



SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN PARISH

Where Christ is Our Light

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2021

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him. - Mk 1:19-20



Letter from the Pastor

The Reverend Jeffrey V. Romans, KCCHS

Dear Friends in Christ:

Next Sunday launches Catholic Schools Week across the nation! The National Catholic Educational Association began this week of celebration back in 1974. It starts the last Sunday of January and continues for a whole week. The theme for this year's celebration is "Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service." In a normal year we would celebrate this week starting with an in-person Open House, daily special events with our students, and other celebrations for families, parishioners, and the community. It is a way to highlight what Catholic Schools offer, the value Catholic education provides to our young people, and the positive impact Catholic Schools have in their community.

St. Bridget School is NO exception. We are very proud of our parish school! How blessed we are to have a parish school as part of the vibrancy and life of our parish family. I truly believe that parishes with a school are blessed in a particular way, as a parish school provides unique opportunities for building up families and the parish family that parishes without a school do not have. I have seen this firsthand throughout my priesthood and, most especially, during my time here, even during these past months!

Maybe you saw our banner in front of the rectory this week? This is no normal year. So we are marking Catholic Schools Week with a "virtual" open house! Won't you join us?

We are very excited to be offering this virtual open house!!! We are working



with Story Real Studios in New Haven to produce an impactful, concise, and informative virtual open house! Of course, an in-person tour is available for anyone who wishes to come and see in-person what our school campus looks like, what the curriculum offers our students, and see firsthand our phenomenal faculty at work.

What makes me most proud about our parish school is that our young people learn daily that faith in God is at the heart of their total education and has an essential place in their everyday lives. It is, of course, obvious to all that not all of our Catholic young people have the opportunity to attend a Catholic school, as I myself did not. In fact, the majority of our school-age children attend public schools and a fair number of families choose to educate their children at home. In these cases, they rely on the religious education that is so diligently provided in our parish and in our family homes. *A word of gratitude must be offered to our many catechists and our Religious Education Staff who during this pandemic have created ways to continue to form our young people in the faith, even remotely.*

For now, as we mark Catholic Schools Week in our parish school, we as a family of faith can only offer our admiration for the many fine teachers, administrators, staff, and benefactors of our parish school. They deserve our thanks for their com-



**St. Bridget
School
Cheshire, CT**

mitment, and for the many sacrifices they make to teach and form the young people of our parish. And, I must personally express my gratitude to the many parents and families who make it possible, at times making sacrifices, for their children to attend Catholic schools. Without the high level of parental involvement that our school enjoys, they could not achieve the success we have seen for so many years.

Though NOT a product of Catholic Schools myself, I AM a strong proponent of Catholic Schools and not just simply because I am a priest. I am a proponent of Catholic Schools because I have witnessed firsthand what makes Catholic Schools, and particularly our own St. Bridget School, such a wonderful center for faith-based learning and academic excellence.

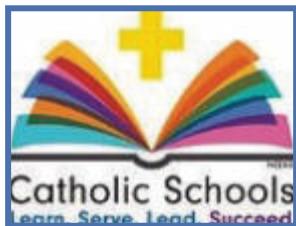
This past year we welcomed our new Principal, Dr. Nancy Testa. I can honestly say that having a Principal with her expertise and of her caliber tells me that the best is yet to come for our parish school! Great things await our school! She has already made a significant impact on our school family and for that we are most grateful.

Dr. Testa and I want ALL parishioners to know that St. Bridget School is ready and willing to assist in educating your child or children. St. Bridget School offers students a faith-based, challenging curriculum designed to promote academic excellence in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 through 8. Committed educators guide our students through the day with lessons in faith development, math, language arts, social studies, geography, science, Spanish (grades PreK-8), music, art, and physical education.

We are thrilled with the presence of three religious sisters in our day-to-day operations with two Sisters, Sister

Francesca and Sister Jeanne d'Arc, from the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist on faculty and, of course, Sister Patricia Cigrand, ASCJ, our Pastoral Associate from the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, whose office is located in the school. In addition, Father Federico and I visit classrooms and visit our students as often as we can and we are privileged to celebrate Mass with the entire school community EVERY Friday at 9a.m. Even now during the pandemic, with the help of technology and our amazing Smart-Boards, the entire school "attends" Mass on Friday right from their classrooms while one grade comes to Mass in-person to assist with the readings.

St. Bridget School is also blessed with an amazing School Board made up of current parents, community leaders, parishioners, and YES alumni! The School Board is very active in working with Dr. Testa and myself to ensure that the school has the tools and resources necessary to fulfill its mission!



