

SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN PARISH

Where Christ is Our Light

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!" - Mk 7:32-34



Letter from the Pastor

The Reverend Jeffrey V. Romans, KCHS

Dear Friends in Christ:

As I write this article the news is bombarded with images of Afghanistan and the intense situation there. Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God.” (Matthew 5:9) This has been a line of scripture that continually comes to my mind over the last few days as I watched the news.



Now this could be because these past weeks I have been preparing for the first celebration of the Memorial of Blessed Michael McGivney and a recent Mass of Installation for the State Officers of the Knights of Columbus, and the Gospel recommended for his memorial is the Beatitudes, so it really has been an important part of my personal prayer these past weeks. I have found it to be a source of great spiritual nourishment for me, perhaps like never before. Even in preparing for a wedding I am doing this very weekend, I noticed the bride and groom had chosen the Beatitudes for the Gospel at their wedding Mass.

Where is this peace? Where are the people working for peace? We are certainly not seeing images of peaceful experiences in the news. In praying about this, and reflecting on this passage from scripture more, another passage came to my mind and it is when Jesus says, “I have told you this so that you might have peace in me. In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered

the world.” (John 16:33) Jesus never promised that we wouldn’t experience trials and difficulties. On the contrary, He encourages us to look to Him—the One who has conquered the world. By faith, we put our hope in Jesus the overcomer, and it’s in that hope that we find peace.

The tragedy we are witnessing in Afghanistan is horrific. But what can we do? The only thing we can do, our powerful tool at this moment, is to PRAY! Pray to the Lord to protect those in harm’s way, to grant relief to the suffering, and to guide those working for peace. Invoke the intercession of Saint Francis of Assisi, Patron Saint of Peace, using the words of his own Peace Prayer:

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.*

*O divine Master, grant that I may not
so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.*

*For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to
eternal life.
Amen.*

You may recall that Father O’Neill was home visiting us just a couple weeks ago. What you may not know is that the very base where Father O’Neill was in Qatar is the one receiving many of the evacuees from Afghanistan. We must pray for the service men and women who are working around the clock to help care for these evacuees. This is an extraordinary effort to assist in a serious time of need. Many of those serving there were parishioners of Father O’Neill’s

when he was there. Many of them are the very same people who benefited from our care packages a couple months ago. Pray for them! Pray that God will grant them strength and perseverance in the face of great turmoil.



I was very honored when Father O’Neill presented me with a flag that flew over the Al Udeid Air Force Base in Qatar. I look at it now in my office, where it lays before an old chalice that was used in the ceremonials for the Knights of Columbus (so that is not a consecrated host in the chalice for those who may be wondering). And as I look at the flag there I am brought to immediate prayer for those working to care for God’s people especially in lands of turmoil like Afghanistan. As we continue to pray for peace and for all those in harm’s way, we pray in a special way for our veterans and those who have given the ultimate sacrifice. We give thanks to Almighty God for their service to our country that allows us to experience the liberty we possess. We pray for families who have lost loved ones in the war these past twenty years and for the daily challenges many families have faced in the absence of their hero. May our veterans and their families experience the Lord’s firm support, merciful love, and compassionate healing.

Our Summer Movie Night was a great success thanks to our Youth Ministry Next Generation of Disciples. When Father Federico and I arrived it was so wonderful to see the field being used by our young people, others utilizing the brand new GAGA Pit, the youngest of those attending using our Playscape, and of course all the adults mixing with one another catching up with old friends and making new friends. Such a scene of normalcy after so many months of seclusion. Everyone was pretty spaced out when it came time to eat and to watch



the movie but you really could just sense a pure joy at being able to be with one another, once again, finally!

Some brought their own picnic set-ups, others enjoyed the pizza from Vespucci, and others came just for the movie. It was clear throughout the evening that all who came were enjoying a nice evening out on the field with friends, new and old.

I love these moments when we can come together in a social setting and build up our family of faith!

