

May 16, 2021 Ascension of the Lord



SAINT BRIDGET CATHOLIC CHURCH



MASS

Daily Mass, Monday - Saturday at 8 a.m. (Live-streamed)

Vigil Mass, Saturday at 5:30 p.m. (Reservation required, also live-streamed)

Sunday Mass at 8 a.m., 11 a.m., and 5 p.m. (Reservation required)

RECONCILIATION

Tuesday from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. (in Church Confessionals)

Saturday from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (in Church Confessionals)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (by appointment only)

6006 Three Chopt Road, Richmond, VA 23226

Office: (804) 282-9511 | www.saintbridgetchurch.org

Monsignor Carr: (804) 282-9318, Father Iwuji: (804) 551-0592

Online Daily and Sunday Masses are Available to View - click here to access:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiG1hNGXAsroZkscy8b1-WA/videos>

SATURDAYS

Confessions 3:30—4:30 pm
Church
Vigil Mass, Sat 5:30 pm
Reservation required; also live-streamed

SUNDAYS

Masses 8:00 am; 11:00 am and 5:00 pm
Reservations required

TUESDAYS

Confessions 5:30pm - 6:30 pm
Church
Adoration 5:30pm-6:30 pm Church

MONDAY—SATURDAY Daily Mass: 8:00 am

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

May 15

8:00 am Margaret Grimes
5:30 pm Buddy Galli

May 16

8:00 am Donald Lantagne
11:00 am Tony Arkesteyn, Sr.
5:00 pm Margaret Shaia

May 17

8:00 am Marlu Winalski

May 18

8:00 am Bob & Jean Kline

May 19

8:00 am Jack Binns

May 20

8:00 am George & Virginia Saunders

May 21

8:00 am Helen Tigani

May 22

8:00 am William Marrin
5:30 pm Elaine Ryan

May 23

8:00 am Helen Tigani
11:00 am Thomas O'Donnell
5:00 pm Charlie Montgomery

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Acts 1: 1-11, Eph 1: 17-23, Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26
Monday: Acts 19: 1-8, Jn 16: 29-33
Tuesday: Acts 20: 17-27, Jn 17: 1-11
Wednesday: Acts 20: 28-38, Jn 17: 11-19
Thursday: Acts 22: 30, 23: 6-11, Jn 17: 20-26
Friday: Acts 25: 13-21, Jn 21: 15-19
Saturday: Acts 28: 16-20, 30-31, Jn 21: 20-25
Next Sunday: Acts 2: 1-11, 1 Cor 12: 3-7, Jn 15: 26-27, 16: 12-15



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK, INFIRM, THEIR CARETAKERS AND THOSE IN NEED

Our Parishioners

Joe Borzelleca, Mary Borzelleca, Linda Christian, Emily Condlin, Charlotte Conlin, Robert Conlin, Jane Cutchins, Dom D'Adamo, Sylvia Flynn, Virginia Galli, Moe Gazzola, Nancy Glotz, Grubbs family, Ann Guyton, Suzanne Lucia, Father John McGinnity, Cornelius McLaughlin, Joyce Melvin, Mary Nestor, Gene Paca, Evelyn Lancaster Papa, Chris Ramos, John Scarpa, Virginia Schraudt, Barry Simonpietri, Naomi Siwko, Charles Stephan, John Siewers, Deacon Pat White, and those facing long term illness and disability.

Friends and Relatives of Parishioners

Jennifer Burton, Anthony Cardullo, Peter Cardullo, Jacquelin Clark, Joseph Clark, Frederick Cooper, Jack Dunn, Noreen Ercoli, Stephanie Fraioli, Emily Gardner, Eva Grace Garcia, Susan Gardner, Dan Gerken, Mary Greer, Chauncy Greene, Anna Guardipee, Doris Hannon, Jessica Hodge, Gail Hove, Gretchen Ingraham, Tommy Johnson, Jeff Jones, Brian Jones, Betty Jo Lau, Wayne Mantlo, Robert Martin, Mitchell Masso, John McCaffrey, Kay Meyer, Danny Mizelle, Tom Mouser, James Nienaber, Doug Orloff, Tim Orloff, Stephen O'Meara, Pat Palmer, Patrina Palmer, VJ Paul, Margaret Pelliccio, Brian Pickral, Holden Pourciau, Beau Simpson, Suki Simpson, William Smith, Sam Sponeybarger.

If you have someone you would like to add or remove from the prayer list, please call the Parish Office, 804-282-9511

Ascension of the Lord

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

Jesus is taken up to heaven in the presence of the apostles.

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:17-23 or Ephesians 4:1-13 (shorter form: Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13)

God raised Jesus from the dead and seated him at his right hand.

Gospel Reading

Mark 16:15-20

Jesus is taken to heaven, and the disciples go forth to preach as Jesus commanded.



