

SAINT

BRIGID  
OF IRELAND



The Parish Community of

**Saint Brigid**

Amherst, MA

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413 256 6181

150th Anniversary 1871-2021 September 12, 2021

**MASS INTENTIONS**  
OF THE WEEK

- SATURDAY, September 11, Weekday**  
8:00 AM for the soul of Fr. Joseph Quigley
- Saturday, September 11, Twenty-Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time**  
4:00 PM for the soul of Lee Shumway
- SUNDAY, September 12, Twenty-Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time**  
8:00 AM for the soul of Pauline Skodinski  
10:30 AM for the soul of Henry & Elizabeth Martin  
12:30 PM Javier Adriel Castillo & Alberto Amézquita
- MONDAY, September 13, St John Chrysostom**  
8:00 AM for the health of John Trova
- TUESDAY, September 14, Exaltation of the Holy Cross**  
8:00 AM for the soul of Frances Lysonski
- WEDNESDAY, September 15, Our Lady of Sorrows**  
8:00 AM the soul of Alfred & Henrietta LaVerdiere
- THURSDAY, September 16, Ss Cornelius & Cyprian**  
8:00 AM for the soul of Frank & Kathryn Basile
- FRIDAY, September 17, Weekday**  
8:00 AM for the soul of Melinda Asselin
- SATURDAY, September 18, Weekday**  
8:00 AM for the health of Camila Lopez
- SATURDAY, September 18, Twenty-Fifth Sunday Ordinary Time**  
4:00 PM for the soul of Lee Shumway
- SUNDAY, September 19, Twenty-Fifth Sunday Ordinary Time**  
8:00 AM for the soul of Charles Abramson  
10:30 AM for the soul of Edward Westhead  
12:30 PM Isabel Velázquez Diaz -Nereida Amézquita



**PRAYERS ON SEPTEMBER 11**

On this solemn occasion we remember and pray for all those who have lost their lives. Our nation will never be the same when humanity works for conflict rather than working for peace. God bless America



**WEEKEND OF AUGUST 21/22, 2021**

- ALTAR SERVERS:**  
4:00pm A Como  
8:00am L Skribiski-Banack, M Skribiski-Banack  
10:30am C Lashway, E MacLeod
- LECTORS:**  
4:00pm T Cadigan  
8:00am G Como  
10:30am J Lake
- EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**  
4:00pm C Nelson  
8:00am K Banas, P Lannon, M Lengieza  
10:30am T Anderson, J Lake, T Schmitt
- ALTAR GUILD:**  
August 26 Mary Ellen Salvini, Harriet Eddy, Wilma Ortiz, Donna Feng
- MASS AT AMHERST NURSING HOME**  
10:30am Thursday, August 19

**WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT**

Weekly Parish Budget.....	\$4,800.00
September 5, 2021.....	\$4,039.00

*Thank you for your support!*

**OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY**

The Church celebrates the memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Most Holy Rosary or Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7th. We recite the rosary every day! This celebration is an invitation to meditate on the mysteries of the Lord's life in the company of Virgin Mary. In the 12th century, the Rosary was called the "Blessed Virgin Mary's Psalter" because, at the time, Gante's Beguines recited the Holy Mary in sets of fifty, which corresponded to the Davidian Psalter. Afterwards, the word rosary was used to refer to the crowns of roses that Fra Angelico and other artists put over the Virgin Mary in their works. From the 16th century, the recitation of Holy Marias gave the opportunity for meditation and contemplation of the mysteries of Christ and his mother. This kind of meditation was already spread by the order of Preachers, also known as Dominicans. In the year 1208, Saint Dominic de Guzmán was commended by Virgin Mary to pray the Rosary as a powerful weapon against the enemies of the faith. The feast of the Virgin of the Rosary was instituted in memory of the Battle of Lepanto on October 7, 1571. In this battle, the Christian fleet reached an unexpected victory over the Turkish fleet whose ships and weaponry were superior. Pope Pius V attributed this victory to the intercession of Jesus' mother and in his bulla *Salvatoris Domini* of March 17, 1572 he instituted the yearly celebration of the Virgin of Victory to be observed on October 7. On August 5, 1726 Pope Clement XI introduced the feast of Mary's Rosary in the Western church liturgical calendar. In 1727, Benedict XIII introduced proper readings in the Breviary and recognized the Marian intercession with the prayer of the Rosary. Pontifical documents were plentiful from Gregorius XII to Leo XIII. During the pontificate of Pius X the feast of the Virgin's Rosary was definitely instituted on October 7, fusing with the memorial of the Virgin of Victory. In 1969's rubrical reform, the title of the celebration of the feast of the Most Holy Rosary was changed to the feast of Our Lady, the Virgin of the Rosary. In 2002, Pope John Paul II—in the introduction of his Apostolic Letter *Rosary of Virgin Mary*—underlined that the Rosary, though distinctive in its Marian character, is a prayer centered in Christ. John Paul II says that the Christian people learn from Mary to contemplate the beauty of the face of Christ and to experience the depth of his love. Mary finds the plenitude of herself in the total dependency of the redeeming mystery of her Son. She has no other purpose than to lead us to Him and to transform us in Him. The emphasis on praying the rosary is centered in Christ's mysteries, which are updated and illuminate the mystery of our own life. The rosary models the spiritual son of Mary, in the life of her own Son, Jesus.

