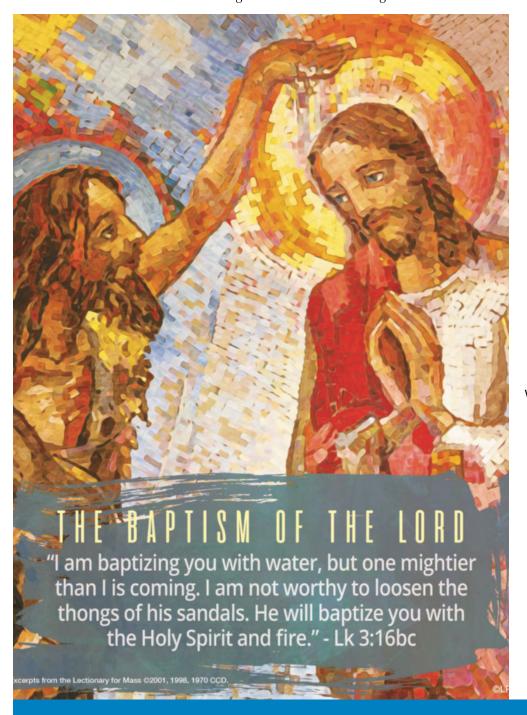


St. Bridget of Sweden

Catholic Church



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



January 9, 2022

The Baptism of the Lord

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 hgjeske@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

OFFICIAL CHRISTMAS SEASON WINDS DOWN

As sad as I am to admit it, the official Christmas Season comes to an end after the Masses this weekend. By "official" I mean that the Christmas decorations in Church will disappear and go into storage for another year. The music at Mass will shift back to "Ordinary Time" selections, and the liturgical colors will once again become green. We remain in the Ordinary Time mode for about seven and a half weeks until Ash Wednesday March 2nd when we begin the Season of Lent.

As I have mentioned in the past, the "unofficial" Christmas season will continue to exist in the rectory until February 2nd, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord – a holdover from the old liturgical calendar – so don't be surprised if you still see lit candles in the windows facing Highway 8. Since the look of the Church changes starting Monday, now might a good time to reflect on Christmas 2021.



The first blessing was that significantly more people attended our four Christmas Masses than in the Covid year of 2020. Attendance doubled from roughly 450 last year to roughly 900 this Christmas. I am ever so grateful that more people felt safe in physically returning to Church. Not only did I notice many unfamiliar faces present, but it was also a thrill to see new babies, kids who have had a growth spurt, and "regulars" who have taken some "time off." All are welcome, and will hopefully return!



A second blessing this Christmas was the beauty of the decorations. After an approach of cutbacks last year, we returned to the full flourish of multiple trees, lots of lights, and lots of poinsettias. (See accompanying photos). I am ever so grateful for the many volunteers including families who made that beauty happen (and hopefully will stay after the 10 am Mass this Sunday, (if possible) to take it all down.)

What would Christmas be without music? A third blessing was that our liturgies were enhanced this year with roughly 15 people who volunteered in a number of vocal ensembles, directed by Tim, with about 60% of the singing done in 4 part harmony and at times accompanied by flute and saxophone. What a joy to have such talent in the parish, and many of the vocalists sang at multiple Masses throughout the Christmas Season. I would love to see the music ministry expanded even more in the days ahead.

Without a doubt, our Christmas Season liturgies could not occur without our Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Sacristans, and Ushers as well as Custodians and behind the scenes office support.

Thanks to all of the above people, and to you as well for both your presence and your generous financial support. Our Christmas collection this year was notably larger than the past two years. So, thanks for prayerfully helping our Christmas Season at St. Bridget's return to "nearer normal."

THANK YOU &
MERRY CHRISTMAS!



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PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

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



"No one can grow if he does not accept his smallness." (Pope Francis)

I invite you to watch a New Video

During the past week I had the opportunity to create a new video called: "The Gifts Present As We Take Down Our Nativity Scenes." You can find the video at the following link on the home page the front of our web site.

In the video I take time to share about each character in the nativity scene and the gift that they give to us that we can treasure all year long. The video is meant to be a meditation on these gifts and an invitation to pray that these gifts might become part of our daily lives.