St. Bridget School stands in the long tradition of the Catholic Church in educating our young people to a higher degree of success. St. Bridget School is one of the highest scoring schools within the Archdiocese of Hartford in standardized tests. **Catholic schools, and it is true for our parish school, establish a spirit of faith, family, and community in their students.** The education our students receive at St. Bridget School stays with them their

entire lives and can be the basis from which they orient themselves with the world. It also encourages them to remain grounded in the Catholic faith while they reach to fulfill their dreams.

Our students enter our school to learn and leave to serve as disciples of Jesus.

Catholic schools expect and guide their students to become successful citizens by encouraging them to develop their God given potential and use the talents God has blessed them with to further the building of their character. From this strong foundation, we build our students' character, their understanding of the world around them, and a strong sense of faith while we model for them how to see the needs of the less fortunate and motivate them to respond to those needs.

We are charged with exceeding national standards and so continue to implement curriculum that provides a challenging course, grounded in basic skills necessary for students to develop foundational skills that lead to higher, more complex thinking skills, rooted in Gospel values, and integrating Catholic social teaching across all disciplines, ensuring the development of the whole child. Students graduating from St. Bridget School exceed state and national benchmarks, evidenced by our exemplary standardized test scores and high performance on high school placement exams. Most importantly, we truly educate the whole child: academically, socially, and spiritually.

What will you find in St. Bridget School for your child or children?

- Faith-Based Learning with a Real World Approach
- Spanish Language from PreK3 to Grade 8

- Advanced Studies and Curriculum Resources
- Smart Boards, 1 to 1 Chromebooks in the Middle School, iPads and other technology in all other grades
- Athletic Fields and a Gymnasium
- Sports Programs including Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Cross-Country, Cheerleading, and Soccer
- Air-Conditioning throughout our facility
- Extra-curricular activities such as Robotics Club, LEGO Club, & more
- A Diverse Student Body
- Small Class Sizes with Differentiated Learning at ALL Grade Levels
- Enrichment Programs and Family Events
- Tuition Assistance
- Weekly Mass as a school family and Adoration

I want every family in our parish, with school age children, to feel that St. Bridget School is an option for them. Join us for our Virtual Open House beginning NEXT SUNDAY at www.stbridgetschool.org and see for yourself what our parish school can offer to your child(ren).

As always, please remember to pray for our parish family and ask God's blessings as we build His kingdom here. Please know that I am praying for you, and I ask for your prayers for me, that together through the intercession of Saint Bridget of Sweden, our Patroness, and Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney, and united in the Eucharist, we will reflect the presence of Jesus to the world. Have a blessed week and stay safe!!!

Father Romanc



Thursday, February 4th at 7:00pm



Brought to you by:



in support of Social Distancing

BINGO—6 Games of Bingo / 12 Prizes
Winner has choice of two prizes

KICK!—the Prize not chosen is RAFFLED OFF!

Bingo Cards/KICK Raffle Tickets are Pre-Sale Only

See our website for more info about purchasing tickets:

www.stbridgetchesire.org/events

SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN PARISH—WHERE CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT

ST. BRIDGET CHURCH
175 Main Street, Cheshire, CT



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Online Faith Community*

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www.stbridgecheshire.org

ST. THOMAS BECKET CHURCH
435 North Brooksvale Road, Cheshire, CT

The Reverend Jeffrey V. Romans, KCHS, Pastor
The Reverend Anthony J. Federico, III, Parochial Vicar

Pastoral Staff

Mr. Paul Iadarola, Deacon, Senior Status

Dr. Richard Wilber, Deacon

Sister Patricia Cigrand, A.S.C.J., Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Julia Atwood, Music Director

Mrs. Donna Yatcko, Religious Education Director

Mr. Regis O'Neill, Youth Minister

Dr. Nancy Testa, Saint Bridget School Principal

Parish Trustees

Mr. Mark Izzo • Mrs. Candace Nesbit

Parish Staff

Mrs. Madelyn Banti, Admin Assistant

Mrs. Mary Beth Chamberlain, Admin Assistant

Mr. Regis O'Neill, Admin Assistant for Communications

Mr. Anthony Ginnetti, Sacristan

Rectory 203-272-3531

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Email rectory@stbridgecheshire.org

Bulletin Submissions office@stbridgecheshire.org

Social Media communications@stbridgecheshire.org

Mailing Address 175 Main Street, Cheshire, CT 06410



Our collection for the week of January 17th

Mailed-in/Dropped Off

Offertory \$8,585.00

Mail your offertory donation to

175 Main St, Cheshire, CT 06410

Online

Offertory \$6,205.92



Give Online at
stbridgecheshire.weshareonline.org/

THANK YOU
for your generosity



Office of Education, Evangelization and Catechesis
ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD

The Catholic High School Collection this weekend supports the outstanding education offered at our Catholic secondary schools by providing funds for tuition assistance, technology enhancements, curricular improvements, and marketing; all of which are so critical during this ongoing pandemic. Please consider investing in the exceptional academics, solid faith formation, and spirit of service at our high schools by making a gift to this year's Catholic High School Collection.



