

EASTER SUNDAY

the
Resurrection
of the
Lord

SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN PARISH

Where Christ is Our Light

SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2021



Letter from the Pastor

The Reverend Jeffrey V. Romans, KCMS

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

HAPPY EASTER! With great joy in my heart I announce to you: *Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed!*

This ancient greeting sums up what we celebrate this Easter Sunday: the joy of Christ risen and alive in our midst. This is such amazing news that we actually celebrate this reality for eight full days! Each day in this octave of Easter is an occasion to celebrate the most important event in human history! *Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

There is much to be joyful about today!

First, and foremost, Jesus Christ has risen from the dead. He has conquered death forever!

Second, we are able to be together this year to celebrate this central mystery of our faith. One year ago, we were unable to celebrate Easter in-person together in Church due to the emerging coronavirus pandemic. We were not even able to gather with our family and friends as we were so accustomed to

doing.

Throughout this time of pandemic so much has taken place that has really changed the world around us. There have been so many losses that people have experienced due to this pandemic.

We think of the numbers of people infected with the virus and the significant number of deaths associated with the virus. We think of their families and friends whose lives were so impacted.

We think also of what we have witnessed throughout our country and world in this past year in terms of tragedies. We think of the various acts of racism we have witnessed, the increase in the level of poverty, the destruction of the family, the riots in the streets, the gun violence across the land, and, of course, the great divisiveness we have all witnessed since the Election in the Fall.

In the midst of all of that we gather, both in-person and virtually, on this Easter Sunday because we are **UNITED in FAITH**. A faith that calls us together. A faith that reminds us that

no matter how dark things can get, a new day is dawning.

After the darkness of Good Friday, the brilliant light of Easter Sunday bursts into the world. Christ has conquered sin and death and opened to us the gates of eternal life!

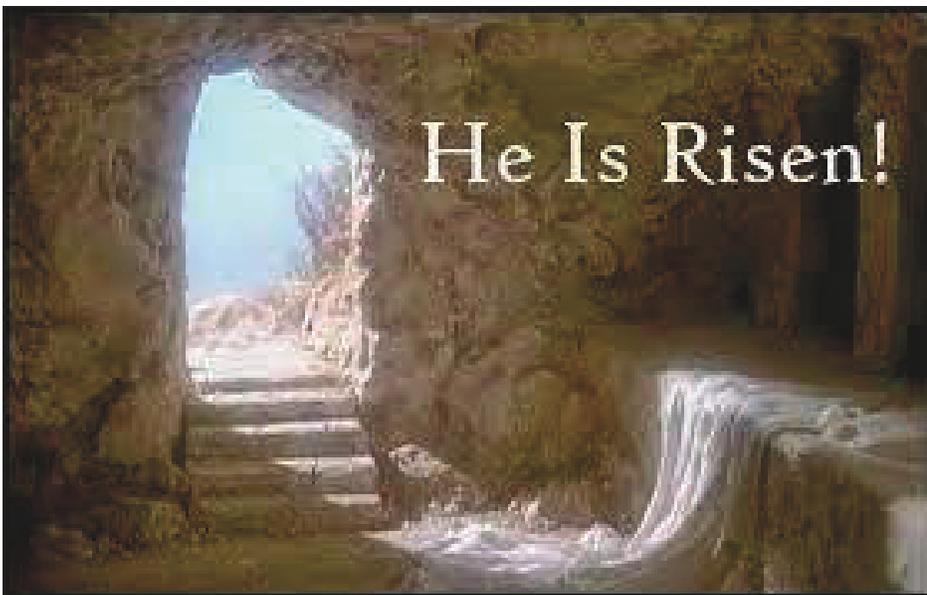
May this Easter message of hope renew our spirits and help us to see the challenges we face through that lens of Easter, knowing that with the power and love of God, any obstacle can be overcome, any challenge can be met with success.

