



SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN PARISH

Where Christ is Our Light

————— SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2021 —————

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?"
They replied, "Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce
and dismiss her." But Jesus told them, "Because of the hardness of
your hearts he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning
of creation, God made them male and female." - Mk 10:3-6



Letter from the Pastor

The Reverend Jeffrey V. Romans, KCHS

Dear Friends in Christ:

Once again I find myself in the midst of so many reasons for joy as the Pastor of this great parish. I am so thankful to everyone who gives of their time, talent, and treasure to make our parish family such an active and vibrant community. These past couple of weeks have shown me just how amazing it is when a parish and its members truly strive to live out their baptismal call. Thank you!

One of the causes of joy is the amazing amount of programs and events we have planned. You have heard me rattling them off during the announcements at weekend Mass and that is not



even all of them. It is so exciting that we have so many varied opportunities for our people, of all ages, to come together socially and spiritually to grow in faith. PLEASE read the bulletin and find some-

thing that interests you to get involved. Your involvement will make our parish an even more vibrant family of faith.

On top of these programs and events, we also are SUPER excited about FORMED.org. Don't forget IT IS FREE for you! Finally there is a technology platform for the delivery of award-winning Catholic content. Have you checked it out yet? Don't wait!

What can you find on FORMED.org? Children's programming that is age-appropriate, audio talks on the faith and spirituality, e-books and more. There are daily reflections, opportunities to pray the Rosary, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and Stations of the Cross. There is content directed to couples being married, children in religious education and Catholic schools, parents preparing for the

Baptism of their child, teens preparing for Confirmation, and so much more. Did I mention this is available to you for FREE?



You can enjoy FORMED on your computer or on your television with an inexpensive Roku device or Apple TV. You can even listen on your phone as you commute to work or do chores.

My hope and prayer is that the content on FORMED will enrich, deepen, and inspire your faith.

To gain access to all of FORMED's content, follow these simple steps:

- Go to <https://signup.formed.org/>
- Enter our parish's zip code or name to select our parish
- Enter your name and your email address

That's it! You're in. Now you can get the free FORMED app for your phone by searching FORMED Catholic in your app store.

I cannot wait to hear from our parishioners how you are using FORMED in your homes and from our catechists and teachers how it is being used in the education of our young people!

Another cause for my joy took place last Sunday evening. Our Confirmation candidates and their parents gathered for an information night in the Church following the 4PM Sunday Mass. It was great to see so many, but what happened was even more powerful. We announced that we have revamped our Confirmation program. No longer is the old-style book and lecture for religious education effective. We get it and we heard our youth. I am so thankful to Donna Yatcko and Regis O'Neill who worked so hard together with many others to revamp our program. Father Federico told the people gathered that we are offering a program that will form our youth to have a personal relationship

with Jesus Christ. We are not looking to be the sacramental conveyor belt; we want to help our young people grow in relationship with Jesus and because of that relationship have a desire to live out their faith. Father had two signs with numbers:

1. 0.00075%--the likelihood your child will play professional sports
2. 100%--the likelihood your child will stand before God one day and answer for their life and how they have lived their faith.

Which would you invest your time and energy? We are striving for everyone to see the importance of forming a relationship with Jesus Christ so that we are ALL ready for that encounter with the Lord when it happens.



The moment that really touched me and made me EXTREMELY PROUD to be your Pastor happened next. Two of our youth, members of the NGD (Next Generation of Disciples—our Youth Ministry Group) stood up and spoke to their peers. Each in their own way shared how they once were simply going through the motions, not getting much out of the Mass, and just doing what was expected of them in terms of the faith until they started going to NGD. Now they see the importance of their faith in their lives. They said things like:

- I used to think church was a waste of time, until I have formed a relationship with Jesus.
- I wish I knew that I wasn't the only person my age who cared about my faith sooner.
- I wish I set more time aside for God.
- I wish someone told me how important this was for my life.
- Jesus loves you more than you even know and He wants to help you.
- Jesus shows us what true love is. He will never turn His back on you!