Sign up to attend the
Respect Life Mass
with Archbishop Blair
at the Cathedral of St. Joseph
on Friday, January 29, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

To livestream the Mass go
to hartfordcathedral.org
or to register to attend in person,
go to bit.ly/3o46soS.

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, January 23rd

9:00 a.m. SBC	Eugene & Elizabeth Heggerty	Family
4:00 p.m. SBC	Paul Michalowski	His Wife
5:15 p.m. SBC	Richard Barone, Sr.	The SBoS Contemporary Choir

Sunday, January 24th: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. SBC	Ed & Mary Bowman	The Family
8:00 a.m. SBC	Denise Materia	Donna, Pam, & Regis
9:00 a.m. SBC	Linda Stapleton	Ann & Ray Smialek
10:30 a.m. SBC	Jeff Norke	Dan & Diane Lebel
12:00 p.m. SBC	Ralph Palmieri	Paul & Linda Beltrami

Monday, January 25th: Conversion of Saint Paul, Apostle

7:00 a.m. SBC	Beatrice Walsh	Bill & Sandy Walsh
9:00 a.m. SBC	Francis H. O'Neill	The Family

Tuesday, January 26th: Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops

7:00 a.m. SBC	The People of St. Bridget of Sweden Parish
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Wednesday, January 27th

7:00 a.m. SBC	Lee Grabar	Family
9:00 a.m. SBC	John Kuzmak	Wife, Patricia

Thursday, January 28th: Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church

7:00 a.m. SBC	Denise Materia	Karl & Lynn Krieg
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Friday, January 29th

7:00 a.m. SBC	Philip Calabrese	His Wife, Melissa
9:00 a.m. SBC	School Mass—Jack and Dorcas O'Connor	Peter & Mary Mongillo

Saturday, January 30th

9:00 a.m. SBC	Paul Castiglione	Sandra & Vin Fuoco
4:00 p.m. SBC	Jim Ferris	Art & Jeanne Keating
5:15 p.m. SBC	Walter Hardisty	The Chamberlain & Hale Families

Sunday, January 31st: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. SBC	Joseph & Mary Vitello	The Family
8:00 a.m. SBC	Adeline Triano—6th Anniversary	Mike & Nancy Rasmussen
9:00 a.m. SBC	James Ryan	The Carleton Family
10:30 a.m. SBC	Marcia Fielden	Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Mongillo
12:00 p.m. SBC	Thomas Edward Howley, Jr.	Paul & Linda Beltrami

The television Mass is simulcast everyday at 10:00 a.m. on WCCT-TV WB20 and WCTX-TV MyTV9. It can also be seen Saturday and Sunday at 5:00 a.m. on WCCT-TV.

It can also be viewed online at <https://www.ortv.org/streaming/streaming.htm>



We have live in-person **Eucharistic Adoration** on Friday, January 29th from 1:00 to 2:00 pm in St. Bridget Church.

Per State of Connecticut guidelines, occupancy is limited to 100 persons. Appropriate masking and social distancing must be followed. Use the link below to the Sign-up Genius to sign up to attend.

bit.ly/Signup-Adoration



Drive-thru CONFESSIONS available every Saturday at 3:00pm until heard. Drive up to the St. Bridget School entrance and a priest will come out to hear your confession.

The Tabernacle candle at St. Bridget Church shines this week for Edith Jones Requested by Kate Carrierro



The Tabernacle candle at St. Thomas Becket Church shines this week for The Souls in Purgatory

IN-PERSON & ONLINE SERVICES



Ready to attend services in person? See below for services and events you can attend in person, using appropriate masking, social distancing, & occupancy guidelines, of course!

This week we are offering the following Masses in St. Bridget Church:

- † Monday—7am & 9am
- † Tuesday—7am
- † Wednesday—7am & 9am
- † Thursday—7am
- † Friday—7am & 9am
- † Saturday—9am, 4pm & 5:15pm
- † Sunday—7am, 8am, 9am, 10:30am, & 12noon

To attend Mass sign up at
<http://bit.ly/SBoSMassSignUp>



Not comfortable coming in person? That's OK! We have plenty of online services for you! See below for this week's schedule and how to join virtually.

JOIN US FOR OUR ONLINE SERVICES!

