

SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN PARISH

Where Christ is Our Light

SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 2021



THE MOST HOLY
BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST



Letter from the Pastor

The Reverend Jeffrey V. Romans, KCHS

Dear Friends in Christ:

Today is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, otherwise known as Corpus Christi Sunday.



This Feast goes back to the 13th century, but it celebrates something far older: the institution of the Sacrament of Holy Communion at the Last Supper. **It is the Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Christ—which we celebrate each time we come together for Mass—that provides us the grace and strength we need to live as followers of Christ in our world.**

This Feast allows us the chance to reflect on the significance the Eucharist has in the life of each of us, and all disciples down through the centuries. We know that during the persecutions of the early Church, the disciples would meet in the Catacombs to celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass because the Eucharist was the source of their strength to remain steadfast in their newfound faith. You can visit the Catacombs, as our pilgrims did on our trip to Italy in 2019. Underground, you are amid the artwork carved into the stone, where nearby the recesses for tombs of disciples who have gone before you are located. There, in that moment and in that experience, you just pray for a

greater respect and appreciation for what we take for granted, the Eucharist!

I love a quote from **Saint John Vianney, Patron Saint for Parish Priests**, who said “**If we could comprehend all the good things contained in Holy Communion, nothing more would be wanting to content the heart of man. The miser would run no more after his treasures, or the ambitious after glory; each would shake off the dust of the earth, leave the world, and fly towards heaven.**”

If only we had a deeper appreciation for and respect for the Eucharist in our world today. Sadly many who claim themselves Catholics do not believe that the Eucharist is the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. For many believe it is only a symbol. BUT that is not our church’s teaching, that is NOT our belief. We believe Jesus when He said “Take and eat; this IS my body... drink from it, all of you, for this IS my blood of the covenant.” And when Jesus said, “For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.” Yes we believe! Yes, Lord, we believe! Yes we want, we desire, we need the gift of the Eucharist to nourish our souls and help us to be more like You!

And so for us today the Eucharist, the Mass, is meant to be the very center of our lives as Catholic Christians; it is the source and summit of our Christian life. At Mass we are fed with the Word of God and nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ so that we can go forth glorifying the Lord by our lives, and announcing the Gospel in our own words and deeds. *Take away the Mass and we lose our identity—it is the source and summit of our lives as Catholic Christians.* I think the pandemic

of the past year has helped us to come to a deeper appreciation for how much we truly hunger for the Eucharist, the gift of finest wheat that satisfies the hungry heart. I think of the tears on people’s faces the first time we offered drive-thru Holy Communion after months of not being able to be together for Mass. I think of the letters and emails from parishioners in which they shared with us in the Parish Office how much they missed receiving the Eucharist; how the hardest part of the early months of the pandemic was not being able to come to Mass and receive Holy Communion. The pandemic, I believe, has helped us as a parish family come to comprehend the great gift of the Eucharist in our lives, and has actually implanted in our souls a deeper and more profound appreciation for the gift of His Real Presence in the Eucharist. May we recognize the great gift the Eucharist is in our lives, and may we always hunger for this food!

The Archdiocesan Synod Closing Mass will take place on Friday, August 13th, the first Memorial of our own Blessed Michael J. McGivney!

As you are aware, in addition to my duties as your Pastor I am also charged with being the Secretary for the Archdiocesan Synod and due to the pandemic the closing Mass could not take place as planned last May. But we are scheduled to have it August 13th! Every parish is asked to send a delegation of 30 parishioners inclusive of the delegates we sent to the Synod Meeting in October of 2019. So we have 28 spots available! Would you like to go? It will be held at the Oakdale Theatre in Yalesville and it will start at 6:30PM.



These spots are available on a first come, first served basis, so call the parish office soon! At this Mass, we will celebrate the Memorial of recently beatified Blessed Michael J. McGivney, a priest of the Archdiocese, and we will also witness a historic moment when Archbishop Blair provides his synod document, based on the months and months of listening sessions, and the intense and fruitful Synod Meeting of Delegates, which will chart a path forward for our Archdiocese, our Parishes, and our families.



