

## St. Bridget of Sweden

Catholic Church



Together in Christ. Living Our Faith.

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

#### August 14th, 2022

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

#### Safe Environment Coordinator

Aubrey Gieske, 651-257-2474 x22 agieske@stbridgetofsweden.org

#### **Eucharistic Liturgies**

#### Weekend

Saturday 5:00 PM; Sunday 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

#### Weekday

Weds., Thurs. & Fri. 9:00 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 or 651-304-0432 info@thebabyblanket.org Hours: Thursdays & Saturdays 9:30 AM—12:30 PM



## 20<sup>™</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

610

"There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three." - Lk 12:50-52

#### FROM THE DESK OF FATHER DAVE

#### A FEW REFLECTIONS ON FUNERALS

I'd like to share with you today, a repeat of a topic that I am reluctant, yet in my heart feel compelled to write about. Without a doubt, if you check with most any parish priest, my guess would be that he would tell you that his day to day life and duties form a tapestry of amazing variety and richness. Although each priest would differ in the roster of his daily routine, I find that for me, among the most personally fulfilling activities that form the core of my day would be the celebration of the sacraments.

The sad part for me is that all too often I get the distinct impression that although children and grandchildren recognize the positive role that the Catholic faith played for mom or grandpa, it is far from their own reality or experience. They are only having a funeral Mass offered because they either feel "guilted" into it, or because they instinctively know that it is "expected of them". They themselves are obviously ill at ease dealing with anythin religious, and may even be tempted to skip the church

Under the umbrella of sacraments, falls the celebration of the Eucharist in a very special form – namely the Funeral Mass (technically called the Mass of Christian Burial). Funerals often contain a mixture of both sadness and joy, and they can afford a unique opportunity to minister in a very intimate and personalized way to family members – being present and sensitive to their needs and feelings in Christ's name. There are times however, when in reflecting back over the trend of the last thirty two years of priesthood, I feel saddened by what I have noticed to be an increasingly common funeral reality – especially in the celebration of a funeral liturgy for an elderly person.

Part of the preparation for a funeral liturgy involves a meeting of our Pastoral Minister and me with the deceased's family – often including children and grandchildren. In addition to walking them through the selection of Scripture readings, music and family participation, I also ask them to tell me about grandma or grandpa. It helps me as the celebrant to have a "feel" for what the person was like, and although a homily is NOT a eulogy, I try to weave examples of the virtuous life of the deceased into the themes revealed by the scripture passages chosen by the family.

What can at times emerge is the picture of a parent or grandparent who was a wonderful witness to the practice and love of the Catholic faith. Oftentimes their lives included trial and hardship, perhaps poverty and loneliness, either in growing up during the depression, or maybe in a less than ideal marriage situation. Through these struggles it was their rock solid faith in God and faithfulness to the Church through weekly or sometimes daily Mass attendance that was the anchor and salvation of their lives. They were often willing to make great sacrifices to attend Mass, and many times they would combine that public form of prayer with a quiet yet consistent devotional life at home (rosary, Bible reading, etc.). Even I, as an outsider, am inspired and energized when I am privileged to hear these stories of heroic faith.

The sad part for me is that all too often I get the distinct impression that although children and grandchildren for mom or grandpa, it is far from their own reality or experience. They are only having a funeral Mass offered because they either feel "guilted" into it, or because they instinctively know that it is "expected of them". They themselves are obviously ill at ease dealing with anything religious, and may even be tempted to skip the church service altogether in favor of perhaps having a few prayers recited at the funeral home, playing a recorded song or two and rushing off to the cemetery for the burial. At times prayers are banished all together in lieu of "memory sharing." It is almost as if the vividness and centrality of grandma's lived faith, indicts the stark contrast of their lack of any role for faith, or any God-connection in their own life. How sad that one of the most treasured values of mom or grandpa's life, does not get passed on to the future generation, often in spite of their most earnest effort to do so. Yet faith cannot be forced or imposed. Each person, at some age, must personally appropriate it as a value in their life - or not.

What can be done in these situations? As a Church, we can gently allow the beauty and hopefulness of our Catholic funeral liturgy to touch the hearts of family members and plant seeds of a positive experience that may one day bear fruit. We can also encourage the sharing of the stories and memories of the times where faith guided and sustained their loved one.