Grandparents Sunday To be Celebrated at the 10:00AM Mass on Sunday, January 23, 2022

On this Sunday we invite children in our Faith Formation Program to bring their grandparents to the 10AM Mass during which Grandparents will receive a special blessing, receive a flower while they last, a special sticker and prayer certificate. Children who introduce their grandparents to me will also receive a prize. We invite the children following Mass to take their grandparents to the

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast if possible. No matter what we will pray with all grandparents and give thanks to God for them in our lives. Grandparents please plan on attending Mass with your grandchildren on this day!!! We want to give thanks for you in our lives!!!



Let's Pray for our Children and Teens as Faith Formation Sessions Resume this Week...

We also give thanks for all of our Catechists
-For their Protection from all viruses and
that They may joyfully proclaim God's
Word!



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

REPENT! Two weeks ago, we started discussing our "Chosen" author, Chris Stefanik's new book, "Living Joy." Joy? Repent? Huh? The New Testament was written in Greek, and the word that's commonly translated as "repent" is metanoia, which means "to change your thinking." So, as it turns out, according to Chris, if we're not living the joy-filled life we think we ought to be living, it isn't because of our circumstances, it's because of us. Finding true joy is not about a new job, more money, or even people showing us the respect that we think that we deserve. We've all encountered miserable wealthy people. The joy doesn't come when our circumstances change, it comes when we change. The bad news is that it's hard. The good news is that we have some control over it. While *Living Joy* couldn't possibly come up with all of the answers for living a joy-filled life, the research, evidence, experience, and common sense within it's 9 rules makes great food for thought for enhancing our joy meter.

I'm just going to take them in the order Chris lays them out in the book. Rule 1: Give Thanks, have an attitude of gratitude. It sounds simple, but it doesn't come naturally, and speaking of simple, we don't have to make it harder than it is. In 2 Kings, Naaman, a great military commander, developed leprosy, a death sentence back in the day. He learned of the great prophet Elisha, and sought his help. Elisha told him to bathe seven times in the Jordan, and he would be healed. Naaman did not believe him, and did so only after the coercing of one of his servants. And what happened? Not only was Naaman cured of leprosy, his skin became "like the flesh of a little child." (2 Kgs 5:14) What area of your life do you need help in? "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thess 5:18)

The power of gratitude also makes you a blessing magnet. In the words of St. Therese of Lisieux, "What most attracts God's graces is gratitude, because if we thank Him for a gift, He is touched and hastens to give us ten more, and if we thank Him again with the same enthusiasm, what an incalculable multiplication of graces! I have experienced this; try it yourself and you will see! My gratitude for everything He gives me is limitless, and I prove it to him in a thousand ways."