Pew Project Update...As you know, and you can now see if you are with us in Holy Mass, some of our pews have returned and they look amazing! Word was buzzing around town on Tuesday this past week as the truck arrived bringing our pews back. I heard from parishioners who stopped in while the truck was here to get a sneak peak. I heard of others who were excited to see such progress.

As you know we are in the middle of a 12 week project, so we are grateful they brought some pews back to our church but please understand that it will still be a bit of time before this project is brought to completion.

Also, you will notice the kneelers are still the old kneeler pads. The material that was ordered has not come in yet, but when it does they will be fabricat-

ing new kneeler pads which will simply add to the beauty of this project.



Don't forget ST. BRIDGET SCHOOL needs your help to meet a CHALLENGE GRANT!!! Our amazing parish school has a Challenge Gift of \$50,000. We are at the halfway point as you can see by the graphic. Can you help? Every gift, no matter its size, makes a difference and gets us that much closer to matching this challenge! Think about it for a minute; if 100 people or families each donated \$250 toward this we would meet the challenge! Can you help us? Here is the link to donate:

<https://stbridgetschool.ejoinme.org/50k>

The rain went away in time on Memorial Day for us to gather at the Parish Cemetery on Higgins Road for our annual outdoor Mass. We had a wonderful crowd and it seems to me that each year this crowd is growing and growing. It is a moving experience to be outside on sacred ground as we celebrate Mass and look out over the cemetery and see the many flags at the tombs of our parishioners who served our country through the years. Special gratitude to all who helped coordinate this celebration from those that placed the flags at the gravestones, to our contemporary music ensemble and Alan Smith for leading us in song, to our maintenance staff and Tony Ginnetti

for ensuring all that we needed was there for our celebration! It was a beautiful morning to give praise and thanks to God! It is also a special occasion for your parish priests to offer a special blessing for all who are buried in our cemetery and to sprinkle the various sections with holy water as we pray for our deceased loved ones.

This coming Friday is the day we celebrate the graduation of our Saint Bridget School Class of 2021. This is a special class. Some of these students were in the lower wing (grade 1, I think) when I arrived here, and now are ready to embark on the next chapter of their education. I have watched many of these students mature through the years and am so proud to have had the privilege to make this journey with them.



We are blessed to welcome this Class of 2021 to our esteemed alumni of Saint Bridget School. To the Class of 2021 of Saint Bridget School I say: You have made us proud by your joy, your seriousness to study, your kindness to one another, your respect for others, your concern for the less fortunate, and your ability to provide a good example to our student body. In addition, we have witnessed you adapt so well to changing learning environments as we experienced the pandemic. Thank you for your seriousness, your flexibility, and your enthusiasm. I am so proud of

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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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Saint Bridget of Sweden
Parish



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www.stbridgecheshire.org

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

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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

Fax 203-271-3356

Email rectory@stbridgecheshire.org

Bulletin Submissions office@stbridgecheshire.org

Social Media communications@stbridgecheshire.org

Mailing Address 175 Main Street, Cheshire, CT 06410

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you, and promise you my prayers as you begin the next chapter in your lives.

This weekend I also wish to mention an early Happiest Congratulations to the Class of 2021 who will be graduating from Cheshire High School, a variety of other Catholic, public, and private High Schools, and to all who will graduate this year. I cannot believe it but it is graduation season already. As I get older it seems the year goes by at rapid speed.



We are holding another poster contest! This time we are looking for students of all ages to design our parish Christmas card. We invite all school aged children to think of Christmas and send us their design. The winner's artwork will be the cover of our parish Christmas card which is sent to all parishioners and friends of Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish. Many have come to really enjoy seeing the artwork of our parishioners, and I am always so impressed by the many submissions that come in. Making a decision is never easy for our pastoral staff and parish staff. All artwork must be submitted to the rectory by June 30th for consideration! We look forward to many submissions!

