!

- Fr. Dave

Please note: Attending a Christmas Eve or Day Mass does not fulfill the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday, December 26th, the Feast of the Holy Family. Please plan to attend Mass for the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) either Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, and attend Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family on Sunday, December 26th.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

A message from Theresa Zlotkowski Faith Formation Director 651-257-2474 x58



"Christmas isn't just a temporal celebration or the memory of a beautiful event; Christmas is more... Christmas is an encounter!" (Pope Francis)

Advent too is an "Encounter"...

Advent is an "encounter" with our deep longing,

Our deep yearning for rescue, Our deepest desire that only a Savior Jesus Christ can fill.

In these days, from the depths of our hearts we pray, "Come Lord Jesus"... We ask Jesus not only to come into our hearts,

We ask him to come into a broken world yearning for new life.

We pray Come Lord Jesus, Into a world torn up by tornadoes and loss.

We pray Come Lord Jesus, Into a world crying for rescue from gun violence, car break-ins, house burglaries. We pray Come Lord Jesus, Into our schools where there are cries for honest and integrity filled race relationships.

We pray Come Lord Jesus, Into our hearts where we can learn the art of inclusion and welcome of all peoples. We pray Come Lord Jesus, Come and help us to "encounter" you in the poor, the forgotten, the abandoned, the rejected in our midst.

We pray Come Lord Jesus, Come and help us to find you in the lost part of ourselves, help us to find you yearning to restore us to wholeness once again.

Come Lord Jesus Come!





A message from Joe Kuschel Youth Minister 651-257-2474 x56

We will soon begin signing up both for Catholic Youth Summer Camp and our mission trip. The dates for CYSC will be June 12th-17th, 2022, and the dates for the mission trip are July 18th-23rd, 2022. I will soon be emailing promotional material to those grades that have the opportunity to participate in these inspirational events. They are both excellent ways to divert our youth, at least for 5 or 6 days, from the societal distractions that are aimed at everything except their spiritual welfare.

We had some great turnouts at Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. In lieu of having Faith Formation classes, many of our youth and their families attended this feast of Mother Mary, the only person in history, besides Jesus Himself, to be born without Original Sin. The attendance numbers made the padre's heart happy. A big thank-you to all of the youth that showed up to help out at the Knight's of Columbus Pancake Breakfast with Santa, and of course to the Knight's as well. The parishioners really enjoy seeing the service and volunteer aspects of our youth when it comes to helping the church and our community. Hopefully, they will throw another breakfast or two our way before the end of the season.

We had our 2nd Core Group meeting last week. We had about 10 of our youth in attendance. The pizza disappeared much faster than at our first meeting, which was fine, because the kids were there for physical **and** spiritual nourishment, and they got both. Our meeting concentrated on the Rosary, and why we say it. Our greatest spiritual fathers and mothers were devoted to the Rosary, John Paul II, St. Maximilian Kolbe, Mother Teresa, Padre Pio, and many more. And just what is so important about a string of beads and prayers? Our Blessed Mother Mary said to Blessed Alan de la Roche, "When you say your Rosary, the angels rejoice, the Blessed Trinity delights in it, my Son finds joy in it too, and I myself am happier than you can possibly guess. After the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, there is nothing in the Church that I love as much as

I would now like to close this bulletin article with the opening prayer (see what I did there) from our Core Group meeting. May we be thankful that we are gathered together, in a warm building, surrounded by loving friends, living in a great country, with plenty of food and clothing, loving parents, living with the ability and freedom to become closer to our Lord Jesus Christ, and the power to pray anytime that we wish. May we always be thankful for what we do have, and not dwell on what we don't have, for this is the key to a lifetime of joy. AMEN

the Rosary." I don't know about you, but I'm sold.