**THE FUTURE OF ST. BRIGID'S**

*I've been thinking a bit on how you might 'celebrate' the 150th anniversary in light of the pandemic.* During the year we will reflect on the past, the present and the future. It struck me that perhaps one of the things you can 'celebrate' is the presence and impact of St. Brigid's in historical times of upset, unrest, and tragedy. How would you like to celebrate 150 years? How was the church an integral part of addressing the difficult times of the past to create hope and bring people together? Some questions: The church was founded in 1871; why was it founded? What was the basis? Just after the civil war; anything to do with that? What did the church do in other times of difficulty? What does the next 150 years for St. Brigid's look like in your mind? How does St. Brigid's step out of its 'comfort zone' to be more relevant in today's culture, especially for Amherst? I've been thinking of these issues. What ideas do you have for the future?

**REMEMBER WHEN**

Events of the past: Mardi Gras, Golf Tournament, Christmas Bazaar, Movie Nights, Halloween Party, Christmas Potluck, Children's Liturgies, Valentine Anniversary Mass, Pancake Breakfast, Way of the Cross, Adorations on Thursdays, Rosary before Mass, Easter Baskets, Thanksgiving Baskets, Soup and Theology, Open House, Mother's Day Raffle, Ice Cream Social, Mass of Anointing the Sick, Leona Duval Award, Blessing of Animals, Lasagna Dinner for the Needy, Parish Picnic, Book Sale, Coffee & Bagels, Food Collections, Christmas Midnight Mass, Appreciation Dinners, Parish Missions and Novenas .....to be continued



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
Every Sunday at 10am we take Holy Communion to CECA on University Drive. We are looking for volunteers who would like to help one Sunday each month. If interested please call the Rectory 256-6181.



**ADORATION ON THURSDAYS FROM 8 - 5**  
We adore and receive the Eucharist in communion at Mass, which is the most beautiful act of worship that we have as Catholics. We have Jesus truly present in all of the tabernacles around the world.



**CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY**  
For many years parishioners have been praying the divine mercy chaplet together before the Blessed Sacrament at three o'clock on Thursdays, the hour of mercy. Please consider joining us.



**ROSARY AT 7:30AM**  
The Rosary is recited at 7:30am every morning and before each weekend Mass! A meditation of the life of Jesus as seen through eyes of his mother Mary. Please join us as frequently or infrequently as you like. What better way to begin the day!

**NURSING HOME MASS SEPTEMBER 16**  
September 16, 2021 at 10:30AM we will begin offering the Mass again on a monthly basis at The Center for Extended Care at 150 University Drive. Please consider joining us! Call the rectory and tell us you will join us! 256 6181

**THANK YOU AGAIN AUGUST 29**  
On Sunday, Aug 29 there was something new and delicious! Each prepared fresh and homemade! Let's take the time to thank those who have made this possible and recognize the time and effort. It's a great way to share a meal and our community! Thank you to the Hispanic Kitchen for the delicious food that was on sale this past weekend and for the donation of \$727.