The challenge for each of us is to face each day, even as we start to emerge from the pandemic slowly but surely, with the hope that Easter gives. Each and every one of us face challenges, whether big or small, whether difficult to handle or not, and in these days perhaps we face more than ever, and yet, the joy and hope we have in the Risen Lord allows us to face these challenges with a different focus. **We do not face life with a dim and bleak outlook; rather, we face it with hope! For what we celebrate today, namely Easter, gives us hope!**

At the Great Vigil on Holy Saturday night, we hear the Easter Proclamation, *Exsultet*, which so beautifully describes the Resurrection of Jesus. **We hear “the sanctifying power of this night dispels wickedness, washes faults away, restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to mourners, drives out hatred, fosters concord, and brings down the mighty.”**

Yes! But why? “Because this is the night when Christ broke the prison bars of death and rose victorious from the underworld. This is the night that even now, throughout the world, sets Christian believers apart from worldly vices and from the gloom of sin, and this is the night that leads us to grace and joins us to His holy ones.”

That, my friends, is why the resurrection of Jesus gives us the greatest hope! That is why today Christians throughout the world say with great joy “Alleluia, He is risen!”





This great news is in fact something we celebrate each and every week, not only on Easter Sunday, but every Sunday as we gather to celebrate our faith in Jesus Christ. We celebrate this each week as we read and listen to Sacred Scripture, as we pray for our brothers and sisters in need, as we praise and thank God the Father in the midst of the Church, and ultimately as we offer the bread and wine each week which in His great love for us God changes into the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, of Jesus which strengthens us to carry out our mission to “Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.” That is why every Sunday is so special and that is why when we gather as God’s family we feel so blessed and renewed for our mission!

May our encounter with the risen Lord on our journey of faith touch us deeply and transform us as He did for His Disciples. May the resurrection lead us to be the best version of ourselves; committed to live out our Baptismal covenant. May we become what St Augustine referred to as an “Easter People,” a people transformed into disciples ready to do all we can with the gifts God has blessed us with to *Go, and announce the Gospel of the Lord* in the world that so longs for the Good News of Jesus Christ.

NEXT weekend we celebrate, as we do every year on the Sunday following Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday. Pope John Paul II declared this Divine Mercy Sunday while he was Pope.



This devotion is a popular devotion in the life of the church and perhaps it is part of your own regular prayers. This devotion

was initiated through the writings of now Saint Faustina, a young Polish nun, who sought to remind others that God is merciful and forgiving and we too must show mercy and forgiveness. This is what the Church has always taught through scripture and tradition, but her writings call us to a deeper understanding that God’s love is unlimited and available to everyone — especially the greatest sinners. The message of mercy is that God loves us — all of us — no matter how great our sins. He wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy. As our Gospel this Sunday reminds us nothing could stop the Lord from sharing His mercy and peace with His disciples, not even a locked door. “On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’” I want that peace, don’t you?

So join us next Sunday at 2:30 PM for the recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy to conclude the Novena we began on Good Friday. Please join us on our Livestream as well!

There is a Plenary Indulgence attached to the Chaplet of Divine Mercy for Divine Mercy Sunday which can be offered for another person or even someone who has died. A Plenary Indulgence is the cancellation of ALL temporal punishment that we owe to God due to our sins! To receive a Plenary Indulgence, you must go to confession, receive holy Communion and pray for the intentions of the pope. That should be done in the days leading up to the feast. Then, on Divine Mercy Sunday, you must “in any church or chapel, in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even a

venial sin, take part in the prayers and devotions held in honor of Divine Mercy, or who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the tabernacle, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus.”



On behalf of myself, Father Federico, Sister Patricia, our deacons, the pastoral staff, and all the parish staff, I want to wish you and your families a blessed Easter. I pray that the Lord will bless each of us with new hope! I pray that each of us will experience an Easter season like never before. I pray this Easter season may be a time of great grace for you and those you love. May the joy and hope that Easter brings into our lives help to quell our fears and strengthen our trust in God and His great love for us. May you experience the presence of the Risen Christ in new and unexpected ways in the weeks to come. Have a blessed Easter and be assured of our love and prayers!

As always, remember to pray for our parish family and ask God’s blessings upon us all in this time of pandemic. With the gracious intercession of Saint Bridget of Sweden, our Patroness, and Blessed Michael McGivney, and united in the Eucharist, may we be united with one another in prayer and reflect the presence of Jesus to the world! Please pray for me and know that I am praying for you! Continued prayers for you all to know and experience the joy, the peace, and the hope of the Risen Christ! A Happy and Blessed Easter to you and your family!

