



SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN PARISH

Where Christ is Our Light

SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2021

**17th SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

When they had had their fill, he said to his disciples, “Gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted.” - Jn 6:12



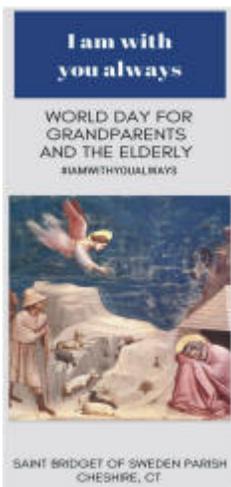
Letter from the Pastor

The Reverend Jeffrey V. Romans, KCHS

Dear Friends in Christ:

This weekend we celebrate the FIRST-EVER World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Some of my fondest memories from my childhood involved my grandparents. My mother's mother and my father's father were both deceased before I was born, but I had the privilege of having in my life, knowing and loving my mother's grandmother, my mother's father, and my father's mother. Visits to Mémère or Grandpa Harold were numerous, especially since I was the youngest and not yet in school, so I was always able and privileged to go with mom to take them to the doctor, have lunch, and enjoy some ice cream at AC Petersen in West Hartford. And my beloved grandmother (dad's mom) lived only two streets away from us; her house was the place we would often go to for a visit, to bake cookies, and to enjoy her cooking. (Some of her recipes are in the Parish Pandemic Cookbook, so check it out on our website.) Grandma Romans was the best! She loved having all of us around and loved spending time with us. So many memories of these privileged times with my grandparents come to mind this weekend as we celebrate this First-Ever World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

On January 31st of this year, the Holy Father, Pope Francis, announced a new celebration in honor of all grandparents and the elderly, who are so important to our communities and to our Church. Pope



Francis has also granted a plenary indulgence to grandparents, the elderly, and all those who participate in a solemn celebration of this day as well as to those who spend time (actually or virtually) with an elderly brother or sister in need on this day.

"I am with you always" (Matthew 28:20), is the promise the Lord Jesus made to his disciples before he ascended into heaven. This is a reminder that the Lord Jesus is close to you—dear grandparents and elderly—and close to us—and cares about you, loves you, and does not want to leave you alone! It is fitting that this celebration is instituted this year, as we are emerging from a pandemic that left many feeling isolated and alone. The pandemic struck the elderly in particular and caused many not only to get ill but many more to die or experience the death of a spouse during this difficult time of isolation. The Lord was with us through it all and this celebration today reminds us of this in a very real way. He is aware of all that we went through these many months. He is aware of the feelings we had as we waded the waters of the pandemic. Tradition has it that Saint Joachim, the grandfather of Jesus, felt estranged from those around him because he had no children; his life, like that of his wife Anne, was considered useless. So the Lord sent an angel to console him. Even at the darkest moments, as in these months of pandemic, the Lord continues to send *angels* to console our loneliness and to remind us of His great promise: "I am with you always." He says this to you, and he says it to me.

That is the meaning of this Day for grandparents and the elderly, that after a long period of isolation, and as we emerge from this pandemic slowly day-by-day, we pray that each and every one of you receive a visit from an *angel* who will help you to experience this promise of our Lord Jesus.

To you, grandparents and the elderly, reflect on the words of Pope Francis when he wrote:

"Given this, I want to tell you that you are needed in order to help build, in fraternity

and social friendship, the world of tomorrow: the world in which we, together with our children and grandchildren, will live once the storm has subsided. All of us must "take an active part in renewing and supporting our troubled societies." Among the pillars that support this new edifice, there are three that you, better than anyone else, can help to set up. Those three pillars are *dreams*, *memory* and *prayer*. The Lord's closeness will grant to all, even the frailest among us, the strength needed to embark on a new journey along the path of dreams, memory and prayer." Yes you help those of us privileged to know you to dream of a world that is infused with peace, you help us to remember those who are important in life and who help to build a more humane and welcoming world, and you, perhaps more than any other group of people, help those around you by your prayer.

To the rest of those reading this, not yet grandparents or elderly, please pray for the grandparents and the elderly of our parish, our community, and the world.



Here is a prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly, but it certainly can be said by us all...

I thank you, Lord, for the comfort of Your presence. Even in times of loneliness, you are my hope and my confidence. You have been my rock and my fortress since my youth!