I sat there in the back of the church listening to these two students bravely give their own personal testimony before over 200 people and **I was SO PROUD**. I hope through the new Confirmation Program and the continued involvement of our youth in NGD we will see more young men and women seeking a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

WITH THE 1st of OCTOBER, this past Friday, ALSO BEGINS RESPECT LIFE MONTH. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has chosen as their theme this year, *St. Joseph, defender of life, pray for us!* More information can always be found at the website <https://www.usccb.org/respectlife>.



Some highlights of this coming Respect Life Month include:

1. This year Saint Brigid of Sweden Parish will, once again, host the Annual Pro-Life Mass for the Archdiocese TODAY, Sunday, October 3rd at 2PM, with Archbishop Blair as the main celebrant. All are invited to attend!
2. The 40 Days for Life program is running through November 1st praying for and fasting for an end to abortion. **Saint Brigid of Sweden Parish will participate on Saturday, October 9th, from 12noon-1PM at the Planned Parenthood location at 1030 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford, holding a prayerful vigil. Parking is provided at the Citgo gas station across the street.**
3. October 10th at the Bartlem Park Gazebo will be the Public Square Rosary across from the Cheshire High School from 11:30AM to 1PM. Rosary intentions begin at 12Noon and please bring your own chair!
4. Please join us before the Eucharistic Lord on Fridays from 1PM-2PM during our Eucharistic Adoration to join us in praying that He may move the hearts of all to a greater respect for life as we seek to build a culture of life.

This Respect Life Month is a time to consider more deeply why every human life is valuable and to reflect on how and what we can do to build a culture that protects life from conception until natural death.



Last Monday we had the 8th Annual Saint Brigid School Golf Tournament and wow did God give us such a beautiful day to enjoy being together and supporting our phenomenal parish school! The tournament was a huge success thanks to the many organizations, companies, and individuals who supported it. I express Special Gratitude to Caroline Ramirez-Blier and Ken Blier who were the co-chairs of this year's tournament. They worked very hard soliciting support and organizing a great day. I also want to thank the many volunteers who served on the committee and those who helped out at the tournament. We could not have done it without each of you.

The support of so many in our greater community is quite humbling. St. Brigid School is indeed BLESSED by the support we receive from so many in our town and beyond. We are most grateful to our major sponsor, as well, The Legionaries of Christ Novitiate and College of Humanities! We are humbled by the dedication, generosity, and support the Legionaries of Christ offer to our school and parish. The Parish Family of Saint Brigid of Sweden was the Dinner Sponsor once again. We also express our gratitude to Canning Liturgical Arts, our Lunch Sponsor; Horton Group, LLC, our Beverage Station Sponsor; Ameriprise Financial, Cheshire Academy, and Webster Bank, our Cart Sponsors; Rowland Advanced Polymer Films, our Gift Sponsor; and AJ Waste Systems and All Pointe Healthcare, LLC, our Cocktail Hour Sponsors. We are also grateful to Alderson-Ford Funeral Homes, Eastern Fuel Corporation, G.C. Electric; Ion Bank; Mrs. Linda Manzelli; Pace Motor Lines; Ricci Construction



Corp.; ServPro of Milford-Orange-Stratford; and Saint Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish in North Haven, who were our Putting Green Sponsors!!! A word of gratitude also to our many Tee & Green sponsors, Flag Sponsors, and all who took out advertisements in our program book, and to all those who donated items for our raffle; thank you so very much.

We are truly blessed by the generosity of so many in our parish and community. This support of our school makes such a difference in our ability to provide a safe, nurturing, and academically stimulating environment in which we attend to the spiritual, intellectual, social, emotional, and physical needs of our students while they come to know Jesus Christ and His great love for them. Thank you all!

THE SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN PARISH OKTOBERFEST is just around the corner! The Oktoberfest will be held on Friday, October 15th in the Saint Brigid of Sweden Parish Center. There is buzz going on about this event! Many parents in our religious education and our school have commented on what a great night out it is to just be with friends and relax, and even more so since we have not had many opportunities to do so through the past year and a half. Given the continued concern regarding COVID19 we will be providing a tent in the parking lot with tables and chairs for those who may wish to remain outside during dinner.