PARISH CALENDARS

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

December 24th 4:30 PM Lectors: Abby Brown Bridget Hoolihan **Sacristans:**

Jill & Joe Kuschel

Friday

December 24th 10:00 PM Lector: Darlene Kowalski Theresa Zlotkowski Sacristan: Dale Weiler

Friday

Saturday December 25th 8:00 AM Lector: TBD Sacristan: Chuck Fitzer

Saturday December 25th 10:00 AM Lector: Stacy Ernest **Bob Bodine Sacristan:** Chuck Fitzer

Sunday, December 19th, 2021

December 26th 8:00 AM Lector: Darlene Kowalski Sacristan: Chuck Fitzer

Sunday

December 26th 10:00 AM Lectors: Marianne Calhoun Stacy Ernest Sacristan: Dale Weiler

CH

CH

BB

CH

CH

Sunday

THE WEEK AHEAD

	K E A D I N G S
Rea	adings for the Week of December 19, 2021
Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Advent
•	Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19;
	Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45
Monday	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Γuesdaý	Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the
•	Church
	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12,
	20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Wednesday	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd;
,	Lk 1:46-56
Γhursday	Saint John of Kanty, Priest
,	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14;
	Lk 1:57-66
Fridav	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27

and 29; Lk 1:67-79

Vigil: ls 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25

Saturday The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13;

Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Suzie Alsen · Judy Clark · Lynne Karwand · Greg Fults · Darlene Kowalski · Kristine Beimert · Franklin Steele · Josh Hughes · Marietta Jacobs · Dwayne Kelley · Virgil Kappes · Kathy Berguist · Paula Trevis · Nonna Zwick · Mary Kay Andert · Jake Sauer · Veronica Roltgen · Julie Ramola · Carol Smothers · Thomas Thompson · Mary Karnowski · Kelly DeBiaso · Donna Haines · Charlene Chamernick · Shelley Madison · Judy Kelley · Rachel Curtis · Mick Lund · Tim Mitchel · Ben Riley · Kim Glenna · Beth S. · Jessica Mohler · Jim Underdahl · Jessica Stephens · Michelle · Mary Ann Weisbrod · Susi Ruchie · Tammy Bluhm · Connie Porath · Barb Nelson · Sara Miller · Kathleen Carlson · Katie Crum · Gail · Todd Olund · JoAnne Ford · Ron Schwachtgen · Richard Gage · Julianne Forester · Doug Olson · Betty Olson · Bob Rongitsch · Ron Schleicher · Dolores Thompson · Mark Peterson · Al & Colleen Lightfoot · Don McKay · Jody Bjelland · Linda Spencer · Jean Ricker · Lucy Shoop · Keenan McMahon · Dorothy Goodroad · Holly Sullivan · Sharon Luhmann · Frank Welsch · Don Bluhm · Tonya Stanina · Pat & Ed Weaver · Eileen O'Mara · Eugene · Cy Speltz · Kim Halverson · Al Ahmann · Robin Weaver · Sherol Rogolla · Avery Rasnuessen · Matt Moen · Eric McDonald · Michael Koran · Peter Ellwein · Leslie Mackyee · Gabriel Clay · Brett Casey · Rick Alsen · Mary Mack · Patricia Callahan · Kim Gibson · Katie Harris · Erik Carlson · Kari Hall · Ted Pitzenberger · Maureen Wolhaupter · Jane Merry · Steve Everson · Kristy · Flossy Knaak · Gabrielle L. · Mary Ann Koch · Rex Keblar · Dee Williams

Fourth Sunday of Advent	
8:00 AM Mass	CH
10:00 AM Mass	CH
6:00 PM AA Meeting	EW
Tuesday, December 21st, 2021	
9:00 AM—9:00 PM Adoration	CH
12:00 PM Daily Mass (Benediction Follows)	CH
5:00—6:00 PM Confessions	CP
6:30 PM Watchmen Gathering	CR
7:00 PM AA	LSH
Wednesday, December 22nd, 2021	

Friday, December 24th, 2021

Thursday, December 23rd, 2021

9:30 AM—12:30 PM Baby Blanket OPEN

Parish Office CLOSED Daily Mass CANCELED

The Nativity of the Lord

9:00 AM Daily Mass

9:00 AM Daily Mass

4:30 PM Christmas Eve Mass CH 10:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass CH

Saturday, December 25th 2021

Baby Blanket CLOSED 8:00 AM Christmas Day Mass 10:00 AM Christmas Day Mass Confessions CANCELED Saturday Night Mass CANCELED Sunday, December 26th, 2021