I thank you for having given me a family and for having blessed me with a long life.

I thank you for moments of joy and difficulty, for the dreams that have already come true in my life and for those that are still ahead of me. I thank you for this time of renewed fruitfulness to which you call me. Increase, O Lord, my faith. Make me a channel of your peace. Teach me to embrace those who suffer more than me, to never stop dreaming, and to tell of your wonders

to new generations. **Protect and guide Pope Francis and the Church, that the light of the Gospel might reach the ends of the earth. Send your Spirit, O Lord, to renew the world, that the storm of the pandemic might be calmed, the poor consoled, and wars ended. Sustain me in weakness, and help me to live life to the full in each moment that you give me, in the certainty that you are with me every day, even until the end of the age.**

Amen.

The Catholic Mission Cooperative Appeal for 2021... was supposed to be taken this past weekend but due to the road race here in town we have delayed it. NEXT WEEKEND, July 31 and August 1, we will take up a Second Collection for the Diocese of Same in Tanzania, Africa.

The Catholic Diocese of Same extends over two Districts of SAME and MWANGA. It is situated in the North-eastern part of Tanzania, south of Mount Kilimanjaro. A large part of the Diocese is surrounded by the Pare Mountains. These mountains are densely populated, inhabited mostly by small scale farmers (mainly the Pare people), whereas the surrounding plains are inhabited by pastoralists (mainly the Maasai people). The plains are very dry and semi-arid, thus, a severe lack of water is a common phenomenon in Same and Mwangwa. The Diocese covers 10,800 sq. kms. and has twenty nine (29) Parishes and fifty Outstations.

The **vision** and **mission** of the diocese dates back to the first Diocesan Synod in 1987-91 which came up with a philosophy of “integral development” of the people by giving attention to both the spiritual and material well-being of the Diocese and the social milieu where the people live. Thus, the Diocese embarked on setting up structures which would render its pastoral and

developmental network operational and implantable, regardless of race, color, tribe or religion.

The Diocese has 84 Priests: 73 Diocesan Priests, 7 Religious Missionary Priests, 4 Diocesan Priests of Diocese of Mangalore - India, 17 Religious Brothers, 148 Religious Sisters and 140 Catechists. However, not all the Priests live and work in the Diocese. Some of them are working in the Tanzania Episcopal Conference Institutions, namely, teaching in the Inter-Diocesan Major Seminaries and St. Augustine University of Tanzania. Likewise, some of them are studying in Rome. We have 30 parishes, most of which are served by one Priest living alone.

Typically a priest would come to visit our parish, but due to COVID regulations this is not possible..

Instead Father Mansuetus Kimbwe Setonga sent a note to our parish family. Here are some excerpts:

Tanzania is one of the poorest countries in the world, with 80% of the population practicing rural subsistence farming. Tanzania has a population of 57 million people, 15 million of whom live in absolute poverty, earning less than \$1.00 a day. The standard of living of the people in the Diocese of Same is below that of most Tanzanians. There are 623,000 people in the Diocese, of which 45% are Christian, 45% Muslim, and 10% follow traditional, African religions. Catholics are 74,104.

One of the serious problems facing the people of Same is poor health. In Mvungwe Village, people walk on foot for more than eight hours to reach a medical clinic. Due to the lack of clinics in the village, many newborn babies, children and women die from malaria, respiratory infections, pregnancy complications and diarrhea.

This year the living situation of our people in Mvungwe Village and the Diocese of Same at large is getting worse due to

COVID-19 restrictions imposed to prevent the spread of the Corona virus. Due to poverty, many people have no money to purchase facemasks or sanitizer and have no access to the hospitals for a checkup.

I would like to share with you a true story of what happened when I visited Mvungwe, one of my out-stations/small parish. As I was preaching; a lady at the back of the church raised her hand and cried out: “Father, Father I have a problem!” I asked myself, what could be the problem? She kept on crying; “Father I have a problem!” I stopped preaching and asked her what was her problem? She said, “my daughter is sick, my daughter is dying, I want you please to take my daughter to Same Hospital”. Same Hospital is about ten miles away. I told her that after Mass I will take her daughter to the hospital. After Mass I asked her where was her home? She said just one mile from the church. I put her in the car, driving towards her home. I drove the car until there was no road. We were in the middle of the jungle! I told her I could not drive any further. She asked me to wait there. She went further on to her place and asked her family to bring the poor girl on a stretcher to the car.