Tickets will be on sale beginning this weekend after all Masses and also at the School or Rectory during the week. Hurry and purchase your ticket to this year's Oktoberfest so you don't miss out on the fun!!!



Please join us for this ADULTS ONLY event on Friday, October 15th. Tickets are only \$30 per person and include a meal of traditional German fare, a variety of beers, and live entertainment. This is another great opportunity for us to come together and get to know one another in a social setting. What a great way to gather with old friends and meet new ones as we seek to build up our family of faith. See you there!

continued on page 4

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

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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

continued from page 3

Smart Boards...as I announced the past couple of weekends in preparing for the upcoming year of Religious Education classes in our parish family and NOW with FORMED.org as a resource our catechists can utilize, we need additional Smart Boards. We have all new Smart Boards in our school,

but for those classes held in the Education Wing at Saint Thomas Becket Campus, we need five more. I am thankful to the four families that have already come forward to donate a Smart Board in memory of a loved one and so **we need only ONE more!** **The cost of the Smart Board and its cart is \$5,000 and can be made in memory of a loved one with a plaque on the Smart Board.** These Smart Boards will enable our catechists the ability to use more technology in teaching our young people the faith. I know our catechists are hopeful for this possibility. We would put a plaque similar to the one seen here. If you are interested in donating the last one, please email me at frromans@cheshirecatholic.org.



This coming Monday through Wednesday, October 4th through the 6th, is the annual Priest Convocation for the Archdiocese. Because Father Federico and I will be with the priests of the Archdiocese at the convocation, there will be **NO MASS ON TUESDAY OR WEDNESDAY** of this week. We will be here Monday morning for Mass and then will head out shortly thereafter for the convocation. The convocation has a twofold aspect to it: we will have presentations on items that are pertinent to priestly life and ministry in the Archdiocese, and we will have the opportunity for building up our fraternity amongst the priests whom we did not get to see very often. I am hopeful that the convocation will be a fruitful experience and a time of enjoying each other's company. Please pray for us during this time and know you are in our prayers.

As always, remember to pray for vocations, pray for our young people, pray for our parish families and ask God's blessings as we strive to 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 St. Bridget School HSA
presents
Family Eat Out Night

Wednesday, October 6th
5pm – 9pm

Come join other St. Bridget of Sweden families and enjoy dinner at Rossini's!

The restaurant will donate a portion of all proceeds back to St. Bridget School.

Dine-in or Take-out.



MASS INTENTIONS



St. Vincent DePaul
Mission of Waterbury

MISSION COLLECTION

We are collecting items for the St. Vincent DePaul Mission. They are in need of: new bedding (twin size), towels, household cleaning supplies, and personal care items. If you can help, we ask you to bring any of these items to Masses **this weekend** and drop off at the church entrances in the places marked "SVDP."

Thank you for your generous support. It will help many not only to live more comfortably today, but also to progress along the road to independence.

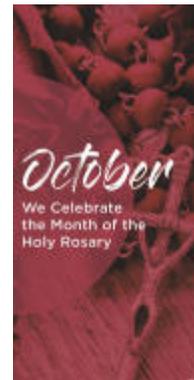


Please pray for this couple as they prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage:

- I Robert Doheny & Evelyn Gallagher
- III Andrew St. John & Aerielle Smith



There will be NO daily Masses on Tuesday, October 5th and Wednesday, October 6th due to the Priests' Convocation.