Father Roman

SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN PARISH—WHERE CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT

ST. BRIDGET CHURCH
175 Main Street, Cheshire, CT

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



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The Reverend Anthony J. Federico, III, Parochial Vicar

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- Dr. Richard Wilber, Deacon
- Sister Patricia Cigrand, A.S.C.J., Pastoral Associate
- Mrs. Julia Atwood, Music Director
- Mrs. Donna Yateko, Religious Education Director
- Mr. Regis O'Neill, Youth Minister
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 Social Mediacommunications@stbridgetcheshire.org
 Mailing Address.....175 Main Street, Cheshire, CT 06410



Our collection for the week of March 28th

Mailed-in/Dropped Off

Offertory \$15,360.20

Mail your offertory donation to
175 Main St, Cheshire, CT 06410

Online

Offertory \$6,900.51

Give Online at

stbridgetcheshire.weshareonline.org/



Thank you for your generosity!

CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

April 3 & 4—Easter Sunday

This weekend's Corporal Work of Mercy is

Bury the Dead

As we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus, we remember our loved ones who have gone before us in faith. May they share in His Resurrection!

Connecticut United Ways, a partnership of all United Ways in the state, launched the Connecticut United Ways COVID-19 Response Fund in response to the statewide lock down to provide cash assistance to individuals/families struggling financially.

Recipients must meet one of the following criteria as a result of COVID-19 to be eligible for the program: Loss of job/wages; Loss of childcare; or Homebound due to Coronavirus or caring for someone with Coronavirus

The Cheshire Human Services Department is administering this program for the Cheshire community. If you feel you or someone you know may be eligible for assistance, contact Michelle Piccerillo, Director, Cheshire Human Services at (203) 271-6690 or cheshirehumanservices@chshirect.org

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, April 3rd: Holy Saturday

NO morning Mass

11:00 a.m. SBC Blessing of Food

NO 4pm or 5:15pm Masses

8:00 p.m. SBC Vigil Special Intention

Sunday, April 4th: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

7:00 a.m. SBC Special Intention

8:00 a.m. SBC Special Intention

8:30 a.m. STBC* Special Intention

9:00 a.m. SBC Special Intention

10:30 a.m. SBC Special Intention

10:30 a.m. STBC* Special Intention

12:00 p.m. SBC Special Intention

Monday, April 5th

7:00 a.m. SBC Irene & James McElroy The Ulizio Family

9:00 a.m. SBC Francis H. O'Neill The Family

Tuesday, April 6th

7:00 a.m. SBC The People of St. Bridget of Sweden Parish

Wednesday, April 7th

7:00 a.m. SBC Winora Orcutt Tim Orcutt

9:00 a.m. SBC John & Hannah O'Connor Peter & Mary Mongillo

Thursday, April 8th

7:00 a.m. SBC Joe O'Reilly The Haensel Family

Friday, April 9th

7:00 a.m. SBC Cele Hobson The Family

9:00 a.m. SBC School Mass—The Ubinas Family Paul & Jill Veiga

Saturday, April 10th

9:00 a.m. SBC Phyllis Tarini—10th Anniversary Sandra & Vin Fuoco

4:00 p.m. SBC Charles Milot—28th Anniversary His Family

5:15 p.m. SBC Joseph Ferry, Sr. Ray & Pat Maratea

Sunday, April 11th: Divine Mercy Sunday

7:00 a.m. SBC John & Mary DiMugno The Family

8:00 a.m. SBC Sal Scoopo The Family

9:00 a.m. SBC Francis H. O'Neill The Family

10:30 a.m. SBC Frank & Mary D'Amato The Beaudette Family

12:00 p.m. SBC Mary Calaluce Jude DiGidio

SBC = St. Bridget Church STBC = St. Thomas Becket Church
*and Father Frisbie Hall

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>

ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST



We have live in-person **Eucharistic Adoration** on Friday, April 9th from 1:00 to 2:00 pm in St. Bridget Church.

Per State of Connecticut guidelines, occupancy is limited to 200 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 CONFESSION

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 Living & Deceased Members of Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish



Tabernacle candle at St. Thomas Becket Church shines this week for An Increase in Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious Life

IN-PERSON & ONLINE SERVICES

©LPI



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!