As I was waiting, another lady appeared and told me she was pregnant, and the baby was due. She needed my help. I told her I did not know anything about childbirth and that in school I only studied to celebrate Mass, not to deliver babies! Then I got a new idea. I told her let me go around, I might see someone to help you. As I was going around the jungle, I saw a woman carrying firewood. I called her as she saw me running to her in the jungle, she was running faster than myself. I kept calling and calling until she stopped and asked what she could do for me! I asked her to come and help a lady to deliver a baby. She came. After ten minutes I heard... a baby crying! By then I was hiding alone in the bush to give her some privacy. Then the lady called me and said, “Father come out, the baby is born.” In African culture when a baby is born women cry out with joy three times if it is a baby girl. Uloooo, Uloooo, Uloooo! The lady asked me to join her to cry four times because this was a baby boy. Then the lady told me that the mother and the baby are weak, and I have to rush them to the hospital. I put them in the car driving them to the hospital ten miles. Remember I forgot completely about the dying daughter due to this new crisis!



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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 www.stbridgetcheshire.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 Mary Rose Irvine, Pastoral Associate
- Mrs. Julia Atwood, Music Director
- Mrs. Donna Yateko, Religious Education Director
- Mr. Regis O’Neill, Youth Minister
- Dr. Nancy Testa, Saint Bridget School Principal

Parish Trustees

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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

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When I told my Bishop about this true story, the Bishop said, “I think it is high time now to help these poor people to build a clinic so we can save the life of many people”. My Bishop wrote a letter to your Bishop asking him to assign us some parishes to raise some money to help us build a clinic at Mvungwe Parish in order to save the lives of many people. Your Bishop gave us this wonderful parish to come and ask for donations in order to build a clinic at Mvungwe Parish. Your donations will make a big difference in the life of our people. Those who were to die because they did not have access to the hospital will not die because of your donations. What a joy!!!! So, my dear sisters and brothers in Christ, I am asking you a favor to donate some funds in order to build a clinic for these poor people. Thank you in advance for your generosity and love for my people.

PLEASE be as generous as you are able NEXT WEEKEND to the SECOND COLLECTION to assist our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Same meet this very real need for their people. We may not be able to travel there to make a difference as missionaries, but we can make a difference by our generosity and by our prayers for them.

As always remember to pray for our parish families 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 united in the Eucharist, we will reflect the presence of Jesus to the world.

Father Romans

The new Mass schedule as of 9/25/2021
will be as follows:

Saturday
4PM in Saint Bridget Church
5:15PM in Saint Thomas Becket Church

Sunday
7:30AM, 9AM, and 10:30AM in Saint Bridget Church
4PM in Saint Bridget Church (9/26/2021-5/22/2022)

Our spots are full, but the Diocese has made available more spots for the Archdiocesan Synod Closing Mass on Friday, August 13th at 6:30pm at the Oakdale Theatre. If you would like to attend, please call the rectory at 203-272-3531 to save your spot!



MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, July 24th

9:00 a.m. SBC	Tom Goszewski	His Family
4:00 p.m. SBC	John Geary	Rose & Carmine Calandrella
5:15 p.m. SBC	Gerard McMahon, Leo McMahon and Helen McMahon-Hootsmans	Clare Bernard & Ruth McMahon

Sunday, July 25th: Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. SBC	John A. Melius	Julie Robertson & Joan Perry
8:00 a.m. SBC	Heather Medling-Duffy	The Duffy Family
9:00 a.m. SBC	The Carriero & Resasco Families	The Carriero Family
10:30 a.m. SBC	Florentino Empleo, Sr.	Ophelia Frazier

Monday, July 26th: Saints Joachim & Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 a.m. SBC	Muriel Cote	Lynn & Karl Krieg
9:00 a.m. SBC	Diana M. Gegan	Denise, Vincent, & Ryan Flynn

Tuesday, July 27th

7:00 a.m. SBC	The People of St. Bridget of Sweden Parish	
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Wednesday, July 28th

7:00 a.m. SBC	Joseph & Bob O'Connor	Peter & Mary Mongillo
9:00 a.m. SBC	Louis Ricciuti	Pat Casey