- † Sunday, 1/24 at 10:30AM—Celebration of the **Mass**
- † Monday, 1/25 at 10AM—Getting to Know our Holy Family—a brief talk about **Saints Timothy and Titus**
- † Wednesday, 1/27 at 10AM—Pulling Back the Veil—a Look at the Heart of the Parish—**the Rectory Office**
- † Friday, 1/29—one hour of **Adoration**
- † Sunday, 1/31 at 10:30AM—Celebration of the **Mass**

Next Generation of Disciples high school youth group will meet this Sunday, January 24th, from 6:30-8:30pm in the St. Bridget School gym.

Rosary every Monday at 1:30pm in St. Bridget Church

Adoration every Friday 1-2pm in St. Bridget Church - sign up at bit.ly/Signup-Adoration

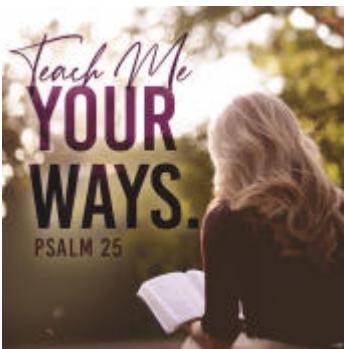
Drive-thru **CONFESIONS** available every Saturday at 3:00pm until heard

NOTE: Appropriate masking, social distancing, and occupancy guidelines must be followed at all services, meetings & events.

Online Services can be viewed on the homepage of our website at www.stbridgetcheshire.org on YouTube <https://bit.ly/SBoSYTChannel> or Facebook [@stbridgetofswedenparish](https://www.facebook.com/stbridgetofswedenparish)

NOTE: The dispensation from the Sunday obligation previously granted to all Catholics of the archdiocese by the Archbishop has been **extended through Tuesday, February 16, 2021**.

Those in high-risk categories are encouraged to continue staying home, even as others begin to return to Mass. The decision to attend is yours. Please use prudence and good judgement in considering if you should attend a public Mass at this time.



Today is the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

The readings for today can be found at

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/012421.cfm>

Today we begin a continuous reading of Mark's Gospel that will carry us through this segment of the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. Remember that in Cycle B of the Lectionary, most of the Gospel readings are taken from the Gospel according to Mark.

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a narrative about Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins by reporting on the preaching of John the Baptist. John is described as the voice in the wilderness sent to prepare the way of the Lord. Immediately after describing the work of John the Baptist, Mark reports on Jesus' baptism and his temptation in the desert. Jesus' public ministry begins after the arrest of John the Baptist. Mark wants his readers to understand the important connection between the end of the ministry of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' own ministry.

As we learn at the beginning of today's Gospel reading, Jesus preaches the Kingdom of God in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist. Like John the Baptist, Jesus' pronouncement of the kingdom is a call to repentance. Yet Jesus' preaching is greater than John's. Jesus begins the time of fulfillment; the Kingdom of God is already here. This will be demonstrated again and again, both in Jesus' words and in the actions that follow. Jesus' healings and forgiveness of sins are signs of the Kingdom of God that he announces in his teaching.

In contrast to last week's Gospel, in Mark's Gospel Jesus takes the initiative in calling his first disciples. As mentioned last week, it was more typical of first-century rabbinical schools for students to seek out rabbis, asking to be their disciples. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus breaks with this tradition and invites his disciples to learn from him. Jesus is said to have first called four fishermen—Simon, Andrew, James, and John. Simon and Andrew are brothers. Jesus promises that he will make them "fishers of men." James and John are also brothers. Mark does not report Jesus' words of invitation to them, but he does report that they left their fishing immediately; their father, Zebedee, was left behind in the boat.

Mark's Gospel is told with a great sense of urgency and immediacy. Jesus is a person of action, and events occur in rapid succession. We see this in today's Gospel. Time is of the essence; the fishermen immediately put aside their livelihood to become Jesus' disciples. The Kingdom of God is here and now. The time of fulfillment is at hand. How might our lives be different if we more fully shared this sense of the immediacy of God's kingdom?