October is the Month of the Rosary

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

Saturday, October 2nd: The Holy Guardian Angels

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 9:00 a.m. SBC | Joe O'Reilly | The Haensel Family |
| 4:00 p.m. SBC | Jay Roczynski | Bob & Joan Roczynski |
| 5:15 p.m. STBC | Sam Pascarella | The Family |

Sunday, October 3rd: The Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 7:30 a.m. SBC | Barry Sutherland | The Genest Family |
| 9:00 a.m. SBC | Tom DeLuca | The Iadarola Family |
| 10:30 a.m. SBC | Mary Calaluce | Jude DiGidio |
| 4:00 p.m. SBC | Ethyl Finance | The Larkin Family |

Monday, October 4th: Saint Francis of Assisi

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 7:00 a.m. SBC | Grace Pascarella—Birthday Remembrance | Dr. Maria Stack |
| 9:00 a.m. SBC | Brian Nugent | Wife, Kiki & Children, Timothy & Mary Margaret |

Tuesday, October 5th

NO MASS

Wednesday, October 6th

NO MASSES

Thursday, October 7th: Our Lady of the Rosary

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 7:00 a.m. SBC | John & Hannah O'Connor | Peter & Mary Mongillo |
|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|

Friday, October 8th

| | | |
|---------------|--|-------------------|
| 7:00 a.m. SBC | The People of St. Bridget of Sweden Parish | |
| 9:00 a.m. SBC | School Mass—Stanley E. Matyszewski, MD | His Wife, Maureen |

Saturday, October 9th

| | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 9:00 a.m. SBC | Tristan Barhorst | The Ciampi Family |
| 4:00 p.m. SBC | Paul Castiglione—1st Anniversary | Jean & Vern Kelly |
| 5:15 p.m. STBC | Ralph & Doug Chamberlain | The Chamberlain Family |

Sunday, October 10th: The Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 7:30 a.m. SBC | Dalio J. Asprelli and Jacob V. Banti | The Banti Family |
| 9:00 a.m. SBC | Bill Campion | Judy & Paul Iannone |
| 10:30 a.m. SBC | Enzo Pellegrino | Wife & Children |
| 4:00 p.m. SBC | John Geary | The Family |

The Tabernacle candle at St. Bridget Church shines this week for Richard Barone, Sr. Requested by Family



The Tabernacle candle at St. Thomas Becket Church shines this week for Richard Barone, Sr. Requested by Family

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 in St. Bridget Church,
 5:15pm in St. Thomas Becket Church
 Sunday—7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, & 4pm in St. Bridget Church



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



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.

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 **Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos**



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-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

The readings for today can be found at

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/100321.cfm>

Today we continue to read from the Gospel according to Mark. For the past three Sundays, we have been hearing Mark's reports of conversations between Jesus and his disciples. Recall that in Mark's Gospel, Jesus uses these private moments to teach his disciples in greater detail about the Kingdom of God. Beginning with today's Gospel, Jesus returns to Judea, Jewish territory, and resumes his public ministry. The first verse of chapter 10 of Mark's Gospel tells us that crowds gathered around Jesus, and he taught them, as was his custom. Immediately, the Pharisees approach Jesus to test him.

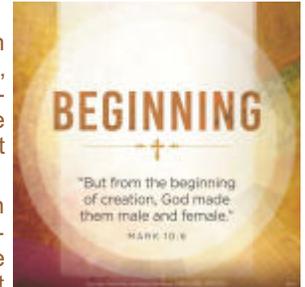
The Pharisees question Jesus about the lawfulness of divorce. Under specific conditions, divorce was an accepted practice among the Jewish people during the time of Jesus. It was regulated by the Law of Moses, as found in Deuteronomy 24:1-5. This law only permits that a husband may divorce his wife if he finds her to be indecent. This is the justification that the Pharisees reference when Jesus inquires about the commandment of Moses. In reply, Jesus quotes from the Book of Genesis and counters that God's original intention was that men and women would become one flesh in marriage. Jesus describes the teaching of Moses as a concession made to God's original intention because of human stubbornness.

In private, Jesus' disciples question him further about this teaching on divorce. It is to his disciples that Jesus lays out the implications of his teaching by explaining that remarriage after divorce is adultery. Jesus' teaching was more restrictive than the teaching of the Pharisees, which permitted remarriage. Jesus further distinguished his teaching from the cultural norms of his time by applying his words equally to men and women. Jewish culture permitted only that a husband may divorce his wife. Wives were not permitted to divorce their husband for any reason, including adultery.