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.

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 bit.ly/SBoSMassSign-Up

JOIN US FOR OUR ONLINE SERVICES!

- † Sunday, 4/4 at 10:30AM—Celebration of the **Easter Mass**
- † Monday, 4/5 at 10AM—Getting to Know our Holy Family—a brief talk about **Saint Magdalen of Canossa**
- † Wednesday, 4/7 at 10AM—**Resurrection Moments**—a look at where God was in our lives during the past year
- † Friday, 4/9 at 10AM—**Resurrection Moments**—a look at where God was in our lives during the past year
- † Friday, 4/9 at 1PM—one hour of **Adoration**
- † Sunday, 4/11 at 10:30AM—Celebration of the **Mass**

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

Cancer Support Group every Wednesday thru April 21st at 6:30pm in St. Bridget School Library—sign up at bit.ly/3bY2Th1

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

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

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

NOTE: The dispensation from the Sunday obligation previously granted to all Catholics of the archdiocese by the Archbishop has been **extended through Sunday, May 23, 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 judgment in considering if you should attend a public Mass at this time.



Today is Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

The readings for today can be found at

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/040421.cfm>

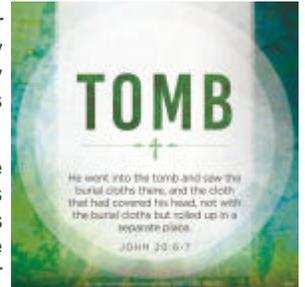
Today we begin the Easter Season, our 50-day meditation on the mystery of Christ's Resurrection. Our Gospel today tells us about the disciples' discovery of the empty tomb. It concludes by telling us that they did not yet understand that Jesus had risen from the dead. Thus, the details provided are not necessarily meant to offer proof of the Resurrection. The details invite us to reflect upon a most amazing gift, that is faith in Jesus and his Resurrection.

Each of the four Gospels tells us that Jesus' empty tomb was first discovered by women. This is notable because in first-century Jewish society women could not serve as legal witnesses. In the case of John's Gospel, the only woman attending the tomb is Mary of Magdala. Unlike the Synoptic accounts, John's Gospel does not describe an appearance of angels at the tomb. Instead, Mary is simply said to have observed that the stone that had sealed the tomb had been moved, and she runs to alert Simon Peter and the beloved disciple. Her statement to them is telling. She assumes that Jesus' body has been removed, perhaps stolen. She does not consider that Jesus has been raised from the dead.

Simon Peter and the beloved disciple race to the tomb, presumably to verify Mary's report. The beloved disciple arrives first but does not enter the tomb until after Simon Peter. This detail paints a vivid picture, as does the detail provided about the burial cloths. Some scholars believe that the presence of the burial cloths in the tomb offers evidence to the listener that Jesus' body had not been stolen (it is understood that grave robbers would have taken the burial cloths together with the body).

The Gospel passage concludes, however, that even having seen the empty tomb and the burial cloths, the disciples do not yet understand about the Resurrection. In the passage that follows, Mary of Magdala meets Jesus but mistakes him for the gardener. In the weeks ahead, the Gospel readings from our liturgy will show us how the disciples came to believe in Jesus' Resurrection through his appearances to them. Our Easter faith is based on their witness to both the empty tomb and their continuing relationship with Jesus—in his appearances and in his gift of the Holy Spirit.

www.loyolapress.com



For more information to better understand the readings, go to bit.ly/31wTZkF



Finding Joy and Hope
as we look at our gardens this Easter Season
with Brother Leo Maneri, FBE

Jesus asked Mary Magdalene "Woman, whom are you looking for?"

In this Easter Season, who are we looking for in our gardens, and what are some of the things we can do to find what we are searching for in our gardening endeavors?

Brother Leo is the Land Management Supervisor at The Franciscan Life Center and a Master Gardener. Join us for spiritual meditation, gardening tips and demonstrations on growing container gardens and patio plants.

Saturday, April 10th, 11am-1pm
St. Thomas Becket Church
Bring your folding chair and coffee



Marriage Banns

Please pray for this couple as they prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage:

II Christopher Sica & Marielle Racamato



Intentions for the Tabernacle candle are available. To reserve the candle at either church for a living or deceased loved one, call the rectory at 203-272-3531.