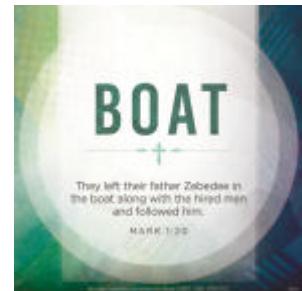
www.loyolapress.com

For more information to better understand the readings, go to bit.ly/3qHdfGL

STORIES OF FAITH

I have worked for over thirty years as an RN in a local hospital. One evening when I was working in the intensive care unit, I was assigned to care for a patient who was critically ill due to extensive bleeding. A large abdominal mass was noted on a CT scan and the patient was scheduled for an operation in the morning. This patient had two daughters who came to visit and pray with her. They were Roman Catholic and belonged to a group in their parish that was in support of Padre Pio becoming a saint. One of the gloves of Padre Pio was being passed among these support groups and amazingly that very day it was their turn to receive it. Their parish priest brought the glove in when he came to visit. He asked if I would participate in the prayers since I was the caregiver. Of course, I agreed and I let him know that I was also a practicing Roman Catholic. He placed the glove on the patient's abdomen as he prayed and then he placed his hands on my shoulders as he said further prayers. At that moment I felt a feeling of intense warmth, almost like fire throughout my body. Once the prayers concluded, I went back to work caring for the patient. As the evening progressed, the patient became more stable and bleeding seemed to be slowly decreasing. It was a busy night and I left the hospital very late feeling very tired. However, I was not too tired to take the phone call I got in the morning from a co-worker who stated that the patient I had cared for last night had stabilized with no further signs of bleeding. The patient went for another CT scan, which confirmed no bleeding and no signs of a mass. The doctors were very perplexed and could offer no explanation. The daughters of the patient shared the story of Padre Pio and how prayers were said for the patient with his glove. They believed a miracle happened. The doctors were mystified. The patient stayed another day for observation and was discharged to home in good health. I believe this was truly a miracle, which most certainly strengthened my Catholic faith.

Parishioner's name: Anonymous





ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD
134 FARMINGTON AVENUE
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
06105-3784

ARCHBISHOP'S
ANNUAL APPEAL
2020

January 13, 2021

The Reverend Jeffrey V. Romans
Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish
175 Main Street
Cheshire, CT 06410

Dear Father Romans,

I would like to congratulate and thank you and the parishioners of Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish for your generous support of the 2020 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. By exceeding its 2020 goal, the parish has responded to the call of ***Growing in Faith, Giving in Love*** in a very gratifying way.

As always, the success of the Appeal depends in large part on the effort, enthusiasm, and commitment of the Pastor. So I commend you for your leadership and all that you do to present the Appeal in a positive light and to engage your parishioners in bringing the Appeal to a successful conclusion, especially amid all the challenges posed by the pandemic.

I know that you will continue to help others to see that by supporting the Archbishop's Annual Appeal they are serving Christ Himself through the many ministries, charities and spiritual works that benefit so many throughout the Archdiocese.

Please communicate my heartfelt gratitude to your parishioners for their generous response, and be assured of my prayers and best wishes for you and for everyone at Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish. May you be richly blessed in 2021!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Leonard P. Blair

Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair
Archbishop of Hartford

"Growing in Faith, Giving in Love"

Apologetics 101: The Eucharistic Fast

- As Catholics, we fast for one hour before receiving the Eucharist. The slight physical hunger reminds us of our soul's deep hunger to receive the Body of Christ.
- This is the hour before receiving Holy Communion, not the hour before Mass starts.
- Some of our parishioners will remember that before the Second Vatican Council, the fast began at midnight the night before.
- Those who are not in good health or need to take medicine with food are exempted from the fast.
- **We don't want to disregard the Eucharistic fast and we don't want to be scrupulous about it either.**
 - Let's get back into the habit of maintaining this fast! If you genuinely forgot and ate something, you can and should receive the Eucharist.
 - * **Remember, the Eucharistic fast is not meant to be a legalistic discipline! It's about doing something tangible to prepare for Holy Communion.**
 - Our mindset and intentions are what matters most to Jesus.
- Here are the instructions on the Eucharistic fast from the *Code of Canon Law*, no. 919:
 - "A person who is to receive the Most Holy Eucharist is to abstain for at least one hour before holy communion from any food and drink, except for only water and medicine."
 - "A priest who celebrates the Most Holy Eucharist two or three times on the same day can take something before the second or third celebration even if there is less than one hour between them."
 - "The elderly, the infirm, and those who care for them can receive the Most Holy Eucharist even if they have eaten something within the preceding hour."



Youth Ministry
Regis O'Neill, Youth Minister
roneill@stbridgetcheshire.org

Verse of the Week
Colossians 3:23
"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men."

Saint of the Week

Saints Timothy and Titus

Feast Day: January 26th

Bio: Timothy and Titus are best known for their association with Paul. Both were discriminated against by many early Jewish Christians, as Timothy was half Jewish and Titus a full Gentile. In fact, Titus was one of the lynchpins of the Council of Jerusalem, where Paul argues that Gentiles need not follow certain Jewish customs (such as circumcision) to become Christian. Both served as emissaries of Paul to some of the early Christian communities, often delivering his letters (yes, THOSE letters) to the churches themselves. Timothy was involved with the churches in Corinth and Ephesus, while Titus was involved with Corinth and Crete. Both were influential evangelists and great examples of how to spread the faith.