Background on the Gospel Reading

Today is our liturgical celebration of the Ascension of the Lord, when Jesus was taken to heaven on the fortieth day after Easter. In Cycle B, our Gospel is taken from the conclusion of the Gospel of Mark. Scholars have long noted some irregularities about the ending of Mark's Gospel. There is a natural break in the story line at verse 8, when Mark's report of the discovery of the empty tomb comes to an abrupt conclusion. This verse reports that the women were so frightened by what they had seen at the tomb that they told no one. This may be the original ending of Mark's Gospel, but it is also possible that the more complete ending has been lost.

Some manuscripts of Mark's Gospel, written between the fourth and ninth centuries, include what scholars have termed the Shorter Ending. This is often printed in our Bibles for reference. This ending indicates that the women told their story to Peter's companions. Scholars believe that this ending is not original to Mark. They theorize that this ending was added by copyists who sought to resolve the original abrupt ending at verse 8.

Other early manuscripts include a Longer Ending that scholars also believe was written by someone other than the Evangelist. Nonetheless, quotations from this Longer Ending are found in the writings of the early Church Fathers, and it was accepted at the Council of Trent as part of the canonical Gospel of Mark. Our Gospel for today's celebration of the Feast of the Ascension is taken from this Longer Ending.

There are similarities in the reports of Jesus' Ascension found in the Synoptic Gospels—Mark, Matthew, and Luke. In each case, Jesus assigns his disciples the task of proclaiming the gospel message to the entire world. There are also notable distinctions. In the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, the disciples are sent by Jesus to baptize and to preach. In Luke's Gospel, however, the commission to baptize is absent. Instead, Jesus directs the disciples to return to Jerusalem to await the fulfillment of his promise to send them the Holy Spirit. Curiously, only the Gospels of Mark and Luke actually report Jesus' ascension into heaven. Matthew's Gospel concludes with Jesus' promise to remain with his disciples forever. Only the Gospel of Mark notes that Jesus ascended to sit at the right hand of God. In noting this, Mark teaches that Jesus' ascension affirms the glory Jesus received from God after his death and Resurrection.

Even if this ending to Mark's Gospel was written by someone other than the Evangelist, in the commission that Jesus gives to his disciples, there are elements that are quite typical of Mark's Gospel. The signs that will accompany belief in Jesus are as vivid as the action performed by Jesus during his ministry. Those who believe in Jesus will be empowered to do what Jesus himself has done. During his ministry, Jesus sent his disciples to preach, to heal, and to drive out unclean spirits. Now they are sent again to do these things and more. From his place with God in heaven, Jesus helped his disciples, and he continues to help us as we try to live as his followers.

It can be very important whom we sit next to. Any family that has tried to sit down to a family dinner or packed the car for a trip has heard children argue at least once about who should sit where. To sit next to someone, especially if that person is important, is to have a place of honor. Jesus has this place of honor seated at God's right hand, but there's more to this metaphor than where Jesus sits in relation to God. To be in the place of honor is also to be in a place of power. Knowing people in powerful places can be helpful. Our children remind us of this each time we are called upon to referee a conflict. Jesus, honored at God's right hand, is a powerful ally for us.

Clergy

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(804) 282-9511

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit
and guide us throughout the Diocese of Richmond as we embark on our third
century in Your service.
We humbly ask You to strengthen our trust in You
and our eagerness to share the gospel message with others.
Enkindle in us a keen desire to grow
In our relationship with You
And to encounter You in Your sacraments.
Through the intercession of
Mary, Star of the New Evangelization,
And St. Vincent de Paul,
may we experience a new Pentecost and
a profound renewal of faith in our diocese, our parishes,
our families, and our hearts
Amen.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Parishioners,

Congratulations to Father Tochi Iwuji who has been awarded a
Licentiate in Sacred Theology from Saint Mary's Seminary and University and
Master of Arts in Pastoral Counseling Marriage and Family from Liberty University.

Well done, Good Father as you continue to serve the Lord.

Monsignor Carr

STEWARDSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTSGreetings in Christ!

As we continue our faith journey, please help us maintain that presence as you
are able and continue to be generous in your financial giving to keep our
ministries active, our liturgies vibrant, and our outreach attainable in every way
possible. We are here for you. We remain sensitive to the fact that some
parishioners may not be in the position to give as before.

Last year, the number of parish families using Online Giving to make donations
and recurring gifts to the parish increased to over 625 families. We thank the
many Online Givers who choose to add the convenience fee to offset the small
credit card fee. Others choose to use bank drafts to avoid a credit card fee
altogether. No matter how you choose to make your contributions, we thank
you for all you have given and continue to give to make the mission of this
parish come alive! On behalf of Monsignor Carr, our parish clergy, pastoral staff,
and all who work at Saint Bridget parish, we pray that the
blessings and grace of this Easter season be with you and your
loved ones.