Feast of the Holy Family

8:00 AM Mass CH 10:00 AM Mass CH 6:00 PM AA Meeting **EW**

Key: CH - Church, CP - Chapel, CR-Conference Room, EW-East Wing, BB-Baby Blanket, NR-Nursery, SH-Social Hall, EB-Education Building, LSH-Lower Social Hall, NX - Narthex, OS -Offsite, YR - Youth Room

Please see page 5 of the bulletin for the Mass Intentions.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Baby Jesus' Wish List
Odds are you've got a Christmas list going by now — gift ideas for everyone from your nephew to your goddaughter to your mailman. But what about the birthday boy? What's the gift

Jesus gets from you this Christmas?

If you've ever read the Book of Leviticus, you know all about the sacrifices God asks of the Israelites, referred to in the reading from Hebrews today. Leviticus can be a chore to read a little repetitive, a little intimidating. There's a lot of very specific actions that God asks His Chosen People to complete to make up for whatever they have done wrong. In essence, it's a bit of a wish list for gifts.

But it's a wish list that can really confuse you. What's God going to do with a cereal offering? The kidneys of an animal? If you look closely, what God is doing here is beautiful. He's customized his wish list to only those things He knows the Israelites can give. It's God saying, in what amounts to theological baby-talk for folks who barely know of Him and His ways, exactly how they could be stewards. "Do this, but don't do that. If you do that, do this and you will find My mercy."

etc.) please stop after Mass and pick something up for Help spread some Christmas cheer! All free of charge.

E N V I R O N M E N T C O O R D I N A

Our guide to stewardship — the Gospels of Christ — is less precise because by the time of Christ, God's people have grown in understanding of love and mercy and relationship with the divine. Through Christ, we find out that God's real wish list didn't really consist of cereal offerings and the kidneys of various animals. It's fars implement the latest the second of the latest t we still have on-hand. All He wants is our whole heart.

– Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

BABY BLANKET GIVING TREE



The Giving Tree will be taken down after the 10:00am Mass this weekend. If you still have a gift to offer, you may drop off your gift at the parish office. Also, if you've never been in the Boutique, please stop by sometime and we'd be happy to show you the sweet shopping experience our guests are given because of your support! As always, our many thanks!

MEALS ON WHEELS



We are in need of volunteers to consistently deliver Meals of Wheels to homebound. If interested in volunteering, please contact Aubrey at 651-257-2474 x22.

WATCHMEN MEETING



All men are welcome at the next Watchmen meeting on December 21st from 6:30pm-8:00pm in the Conference Room. The Watchmen will begin a video series on relativism and how it is impacting our culture. Come join us for pizza, pop and good conversation about our faith!

Please pray for the family and friends of Owen Johnson and Jim Williams who have recently passed away. May our belief in the Resurrection support their families at this time and may they rest in peace.





ADVENT RESOURCES



Resources to guide you through Advent and prepare your hearts for the coming of Christ are available to pick up in the Narthex or on our website at www.stbridgetofsweden.org/ adultformation. Keep checking the

Narthex throughout Advent to check out what is new.

CHRISTMAS BABY CLOTHING



This weekend after all the Masses, the Baby Blanket will be sharing our excess inventory of Christmas holiday clothing with all of you in the Narthex. If you Slanket know someone who could use a clothing item for Christmas (child, neighbor, niece, nephew, grandchild,

etc.) please stop after Mass and pick something up for them.

ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR



We are in need of a new Environmental Design Coordinator. This volunteer position coordinates all of our seasonal and liturgical décor in the church throughout the year. The role also coordinates the many volunteers to help change over the environment. If

interested in volunteering as the Environmental Design Coordinator, please contact Jessica at 651-257-2474 x24.

SPECIAL COLLECTION



Thank you for your generous support of the Retirement Fund for Religious last weekend. Our parish collectively donated \$3,235.75 to support our retired Religious brothers and sisters. Thank you!

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY



All are welcome to join the Sunday Bible Study group as the resumé sessions starting January 9th. They will begin a series called "The Wild Study Goose" and hope it will help you experience a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit.

Meetings will take place in the Conference Room from 11:15am—12:45pm. No materials need to be purchased, but we do ask you to register so we can plan on numbers. Please call the parish office or Tim (763-516-1207) to register. We hope you will join us!