Speaking of events...I invite you to SUPPORT OUR PARISH SCHOOL and the upcoming GOLF TOURNAMENT which will be held on Monday, September 27th at the Waterbury Country Club. This is one of the two major fundraisers for our parish school, *please consider assisting us in any way you can.*

Here are a number of ways you can assist us:

1. YOU can consider sponsoring our event. If you own a business or work for one who supports local charities consider asking them to be a sponsor or put an ad in our ad book for the tournament (we expect a pretty full field and additional people to attend the dinner following the tournament which means these booklets will be dispersed to a good number of friends from the greater Cheshire area). We really could use as many sponsors as possible... sponsorships make the tournament a success.

<https://stbridgetschool.ejoinme.org/Golf2021>

2. YOU can join us! If you golf,

join us for a day of fun on the course (\$225 per golfer/\$900 per foursome), and **if you don't golf you can still get in on the fun** by getting some friends together to come for a nice dinner that evening and support our parish school by your participation at this event and your opportunity to win a raffle prize. Cost for dinner only option is only \$50.

3. YOU can donate an item for our raffle. We are in need of a variety of items for the raffle, which is held during the dinner at the tournament. Items such as: a grill, a big screen television, foursomes to local golf courses, any electronic equipment from entertainment to home improvement, gift cards to local restaurants, bottles of wine or spirits, or anything your creative minds can come up with. Items can be dropped off to the school office or parish office any day during the week, or in the sacristy at



Mass on the weekend. *Please be sure your name is on it so we may properly thank you!*

ANY AND ALL information including registration forms and sponsorship forms can be found online at <https://stbridgetschool.ejoinme.org/Golf2021>. Thank you for whatever you can do to assist our parish school in this important fundraising effort.



Remember you can always check out upcoming events on our Parish Calendar... The *Parish Calendar* can be found on our website www.cheshirecatholic.org, and it will list each and every activity taking place at Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish and School. It is our hope that this calendar will be a tool to assist you in finding ways to get more involved in the life of our parish as together we grow in our knowledge and love of God. **You can also click on the box "Click**

here for Event Details" to learn more about upcoming events happening in our parish family.

On this Labor Day Weekend...we as Americans pause to reflect and relax from our labors. Labor Day constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

It is also good to think about work from a Catholic perspective. Catholic Social Teaching says; "Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected--the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to private property, and to economic initiative." By enduring the hardship of work in union with Jesus, the carpenter of Nazareth and the one crucified on Calvary for us, we collaborate with the Son of God in his redemptive work by our own labor.



Let us always remember that work is for us, and not the other way around; we were not created for work. Everyone should be able to draw from their work the means of providing for his/her life and that of his/her family, and of serving the wider human community. Let us always remember to pray for those who are unemployed or underemployed that they may find a steady job with sufficient wages to care for themselves and their families.

Happy Labor Day!

As always, remember to pray and ask God's blessings upon our family of faith 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 Romani

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



Join our
Online Faith Community

FOLLOW US

Get Updates | Grow in Faith
Experience Fellowship

-  @stbridgetofswedenparish
-  Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish
-  @sboscheshire
-  @sboscheshire
-  www.cheshirecatholic.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

Mr. Mark Izzo • Mrs. Candace Nesbit

Parish Staff

- Mrs. Madelyn Banti, Admin Assistant
- Mrs. Mary Beth Chamberlain, Admin Assistant
- Mr. Regis O'Neill, Admin Assistant for Communications
- Mr. Anthony Ginnetti, Sacristan

Rectory203-272-3531
 Fax203-271-3356
 Email.....rectory@cheshirecatholic.org
 Bulletin Submissions office@cheshirecatholic.org
 Social Media communications@cheshirecatholic.org
 Mailing Address.....175 Main Street, Cheshire, CT 06410

Come Enjoy our Bourbon & Wine Tasting!
Support the Women's Society Scholarship Fund!

Saturday, September 11th
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Father Frisbie Hall



Litchfield Distributors and Votto Vines
will provide select Bourbons and Wines to
taste!

Lots of hors d'oeuvres to enjoy!!
Cost: \$20 per person by
September 9th or \$25 at the door



Our collection for the week of August 29th

Mailed-in/Dropped Off

Offertory \$12,741.00
Haiti.....\$5,460.00

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

Online

Offertory\$6,700.00
Haiti.....\$430.00



Give Online at

stbridgetcheshire.weshareonline.org/



Bourbon & Wine Tasting Pre-pay Order Form

Name (s): _____

Attending _____

Amount enclosed: _____

Make checks payable to "St. Bridget of Sweden Women's Society"

Place form in an envelope marked SBSWS & put in church basket or return to the church office.