The Tabernacle candle offering is \$25.

The Cheshire Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, April 17th from 8am-1pm in Father Frisbie Hall.

To schedule an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: STBC





St. Bridget School Update

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



**From the Students, Faculty and Staff
at St. Bridget School**

SBS Gazette—Edition #5 Spring Feelings by Ben Wu

Spring brings a change of scenery. With all the flowers blooming, spring is extremely different from the winter we are coming out of. During spring, a lot in the world around us changes. It starts raining a lot, trees grow leaves again, and flowers bloom. However, all the changes in scenery that spring brings also can affect the people around us. What feelings does spring incite?

Michael Yaylagul says that spring makes him feel refreshed. He says that because we just got out of a “harsh winter, all the spring flowers and May showers makes you feel new.” As well as this, he is excited for his birthday which is in the spring.

Nilan Kathir says that spring makes him feel excited. He says that “the fact that spring is coming makes me feel excited. Spring is a great season because the sun is shining most of the time and nature is blooming.” Furthermore, he says that he is hopeful as the COVID vaccine may be available to most people in the spring.

Lachlan Hardy is also excited for spring. However, he is excited for a different reason. He says that “it makes me feel excited because springtime happens when school starts to end.” People have a variety of different feelings involving spring for many different reasons. Whether it be nature, a birthday, the end of school, or the COVID vaccine, spring brings a generally positive image to people’s minds, and gives them something to look forward to. Though you may not like spring, you can find something to look forward to as well.



During Holy Week in years past, 7th graders have shared a special prayer experience with their fellow SBS students, often the Living Stations or a Seder Meal. This year, Grade 7 prepared a Stations of the Cross presentation to share with all of our school. This was done in an outdoor, socially distanced manner. We are so proud of our students and the wonderful things they have done to celebrate this blessed season!

Classes are filling!

We are accepting 2021-2022 Applications for Grades PK-3 through Grade 8.

Visit our website for our Virtual Open House or call us to set up your in-person tour. All tours are one-family only, giving you a safe way to visit and the privacy to ask whatever questions you may have.

Join our
School Community



St. Bridget School, Cheshire



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Office of Religious Education — Donna Yatcko, DRE

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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, April 11th at 9 AM
Monday, April 5th at 4 PM and 5:30 PM
Tuesday, April 6th at 4 PM

First Communion Classes
In Person Class
Sunday, April 11th at 8:30 AM
Virtual Class
Sunday, April 25th at 8:30 AM