Thursday, July 29th: Saint Martha

7:00 a.m. SBC	Martina Barry	The Haensel Family
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Friday, July 30th

7:00 a.m. SBC	Jack Sherry	
9:00 a.m. SBC	Louis Ricciuti	Kathleen O'Neill & Family

Saturday, July 31st: Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

9:00 a.m. SBC	Matthew Dalton, Jr.	The LaFrance and Long Families
4:00 p.m. SBC	Mary Macri	Family
5:15 p.m. SBC	Dolly Maratea	Family

Sunday, August 1st: Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. SBC	Gertrude Olson	The Olson Family
8:00 a.m. SBC	Charles Peter Borowicz—4th Anniversary	Wife
9:00 a.m. SBC	Helen & Julius Humiston	Family
10:30 a.m. SBC	Sean Devine	Charlotte, Jerry, Tracy, & Darcy



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.

Get the **Weekly Bulletin** sent right to your Inbox.

Click this link to sign up:

www.stbridgetcheshire.org/bulletin

Or scan the QR code here.



The 2022 Mass book is now open for Mass intentions through June 25, 2022.

Until July 28th, requests will be limited to three weekend Masses and five weekday Masses per person. After July 28th, you can certainly call back and book additional Masses. Thank you for understanding our attempt to give as many people as possible the chance to book Masses for their loved ones.

Please call the rectory at 203-272-3531 during office hours to request your intentions.

The Tabernacle candle at St. Bridget Church shines this week. In Loving Memory of Charles Peter Borowicz Requested by His Wife



The Tabernacle candle at St. Thomas Becket Church shines this week for The Living and Deceased Grandparents of Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish

In-Person Services THIS WEEK



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



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.

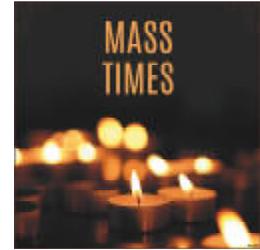
Adoration every Friday, 1-2pm in St. Bridget Church



NOTE: Masking is required for non-vaccinated persons and optional for fully vaccinated persons.

Masses this week:

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

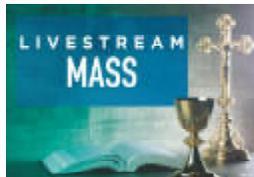


Mass in Your Car!

Tune in to FM 89.5 and listen to 10:30am Mass in your car in our parking lot! An Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion will bring Communion outside at the appropriate time in the Mass for you to leave your vehicle, receive Holy Communion, and return to your vehicle for the closing of Mass and final blessing.

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)

ONLINE SERVICES This Week



Every Sunday our 10:30am Mass is livestreamed. Join Us!

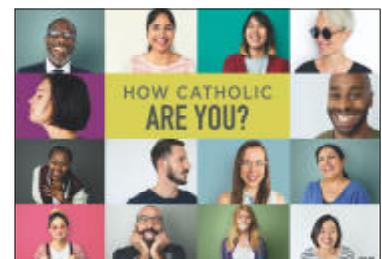
The television Mass is simulcast everyday at 10:00 a.m. on WCCT-TV WB20 and WCTX-TV MyTV9. It can also be seen Saturday and Sunday at 5:00 a.m. on WCCT-TV. It can also be viewed online at <https://www.ortv.org/streaming/streaming.htm>

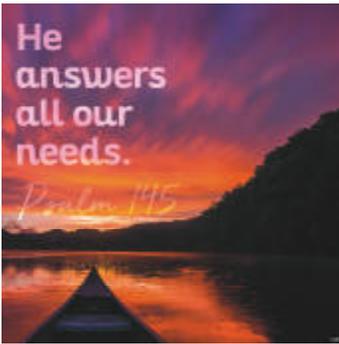


Getting to Know Our Heavenly Family
 Every Monday at 10AM
 This week, learn about **Saint Francis Xavier**

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.