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, September 4th

9:00 a.m. SBC	Joe O'Reilly	The Haensel Family
4:00 p.m. SBC	Russell DiMeo	Family
5:15 p.m. SBC	Manfred Storm	Robert & Cooky Fury

Sunday, September 5: The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. SBC	Bill Bradley—In Living Prayer	The Family
8:00 a.m. SBC	Kathleen Minore	The Romania Family
9:00 a.m. SBC	Mary Calaluce	Jude DiGidio
10:30 a.m. SBC	Rebecca Jones	Kate Carriero

Monday, September 6th

NO 7:00 a.m. Mass

9:00 a.m. SBC	Paula Purificato	Family
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Tuesday, September 7th

7:00 a.m. SBC	The People of St. Bridget of Sweden Parish	
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Wednesday, September 8th: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 a.m. SBC	Mary Catherine Meacham	Pat Casey
9:00 a.m. SBC	Mary Catherine Meacham	

Thursday, September 9th: Saint Peter Claver, Priest

7:00 a.m. SBC	John & Philomena Mongillo	Peter & Mary Mongillo
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Friday, September 10th

7:00 a.m. SBC	David Olsen	Family
9:00 a.m. SBC	School Mass—Bob Hyland— Birthday Remembrance	His Wife

Saturday, September 11th

9:00 a.m. SBC	Alice, Thomas, Sr. and Dennis Donahue	Tony & Joan Ginnetti
4:00 p.m. SBC	Michael Macri	Family
5:15 p.m. SBC	Modesto Rosello	St. Bridget of Sweden Women's Society

Sunday, September 12th: The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

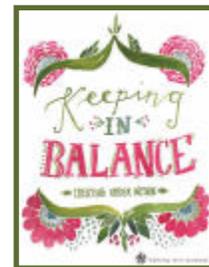
7:00 a.m. SBC	Angelo Lombardi	Angela & Marty Krause
8:00 a.m. SBC	Sal Scoopo	Her Family
9:00 a.m. SBC	Brian Nugent	His Wife, Kiki, and Children, Timothy & Mary Margaret
10:30 a.m. SBC	Sean Devine	Charlotte, Jerry, Tracy, & Darcy



The Parish Office will be
CLOSED on
Monday, September 6th
in observance of Labor Day
There is **NO 7am Mass** that day.



**Bingo is scheduled to resume on
Thursday, September 16th**



Our next *Walking with Purpose*
Bible Study is
"Keeping In Balance"

This 22 week study begins
Tuesday, September 14th, at 6:30 pm
in Fr. Frisbie Hall

The book can be ordered from
<https://walkingwithpurpose.com>
For questions and to register, contact
Patti Flynn-Harris at
flynnharrispati@gmail.com

*The Tabernacle candle at
St. Bridget Church
shines this week for
Mary Gryniuk—In Living Prayer
Requested by Kate Carriero*



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

In-Person Services THIS WEEK

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



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



Drive-thru **CONFESSIONS** available every Saturday at 3:00pm until heard and the **SECOND Tuesday of the month from 5-6pm**. Drive up to the St. Bridget School entrance and a priest will come out to hear your confession.

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.

Adoration in St. Bridget Church every Friday, 1-2pm and on the second Tuesday of the month from 5-6pm



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

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

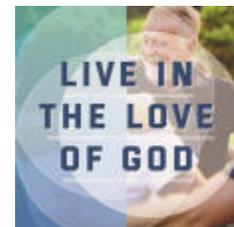
ONLINE SERVICES This Week



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.