PARISH CALENDARS

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE THE WEEK AHEAD Saturday Sunday, January 9th, 2021 Saturday Sunday January 16th 10:00 AM January 16th January 15th The Baptism of the Lord 5:00 PM 8:00 AM **Lectors:** Lector: Lector: Donuts-To-Go Youth Fundraiser After Masses NX Stacy Ernest Cathy Korby Darlene Kowalski Marianne Calhoun 8:00 AM Mass CH Sacristan: Sacristan: Sacristan: Dale Weiler Chuck Fitzer Chuck Fitzer 10:00 AM Mass CH READINGS 11:00 AM Remove Christmas Decorations from Church CH CR 11:15 AM Bible Study Readings for the Week of January 9, 2022 Sunday Baptism of the Lord 6:00 PM Pro-Life Youth Group Gathering CR Is 42:1-4, 6-7/ Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 or 6:00 PM AA Meeting **EW** Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30/ Acts 10:24-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/ Tuesday, January 11th, 2021 Lk 3: 15-16, 21-22 9:00 AM-9:00 PM Adoration 1 Sm 1: 1-8/ Ps 116: 12-13, 14-17, 18-19/ CH Monday Mk 1: 14-20 12:00 PM Daily Mass/Benediction CH **Tuesday** 1 Sm 1: 9-20/ 1 Sm 2: 1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/ 5:00—6:00 PM Confessions CP Mk 1: 21-28 Wednesday 1 Sm 3: 1-10, 19-20/ Ps 40: 2 and 5, 7-8a, 7:00 PM AA LSH 8b-9, 10/ Mk 1: 29-39 Wednesday, January 12th, 2021 **Thursday** 1 Sm 4: 1-11/ Ps 44: 10-11, 14-15, 24-25/ 9:00 AM Daily Mass CH Mk 1: 40-45 Friday 1 Sm 8: 4-7, 10-22a/ Ps 89: 16-17, 18-19/ 9:45 AM Women's Bible Study EB Mk 2: 1-12 4:00 PM—8:15 PM Faith Formation Classes EΒ Saturday 1 Sm 9: 1-4, 17-19; 10: 1/ Ps 21: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7/ 6:00 PM Youth Core Group Meeting CR Mk 2: 13-17 Sunday Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Thursday, January 13th, 2021 Is 62: 1-5/ Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 (3)/ 1 9:00 AM Daily Mass CH Cor 12: 4-11/ Jn 2: 1-11 9:30 AM-12:30 PM Baby Blanket OPEN BB PRAYER INTENTIONS Friday, January 14th, 2021 Suzie Alsen · Judy Clark · Lynne Karwand · Greg Fults · Darlene 9:00 AM Daily Mass CH Kowalski · Kristine Beimert · Franklin Steele · Josh Hughes · Marietta Jacobs · Dwayne Kelley · Virgil Kappes · Kathy Berquist · Saturday, January 15th, 2021 Paula Trevis · Nonna Zwick · Mary Kay Andert · Jake Sauer · 9:30 AM-12:30 PM Baby Blanket OPEN BB Veronica Roltgen · Julie Ramola · Carol Smothers · Thomas 10:00 AM Hannah's Arms SH Thompson · Mary Karnowski · Kelly DeBiaso · Donna Haines · CP Charlene Chamernick · Shelley Madison · Judy Kelley · Rachel 4:00—4:40 PM Confessions Curtis · Mick Lund · Tim Mitchel · Ben Riley · Kim Glenna · Beth 5:00 PM Mass CH S. · Jessica Mohler · Jim Underdahl · Jessica Stephens · Michelle · Sunday, January 16th, 2021 Mary Ann Weisbrod · Susi Ruchie · Tammy Bluhm · Connie 8:00 AM Mass CH Porath · Barb Nelson · Sara Miller · Kathleen Carlson · Katie Crum · Gail · Todd Olund · JoAnne Ford · Ron Schwachtgen · 10:00 AM Mass CH Richard Gage · Julianne Forester · Doug Olson · Betty Olson · CR 11:15 AM Bible Study Ron Schleicher · Dolores Thompson · Mark Peterson · Al & 11:30 AM Baptism—Leo Norman Larson CH Colleen Lightfoot · Don McKay · Jody Bjelland · Linda Spencer · Jean Ricker · Lucy Shoop · Keenan McMahon · Dorothy 6:00 PM AA Meeting **EW** Goodroad · Holly Sullivan · Sharon Luhmann · Frank Welsch · MASS INTENTIONS Don Bluhm · Tonya Stanina · Pat & Ed Weaver · Eileen O'Mara · Eugene · Cy Speltz · Kim Halverson · Al Ahmann · Robin Weaver Tuesday 1/11 12 PM † Gary Waldemar · Sherol Rogolla · Avery Rasnuessen · Matt Moen · Eric McDonald Wednesday 1/12 † Peter Mrozinski 9 AM · Michael Koran · Peter Ellwein · Leslie Mackyee · Gabriel Clay · Thursday 1/13 † Michael Harris 9 AM Brett Casey · Rick Alsen · Mary Mack · Patricia Callahan · Kim Friday 1/14 9 AM † Sara Sontag Schmitt Gibson · Katie Harris · Erik Carlson · Kari Hall · Ted Pitzenberger · † Shirley Ann Stoffel Saturday 1/15 5 PM Maureen Wolhaupter · Jane Merry · Steve Everson · Kristy · Flossy † Gary Waldemar 8 AM Sunday 1/16 Knaak · Gabrielle L. · Mary Ann Koch · Dee Williams · Austin People of the Parish 10 AM

Otte

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

I Hope I Am Like Him

"Who is this Christ? Is he like you?" Perhaps you've heard this story, often attributed to the life of St. Teresa of Calcutta. A sick man asked her this question, as he marveled at her tireless service to himself and others in the name of someone named

"He is nothing like me," the saint is said to have answered.
"But I hope I am like him." Though the authenticity of this exchange cannot be verified, its message rings perfectly true: all the value of our stewardship lies in its relativity to the one in whose name we perform it.