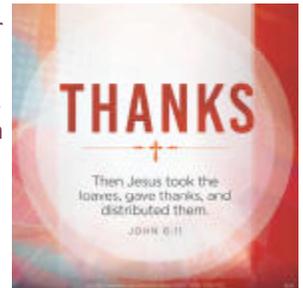


Today is the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The readings for today can be found at

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/072521.cfm>

Through most of Lectionary Cycle B, our Sunday Gospel readings are taken from the Gospel of Mark. Over the past two Sundays, we heard how Jesus sent his disciples to share in his mission. If we were to continue reading Mark's Gospel, we would next hear his report of how Jesus feeds the crowds in the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. Our Lectionary, however, leaves Mark's Gospel for the next several weeks and instead presents this event from the Gospel of John. In John's Gospel, Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and the fishes is presented as a sign of his authority and divinity. Jesus interprets the meaning and significance of this miracle as a sharing of his Body and Blood. This chapter is sometimes called the "Bread of Life Discourse."



In many important ways, John's Gospel uses the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes to teach about the Eucharist. Like the Last Supper, this miracle is said to have occurred near the time of the Jewish feast of Passover. (In John's Gospel three Passovers are identified.) Jesus' language is similar to the language he used at the Last Supper as reported in the Synoptic Gospels. John's description of this event also anticipates the Messianic banquet of heaven, as the crowd reclines and all hungers are satisfied with abundance. This connection is further amplified by the response of the crowd, who wants to make Jesus a king. John is teaching us that each time we celebrate the Eucharist, we are anticipating the eternal banquet of heaven.

Recall that John's Gospel tells the story of the Last Supper differently than the Synoptic Gospels. Instead of describing the meal and Jesus' actions with the bread and cup, John describes how Jesus washed his disciples' feet. We hear this Gospel when we remember the Last Supper on Holy Thursday. This recollection of Jesus' action at the Last Supper complements the institution narrative of the Synoptic Gospels and Paul's Letters that we hear repeated at each Mass.

In both stories about the Eucharist—the washing of the disciples' feet and the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes—the Gospel of John teaches us that the Eucharist is an action. Our word Eucharist is taken from the Greek language and describes an action: "to give thanks." In the Eucharist we are fed by Jesus himself, and we are sent to serve others.

John's Gospel notes the detail that the bread blessed and shared with the crowd are barley loaves. This is the food of the poor. It reminds us that God feeds and nourishes us, fulfilling our physical needs as well as our spiritual ones. In the Eucharist, we are sent to serve the poorest among us.

The story of the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes recalls a particular aspect of the Mass. In this miracle, Jesus transforms a young boy's offering of five barley loaves and two fish. In the offertory at Mass, we present the fruits of our labors, represented by bread and wine. These gifts, given to us first by God as grain and fruit, are returned to God in our offering of thanksgiving. God in turn transforms our gifts, making this bread and wine the very Body and Blood of Jesus. We also offer ourselves in this exchange, and we, too, are transformed by the Eucharist.

www.loyolapress.com

For more information to better understand the readings, bit.ly/2TGCmP9

Our collection for the week of July 18th



Thank you for your generosity!

Mailed-in/Dropped Off

Offertory \$14,082.56

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

Online

Offertory \$8,681.92



Give Online at
stbridgetcheshire.weshareonline.org/



St. Bridget School Update

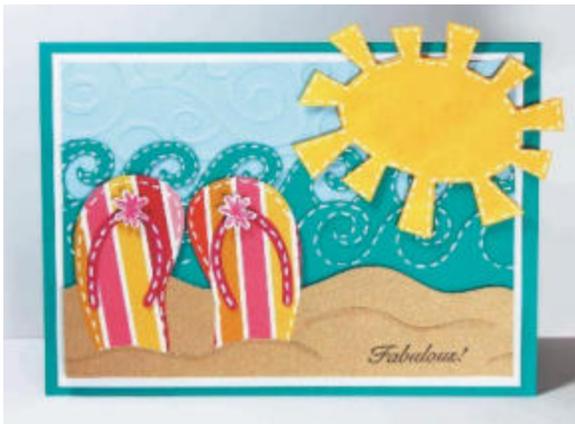
Principal: Dr. Nancy Testa
Assistant Principal: Ms. Liz Plasky

Register Now! Classes Are Filling!

We are now accepting 2021-2022 Applications for Grades PK-3 & PK-4 through Grade 8. Call us to set up your **in-person tour** of our beautiful and spacious campus. Our school is completely air-conditioned with bright and spacious classrooms. We have multiple play scapes, athletic fields, a full-size gym and dining hall.

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 email at ccummings@stbridgetschool.org.

Summer Program News



Spaces are Still Available!