**THE CREED & PIVOTAL PLAYERS  
"ALL SUMMER LONG"**

Bishop Barron continues on his journey to take people around the world and deep into the Catholic Faith. In **CATHOLICISM: The Pivotal Players** - Volumes I and II he unlocks the truth behind the Catholic Church's most

influential people. These multi-part film series and study programs illumine a handful of saints, artists, mystics, and scholars who not only shaped the life of the Church but changed the course of civilization.

We will continue Bishop Robert Barron's series on Pivotal Players. We will also be viewing Bishop Barron's new series on the CREED. Sunday mornings after the 10:30 Mass

In The Creed, a new film series blending both documentary footage and dynamic talks, Bishop Robert Barron guides viewers through the Nicene Creed, a fourth-century statement of faith that has profoundly influenced both Eastern and Western spirituality, theology, and liturgy.

Be a Teacher! Join us!



**THE CHURCH COMMUNITY IS FAMILY**  
The best teachers can teach only so many students during COVID 19. Many young and old families have been distancing. Even for Mass we have made substantial care to keep a safe distance. But as for classes, we have shifted to online instruction. Parents must take a more active role in sharing the faith at home. No one should underestimate your worry and concern. Online courses and other self-directed learning options are not solutions for the rest of our lives. Our Sadlier series is excellent! And the "Christ in Us" series has an extra special resource for parents. We suggest you study together and pray together as a family on a regular basis. Breakfast, lunch or dinner. Before rising in the morning and before you rest your head at night - pray together. With face to face class and online courses - learning outcomes often disappoint if parents are not involved. We offer face to face classes and Virtual instruction (without human contact) runs counter to the most important asset of a Christian life, sharing the Gospel. Community, sharing the gospel, personal interaction, wisdom, good example and support by motivated Catholic family members are essential. Sharing the wisdom, the truth, the beauty of Christ's teachings is a history of successful living as a family, a culture and a saintly civilization. If we can help you in any way please contact the rectory. We hope to see you sooner than later.

**FAMILY FORMATION AND DISCUSSION**  
Beginning on Sundays....we will be offering a series given by Bishop Robert Barron. The discussion is meant to inform the adults and their families of the beauty and depth of knowledge in the Church and its teachings. "The Creed" a new series and - Catholicism and the Sacraments are highlighted each week and this one hour will be held multiple times each week. Join us as we become more aware of what the Church teaching and what we practice every day.

**PLAN FOR NEW NEWMAN CATHOLIC CENTER**  
Just days before he is to be installed as the new archbishop of St. Louis, Archbishop-designate Mitchell T. Rozanski, apostolic administrator of the Springfield Diocese, announced plans to build a new Newman Catholic Center on the campus of the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, culminating almost five years of talks with the university. In a complex, multifaceted transaction, the diocese sold the current facility housing the Newman Catholic Center to the university for \$12.5 million. Those proceeds will help to fund construction of a new Newman Catholic Center on a parcel directly across the street from its current N Pleasant Street location. That land will be made available by the university under the terms of a 99-year \$2.1 million ground lease agreement.

**"FAMILY" WITH POPE FRANCIS**  
One might ask: does the Gospel continue to be a joy for the world? And also: does the family continue to be good news for today's world? I am sure the answer is yes! And this "yes" is firmly based on God's plan. The love of God is His "yes" to all creation and at the heart of this latter is man. It is God's "yes" to the union between man and woman, in openness and service to life in all its phases; it is God's "yes" and His commitment to a humanity that is often wounded, mistreated and dominated by a lack of love. The family, therefore, is the "yes" of God as Love. Only starting from love can the family manifest, spread and regenerate God's love in the world. Without love, we cannot live as children of God, as couples, parents and brothers. I wish to underline how important it is for families to ask themselves often if they live based on love, for love and in love. In practice, this means giving oneself, forgiving, not losing patience, anticipating the other, respecting. How much better family life would be if every day we lived according to the words, "please", "thank you" and "I'm sorry". Every day we have the experience of fragility and weakness, and therefore we all, families and pastors, are in need of renewed humility that forms the desire to form ourselves, to educate and be educated, to help and be helped, to accompany, discern and integrate all men of good will. I dream of an outbound Church, not a self-referential one, a Church that does not pass by far from man's wounds, a merciful Church that proclaims the heart of the revelation of God as Love, which is Mercy. It is this very mercy that makes us new in love; and we know how much Christian families are a place of mercy and witnesses of mercy...

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