As always, remember to pray for our parish family and ask God's blessings upon us all. 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!

Father Romans



Our collection for the week of
May 30th

Mailed-in/Dropped Off

Offertory \$14,459.50

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

Online

Offertory \$8,093.08



Give Online at
stbridgecheshire.weshareonline.org/

THANK YOU
for your generosity

MASS INTENTIONS



GLPI



Saturday, June 5th: Saint Boniface, Bishop and Martyr

9:00 a.m. SBC	Joe O'Reilly	The Haensel Family
4:00 p.m. SBC	Josephine Iadarola—24th Anniversary	Her Family
5:15 p.m. SBC	Joseph Ferry, Sr.	Ray & Pat Maratea

Sunday, June 6th: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

7:00 a.m. SBC	Hugh & John McGovern	The Family
8:00 a.m. SBC	Charles Triano—22nd Anniversary and Patricia Rasmussen	Mike & Nancy Rasmussen
	Rasmussen—Birthday Remembrance	
9:00 a.m. SBC	Richard Barone	The Backman Family
10:30 a.m. SBC	Winora Orcutt	Tim Orcutt

Monday, June 7th

7:00 a.m. STBC	James Cox	Moran Family
9:00 a.m. STBC	John & Philomena Mongillo	Peter & Mary Mongillo

Tuesday, June 8th

7:00 a.m. STBC	The People of St. Bridget of Sweden Parish
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Wednesday, June 9th

7:00 a.m. STBC	Raymond O'Connor	Peter & Mary Mongillo
9:00 a.m. STBC	Richard Cigrand Sr.	Madelyn, Mary Beth, & Victoria

Thursday, June 10th

7:00 a.m. STBC	Enrique Ibarra	His Daughter, Maria Ibarra-Mikolike
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Friday, June 11th: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

7:00 a.m. STBC	Dr. Stanley Matyszewski	Joanne Buckheit
9:00 a.m. STBC	School Mass—Mary Dyer	The Family

Saturday, June 12th: The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:00 a.m. SBC	Austin Meacham	Mary Catherine Meacham
4:00 p.m. SBC	Stanley & Mary Roczynski	Bob & Joan Roczynski
5:15 p.m. SBC	Stephen Mrowka	Wife & Family

Sunday, June 13th: Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. SBC	Martha Barchfeld	Rosalie & Bob Fountain
8:00 a.m. SBC	Victor & Paula Mathews—In Living Prayer for Their 50th Wedding Anniversary	
9:00 a.m. SBC	Judith Ann O'Brien	O'Brien Family
10:30 a.m. SBC	Anthony & Anne Cottiero	The Family

The Tabernacle candle at
St. Bridget Church
shines this week for
Anthony Cottiero
Requested by A Loving Friend



The Tabernacle candle at
St. Thomas Becket Church
shines this week for
Al Ferraro
Requested by Pat Dalton



WE ARE HIRING! Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish is creating a NEW position in our Parish Office. We are creating a Part-Time Position for Saturdays from 9:30a.m. until 12:30p.m. to be more accessible to our parishioners who are seeking Mass cards, sponsor certificates, or any other hosts of items. Applicants must be over the age of 18, have phenomenal interpersonal skills, basic computer skills, and have a desire to help others. Any interested persons are asked to email a resume to:

rectory@stbridgetcheshire.org



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.

In-Person Services THIS WEEK



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



Drive-thru **CONFESIONS** 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.

Adoration every Friday, 1-2pm in St. Thomas Becket Church



NOTE: Masking is required at all services, meetings & events.



Masses this week:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday—7am & 9am in St. Thomas Becket Church
Tuesday & Thursday—7am in St. Thomas Becket Church
Saturday—9am, 4pm & 5:15pm in St. Bridget Church
Sunday—7am, 8am, 9am, 10:30am, & 12pm in St. Bridget Church

ONLINE SERVICES This Week



Every Sunday our 10:30am Mass is livestreamed.

Join Us!