Middle School 7th and 8th grades
Virtual Class
Sunday, April 11th at 10AM

Confirmation Program
9th grade

Virtual Class
Sunday, April 11th at 5 PM
Sunday, April 25th at 5 PM

10th grade
In Person Class
Sunday, April 11th at 5 PM

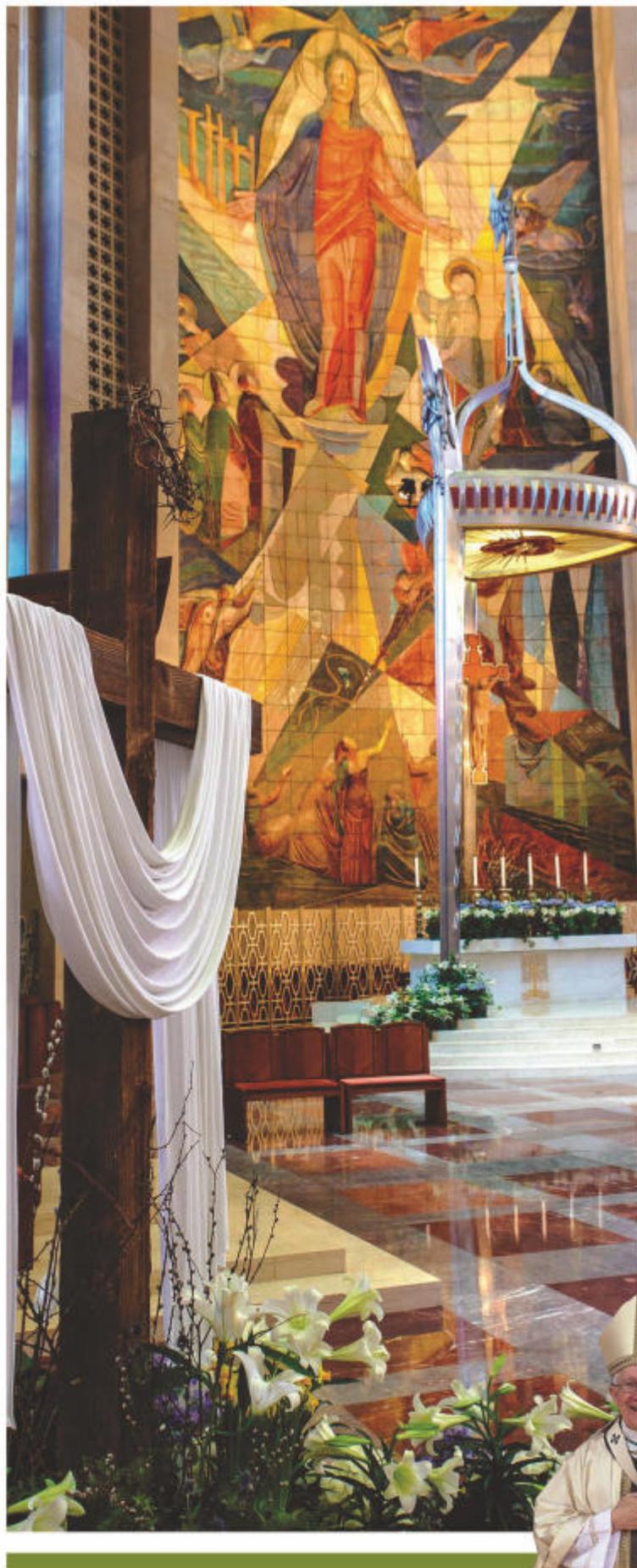
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Virtual Class
Tuesday, April 6th at 4PM
Tuesday, April 20th at 4PM

Apologetics 101: Eyewitness News!

This week, we discuss a very important detail of the Gospel Resurrection accounts – the first eyewitnesses of the empty tomb were women.

- There is a fascinating detail in the Gospels we don't often talk about – the first people to testify that Jesus had been raised from the dead were all women.
- Not Peter or any of the apostles! Rather, all four Gospels report that women were first on the scene.
 - *Matthew*: "After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, **Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb...**"
 - *Mark*: "When the Sabbath was over, **Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome** brought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body..."
 - *Luke*: "On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, **the women** took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb..."
 - *John*: "Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, **Mary Magdalene** went to the tomb..."
- What can we learn from this?
 - This is actually one of the **greatest historical, non-religious proofs of the authenticity of the resurrection**. Here's why.
 - * In the ancient world, women were not allowed to testify in court or act as witnesses. The Gospel writers knew this.
 - * **If the Gospel writers were making up the story of Jesus rising from the dead, they would have edited out the women** and replaced them with upstanding, notable men being first on the scene to give the story more credence and believability. They knew nobody would believe the testimony of women.
 - ◆ But the Gospel writers were not making it up, so they left it just as it happened!
- This also shows God's special preference for those who have been mistreated by society – just like the way the shepherds were the first to receive the news about Jesus' birth!



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"Christ is Risen!" The world turns on this fundamental truth that changes everything and that explains who we are and where we are headed: "Christ, yesterday, today and forever!" On Easter Sunday the Church exults in the joyful proclamation that He is truly risen from the dead. God gave His Son to be the sacrifice that takes away our sins, and has raised Him up as the victor over sin and death, so together we cry out: **Alleluia!**

The first words of the Risen Lord to his terrified and downcast disciples were: "Peace be with you." (Luke 24:36) Their first thought was that the ghost of the one they had abandoned at his Passion had returned for retribution. Far from it! On the Cross Jesus had said of all those involved: "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34) Christ died for the forgiveness of sins, including yours and mine, because "God so loved the world."