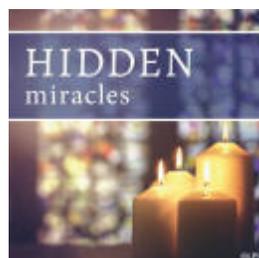
It can also be viewed online at <https://www.ortv.org/streaming/streaming.htm>



Getting to Know Our Heavenly Family

Every Monday at 10AM

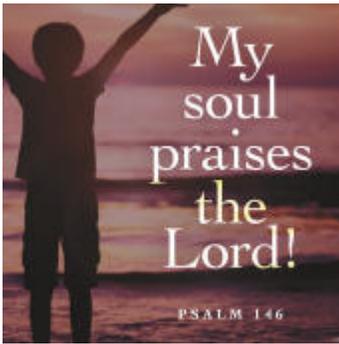
This week, learn about **Saint Catherine of Sweden**



Hidden Miracles

Every Wednesday and Friday at 10AM Parishioners and Parish Staff members will share with you some lesser known miracles. Come and see just how many examples of God's power we have!





Today is the Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

The readings for today can be found at

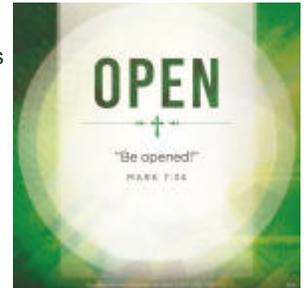
<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/090521.cfm>

Today we continue to hear the Gospel of Mark proclaimed. In today's reading, Jesus heals a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment. This is a story about Jesus' healing power, and in it we find clues about our understanding of sacrament. We are struck by the physical means used to heal the man, the use of spittle and touch. The Church continues to celebrate the sacraments using physical means. In the Sacrament of Baptism, water and oil are used to show the power of the Holy Spirit. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, we are anointed with holy oil on the forehead and the hands. In the Eucharist, bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. We are a sacramental people who believe that God's grace is given to us through these physical signs.

Some, however, see in this Gospel an image of the proclamation of the good news of Jesus to the Gentiles. The geographic references tell us that Jesus is journeying through Gentile territory. Jesus had previously visited this region and healed a person possessed by a demon. Jesus was already famous there, which explains why people brought the deaf man to him. The story that precedes this reading in Mark's Gospel sets the stage. Jesus encounters a Gentile, a Syrophenician woman who asks him to heal her demon-possessed daughter. Jesus engages her in a dialogue about not feeding to dogs the food intended for children. Jesus is struck by the woman's great faith when she replies that even dogs eat the food that falls from the table, and he heals her daughter immediately. The faith of this Greek woman compels Jesus to respond to her plea.

Mark shows that Jesus' own mission affirms the early Church's mission to the Gentiles. This was a significant issue to the early Christian community, which found that the good news of Jesus took root and spread quickly among the Gentiles. Yet there is an irony in the story of healing that Mark tells. Jesus gives the man the gift of speech, but then tells him not to use it. Jesus asks that the news of his healing power, which is evidence of his identity as the Messiah, not be spread. This is a recurring motif in Mark's Gospel and is sometimes called the "messianic secret."

www.loyolapress.com



Sunday Reflection "Jesus Healed Me!" — bit.ly/3BuWbZS

Apologetics: The 15 Minutes After Communion

- The moments after we receive Jesus in the Eucharist are the closest to Heaven we will ever be on earth.
- And yet, so many of us don't receive all the graces and blessings the Lord wants to give us because we go back to our pew and drift off or people-watch others as they go to Communion.
- Science tells us the Host remains in our bodies for 15-20 minutes after we receive.
- Making a slight change to how we spend those 15 minutes will make a world of difference in our lives.
- Father Barry Braum writes in *That I May See*, "to claim love for Christ but then not abide with him when he is present after holy Communion, is evidence either of a lack of understanding, or lack of belief of the Real Presence...or in the worst case, indifference."
- Do we lack understanding? Do we lack belief? Or are we simply indifferent?
- Wow! We miss out on so much intimacy with Jesus because we fail to enter deeply into those moments after we receive the Eucharist.
- Remember, the word 'Eucharist' means thanksgiving. After you receive Communion, pour out your gratitude to the Lord.
- Even if you just told Jesus "thank you for this Eucharist" and you really mean it, the results would be drastic!
- Be intentional about receiving holy Communion and your life will change. Don't waste those 15 minutes!