Getting to Know Our Heavenly Family

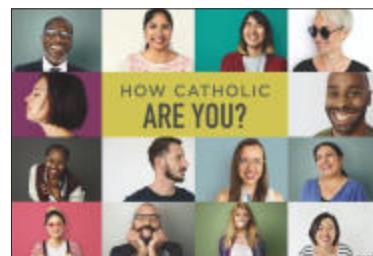
Every Monday at 10AM
This week, learn about
Saint Monica

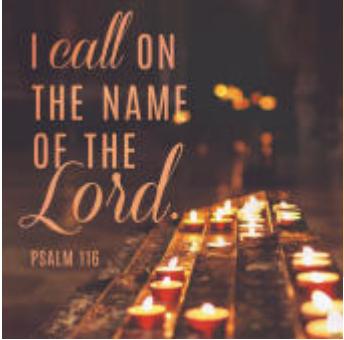
The television Mass is simulcast everyday at 10:00 a.m. on WCCT-TV WB20 and WCTX-TV MyTV9. It can also be seen Saturday and Sunday at 5:00 a.m. on WCCT-TV.

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

How Catholic Are You?

Join us at 10AM every Wednesday and Friday
Test your knowledge of the Catholic faith with these obscure facts and partially useful trivia about our faith and its history.





Today is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

The readings for today can be found at

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/060621.cfm>

Today, the second Sunday after Pentecost, we celebrate a second solemnity, which marks our return to Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar. Today is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. At one time, this day was called *Corpus Christi*, the Latin words for “the Body of Christ.” In the most recent revision of our liturgical rites, the name for this day is expanded to be a more complete reflection of our Eucharistic theology.

In our reading for today, we read the account of the Last Supper found in the Gospel of Mark. It begins with the instructions that Jesus gave to his disciples to prepare their Passover celebration. It then goes on to give an account of the Last Supper. On this Sunday, however, our Lectionary reading omits the verses between these two passages; in those omitted verses we hear Jesus predict his betrayal by one of his disciples.

The Gospel of Mark describes Jesus’ Last Supper with his disciples as a celebration of the Jewish feast of Passover. The Jewish celebration of Passover is a memorial to and a ritual participation in the defining moment of Israel’s history. It celebrates God’s deliverance of his people from slavery in Egypt. The Passover meal includes many ritually important elements, such as unleavened bread, lamb, and bitter herbs. Each food item recalls an aspect of the Exodus event. The instructions for the preparation of this meal are carefully prescribed in the Law of Moses. It is a central obligation of the Jewish faith tradition to celebrate this meal and to give thanks to God for his deliverance and protection.

In the description of the Passover meal found in today’s Gospel, however, Mark omits many elements of the Jewish Passover meal. Instead he describes only those elements he believes to be most essential to the Christian Eucharist: Jesus took bread, blessed the bread, broke the bread, and shared it with his disciples. Similar words and actions follow as Jesus shares the chalice with his disciples. This bread now shared is Jesus’ own body. Those who drink from the chalice are invited to share in a new covenant which will be sealed by Jesus’ own blood. Mark’s Eucharistic theology looks forward to the Kingdom of God that Jesus inaugurates.

The Gospel for today reminds us that the Eucharist is a memorial of Christ’s sacrifice on the cross. We believe that Jesus is truly present to us in the elements of bread and wine. Each time we celebrate this sacrament, we prepare for the Kingdom of God. This celebration, as the Second Vatican Council taught us, is the source and summit of the Christian life.

AFRAID

"Do not be afraid; just have faith."

MATTHEW 14:27

www.loyolapress.com

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

Grace for Sunday

June 6: The Body and Blood of Christ

Lord Jesus,
You are the Bread of Life!
When we receive you in bread and wine
you are present to us, Body and Blood,
the most real way possible.
Help us to grow in our love for you in the Eucharist.
As we gather around this table
we know that you are here with us too.
Let us show our love for you
by the way we treat and care for each other.
Let us show our thanks for this meal
by the way we share our riches with others.
Amen.



BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST





St. Bridget School Update

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



SBS Fun Day

SBS held its annual Fun Day on May 28. Students spent the day engaging in outdoor activities and games, and then enjoyed a fantastic pizza lunch and a movie. We would like to thank the faculty and the Home School Association for making this such a special event.

Spaces are Still Available!
Register now for our Fun Summer Programs

We are offering Programs for PreK 3 through Grade 8! Full days or half days available! We have **Theatre and Math Workshops** for Grades 4-8 and **Weekly Camps** for students entering PK3-Grade 3. A new theme is planned for every week and lots of outdoor time!



The weekly themes for our Pre K 3-Grade 3 camp program are as follows:

6/21—Mickey Mouse Clubhouse	7/19—Zoology
6/28—Beach & Ocean Discovery	7/26—Ocean Animals
7/6—Jammin' Jungle	8/2—Summer Fun!
7/12—Space exploration	

All programs are offered to St. Bridget of Sweden Parishioners and their friends. For **Registration Forms** and more information, please contact Christina Cummings at ccummings@stbridgetschool.org.

SBS Gazette Virtual Edition
Edition #7 May 2021 Free!

Check out the fantastic articles written and produced by our students! Please visit our website at www.stbridgetschool.org to read this month's edition.



Students enjoy our campus throughout the year with athletic fields and multiple playscapes for all age groups. Our school is fully air-conditioned with 24/7 security monitoring.

Register Now!
We are now accepting 2021-2022 Applications for Grades PK-3 & PK-4 through Grade 8.

Visit our website for our Virtual Open House or call us to set up your in-person tour of our beautiful and spacious campus.

We offer **Registered Catholic Grants, Sibling Grants, as well as Tuition Assistance**. For more information or questions, please contact our Admissions Director, Mrs. Christina Cummings, at 203.272.5860 or ccummings@stbridgetschool.org.



Check out our Facebook page to learn more about our wonderful programs and activities at SBS.

Our Facebook pages are
St. Bridget School, Cheshire and
St. Bridget School Cheshire Alumni Page

*Join our
School Community*

**SCHEDULE
A TOUR**

Find Your Family at
St. Bridget School



St. Bridget School, Cheshire



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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

All classes have finished for the year. Please be sure your child completes all of their assignments.



Come and journey with us.

The process by which adults come into full communion with the Catholic Church is known as “The RCIA”, which is short for: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. If you feel God is calling you to this conversion of heart, please join us on this journey to a closer relationship with God and His Church. For more information, or if you have a friend or family member who might benefit, please contact:

Deacon Wilber at Dcnrw.stbridge@gmail.com or
Donna Yatcko at dyatcko@stbridgetschool.org



Activities for this Week's Liturgy

- Word Search—bit.ly/2SUKqiW
- Crossword Puzzle—bit.ly/3wTBaFP
- Coloring Page—bit.ly/3cepkyW

Ask Father

Dear Father: A lot of people on the web have been talking about Apostolic Succession lately. What does that mean?

Dear friend in Christ,

Great question. It's kind of a big deal!

Apostolic Succession is the unbroken chain of authority which connects the current Roman Catholic bishops of the world with the original 12 Apostles of Jesus Christ. The same authority Jesus gave to the 12 Apostles is now held by every Catholic bishop. This unbroken lineage has traced back over 2,000 years.

Each Pope is known as the Successor of Peter, the chief of the Apostles, and likewise, each bishop is known as a Successor of the Apostles. Apostolic Succession means that the Roman Catholic Church traces its authority directly back to Jesus and the 12 Apostles. No other religious organization in the world can say that.

IMPORTANT

VIRTUS UPDATES NEEDED

Virtual Training available

The Office of Safe Environment has directed that any parishioner who submitted a background check before January 1, 2011 needs to submit a new background check in order to continue volunteering in the parish. Please contact the Religious Education Office, 203-272-6504, Dyatcko@stbridgeschool.org or PTodman@stbridgeschool.org, so we can make arrangements for you to submit a new background check and receive the new Archdiocese of Hartford Policy and Codes of Ministerial Behavior booklet and acknowledgement page.