Register now for our Fun Summer Programs

We are offering Programs for PK- 3 through Grade 8! Full days or half days available!

We have a **Math Workshop** for Grades 4-8 and **summer camp** for students entering

PK-3—Grade 3, the week of August 2. Bring your beach towels, sunscreen and flip flops, and get ready to have some fun!

All programs are also offered to St. Bridget of Sweden Parishioners and the community. Please contact Mrs. Christina Cummings at ccummings@stbridgetschool.org for **Registration Forms** and more information.



Thank you to Mrs. Normand, Mrs. Gannon and their student volunteers, Ali and Johnathan for a fantastic Theatre Camp. The students performed a three-part presentation at the end of the week that consisted of an improvisational play, an ensemble dance number and their own version of "The Three Little Pigs." Students learned about acting techniques, stage design, script creation and so much more.



Mrs. Jacobson's July Math Workshop making Calculator prototypes and learning about probability. We would like to thank Mrs. Jacobson and her student volunteer Isabella for such a creative and fun week!

Join our School Community

St. Bridget School, Cheshire

SCHEDULE A TOUR

Find Your Family at St. Bridget School

Facebook icon: @st_bridget_school

Instagram icon: @st_bridget_school

Globe icon: www.stbridgetschool.org

Location pin icon: St. Bridget School, 171 Main Street, Cheshire, CT 06410

Phone icon: 203-272-5860



Academic Excellence | Community Awareness | Spiritual Growth

Our Facebook pages are [St. Bridget School, Cheshire](#), and [St. Bridget School Cheshire Alumni Page](#)

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 Registration Info.

Registration information has been sent to your email. If you have not received it, please contact our Religious Education Office so we can get your students registered!



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.stbridget@gmail.com or
Donna Yatcko at dyatcko@stbridgetschool.org

VIRTUS REMINDER

Virtus Updates Needed—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 at
203-272-6504

Dyatcko@stbridgetschool.org

or

PTodman@stbridgetschool.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.



Sister Mary Rose is organizing a

Fall Bus Trip

to Lancaster, PA on October 19th & 20th
to see the show

“Queen Esther”

at the Sight and Sound Theater.

For more information or to sign up, contact Sister Mary Rose at 203-272-3531 ext. 1312.

Ask Father

Dear Father: Hey how is Victoria? We miss her. What is she doing?

Dear friend in Christ,

Victoria is doing great! She loves her life in the convent as a nun.

We don't have regular contact with her due to the rules of her religious order. A few months ago, Fr. Romans sent her a package from the parish detailing a lot of the updates and changes that have been going on.

She wrote back a short and lovely letter in which she says she misses everyone and prays for us but she absolutely knows she made the right decision. She reminded us that we are all united in the Eucharist and that even though she lives behind the cloister, we can be together mystically at every Mass!

SAVE THE DATE

for the



Sunday

September 19th

more details to follow



Download the **MyParish App** to your smartphone

Text APP to phone number 88202. You will receive a link, click on it, open it in the store, download, search, and enter *St. Bridget of Sweden* and then click get started! **Or use the QR code here to download the app.**



WE ARE LOOKING FOR STORIES OF FAITH!

Please tell us how you became Catholic and why you stayed Catholic. Describe what the Catholic faith means to you. How has the faith helped you in the tough and dark times of life? How has your faith helped you during this pandemic? Tell us about any incredible and uplifting supernatural experiences that have happened to you.

Stories can be submitted anonymously or with your name on it. Your submission will not be shared without your permission. Please send your story through the collection or via email to rectory@stbridgetcheshire.org.

Frequently Asked Questions



I'VE BEEN ASKED TO BE A GODPARENT. WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

You will need to provide a **Sponsor Affirmation Form** to the church of Baptism. In order to receive a Sponsor Affirmation Form for Baptism, you must be an active parishioner registered with Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish, at least 16 years of age, Confirmed, and, if married, married in accordance with the requirements of the Catholic Church. If in need of a Sponsor Affirmation Form, please call the Rectory Office well in advance of the ceremony.



Remember to pray for the U.S. military service members on our military prayer list on page 13.

Apologetics 101: Why Do Some Popes Wear Red Shoes?