What can be done as parents or grandparents? Two things: First of all, make sure that your wishes for a full funeral Mass are clearly expressed, in writing, with a funeral home and/or a trusted relative. Secondly, on this side of the grave, don't be shy about sharing your faith and spiritual practices, in a non-pushy way, with family members. Personal witness is still the most effective evangelization tool. Don't worry about what you are to say, the Holy Spirit will provide the right words!

- Fr. Dave



#### PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

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



"Some people want to know why I wished to be called Francis. For me, Francis of Assisi is the man of poverty, the man of peace, the man who loves and protects creation." (Pope Francis)

Registering for Faith Formation:
Planting Seeds of Faith
Check Out the Video!
Following is the link:
https://vimeo.com/725708092



We will delight in receiving your children's and teen's

Registrations for the new Faith Formation year. We are now making class lists, calendars and determining textbooks and catechists to recruit for the new season! Please register by going to our Faith Formation website online and follow all the prompts.

You will be planting a beautiful flower in the heart of our new faith formation year! Thank-you!



Are You or Do You Know of Someone Who Might Be Interested In Becoming Catholic?

Or Receiving Sacraments as an Adult in the Catholic Church?

Maybe you have never been Baptized or received First Eucharist or Confirmation then RCIA might be for you! Or maybe you have been thinking about joining the Catholic Church from another Faith Tradition then we welcome you and would like to invite you to join our RCIA process to learn about the Catholic Faith and prepare to become Catholic at next year's Easter Vigil!

Maybe you just have questions about the Catholic Church that you would like to seek answers for then we invite you to come and join us and open yourself to the work of the Holy Spirit in your life. We would like to meet with you now. Our sessions begin in the middle of October. We usually meet on Tuesday nights—but not every Tuesday from 6:30PM - 8:15PM. We are always looking for Sponsors. We are taking Registrations. Please give Theresa a call at 651-257-2474x58 If you are already Catholic please take the bold step to invite someone.



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

There is no way to sugarcoat this. Studies have shown that we are losing Catholics at an alarming rate. By the age of 13, over 50% have actually already decided that they may stick around long enough to become Confirmed, but then they are outta here. Of those that stay, 90% are history by the age of 30. What's the problem? Or better yet, what's the answer?

As to the problem, we could all probably come up with a plethora of reasons. God was taken out of the school system, and now, there are a multitude of genders to choose from when identifying yourself. The old saying from the 1960's, if it feels good, do it, still seems to be in vogue, with no responsibility or consequences, of course. There's so much more. In some states it's O.K. to steal from a store, as long as you don't take too much. Again, no consequences. Where am I going with this?

For my first three years as Director of Youth Ministry, the middle schoolers have been using the workbook, "Chosen, this is your Catholic Faith." This is totally different from the T.V. mini-series that has been rock 'in the country. "Chosen, written by Chris Stefanick and Rick Bolster, copyright 2014, has been an excellent resource in very many ways. It has great videos, theological references, stories, testimonials, and challenges. Chris Stefanick does great work and can be found all over the internet.

I am not about trying to reinvent the wheel here, but I don't think the Chosen program is meeting our kids where they are at. The Chosen does a good job of reinforcing the ground where there is a strong foundation, just as the Net Ministries program Y -disciple does. However, when the kids leave the Education Building on Wednesday nights, I feel like they're thinking it's just one more class out of the way. My goal is to try and give them something with a little more glue, and hope it will stick.

With the attrition rate in the Catholic Church being what it is, we've got little to lose. Like I mentioned, I'm not going to reinvent anything, but I am going to try and take what I have learned over the last three years through Bible study, retreats, mission trips, faith camps, Net Ministries, even the Synod meetings, and of course my mentor, Theresa, and try to apply it to our youth Faith Formation program. It's going to be a "best of." From Bible study and the Synod meetings we discovered more about facilitating rather than teaching, having the kids invested more in the process. Also, from the Synod meetings and prayer labs at our faith camps, we will incorporate the century old practice of Lectio Divina, a thoughtful, meditative, and prayerful look at scripture.

This is where our catechists will have a tremendous amount of flexibility, considering it took Father Mike a year to get through the Bible. Lastly, an important piece from all of my three years of training is small group discussion. It was really the meat and potatoes of Bible Study, Synod meetings, and the Retreats. The more catechists that I can muster up, along with smaller group sizes, the better the odds for success. One more bonus we have with this program, rooms E-3 and E-4 in the Education Building will be back in play, because there will be no East Wing videos to blow their doors off.