At the present time the Virtus Training can be done online. If you have not completed this training or are interested in attending a virtual training session, please contact Donna Yatcko.

If you are not sure if you are due for an updated Background Check, please call the Religious Education Office at 203-272-6504 to inquire.



Cheshire K of C KNIGHTS KORNER

by Harold Metz, Council Trustee

Grand Knight, Jason Molitierno —jason_molitierno@yahoo.com

Cold and Rain Did Not Dampen Memorial Day Spirit

It's fitting we recap the observances of last Sunday today on the 77th anniversary of the D Day landings to liberate Europe in 1944. That tremendous effort provided our country with enough Veterans to defy counting. But last Sunday our town in it's own small way made an effort in cold and rain to honor the more modern day Veterans among us. And in local cemeteries, young and old alike were out to put up the flags on what was called "Decoration Day" just after the Civil War.



Photos courtesy of Leslie Marinaro, Cheshire Veterans Committee

Our council's two Veterans who rode in the Motorcade last week (Bruce Humiston and Vin Masotta) agreed the day was special for them and the town's residents. "I know for me it was a very moving experience," said Vin. "It was amazing how many Cheshire residents, young and old, stood out in the cold rain to show their support and gratitude. It was an experience I will remember for a long time." And we will remember Bruce and Vin's service to us and our country, and that of all Veterans, for a long time to come.

Frequently Asked Questions



WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A SCHEDULED AND AN UNSCHEDULED MASS?

A scheduled Mass is a Mass intention for a public Mass held in our church. It is *scheduled* for a particular date and time.

An unscheduled Mass is a Mass intention for a Mass celebrated by a priest usually in the private chapel. It is not scheduled for any particular day or time and may be held anytime at the priest's discretion or it may be given to priests serving in the missions or another specialized ministry who are in need of Mass intentions.

A Mass card can be provided for both types of Mass intentions. The offering for a scheduled Mass intention is \$15 for a daily Mass and \$25 for a Sunday Mass. The offering for an unscheduled Mass is \$10.

**St. Bridget School
22nd Annual Auction**

Come Together

Thank you for your support

Thank you for your generous support of the first ever virtual Auction that took place on May 8th.

The event was a huge success!

The \$50,000 Matching Gift Challenge is extended through the end of the school year. A generous donor has pledged to match all donations raised up to \$50,000!

Let's DOUBLE our dollars! Show your support for St. Bridget School and help us meet this challenge! No donation is too small!

Visit here to donate:
<https://stbridgetschool.ejoinme.org/50k>

THE SBS HSA PRESENTS

FAMILY EAT OUT NIGHT!

Monday, June 7th

Rose Dairy

4-8:30pm for Food

4-9:00pm for Ice Cream



ATTENTION PLARNERS & YARNERS

JOIN US FOR A PLARN & YARN WORKSHOP

SUNDAY, JUNE 13TH
1-3 PM IN THE FATHER FRISBIE HALL

Apologetics 101: The Infamous ‘Until’

- Matthew 1:25 reads that “Joseph did not have relations with his wife Mary until she gave birth to a son...”
- Non-Catholic Christians use this verse to try to disparage the Catholic Church’s teaching on Mary’s perpetual virginity. They use it to state that Mary and Joseph had more children after Jesus and that there isn’t anything particularly special about her.
- The problem is that they are reading the word “until” in English and applying its present-day meaning and not reading the text in the language in which it was written.
- In Greek, the word ‘until’ is *heos*. *Heos* implies a continuing action, not an end to something and the start another like in English.
 - So this verse can be more accurately translated ‘Joseph did not have relations with his wife even after she gave birth to a son.’
- Furthermore, if non-Catholic Christians want to use this verse as a prooftext, they would have to also concede a few other points; for example, Jesus will not be with us always.
 - Jesus himself said, “behold I am with you always, until the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20). Do they think Jesus will not be with us after the end of the age?
- These arguments against Catholicism do not stand up to even basic Biblical scholarship. Sadly, they come not from serious academic and theological inquiry but from hatred which is passed down from preachers to their congregations.
- As we have often stated, it is remarkable that so many well-meaning Christians think that the best way to defend Jesus is by insulting His Mother!