St. Bridget School Update

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



Our school families had the opportunity to have a "Meet and Greet" on August 27th and August 30th. Parents and students met with their teachers and had a chance to set up their lockers and cubby spaces. It was amazing to see so many students back in the building!



Our teachers having a pancake breakfast on their last Professional Development day before school starts. They can't wait for the academic year to begin!



Golf Tournament
Monday September 27th, 2021
Waterbury Country Club

All proceeds from this important fundraising event will benefit St. Bridget School.



Spaces Limited but Available in Certain Grades!

As we begin the 2021-2022 academic year, we pray for a year that is filled with exciting new adventures, enriching our mind and spirit. SBS will continue its in-person instruction, begin our Fall athletic programs, re-start our extracurricular activities and provide so much more. We continue to keep student's safety our top priority and are ready to kick-start this year into action!

We offer Registered Catholic Grants, Sibling Grants, as well as Tuition Assistance. To schedule your school tour or for more information, please contact our Admissions Director, Mrs. Christina Cummings, at 203.272.5860, or email at ccummings@stbridgetschool.org.

St. Bridget Annual Appeal

The St. Bridget School Annual Appeal is underway and we thank the many parish and school families who have already given so generously. If you wish to contribute to our appeal, please contact the school at 203.272.5860.

Join our School Community

SCHEDULE A TOUR

Find Your Family at St. Bridget School

 St. Bridget School, Cheshire
 @st_bridget_school
 www.stbridgetschool.org
 St. Bridget School
 171 Main Street
 Cheshire, CT 06410
 203-272-5860



Academic Excellence | Community Awareness | Spiritual Growth

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Office of Religious Education
Donna Yatcko, DRE

dyatcko@cheshirecatholic.org

203.272.6504

Monday – Friday 8:30 am to 1:30 pm

Religious Education Registration Info

Registration has begun for the 2021-2022 year.

Forms and payment information have been emailed to each family.

The link to the registration forms is:

bit.ly/SBoSRelEdRegister21-22

The link for online payment is:

bit.ly/SBoSRelEdPay21-22

If you have any questions, please contact the office at 203-272-6504 or dyatcko@cheshirecatholic.org

CATECHISTS NEEDED!

Catechists help us support our students through our various programs. If you are interested, please share your information on the registration form or email us at dyatcko@cheshirecatholic.org.

The role requires a passion for sharing our faith with the children and compliance with the Safe Environment requirements (a brief online VIRTUS training session and background check).

Materials and support are provided.

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@cheshirecatholic.org

or

ptodman@cheshirecatholic.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.



There will be a Q & A session for any interested in the RCIA program on Monday, September 13th at 7 PM in the Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish Center. Please contact Donna Yatcko dyatcko@cheshirecatholic.org or 203-272-6504 to register.

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@cheshirecatholic.org



We will be offering Adult Confirmation classes for those adults who have received their First Eucharist but were never confirmed. Classes will begin September 21st at 6:45 PM. We will meet for 6 consecutive Tuesdays.

Confirmation will take place on November 9th at the Chapel at the Pastoral Center in Bloomfield, CT.

For more information please contact:

Deacon Wilber at dcnrw.stbridget@gmail.com or

Donna Yatcko at dyatcko@cheshirecatholic.org

The ABCs of Annulment

“The ABCs of Annulment” program will be held on Saturday, September 18th at 10 AM to Noon in the Church Hall of St Augustine Church, 10 Campfield Ave, Hartford.

The “ABCs of Annulment” event is open to all at no cost. Participants will receive a folder with the required printed materials. No registration is required. For further information, call Br. Larry @ 475-221-8464 or email him at brolarlus300@gmail.com.

DEADLINE EXTENDED!
 Registration & payment due by 9/14
 Contact Sr. Mary Rose to reserve
 your spot!