## PARISH CALENDARS

# LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE Saturday Sunday Sunday August 20th August 21st August 21st 5:00 PM 8:00 AM 10:00 AM

5:00 PM
Lector:
Bob Bodine
Sacristans:
Charlie and Chris
Hampton

August 21st 8:00 AM Lector: Carmelita Nelson Sacristan: Larry Callahan Sunday
August 21st
10:00 AM
Lector:
Marianne Calhoun/
Stacy Ernest
Sacristan:
Larry Callahan

#### READINGS

Scripture Readings

For the Week of August 14, 2022

Sunday Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Jer 38:4-6, 8-10; Ps 40:2, 3, 4, 18; Heb 12:1-

4; Lk 12:49-53

Monday Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 45:10, 11, 12,

16; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

Tuesday Memorial of Saint Stephen of Hungary

Ez 28:1-10; Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30,35c;

Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-3A, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 20:1-

16

**Thursday** Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19; Mt

22:1-14

Friday Memorial of Saint John Eudes, Priest

Ez 37:1-14; Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt

22:34-40

Saturday Memorial of Saint Bernard

Ez 43:1-7ab; Ps 85:9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14; Mt

23:1-12

Sunday Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 66:18-21; Ps 117:1, 2; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13;

Lk13:22-30

#### PRAYER INTENTIONS

Dorothy Goodroad · Holly Sullivan · Sharon Luhmann · Frank Welsch · Don Bluhm · Ed Weaver · Cy Speltz · Kim Halverson · Robin Weaver · Sherol Rogolla · Avery Rasnuessen · Matt Moen · Eric McDonald · Michael Koran Cy Speltz · Kim Halverson · Robin Weaver · Sherol Rogolla · Avery Rasnuessen · Matt Moen · Eric McDonald · Michael Koran · Peter Ellwein · Leslie Mackyee · Gabriel Clay · Brett Casey · Mary Mack · Patricia Callahan · Kim Gibson · Katie Harris · Kari Hall · Ted & Tom Pitzenberger · Maureen Wolhaupter · Steve Everson · Kristy · Gabrielle L. · Mary Ann Koch · Dee Williams · Stacy Kern · JoAnne Stanina · Lori Rogan · Shirely Van Horn · Roger Spencer · Jack Marxer · Jon Peters · Margie & Patrick Kielkucki · Emily Spawn · Jerry & Linda Meyer · Rebekah Morley · Jim Gerard. Mary Ann and Richard Koch

If you know of someone in need of healing prayers or someone who is homebound and would like to receive communion, contact the director of pastoral care at 651-257-2474 x25.

#### BULLETIN ANNOUNCMENTS

If you have an event or information to share with the parish community, you may email the announcement to <a href="mailto:lschaad@stbridgetofsweden.org">lschaad@stbridgetofsweden.org</a>. Utilizing the bulletin is a great way to keep our community informed about all that's offered here at St. Bridget's and in the Archdiocese!

#### THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, August 14th, 2022	
8:00 AM Mass	CH
10:00 AM Mass	CH
6:00 PM AA Meeting	ΕV
Monday August 15th, 2022	
9:00 AM Holyday Mass-No Obligation	CH
10:00 AM Rosary Making	N3
6:30 PM Welcoming Committee Meeting	CF
Tuesday August, 16th, 2022	
9:00 AM—9:00 PM Adoration	CH
12:00 PM Daily Mass/Benediction	CH
5:00—6:00 PM Confessions	CF
6:00 PM Youth Gospel and Games	FI
7:00 PM AA Meeting	LSF
Wednesday August 17th, 2022	
8: 30 AM Rosary	
9:00 AM Daily Mass	CH
10:00 AM Visitation for Sheila Deegan	N
11:00 AM Funeral for Sheila Deegan	CH
12:00 PM Lunch/Burial for Sheila Deegan	SH
3:00 PM—6:00 PM Lindstrom Farmers' Market	PI
Thursday August 18th, 2022	
8:30 AM Rosary	CH
9:00 AM Daily Mass	CH
9:30 AM—12:30 PM Baby Blanket OPEN	BE
10:00 AM Parmly Communion	09
5:00 PM Stewardship Meeting	CF
6:00 PM Youth/Choir Practice	CH
Friday August 19th, 2022	
8:30 AM Rosary	CH
9:00 AM Daily Mass	CH
Saturday August 20th, 2022	