Saints Timothy and Titus, pray for us!

Upcoming Events

New year, new you! Try something new by coming to a meeting of the Next Generation of Disciples high school youth group! We will meet this Sunday, January 24th, from 6:30-8:30pm in the St. Bridget School gym. We'd love to see you there!



SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN PARISH PRESENTS:
VIRTUAL REQUEST CONCERT

*Featuring our Director of Music,
Julia Atwood*

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 28TH
AT 6PM**

This month's theme is Wedding Songs!

Share your favorite wedding songs
with us on Facebook and
Instagram. You may even get to
hear them played live!



St. Bridget School Update

Principal: Dr. Nancy Testa
Director of Campus Ministry: Mrs. Judy Rowinski

SBS Gazette-Edition #3 (excerpt by Fredericka Franco) “Cheshire’s Original Residents”

“Quinnipiac” is a name that’s familiar to many people who live in Connecticut. The members of the Quinnipiac Tribe were the original residents of Cheshire, and their name has since been shared with Quinnipiac University, Quinnipiac River that cuts through North Haven, and so on. Quinnipiac roughly translates to “The People of Long Water Land” in the Quirpy language.

The Quinnipiac Tribe region took up the space of 10 towns, including New Haven and Woodbridge, making it three-hundred square miles. The main center of the Quinnipiac tribe was near North Haven and New Haven, but they also shared space and families with other tribes including Paugussett in Norwalk and East Haven,

Wangunk in Middletown and Wethersfield, and Mattabesett near Middletown and along the Mattabesett River. Quinnipiac artifacts are also on display at the Cheshire Historical Society.

It’s unknown to historians exactly when this tribe formed, but some say it began in the 17th century with over 400,000 men, women, and children. That is roughly half the current population of New Haven County. Sadly, about 90% of the Quinnipiac Tribe died from smallpox brought by the Europeans between 1634 and 1635. Even sadder, in the 18th century, the Europeans grew desperate for more land and they forcefully took it from the Quinnipiacks. This squashed many tribes together like the Mantueese,

Hannah, and the Pickett.

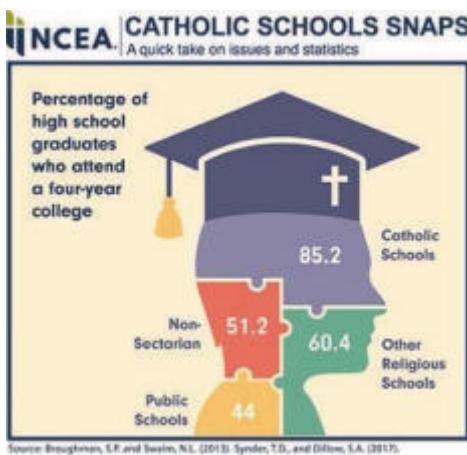
There are Quinnipiac Tribe members still alive today working to preserve their culture. In addition, we are surrounded by many Quinnipiac historical sites, and there are many artifacts preserved in the Cheshire Historical Society. So explore, have fun, and be safe!

If you would like to learn more about the Quinnipiac People, the Cheshire Library and the Cheshire Historical Society have these books: Connecticut's Indigenous Peoples by Lucianne Lavin, Glaciers to Greenhouses, Cheshire Then and Now by Jeanne Chesnow, The Quinnipiacs by John Menta.



St. Bridget School will be celebrating National Catholic Schools Week starting Sunday, January 31st. Please visit our website to view our Virtual Open House or go to our Facebook page to see how we celebrate our students, faculty and staff during this special week! www.stbridgetschool.org

Our virtual school tour is also available [now](#) for viewing!



Join our
School Community

SCHEDULE A TOUR

Find Your Family at
St. Bridget School



St. Bridget School, Cheshire



@st_bridget_school



www.stbridgetschool.org



St. Bridget School
171 Main Street
Cheshire, CT 06410

203-272-5860



Academic Excellence | Community Awareness | Spiritual Growth

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Office of Religious Education — Donna Yatcko, DRE

dyatcko@stbridgetschool.org

203.272.6504

Monday – Friday 8:30 am to 1:30 pm

Religious Education Schedule

Grade 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6
Virtual Family Meetings
Sunday, February 7th at 9 AM
Monday, February 8th at 4 PM and 5:30 PM
Tuesday, February 9th at 4 PM

First Communion Classes
Virtual Class
Sunday, January 24th at 9 AM
In Person Class
Sunday, February 7th at 8:30 AM