God bless you,
Kimberly Lapkin, Director of Stewardship





Save the Date

Saint Bridget Parish Family cordially invites you to join us as we offer our appreciation to our Pastor, Monsignor William H. Carr, on his Retirement Celebration Weekend, June 26-27.

Monsignor Carr will officiate at the 5:30 pm Vigil Mass on Saturday, June 26 and at the 5:00 pm Mass on Sunday, June 27. Please join us on the Saint Bridget Church Terrace following the Vigil Mass on June 26 and the 5:00 pm Mass on June 27 to offer your prayers and best wishes as we congratulate Monsignor Carr on his retirement! Covid protocols will be followed. Please watch for more information to come on Social Media, email blasts and our weekly Bulletin.

UPCOMING EVENTS



You are invited to participate in an ecumenical Novena to the Holy Spirit, May 13-22, commemorating the 120th anniversary of the Pentecostal movement! The movement began in 1897 when Pope Leo XIII decreed that this novena would occur annually prior to Pentecost Sunday. Catholic bishops and Pentecostal leaders will lead us in prayer for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on our world to change hearts and overcome what divides us. The concluding event will be the Pentecostal Vigil celebrated by Pope Francis at 9 p.m. Rome time (3 p.m. EDT). More information, including resources and instructions on how to participate in the international prayer service, can be found at www.Pentecost.cmax.tv.

The Knights of Columbus are collecting items for members of our military who are or soon to be deployed. The event is being held on Saturday, May 22nd from 8:45am to 11:00am in front of the Saint Bridget Church. Please see the website for specific details.



SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



Our school will be hosting a **Parent Academy** for our new families. We will host our Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten families on Tuesday, May 18 at 6:00 pm. Our Elementary and Middle School families will be welcomed on Wednesday, May 19 at 6:00 pm. We are excited to begin our school journey with our newest members.

Student Council is sponsoring a **Spirit Day** on Friday, May 21. The theme is Spring.



As we near the end of the school year, please stay tuned for the **upcoming events and celebrations**.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Needs for the Children's Shelter: CCC's Richmond-area Children's Shelter has some new needs. Our shelter not only offers children a safe place to live, but also a place where they can learn and have fun - a place where they can be a child. As part of that, some of the most requested items from our youth are bicycles & scooters (and of course helmets). If any local parishioners would like to donate (good quality used items are much appreciated) please email me back at John.Elwell@cccova.org



Our Friends at Sacred Heart Center Need Assistance - English as a Second Language

We are in need of volunteers for our Summer ESL program, which is for 8 weeks, teaching twice weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays, either in the morning or evening. This class will be taught online, and we seek volunteers that have experience teaching ESL, who feel comfortable using technology to teach online, and who can dedicate 4-6 hours weekly for class preparation and teaching.



Citizenship Exam Prep - This 12 week class will be taught online, and we need volunteers that have experience teaching ESL, and/or who have experience teaching history, government and civics, and who can dedicate 4-6 hours weekly for class preparation and teaching. Please contact Sarah Chua at sarah_chua@shcrichmond.org if you are interested in volunteering for any of these important programs!

Farewell Little Sisters - The sisters will be leaving Richmond come June 1. This will leave a whole in our hearts but also a large number of Catholics at St. Joseph's home without the Eucharist. Since the facility is within our parish boundaries it is up to us to fill the void in pastoral care that the sisters will be leaving. To that end we are looking for a group of volunteers to provide a Eucharistic prayer service at St. Joseph's Home each Sunday. If you would like to volunteer contact Paul Amrhein – paul@saintbridgetchurch.org. Thanks.



Help Needed with Technology- SVDP Wants You! We have a great team of volunteers but when it comes to Technology we are the blind leading the blind. If you have expertise in website maintenance, other social media and are the kind of person who picks up how to work an application easily we could use your help. If you can help us contact Paul Amrhein – paul@saintbridgetchurch.org.

Contact Us (continued)

9:00 am - 4:00 pm, M-F
Office Phone: 804. 282.9511
saintbridgetchurch.org

Finance Council:
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Building Committee:
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804. 350.3951

Social Media
Find us on Facebook & Instagram
[@rvasaintbridget](https://www.facebook.com/rvasaintbridget)

Communications & Social Media:
Mary Praught;
mpraught@saintbridgetchurch.org

Bulletin & Calendar:
Vicki Gazzola;
vgazzola@saintbridgetchurch.org

RCIA AND SACRAMENTS FOR ADULTS

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Catholic faith inquiries and those seeking to join the Catholic Church are welcome! Contact Mary Rebecca Pugsley, mpugsley@saintbridgetchurch.org

INFANT BAPTISM

Parents attend a preparation session prior to scheduling a baptism. Contact Julie Koury, Pastoral Assistant, jkoury@saintbridgetchurch.org (804) 525-7890.

MARRIAGE

Couples should contact Vicki Gazzola, (804) 282-9511, at least six months prior to scheduling a wedding.



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