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED



The parish office will be closed Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24th and Monday, December 27th.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday	12/21	12 PM	† Peter Mrozinski
			Francis Jordan Kresser
Thursday	12/23	9 AM	Audrey Jordan Kuhnley
Friday	12/24	4:30 PM	† Sara Sontag Schmitt
•		10 PM	Joe Wishy
Saturday	12/25	8 AM	† Harvey Swenson

10 AM Mary & Tom Connolly

Sunday 12/26 8 AM Elsa Kuhnley People of the Parish 10 AM



AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!

ADVERTISE HERE NOW!

Contact Jim Byrne to place an ad today! jbyrne@4LPi.com or (800) 950-9952 x2596

de with the ‡1 car insurer in Minnesota

With competitive rates and personal ser

chael O'Malley Ins Agcy Inc chael O'Malley, Agent Michael O'Malley, Agent 12815 Lake Blvd - Lindstrom, MN 55045 Bus: 651-257-4372 State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farn 1001142.1

LINDSTROM CHIROPRACTIC CENTER

Dr. Rob Waddell Dr. Bob Waddell (651) 257-1103 On Hwy 8 Between Lindstrom & Chisago

651.464.4340 840 W. Broadway Ave. • Ste. 100 • Forest Lake, MN Grandstrand

Lakes LifeCare Center

A Pregnancy Resource Center • Free Pregnancy Tests

Thomas R. Wilson, Parishioner www.grandstrandfh.com

Lindstrom 651-257-4000 651-674-4444 Osceola 715-294-3111

Carousel **Hair Care**

"A Family Hair Care Center Naomi Anderson, Parishioner 633 South Lake St. • Forest Lake 464-3331



Neumann and Associates LLC Bill Neumann, Agent

Bus: (651) 426-6633 2126 2nd St. White Bear Lake



Country Bed & Breakfast



(651) 257-4773 Chisago Lakes Area | Est. 1982

countrybedandbreakfast.us



www.themarinebank.com FDIC



Invisalian and Braces for Adults and Children Dr. Matthew Sievers, DDS,

www.embracemn.com | 651-257-4445



VIRGA CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC, P.A. Downtown Lindstrom (651) 257-1000

DR. KATHLEEN M. VIRGA DR. JOSEPH VIRGA

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!





651-213-0668 gregorycontracting.com

RESTROOM TRAILERS PORTABLE TOILETS

20 FOOT STORAGE CONTAINERS WW.JIMMYSJOHNNYS.COM 651-277-RENT (7368)



30699 Lincoln Rd. 65 I-257-4074



651.257.6561

MidWestOne.com



(651)213-0111

œ

- General Plumbing Repair and Installation · Water Heater Installation
- Gas Line Repair and





Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- BurglaryFire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide

 1-855-225-4251 Flood Detection



RE/MAXSynergy

(612) 701-7781

STORAGE Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 10am - 4pm Saturday: 10am - 3pm

Access Hours: 6:30am - 10:30pm with Access Code

651.982.9999 • 14474 West Freeway drive • Forest Lake, MN • 55025



Bonnie Olmschenk Call for your free Market Analysis

cme4homs@gmail.com

BE YOURSELF, BRING YOUR PASSION. ORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Work-Life Balance
- · Paid Training · Full-Time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community
- Some Travel

Contact us at careers@4lpi.com www.4lpi.com/careers



651-464-7130

1107 So. Lake St. • Forest Lake



Sales & Service Since 1983

Stacy • 651-462-5520





lifestyle while receiving services designed for your unique needs

Get more out of life

1051 Mulberry St., Taylors Falls , MN 55084 651-323-0732



Caleb Gieske

na@hotmail.com Lindstrom • MN





Bring your stuff to us and get your garage back

NOW RENTING (651)400-0454

www.chisagolakesministorage.com



Josh Leonhardt Team

Mobile: (651) 769-5329 Office: 651-982-1725 JALeonhardt@cbburnet.com 56 E. Broadway Ave Suite #104 Forest Lake, MN 55025 www.joshualeonhardt.com Real Commitment. Real Resul