FALL BUS TRIP TO LANCASTER
OCTOBER 19-20



**COME SEE "QUEEN ESTHER" AT
 THE SIGHT AND SOUND THEATER!**

Contact Sr. Mary Rose to register:
 srmmaryrose@cheshirecatholic.org
 203-272-3531 ext. 1312



The Cheshire Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, September 18th 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

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS GROUP



**2ND FRIDAY OF
 EACH MONTH**

PARISH CENTER

CONTACT LAUREN AND BLAIR AT
 LAURENNOCE1031@GMAIL.COM AND
 BDESTITO@GMAIL.COM FOR MORE INFO

**WITH A
 FATHER'S HEART**
 A STUDY OF SAINT JOSEPH

TUESDAYS BEGINNING 9/28
 AM OR PM OPTION AVAILABLE
 DETAILS AT
 CHESHIRECATHOLIC.ORG/EVENTS

WWW.CHESHIRECATHOLIC.ORG

**Parish Visitors Meeting
 Wednesday, September 22nd at 3:30pm
 Father Frisbie Hall**

Christina Caro from Franciscan Ever There Care is coming to speak about how to visit an elder as a companion, especially following the pandemic. This is open to anyone who wants to come. After the break, we will have our meeting as parish visitors. No RSVP is needed.

**Next Generation of Disciples
 High School Youth Group**

**Next meeting:
 Wednesday
 September 8th
 6:30-8:30pm
 SBS Gym**

**Topic: 9/11 - The 20th
 Anniversary of a Tragedy**

Saint of the Week: Saint Cyprian
 Feast Day: September 11th

Bio: St. Cyprian lived in Africa in the 3rd century. Before converting to Christianity as an adult, he was a famous, highly educated speaker. It shocked the people around him when he made a vow of chastity at his Baptism. Within 2 years, he had been ordained a priest and made Bishop of Carthage. After the Decian persecution, Cyprian made waves by offering a path back to the Church for those who had apostatized (denied the faith) under duress. He urged Christians to care for the sick, even those who persecuted them, during a plague. After a protracted disagreement with Pope Stephen, Cyprian was exiled by the Roman emperor and then recalled for trial. Cyprian refused to leave Carthage, declaring that his people should witness his martyrdom, and that is exactly what happened. He died in the year 258. Saint Cyprian, pray for us!

Verse of the Week Psalm 33:20
 "Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and our shield."

Ask Father

Dear Father: I am hearing a lot about Reiki lately and several of my friends have gone to a class. What does the Church say about this?

Dear friend in Christ,

Thank you for asking. Reiki is a new-age healing practice which claims to promote health and well-being by channeling one's 'life-force energy.' The International Center for Reiki Training states:

A treatment feels like a wonderful glowing radiance that flows through and around you. Reiki treats the whole person including body, emotions, mind and spirit creating many beneficial effects that include relaxation and feelings of peace, security and wellbeing. Many have reported miraculous results.

Reiki is a simple, natural and safe method of spiritual healing and self-improvement that everyone can use. It has been effective in helping virtually every known illness and malady and always creates a beneficial effect. It also works in conjunction with all other medical or therapeutic techniques to relieve side effects and promote recovery.

Before we even begin to address the religious concerns of this, just on a common-sense level, the old expression seems to apply here: "if it's too good to be true, it probably is."

Reiki, like all new-age spiritual practices, is contrary to the teachings of the Church. Although Reiki seems pleasant and positive, any attempt to manipulate spiritual energy, life-forces or auras can have disastrous consequences.

Recently, we have had to visit several homes where demonic activity has been taking place seemingly out of nowhere. They all had one thing in common: **someone in the family began practicing Reiki or another occult practice**. Put your trust in God and not in crystals, spells, charms, psychics or energy healings. The results are not pretty!

On another practical level, be wary of anyone who can claim to heal you spiritually while also charging you money. God's authentic healing is always free! If it's not free, it's not from God.

We are here for you if you need to come to Confession after participating, perhaps unwittingly, in an occult practice.

Here is the *Catechism's* instruction on new-age practices: "All practices of *magic* or *sorcery*, by which one attempts to tame occult powers, so as to place them at one's service and have a supernatural power over others - even if this were for the sake of restoring their health - are gravely contrary to the virtue of religion."