At first glance, the final part of today's Gospel seems unconnected to the previous teaching about divorce. When read together, however, these passages present a strong picture of Jesus' emphasis on the importance of family. God intended for women and men to be joined together in marriage. Among the purposes of marriage is the raising of children. By welcoming children and fostering their relationship with God, parents and families bear witness to the Kingdom of God.

At the end of today's Gospel, the people were bringing their children to Jesus, and again Jesus' disciples show that they just don't get it. Recall that in the Gospel for each of the past two Sundays, Jesus has taught his disciples the value and importance of these "little ones" in the Kingdom of God. Yet in today's Gospel, the disciples try to prevent people from bringing their children to Jesus. Jesus reprimands his disciples and welcomes these children. Again Jesus offers these children as an example of the kind of complete trust and dependence upon God that ought to be the attitude of all believers.

www.loyolapress.com



Sunday Reflection "The Rib of Adam and the Body of Christ" — bit.ly/3uhvZzr

**Coffee/And
October 9th & 10th
after Mass**

Have you ever had a bad day, when it seemed that everything was going wrong? And out of the blue a stranger smiles at you and genuinely appreciates you? Wouldn't it be wonderful if that was the experience of every person walking into the doors of our Church? To see a genuine smile and hear words of welcome?

The good news is, with your help, that can happen at our very own St Bridget of Sweden Parish! Join us in the spreading the Joy of the Gospel of Jesus! The time commitment is minimal, but the impact is eternal. Contact Sister Mary Rose to become a volunteer on the Hospitality Team.

203-272-3531 smaryrose@cheshirecatholic.org



Fall Flower Sale!

This weekend, we will be selling mums and fall plants after Saturday vigil and Sunday morning Masses. The flowers are provided by Marion Farms and a portion of the proceeds will benefit St. Bridget School. Cash or check accepted.



St. Bridget School Update

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

Drop by and check out our brand new Maker Space!



SBS Enrollment Information

St. Bridget School is still accepting transfer students in Kindergarten through Grade 8, and we still have a few spaces available in PK 4.

We offer a Registered Catholic Grant for registered, active and participating parishioners as well as a Sibling Grant. Tuition assistance is still available for the current year.

If you are interested in setting up a shadow day for your child(ren), please contact our Admissions Director, Mrs. Christina Cummings, at 203.272.5860, or email at ccummings@stbridgetschool.org.

High School Visits to SBS

With many of our middle school students thinking about their high school choices, we continue to invite Catholic, Private, Public and Technical schools to meet with our students to discuss their futures.

Although we do not have our traditional High School Information Night, schools are visiting on an individual basis and meeting with our Grade 8 students in their classrooms. Each school may bring one representative, or they may set up a virtual meeting to speak with our students.

This year, we continue to provide the programs that are important to our students' growth academically and spiritually, but in a safe and healthy environment.



Grade 8 Stuff-a-Bus Fundraiser Update!

What a great start to the year! Our annual Grade 8 Stuff-a-Bus fundraiser took place on September 24th, once again in the pouring rain!

We wish to thank students, staff, faculty and the many parishioners who donated non-perishable items for the Cheshire Community Food Pantry. This year, we collected **1,573lbs of donations!** That's up from 1,216 lbs. from last year!

Thank You!

Thank you to the many families who have contributed to our school's **Annual Appeal**. As tuition does not cover the entire cost to educate students, we rely on the generosity of our school families, Saint Bridget of Sweden parishioners, SBS alumni and friends in the community to help us cover the many programs that we offer. If you wish to contribute to our 2021 Annual Appeal, please contact the school at 203.272.5860.

Join our School Community



St. Bridget School, Cheshire



@st_bridget_school



www.stbridgetschool.org



St. Bridget School
171 Main Street
Cheshire, CT 06410



203-272-5860

SCHEDULE A TOUR

Find Your Family at St. Bridget School



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

Classes for all students start this week!