Middle School 7th and 8th grades
Virtual Class
Sunday, February 7th at 10AM
Sunday, March 7th at 10AM

Confirmation Program
9th grade
Virtual Class
Sunday, January 24th at 5 PM
Sunday, February 7th at 5 PM
10th grade
Virtual Class
Sunday, January 24th at 5PM
In Person Class
Sunday, February 7th at 5 PM

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
Virtual Class
Tuesday, January 26th at 4PM
Tuesday, February 9th at 4PM

Ask Father

Dear Father: Can you please explain the difference between the concept of purgatory, and that being a temporary state of punishment or purification before being admitted to Heaven, and the “last judgement” when Christ comes again to judge the living and the dead? Do people who die before the Final Judgement gain entrance to Heaven before that time that Christ comes again?

Dear friend in Christ,

Great question. **Purgatory** is a state of temporary purification for those who die in a state of friendship with God but who have not yet learned to love perfectly or are not yet free from all worldly attachments. All the souls in Purgatory will eventually go to Heaven.

The **Last Judgement** is not the same as our **particular judgement**. Our particular judgement occurs as soon as we die. We are immediately present before Almighty God and we answer for the life we have lived. At this particular judgement, God ratifies our decision to go to Heaven (often with a period of purification in Purgatory first) or Hell for all eternity.

At the end of time, all souls will once again be present for the **Last Judgement** in which the plan God has been unfolding all along will be revealed. Every soul who has ever lived will be present for this. Jesus will reveal everything to everyone: every hidden thing, every word spoken, every secret. It will all be exposed at the Last Judgement and God will be all in all. To my knowledge, Purgatory will end at this time. The righteous will then go off to Heaven, the unrighteous to Hell. And these two states – Heaven and Hell – will last forever.

A reminder we should share with those we love: **God does not send souls to Hell. They choose to go there** of their own free will. Committing a mortal sin (a free and deliberate action in which one knows something is gravely sinful and chooses it anyway) ends a soul’s relationship with God. Those who die in this state of mortal sin without being restored to God’s friendship through the Sacrament of Confession experience that separation for all eternity. No one goes to Hell unaware. If we live our lives intentionally separated from God and His Church, why would we want to spend eternity with Him?

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.” 2 Corinthians 5:10



Cheshire K of C KNIGHTS KORNER

by Harold Metz, Council Trustee

Grand Knight, Jason Molitierno — jason_molitierno@yahoo.com

The Knights of Columbus and the 48th March for Life

Building a Culture of Life

The Knights are a visible presence at the national march. Thousands of “Defend Life” or “Love Life, Choose Life” signs with the K of C emblem are scattered over the mass of people making their way to the Supreme Court. Councils from across the U.S. carry their own homemade banners or wear K of C attire. Some go on cross-country pilgrimages to arrive at the national March, like John Moore from Fray Marcos Council 1783 in Gallup, N.M., who walked 28,000 miles to pray for the unborn.



Meanwhile, hundreds of local Virginia Knights volunteer as marshals, directing attendees to rally locations, escorting speakers, serving at first-aid tents and keeping marchers organized behind the “March for Life” banner for years. The night before the march, College Knights from the Catholic University of America are among the volunteers ushering at the National Prayer Vigil for Life at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

“Some of us have been coming back for more than 40 years now,” Supreme Knight Anderson said at the 46th March for Life. “But the really great news is that you, the pro-life generation, aren’t going to wait that long. You won’t have to wait that long to win justice for the unborn and compassionate care for their mothers. Why? Because of the progress we’ve made in rebuilding a culture of life.”

He believes that one day marchers will walk down Pennsylvania Avenue “not in protest, but in celebration.”

Polling suggests that the day of celebration could be close. K of C-sponsored Marist Polls have found that a large majority of Americans want the Supreme Court to re-examine Roe v. Wade to either allow states to decide on abortion restrictions themselves or to ban the procedure entirely.

“Why is public opinion turning toward life? Because you stand up for life,” Supreme Knight Anderson said at the March for Life in 2015. “Because no amount of propaganda can cover up the pain of women who regret their abortion. And because when women know the truth, they choose life.”



For his decades-long commitment to pro-life work, Supreme Knight Anderson will be honored at this year’s March for Life with the 2021 Pro-Life Legacy Award, an award recognizing a lifetime of exceptional work advocating for the inherent dignity of the human person and the right to life of the unborn.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic has paused many events throughout 2020 and 2021, the March for Life and the Knights of Columbus are pressing forward with their crusade for life.

The theme for this year’s march — Together Strong: Life Unites — is an encouragement for Knights, their families and friends to participate in the event either in-person (while following social distancing protocols) or virtually.