- Some of the popes throughout the centuries have made a very curious fashion statement – they wear red shoes!
- Our current Holy Father Pope Francis wears red shoes indoors but outdoors he opts for more simple black shoes.
- The reason why some popes have worn red shoes is to remind themselves and the faithful that as Catholics we walk in the blood of the martyrs.
- **Throughout the centuries, approximately 70 million human beings from every time and place and walk of life have made the ultimate sacrifice – to give up their lives rather than deny Jesus Christ.**
 - Their sacrifice is one of the most powerful witnesses to the authenticity of the Catholic faith.
 - *How could all these people, separated by time and space and culture and social status, all believe so deeply in the Carpenter from Nazareth that they would rather submit to torture and death than deny Him?*
- Wherever people suffer persecution or give up their lives for the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Church grows in that area. It's the principle 'the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church.'
- The pope must be the foremost witness to the Gospel, ready to offer his life if necessary for it, and so some of them have used this subtle fashion decision to remind themselves of it!



OUR LADY *of the Rosary*

Our Lady's Rosary Ministry is meeting on Mondays at **1:30pm** at **St. Thomas Becket Church** to pray the rosary.

Non-vaccinated attendees are required to wear a mask.

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PRAYER LINE

The St. Bridget of Sweden Prayer Line Ministry is available for all those in need of prayer and support. We also welcome anyone interested in becoming part of the Prayer Ministry. We know that life is hectic. You want to volunteer, but are not sure how. This ministry is something that you can do from your house, your office, or in the car. All we ask is that you pray with us to lift up the specific intentions submitted. Prayer requests and requests to join the ministry can be submitted online through our parish website or via email to: StBridgetPrayerLine@gmail.com.



St. Vincent DePaul Shelter Suppers

We serve about 125 people at the St. Vincent De Paul shelter on the first Sunday of each month. To sign up we use a website called Signup Genius. We have 4 volunteers transport hot food over to the shelter to serve the men, women and children there. All other volunteers provide the food and condiments. The recipes you will need provide specific information on how to prepare the food and can be found on the Signup Genius page. We ask that food be delivered hot and in a metal throw away tin to the rectory parking lot at 4:30p.m. on the Sunday we are scheduled to serve. For more information contact:

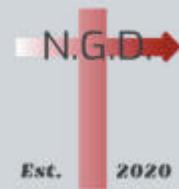
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Activities for this Week's Liturgy

Word Search—bit.ly/3woK6SZ

Coloring Page—bit.ly/3hSDrew



Youth Ministry

Regis O'Neill, Youth Minister
roneill@stbridgetcheshire.org
 203-272-3531 ext. 1502

Verse of the Week
 Proverbs 18:24
 "A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

Upcoming Events
 Bored? Tired of sitting around all summer? All high school students, including rising freshmen, are invited to join the NGD for our next meeting on Wednesday from 6:30-8:30pm in the Father Frisbie Hall! We'll be talking about what it means to be a leader and what sets good leaders apart from bad ones. You don't want to miss it! Join us for fun, food, and fellowship. See you there!

Saint of the Week
 Saint Ignatius of Loyola
 Feast Day: July 31st

Bio: St. Ignatius of Loyola was born in Spain in 1491. His early life was marked with massive military success; that is until his leg was shattered by a cannonball during battle. While he was infirmed, Ignatius had nothing to read aside from the Gospels and the lives of the saints. He received a vision of Mary, and made a pilgrimage to her shrine near Barcelona once he was well enough. He devoted himself to prayer, and spent much time in spiritual struggle. During this time, he wrote *The Spiritual Exercises*, a practice as relevant today as it has ever been. At the age of 43, he and 6 companions (including St. Francis Xavier) took vows of poverty and chastity and to offer themselves in apostolic service to the pope. This was the beginning of the Society of Jesus, better known as the Jesuits. The order experienced massive growth in missionary and educational work and continues to spread the faith to this day. Ignatius died in 1556 and was canonized in 1622 alongside his friend Francis Xavier. Saint Ignatius of Loyola, pray for us!




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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
 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. Iannucci, USN, Chaplain
 Technical Sergeant Michael Irvine, USAF
 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
 Sergeant First Class T. J. Petersen, Army Natl. Guard
 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
 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

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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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:

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- 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.

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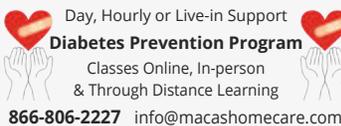
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