Grades K through 6

Sunday classes—begin October 3rd
 Monday classes—begin October 4th
 Tuesday classes—begin October 5th

Middle School (Grades 7 & 8)

Classes begin Sunday, October 3rd

Confirmation Program (Year 1 & 2)

Classes begin Sunday, October 3rd

Please be sure all children are registered before the first day of class.

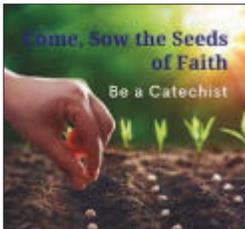
The link to the registration forms is:

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.

VIRTUS training session and background check required.
 Materials and support are provided.

We are presently in need of Catechists for the following grades and times:

- Sunday—all grades K through 6 (8:30 – 9:45am)
- Sunday—grade 8 (8:30 -11:00am, attendance at Mass is included)
- Sunday—Confirmation Program Years 1 and 2 (5-6pm)
- Monday—grades 1 through 6 (4-5pm)
- Monday—grades 1 through 6 (5:30-6:30pm)
- Tuesday—grade 3 (3:30-4:30pm)
- Tuesday—grade 4 (4:45-5:45pm)

CONGRATULATIONS!



Several Boy Scouts from our parish received religious emblems last month at St. Joseph Cathedral in Hartford. Pictured are Tyler Caron who earned his Ad Altare Dei, Anthony DeSena who earned his Pope Pius XII, Dominic DeSena and Daniel D'Souza who earned both Ad Altare Dei and Pope Pius XII, and Clyde D'Souza who earned Pope Pius XII. He had previously earned Ad Altare Dei. Not pictured are Cesar Barbeau and Nathan Rearick who earned their Ad Altare Dei.



Our collection for the week of September 26th

Collected

Offertory\$25,066.00
 HOPES..... \$3,705.00

Online

Offertory\$7,783.00
 HOPES..... \$130.00

Give Online at

stbridgetcheshire.weshareonline.org/

The second collection this weekend will support the Little Sisters of the Poor St. Joseph's Residence.

Thank you for your generosity!



Cheshire K of C KNIGHTS KORNER

by Harold Metz, Council Lecturer

Grand Knight, Jason Molitierno —jason_molitierno@yahoo.com



Our third annual Red Cross Blood Drive was a great success again this year. Held in Father Frisbie Hall three weeks ago, we collected 42 pints of blood which the Red Cross informs us translates to 126 lives saved! Since we've been able to fill up available appointments each year we're looking into both a Spring Drive and a Fall Drive for next year. That's.....



Last Sunday we proudly helped Carolyn's Place kick off their Baby Bottle Boomerang fundraiser to help the Waterbury Pregnancy Care center we've been supporting for years. The idea is to fill the bottles we passed out with your pocket change for the next three weeks, and return them to the church by Sunday October 24th. If you're cashless don't fret - just write a check. It's guaranteed to fit in the baby bottle! That's.....



Last Saturday we had our first session of "Into The Breach," the 12 part K of C presentation of what it means to be Male and Catholic in the 21st Century, and the challenges this entails. Each session is somewhat independent from the others, so if you missed #1, come to #2 and see #1 later. Sessions start each Saturday at 7:00 am and last just over an hour. Questions (or to register): Bob Maloney at maloneyrc@gmail.com or call him at 443-604-1877. That's.....



But we're not out yet! We're looking into holding our first Post-Pandemic Pancake Breakfast soon (yes, replete with pumpkin spice pancakes and apple cider). Watch for details shortly.

Apologetics:

Jacob Wrestling with the Angel

- Catholic artwork has the power to inspire and convey deep theological meaning.
- This painting was done by the French artist Eugene Delacroix from 1856-1861.
- It depicts the scene from Genesis 32 in which Jacob, the great patriarch of Israel, wrestles with an angel.
 - Keep in mind that in the Old Testament God often appears under the guise of an angel.
- Notice Jacob's struggle during his wrestling match with God. Look at how the muscles in his back are tensed. Notice how his posture is aggressive, determined, and combative. There are weapons at his feet.
- Now, look at God. God's posture is effortless, melodic and lovely. Jacob is wrestling. God is dancing.