Many prayers I have prayed in earnest took many years to be answered. The first and most urgent one was a prayer I said on a senior retreat to discern the religious life while I was attending a Catholic Girls' high school. I heard clearly in the depths of my soul that God was calling me in a different direction: that of a wife and mother. I couldn't even get a date for the senior prom so this answer was baffling to me. Yet, I trusted Him. An urgent prayer for the arrival of God's best wasn't answered till almost three years after that retreat. We have been together for 51 years and have raised four beautiful souls for the Lord.

Proverbs 19:21 says, "Many are the plans in a man's heart but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails." This Scripture taught me to really listen to the Blessed Mother's orders to the servants at the Wedding feast of Cana which was, "Do whatever He tells you." He reveals His purposes to us and His will through the two avenues of silence and reading the Bible. Scripture verses will speak the Love language of the Lord to your heart which is ready, waiting and hungry for the sound of His voice. But you will need silence to hear it.

After the Person of Jesus became a reality for me through silence and Scripture, all I wanted to do was be with Him ... forever. I remember discerning the decisions to attend the Archdiocesan Biblical School for four years and then deciding to attend Holy Apostles' Seminary for a two year program in Dogmatic Theology. If I was giving my soul in love so wholly to this magnificent Savior naturally all I wanted to do, as all lovers do, is know as much about this Person and be with Him as much as I could every moment. But the thought of going back to school and studying and taking tests again as well as the fear of failing graded assessments overwhelmed me. After another round of urgent prayer, Our Lord presented this three part Scripture conversation to me during prayer time:

The first part (**Deuteronomy 31:8**) said:

"The Lord Himself goes before you and will be with you." I said, "I am afraid I won't sense your Presence."

The second part said, "The Lord will NEVER leave you nor FORSAKE you." I said, "But, I am afraid and discouraged because I think I will fail."

The third part said, "Do NOT be afraid. Do NOT be discouraged."

My final answer, "As you wish, Lord!"

I finished both courses of study and went on to teach at the Archdiocesan Biblical School for a few years because "Nothing is impossible with God." **Luke 1:37**

One final thought. At the seminary, my seminarian fellow students studying for the priesthood taught me a valuable life lesson which was, "No matter what is going on in your life at any moment, remember Love."

-Kathy Gniadek

Submit your Story of Faith at office@stbridgetcheshire.org



Verse of the Week

Ephesians 4:32

"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

Youth Ministry

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

203-272-3531 ext. 1502

Upcoming Events

There will be no NGD meeting this week, as we are meeting every other week during the summer. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, June 16th from 6:30-8:30pm in the Father Frisbie Hall at St. Thomas Becket Church. All high schoolers, including incoming freshmen, are welcome to join us!

Saint of the Week

Saint William of York

Feast Day: June 8th

Bio: St. William of York was born to a powerful English family around the year 1090. While not much is known about his early life, it is widely believed that his uncle was the heir to the English throne! William was ordained and rose through the ranks of the Catholic clergy, even being nominated as Archbishop of York in 1140. Due to ideological differences and corruption amongst the clergy, people from the Archbishop of Canterbury to Pope Innocent II conspired to keep William from his appointed post. A full 14 years after his initial nomination, St. William was finally installed as Archbishop. Sadly, he died less than 2 months later, likely from poisoning. William stands out because of the lack of animosity or resentment he showed towards his enemies, and because of the many miracles attributed to him after his death.

Saint William of York, 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
 Captain 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 (DeVylde) 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

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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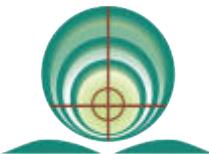


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