#### MASS INTENTIONS

9:00 AM—12:00 PM Lindstrom Farmers' Market

9:30 AM—12:30 PM Baby Blanket OPEN

4:00—4:40 PM Confessions

5:00 PM Mass

PL

BB

CP

CH

Tuesday	8/16	12 PM	† Diane Moore
Wednesday	8/17	9 AM	† Runyon/Korby family
Thursday	8/18	9 AM	Dixie Rayn
Friday	8/19	9 AM	† Dorcas Weber
Saturday	8/20	5 PM	† Ron Schwachtgen
Sunday	8/21	8 AM	People of the Parish
		10 AM	Lauren/Kurt Kowarsch

### PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

#### NEW PATHWAYS



St. Bridget's is Hosting New Pathways homeless families "off site" August 21st-28th. There is still time to help us provide food and lodging for the 5 families in the program. If you are interested in donating, send a check to

St. Bridget's with Homeless Families in the memo line. Thank you to everyone who has already given generously! Also thank you to those who have expressed interest is volunteering when we host in person Oct. 30-Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>. We especially need drivers, and evening and overnight Hosts, as well as volunteers for other smaller tasks. This is a very rewarding ministry. Thank you for thinking about giving it a try! Call Heidi with questions 651-257-2474 #25 or email hgieske@stbridgetofsweden.org

#### RELAY FOR LIFE

The Chisago County American Cancer Relay for Life will again have an event on Wednesday, August 18th from 6:00-10:00pm at the Chisago Lake Lutheran Church in Center City, MN. There will be food, music, and a display of



hundreds of candle lighted luminary bags honoring and memorializing persons who have been affected by cancer. Please consider donating and attending this beautiful event. There will also be a garage sale August 19th, 20th, and 21st at Zion Evangelical Church to help support Relay for Life. To learn more visit: www.relayforlife.org/chisagomn.

#### MISSION ROSARY MAKING

If you are interested in learning how to make mission rosaries, please join us at 10 AM on Monday August 15th in the education building, room N3.

#### WEEKLY PARISH DONATIONS

8/1/2022—8/7/2022	Sunday Plate & Envelope Contributions
Weekly Budgeted Collection	\$10,768.55
Actual Weekly Collection	\$14,495.01
Amount Over / (Short)	\$3,726.46
Over/(Short) for Year	-\$8,718.32

Please pray for the family and friends of **Tom Undem** who has recently passed away. May our belief in the Resurrection support their families at this time and may they rest in peace.



#### SPECIAL EVENT



**SAVE THE DATE!** Please plan to join The Baby Blanket on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 in celebrating the first child of Aubrey (and Caleb) Gieske, St Bridget's Administrative Assistant, with a Baby Shower. More details will follow but mark your calendars now. This is a parish-wide invitation.

#### WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Women's Bible Study will begin its Fall Session on the 14<sup>th</sup> of September 2022 at 9:45am and finishing on November 16<sup>th</sup>. The focus of the bible study will be **Metanoia** with Fr. Dave Pivonka. Please contact the parish office by September 2, 2022 at 651-257-2474 if you would like to participate. Thank you.

#### SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY



Couples and singles are invited to a Fall Bible study of James: Pearls for Wise Living. James, one of the most practical books of the Bible, is a collection of teachings on issues faced by ordinary Christians in everyday life. The

teachings of James speak to those of us who feel torn between the competing demands of this world and our faith. It is an 11-week study beginning on Sep 18, skipping Oct 2 & 9, and ending Dec 11. We will meet in the conference room from 11:15 to 1:15. Cost is \$32 for the study guide and at-home web access to the videos. To register, contact Tim no later than Monday, September 5th so we can order materials. 763-516-1207 or timtaylor1953@msn.com

#### BLOCK PARTY



Following the Masses, please pick up your family's Block Party raffle tickets in the Narthex. We ask that families either sell or purchase their bundle of raffle tickets to support the Block Party. If you are unable to pick up your

raffle tickets after Mass, you may pick them up at the parish office during office hours.

The Block Party volunteer sign-ups are available in the Narthex following the Masses. Please consider volunteering in one of the roles and help the Block Party be successful! You may also call the parish office to sign up for a volunteer role. Thank you for being generous with your time!

A reminder that we are accepting donations for the Silent Auction and Marketplace. To view a list of accepted donation items, please visit <a href="https://www.stbridgetofsweden.org/bockparty">www.stbridgetofsweden.org/bockparty</a>. You may drop off donations to the parish office.

Extra Block Party posters are available for pick up in the Narthex to advertise for the Block Party. Please post a few posters at local businesses to help advertise for the Block Party. Thank you for your help!



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