Consider the figure of John the Baptist — a magnificent, towering character even purely from a literary or historical perspective. A martyr who fed on wild locust's and boldly spoke truth to power — a man so great some mistook him for the

But why is he great? Because he prepared the way. All his accomplishments and escapades mean nothing if they are taken out of the context of salvation history. He only makes sense relative to Christ — and this is exactly as he wanted it. "One worthier than I is coming," he insists. And because of that humility and that total embrace of God's will, he is given one of the greatest honors in the New Testament — he baptizes the Son of God.

Let's examine our lives in the light of their relativity to Christ. How do we prepare the way? When Christ comes to us, what do we do? How do we leave ourselves open to be actors in God's plan?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

OF LIFE SUNDAY SANCTITY



Join us in celebrating Sanctity of Life Sunday on January 16th. We are called to protect all human life from conception to natural death. Join us in celebrating the gift of Life January 16th and consider making a donation to our local pregnancy help center, Options for Women. As always, please pray for our country and for the Sanctity of Life to be upheld.

WOMEN'S RETREAT



Need a break? Come relax at the 18th Annual Women's Retreat on February 4th—6th, 2022. The Retreat theme this year is "The Holy Spirit: The More." Come find what God has in store for you at the Women's Retreat! Register for the retreat and find more information by visiting

www.stbridgetofsweden.org/adultformation or the brochures on the tables in the Narthex. If you have questions, please contact Kim at kkglenna@gmail.com.

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

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.

E If you think time is running out to register for "The Wild Goose" study on Sunday, you have an extra week to make it happen. The start date has been moved to January 16th to accommodate the Christmas decorations take down and Donuts to

Go this Sunday. So, join us on the 16th at 11:15am for this indepth study about the person of the Holy Spirit. Call Tim Taylor at 763-506-1207 for more info and to register.

DONUTS TO



The second Donuts-To-Go Youth fundraiser will take place after this weekend's Masses. Please consider participating to enjoy a yummy treat and support our youth!

THANK YOU!

St. Bridget's donated 176 pour food to the local Food Shelf in St. Bridget's donated 176 pounds of December. Your continued generosity

is greatly appreciated and makes a difference. Thank you for reaching out to local families in need with the heart of Jesus!

BABY BLANKET VOLUNTEERS



We are looking for a new volunteer (volunteers?) to staff the Boutique from 9:30 to 12:30 on the 2nd Thursday of each month. The Boutique is a face-toface opportunity to serve our community and experience the fun when someone new steps in and is so amazed and overwhelmed by the sweet

shopping experience we offer – and all free to them! If you've been thinking about getting involved with the Baby Blanket, this might be the perfect way to begin. If once a month is too often, how about every other month? We can make it work for you! If interested, please call Jayne at 612-708-3641.

NEW PATHWAYS



St. Bridget's is Hosting New Pathways Homeless Families off site February 6-13th. We will be providing food, and lodging to the 4 families in the program that week. If you can help us meet the needs of these vulnerable families, please send a check to

St. Bridget's with "Homeless Families" in the memo line. Thank you for being generous!

MASS RECORDERS NEEDED



St. Bridget's has been recording our Masses for almost two years now, and this great ministry has allowed so many of our homebound community members to stay connected to our parish and the Liturgy. Of course, this ministry would not be

possible without our wonderful team of volunteer recorders, and you could be a part of that team! Please consider serving the parish by recording the Masses to bring the Liturgy to our greater community. No experience necessary and training is provided. Contact Laura at lschaad@stbridgetofsweden.org.

Please pray for the family and friends of Rex Kevlar and Randy Everson who have recently passed away., belief in the Resurrection support their belief in the Resurrection support their in peace.





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