The March for Life will be held on Jan. 29, 2021. And just like those early steps taken in 1974, Knights will march so that every child can have a chance to embrace God’s great gift to humanity: the gift of life.



Super Bowl Grab and Go! sponsored by the Cheshire Knights of Columbus Sunday, February 7th at 11:00am-1:00pm

What's the Super Bowl without wings? The Cheshire Knights of Columbus will be selling wings from J. Timothy's. They are known for having some of the best wings in Connecticut.



Wings will be precooked, but cold. All you need to do is heat them up! Reheating instructions will be provided.

Meals are \$10 and must be ordered in advance. We have a limited supply, so order early while supplies last!

Meal includes six “dirt” wings with their famous Buffalo sauce (which has gotten NATIONAL recognition!), carrots, celery, and blue cheese, and dessert.

Pickup is on Super Bowl Sunday, February 7th from 11:00 to 1:00 in the St. Bridget of Sweden Parish Center.

Please order by going to the website <http://www.cheshirekofc.org> or scan the QR code:





Our U.S. Military Prayer List

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 Captain J. Michael Andrea USAF
 SRA Garrett Barboza, USAF
 Major David B. Beale, US Army
 Specialist Alan Bell, US Army
 Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Betts, US Navy
 Lieutenant Kevin Briskin, US Army
 ENS Michelle Browning, US Navy
 Sergeant Brian Caouette
 Captain Leslie Ann Capuano, USMC
 Lieutenant Hollis Ann Capuano, US Navy
 Seaman Apprentice Robert Carrano, US Coast Guard
 Private Jack Cavanaugh, US Army
 Tech Sergeant Edward J. Clark, Jr., USAF
 SRA Aaron Desjardins, USAF
 Specialist John Fadus, US Army
 STS-1 Jake Ford, US Navy
 PFC Owen C. Fowler, USMC
 Private Alyza Hernandez, USMC
 Petty Officer 2nd Class Martin Houston, US Navy
 Cdr. Thomas A. Ianucci, USN, Chaplain
 SRA Ryan Jones, USAF
 Petty Officer 2nd Class Neil P. Kenefick, US Navy
 Ryan Kiernan, US Navy
 AWO2 Kyle (DeVylder) Kohl, US Navy
 Lieutenant Jared Korn, US Coast Guard
 Sergeant Gregory J. Kowalski, USMC
 Airman First Class Benjamin M. LeClerc, USAF
 MA2 Tiana Lefebre, US Navy
 Petty Officer 2nd Class Brian McGrath, US Navy

LTJG Derek Molkenbuhr, US Navy
 LT Marisa Molkenbuhr, US Navy
 LTJG Trevor Molkenbuhr, US Navy
 Senior Chief Petty Officer Pasquale Moreland, US Navy
 Corporal Ginamarie Mazzucco, USMC
 Lance Corporal Kathryn Mazzucco, USMC
 Airman First Class Anthony Nero, USAF
 Lt. Christopher Nguyen, US Army
 Specialist Eric Normand, US Army
 Chaplain Philip O'Neill, USAF
 Captain Denis L. O'Reilly, USMC
 Specialist Christopher Paier, US Army Natl. Guard
 PVT John Pastore, USMC
 Private Matthew Planinshek, USMC
 LTJG Jake Patrick Reid, US Navy
 Private Quianna Rios, US Army
 Petty Officer First Class Matthew J. Sansone, US Navy
 Captain Ryan Satterfield, USMC
 Lt. Ellie Marie Senft, US Army
 Captain Jack David Senft, US Army
 SRA Myron Simpson, USAF
 Private 1st Class Kevin Stevens, US Army
 Captain Alexander James Topitzer, US Army
 Captain Matthew Neil Topitzer, US Army
 Captain Ryan Van Wie, US Army
 Private 1st Class Connor Valinsky, US Army
 Senior Airman Joe Villano USAF
 Corporal Bernard Vitti, Jr., USMC
 LCpl. Matthew Voelker, USMC
 Airman Mark Zajac, Jr., USAF

If you have a name to place on our U.S. Military prayer list, please contact Mary Beth in the Rectory at 203-272-3531 or office@stbridgetcheshire.org with the names of family & friends who are on active duty. Please provide name and branch of service. In this way, our whole parish community can help bring them home safely by our prayers.



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- Can accept perishable goods only during Pantry hours
- Hours are M-W-F 9:00am-12:15pm; T-Th 3:00pm-6:15pm
- Monetary donations should be sent to: Cheshire Community Food Pantry, P.O. Box 457, Cheshire, CT 06410.

Thank you for your continued support of the Cheshire Community Food Pantry and for helping our fellow neighbors!



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