And here is the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' document specifically on Reiki:
https://www.usccb.org/resources/evaluation-guidelines-finaltext-2009-03_0.pdf



Job Opportunities at St. Bridget School

P.M. Extension Aide - Monday-Friday
2:00pm-5:30pm; Bi-weekly pay;

Extension Coordinator - Monday-Friday
1:45pm-5:30pm; Bi-weekly pay

For more information or to apply, contact:

Dr. Nancy Testa at
DrTesta@stbridgetschool.org



Marriage & Banns

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

- II Robert Puszka & Mary Grace Donohoe
- III Robert Morgan & Elaine Muldowney



Come check out the newest ministry in our Parish! If you are in your 20's through 50's, whether you are married, single, with or without kids, **i.d.9:16 invites you to join our community!**

i.d.9:16 exists to help men and women become intentional disciples of Jesus Christ. As we meet together on a monthly basis, we will grow deeper in our faith and learn to live out our call to be followers of Christ. Join us at our monthly events coming up to find out more.

Community Mass and Fellowship with i.d.9:16 – Every 1st Sunday of the month, we will attend the 9am Mass together as a community. We will sit toward the front of the church on the right. Our first community Mass is **Sunday, September 5th**. Please join us for donuts and fellowship after Mass in the Parish Center.

Disciples Afternoon—Every 3rd Saturday from 2:30-4:30pm. Our first one is **Saturday, September 18th**. Join us for a talk, discussion, and fellowship at the Parish Center. If you will need childcare, please provide the number of children and their ages using the Sign-Up Genius link: bit.ly/id916childcare

For more information, please send us an email to id916cheshire@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at one of our events soon!



**“Ministry of Hope and Healing”
Bereavement Support Group**

**A 9-week Bereavement Seminar will begin on
Thursday, September 9, 2021.**

The group will meet from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Saint Bridget School Library. The seminar provides hope, healing and support for participants while they adapt to their loss. The group is guided by trained facilitators as participants journey from grief to healing.

It is based on the belief that sharing and talking about one's thoughts, feelings and experiences in a safe situation with the support of others in similar situations, is one of the most helpful ways to move beyond the pain that is caused by the death of a loved one.

Registration is necessary. To register please contact:

Joan @ 203-271-2372 or jroczyński@yahoo.com
or Sr. Mary Rose @ 203-272-3531 ext. 1312



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jason_moliterno@yahoo.com

Coming to a Parish Near You!

October 17th



History of the Silver Rose

Our Lady of Guadalupe did so much for her people in Mexico that, in 1960, the Columbian Squires, a youth organization of the Knights of Columbus, wanted to give something back to her.

The group of young men in Knights of Columbus Council 2312 in Monterrey, Mexico, came up with the idea of running a rose to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Monterrey, Mexico. The rose was chosen to commemorate Juan Diego and the miracle of the roses, an important part of the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The first rose was a natural rose and was blessed by Bishop John C. Cody of London. It was then flown to New York where it was received by Grand Knight Joseph Thomasen, who in turn, took it to Supreme Knight Luke E. Hart. Mr. Hart then shepherded the rose to Dallas, Texas. There, Texas State Deputy Jack Collierin received the rose and took it to Laredo, Texas, where it was finally given to the Squires from Monterrey, Mexico, at the International Bridge in Laredo. They ran the rose from the International Bridge through Sabinas Hidalgo N.L., Mexico, to Cienega de Flores and on to the Basilica in Monterrey, Mexico, on December 12, 1960.

There are a total of eight Silver Roses travelling across the North American Continent on the way to Mexico. The Rose coming to our parish started in Newfoundland and Labrador with stops in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, the five other New England states and is scheduled to arrive in Connecticut on September 20th, destination: St Bridget of Sweden Parish on October 17th.

Please Join Us That Afternoon!



Our U.S. Military Prayer List



Captain Cassandra Andrea USAF
 Captain J. Michael Andrea USAF
 SRA Garrett Barboza, USAF
 2nd Lt. Darren Barile, US Army
 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
 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
 Lieutenant Tyler McEvoy, US Army Natl. Guard

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
 Airman Mark Zajac, Jr., USAF

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



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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:

- canned tomatoes (whole, crushed, puree, paste)
- laundry pods -dishwashing liquid
- juice boxes -rice & pasta sides

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!

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To attend the picnic, RSVP at bit.ly/Picnic2021RSVP

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