Over the past year we have dealt with a worldwide pandemic. Many have felt isolated, helpless, and at times have fallen into discouragement and even despair, but today on this Easter Sunday we have cause to **Rejoice** for Christ is Risen from the dead ... He has conquered every illness and even death itself. In a world filled with doubts and darkness, where bitter division appears to be getting the best of us, where, out of indifference to faith and worship, so many people are faced with inner spiritual and moral destitution, we have a duty to proclaim from the rooftops: **"Christ is Risen."** He alone is the answer to the deepest longings of the human heart. He is the only Way, the only Truth and the only Life. As he told us: "No one comes to the Father except through me."

Our mission in 2021 and always is to make the Gospel credible to others by loving God above all things and our neighbor as ourselves, inspired by the countless acts of selfless service we have witnessed this past year from our health workers, neighbors, families, friends and clergy. In times like these people of faith and character really shine. If we take to heart the renewal of our baptismal promises at Easter and partake of the Holy Eucharist worthily, then we will do the same.

The Easter candle is lit as a symbol of the Risen Christ. Our light has dawned inextinguishable and hope is restored. Just as it was for the disciples, today we too are reborn as we celebrate **"Christ has Risen!!"**

May the Risen Lord be with you always and grant you the peace and joy that only He can give.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Leonard P. Blair

Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair
Archbishop of Hartford





Cheshire K of C KNIGHTS KORNER

by Harold Metz, Council Trustee

Grand Knight, Jason Moliterno —jason_moliterno@yahoo.com

A Happy and Holy Easter to Us All!

It's such a remarkable time of year. Amid shouts of "He is risen" the crocuses begin appearing, dogwood starts to bud and people arrive at Mass without those ski jackets and ear muffs.

A side benefit is, of course, the church is warmer than it has been for many months. But there is one place where Spring warmth is disdained and unwanted. That is in Houghton, Michigan, home of Michigan Tech University, St. Albert the Great Parish and Knights of Columbus College Council #17237. Each year Houghton holds it's Winter Carnival and a popular attraction is the St. Albert Ice Chapel, built by the St. Albert parishioners and the College Council to celebrate Mass in the very cold town on the shores of Lake Superior.

Father Ben Hasse of St. Albert says the parish and the council have been doing this for several years and notes attendance at the "Ice Masses" is better than that of other weekends throughout the year. And yes, the alter is a large slab of ice and packed snow as are the pews on which the faithful sit.



Jack Hoffman, Grand Knight of the council, looks at it as an opportunity to reacquaint

fellow students with the Faith that may have been lying dormant like the crocuses of winter. "If it takes snow and ice to get them here, then we'll do it" he says.



If you'd like to watch a short video of the building of the Ice Chapel and a Mass celebrated during the Winter Carnival, go to bit.ly/KofCIceMasses

We know you'll enjoy it and grow to appreciate our balmy 60 degree temperatures in the bargain. But don't forget, it's all because:



Ask Father

Dear Father: How often should I go to confession?

Dear friend in Christ,

Great question. We should go to confession as soon as possible if we have committed a mortal sin.

If not, we should get into the practice of going every few weeks. I think every two-three months is a good goal to shoot for. The grace that we receive from the Sacrament, even if we are not conscious of serious sins, is a powerful way to advance in virtue and holiness. Plus, it keeps us humble and accountable.

For all Catholics, the Church requires that we go to confession at least once a year.



Do you want to get more out of the Mass? Have you often wondered what were the deeper meanings of the words and the gestures used throughout the Mass? The Catholic Catechism says that the Eucharist is the "source and summit of our faith." We know how important it is to attend the Eucharistic Liturgy, but do we understand the biblical roots of the words and gestures in the Mass? Author Edward Sri takes us on a walk through the Mass helping us understand the profound significance of all that is said and done. This will certainly enhance and deepen your love and understanding of the Eucharist. This three-part DVD series includes a book of the same title. Either the parish will order the book or you can order the book from Amazon.

A Biblical Walk Through the Mass: Understanding What We Say And Do In The Liturgy by Edward Sri

Evening session: Mondays, April 19, 26, & May 3, at 6:00pm in St. Bridget of Sweden Parish Center

Daytime session: Tuesdays, April 20, 27, & May 4, at 10:00am in Fr. Frisbie Hall

To register, contact Sr. Patricia at 203-272-3531 ext. 1312 or srcigrand@stbridgetcheshire.org



The St. Bridget School HSA Presents
Family Eat Out Night

Panera Bread
365 Queen St, Southington, CT 06489
Monday, April 19th
4pm – 8pm

Dine-in or Take-out.