- The message of the painting, or at least our interpretation of it, is that the effort we spend trying to change God costs us so much but does so little. Rather, God patiently and lovingly dances with us until, like Jacob, we tire ourselves out from the struggle, and accept the fact that He is God and we are not.
 - It would seem Monsieur Delacroix is saying to us – *stop wrestling with God. Surrender your stubbornness and self-will and start with dancing with Him instead.*



i.d.9:16 exists to help men and women become intentional disciples of Jesus Christ. Our next **Community Mass and Fellowship is Sunday, October 3rd**. 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. Please join us for donuts and fellowship after Mass in the Parish Center.

Our next **Disciples Afternoon is Saturday, October 16th**. Every 3rd Saturday from 2:30-4:30pm 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.



**Bingo every Thursday in
St. Bridget of Sweden
Parish Center
Doors open at 5:30pm
Bingo starts at 7:00pm
To volunteer for Bingo,
contact Kathy Mahmood at
203-592-7677**



Handmaids of the Lord is a brand new high school girls group at St. Bridget of Sweden Parish. If you know a young lady in high school that is interested in deepening her Catholic faith and learning about authentic Catholic womanhood this group is for her!

Handmaids meet every second Friday of the month at 7:30pm in the Saint Bridget School gym. All high school girls are encouraged to bring friends and an open mind and heart to each meeting. We hope to see you soon.

Our next meeting is Friday, October 8th at 7:30pm in the school gym.



Catechesis for Adults

Mondays, beginning October 4.
Choose to be in-person or virtual.

Choose to attend either
4:00-5:00 pm or 5:30-6:30pm.

Registration fee is \$13 (to purchase participant guide), and is due by October 4th. For more information, contact Sister Mary Rose: 203-272-3531 or srmaryrose@cheshirecatholic.org

Ask Father

Dear Father: I think it's safe to say most Catholics disregard the Church's teachings on birth control and contraception. Will the Church ever update this rule ?

Dear friend in Christ,

A fair question. If a million people said the sun was green, would it be green? The Truth is true whether or not people agree with it.

I think you're absolutely right that most Catholics disregard (or are not aware of) the Church's teaching on birth control and contraception. I think it's important to state that the Church's teachings in the area of human sexuality are not meant to punish, hinder or obstruct – they are meant to make people flourish and enjoy the gift of sexuality in a way that the culture around us cannot fathom.

God designed the human species such that procreation takes place through a most powerful, pleasurable, intimate action of husband and wife. Sex is holy. When the husband and wife come together in the marital act, they are godlike. Think about that. In the beginning, God created new life out of nothing but love. The man and woman realize the fullness of their identity as made in the image and likeness of God when they come together and create new life out of nothing but love. The purpose of sex is procreation and marital intimacy. We cannot have one without the other.

When the couple enjoys the marital act in the way God intended, they essentially say to each other: *I give myself entirely to you. I hold nothing back for myself. I am willing to go on any adventure with you, including being a parent, should God will it. I offer everything I am to you – including my willingness to wake up at 4 am and feed the baby with you, to change diapers with you. Everything I am is for you.*

Contraception is a sinister inversion of this. It takes that sacred, sacrificial godlike intimacy and reduces it to mutual gratification. When the couple uses contraception or birth control, they essentially say to each other: *I am happy to use you in this moment but I do not offer myself completely to you. I withhold the part of me that would be a parent with you. I keep back part of me for myself, even though that is the very definition of selfishness. Everything is for me, including you.*

Few things harm marriages and damage the intimacy of couples more than contraception and birth control. Because the Church wants to save you from this and wants you to enjoy your God-given sexuality in the way that you are intended to, the Church teaches that all forms of contraception are "intrinsically evil" (CCC 2370).

In 1968, Pope Paul VI predicted in *Humanae Vitae* that the invention of the pill would one day lead to a whole new era of sexual dysfunction in society. We are seeing the sobering truth of his words now more than ever.