The restaurant will donate a portion of all proceeds back to our school. Show the flyer (on our website) at the café to ensure SBS get the proceeds or order online and enter code PRFUND at checkout .



In a school year that has looked like no other, St. Bridget School would like to invite you to join us as we **come together** for a SBS Auction that will look like no other!

Participate from the comfort of your own home! Bid on items through our Greater Giving App (as used in previous years).

Watch LIVE on the St. Bridget School Facebook page at 7pm.

Children can attend for the first time! Friends and family in other states & countries are welcome to join the fun!

A generous gift of \$50,000 will be given to St. Bridget School if we can raise money to match this challenge gift! A link to donate will be available along with auction items for bidding!

Masters of Ceremonies are Dr. Testa, Father Romans, and Father Federico!

Our goal this year is to **Come Together** to support the fantastic students at St. Bridget School. Can we count on you to help us reach our goal?

Go to <https://stbridgetschool.ejoinme.org/sbsauction2021> for information on how to join the auction, make a monetary donation or become a sponsor.

If you would like to donate anything toward this year's auction, please send us an email to auction@stbridgetschool.org.

Thank you for your generosity and for your support. We look forward to **coming together** on May 8th!



Youth Ministry
Regis O'Neill, Youth Minister
roneill@stbridgetcheshire.org
203-233-848

Verse of the Week

Luke 24:6-7

“He is not here; he has risen!”

Upcoming Events

1. **There will be no NGD meeting this Sunday, April 4th.** Have a blessed Easter, and we look forward to seeing our high schoolers from 6:30-8:30pm in the Saint Bridget School gym on Sunday, April 11th!
2. We will be sponsoring a Bags of Hope toiletry drive to benefit the Saint Vincent DePaul Mission in Waterbury from April 5-11th. More information is available on the parish website! **High schoolers, we need volunteers to help collect donation at Masses on 4/10-11.** Contact Donna Yatcko or Regis O'Neill to sign up to help out!

Saint of the Week

Saint Magdalen of Canossa

Feast Day: March 29th

Bio: Born into wealth in northern Italy in 1774, Magdalen knew as early as age 15 that she wanted to become a nun. She first joined the Carmelites, but left after feeling an intense call to serve the needy without restriction. She began offering poor girls lodging in her own home, and later opened a school. Other women began joining her in her work, and a new religious congregation emerged. They called themselves the Congregation of the Canossian Daughters of Charity, or the Canossian Sisters. The order grew, and they began opening houses and convents all over Italy. They focused specifically on the education and spiritual needs of women, but a smaller congregation of priests and brothers was also opened. Magdalen died in 1835 after a life of service and was canonized by Pope Saint John Paul II in 1988.

Saint Magdalen of canossia, pray for us!





Our U.S. Military Prayer List



Captain Cassandra Andrea USAF
 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
 Sergeant Aaron Desjardins, USAF
 Specialist John Fadus, US Army
 STS-1 Jake Ford, US Navy
 PFC Owen C. Fowler, USMC
 Lt. Colonel Mark Christopher Glenn, US Army
 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
 Captain 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
 Sergeant Alexander Poling, US Army Natl. Guard
 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.



The Cheshire Community Food Pantry, Inc.
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203-699-9226

175 Sandbank Road, Cheshire, CT

Thank you for your continued generosity with donations to the Cheshire Community Food Pantry. We gratefully accept any donations, but this week we have a particular need for:

- juice -crackers -salty snacks
- granola bars -baked beans -pasta & rice sides
- fruit & pudding cups

Please note that the Food Pantry:

- Cannot accept expired or opened items
- Cannot use large industrial canned goods
- 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!

Bags of Hope



Toiletry Drive sponsored by the Next Generation of Disciples

Donations accepted in the bins outside the Rectory and Religious Ed offices 4/5-11 and after all Masses 4/10-11

Contact Regis O'Neill for more information

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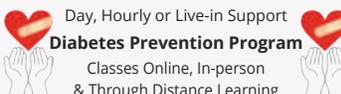
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