If you are ready to experience the power and beauty of submitting your marriage to God's plan, check out *The Contraception Deception: Catholic Teaching on Birth Control* by Patrick Coffin.



Flu Shot Clinic Next Weekend

Flu Shots will be offered by
*Franciscan Home Care and
Hospice Care*

**Saturday, October 9, 4:30pm-5:30pm
in St. Bridget of Sweden Parish Center**

**Saturday, October 9, 5:30pm-6:30pm
in Father Frisbie Hall**

**Sunday, October 10, 8:00am-12:00pm
in St. Bridget of Sweden Parish Center**

Bring your health insurance cards.



A support group for persons who have been divorced meets on Mondays thru December 13 at 3:30pm in Father Frisbie Hall. For more information, contact Sr. Mary Rose at 203-272-3531, ext. 1312 or smaryrose@cheshirecatholic.org

Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish is hiring for two positions:



Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish is still accepting applications for a NEW position in our Parish Office. We are seeking an individual to work a few hours on the weekend to be more accessible to our parishioners who are seeking Mass cards, sponsor certificates, or any other hosts of items. This is a Part-Time Position for Saturdays from 9:30a.m. until 12:30p.m. year-round. 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. Applicants also must be comfortable with dogs since Fenway spends most of the day in the office.

Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish is also seeking applications for a Part-Time position in our Maintenance Department. A part-time position exists for a maintenance worker who will perform general cleaning and minor maintenance duties in maintaining the many facilities of our parish to a clean and orderly functional condition, under the direction of the Facilities and Grounds Coordinator. Duties include but are not limited to: cleaning of bathrooms, cleaning of churches, vacuuming and mopping floors, emptying trash receptacles, outside grounds maintenance, light painting, snow removal during the winter months, and other tasks as arise within the parish and school facilities. The position is 25 hours a week. Previous maintenance and/or custodial experience is preferred. Any candidate interested is asked to contact the parish office at rectory@stbridgetcheshire.org for a more detailed job description.

Papal Brown Bag Lunch

Fridays 12:00 Noon

Father Frisbie Hall

Bring your own lunch & discuss

Pope Francis' Wednesday

Audiences



Next meeting:

Wednesday

October 6th

6:30-8:30pm

Father Frisbie Hall

The Society of St. Raphael

(for real this time)

Saint of the Week: *Saint Bruno*

Feast Day: October 6th

Bio: St. Bruno was born around the year 1030 in Cologne, Germany. He was a famous teacher who rose through the ranks of the Church and was named Chancellor of his archdiocese at age 45. He helped Pope Gregory VII fight against decadence and corruption in the clergy, even fighting to remove his own scandalous archbishop. After this hullabaloo, Bruno sought out solitude and prayer. He and a few friends acquired some land in the Chartreuse region and began spending time in silence, poverty, and solitude. Because of their location, they became known as the Carthusians. Bruno and his brothers spent most of their day in small individual cells, only joining together to pray daily and to eat on great feasts. The Carthusians spent (and continue to spend) much of their time copying manuscripts such as the Bible and other Catholic writings. St. Bruno died in 1101.

Saint Bruno, pray for us!

Verse of the Week Matthew 14:23

“And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone.”



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
 Private First Class Peter D. Earley, USMC
 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
 Lt. Cdr. Jared Korn, US Coast Guard
 Sergeant Gregory J. Kowalski, USMC
 Airman First Class Benjamin M. LeClerc, USAF
 MA2 Tiana Lefebvre, 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:

- oil -mayonnaise -salad dressing
- juice -canned fruit -jarred pasta sauce
- laundry detergent -dish detergent

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!

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

The Cancer Support Group will meet on Wednesdays from October 6th through November 17th at 6:30pm in St. Thomas Becket Church Conference Room.

For more information, contact Clara Hernandez at hernandezcc@cox.net or the rectory at 203-272-3531. To attend a session, sign up at bit.ly/CancerSupportFall2021



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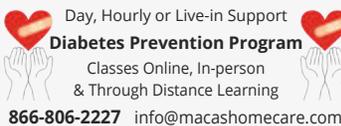
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