St. BRIDGET Catholic Church

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 13, 2020

Knights of Columbus
Carry Out Breakfast on Sept. 20th

The knights will have a carry out curb-side delivery breakfast on Sunday, September 20th immediately following Mass. The cost is $5.00 per plate. Pick up will be outside Led- widge Hall in the south parking lot. It is help- ful for them to have some idea of how much food they will need. Please e-mail cthomas1030@gmail.com to sign up or see a knight in the vestibule.

24-Hour Adoration for Election

In light of the seriousness of this election, Father Vogel is organizing a 24 hour Adora- tion for the election. It will start on Monday, November 2nd at 7pm and end on Tuesday, November 3rd at 7pm with a break for Mass on Tuesday morning. Please contact Linda Ochs at Lochs@stbridgetph.org and indicate in which time frame you would like to pray. Closer to the date, you will be contacted to arrange a specific time in your church block.

A. Monday 7pm — Tuesday 12am
B. Tuesday 12am — 9am
C. 9:30am — Noon
D. Noon — 7pm
E. After 7pm (if there are enough adorers)

It will conclude with Benediction after the last hour of adoration. Thank you for offering your prayers in this manner for the intention of God’s will for our nation in all the elections nationwide.

First Communion
Congratulations to James Werner!

On Wednesday, Sept. 2nd, James Werner received his First Holy Communion. James is the son of Dena Jones and the grandson of Jim and Rita Jones. Congratulations, James! The St. Bridget Family is very happy that you now share in the Eucharist.

School of Religion Registration Open
Registration forms for SOR are now available for download from the parish website (https://stbridgetph.weconnect.com).

Connect+ School of Religion). Please fill out the registration form and return to the parish on Monday or Sept. 14th with your registration fee ($30 per family). At that time, we will pick up a Circle of Grace pack- et. A late fee will be charged after Sept. 15th, which is when materials will be ordered. We are looking forward to having another good year of School of Religion! Contact e-mail Mel Thomsberry at irish_girl7997@yahoo.com with questions.

High School Youth Group Resumes
On Sunday, September 20th, the high school youth group will meet at 6:00 pm in the youth room. Students must bring a waiver signed by their parents. It can be download- ed from our web site.
Reflection: The Response of Total Gratitude

What should our response be to God? Often times we become self-contained in our relationship with God. We focus on our troubles and needs. These must be given over to God and let go of. When we do this we will discover that we begin to see the glory and goodness of God at work in our lives and we will begin to be filled with the utmost gratitude toward God. Gratitude must consume us and fill our minds and prayers. We must allow gratitude to take over our passions and feelings and every part of our being. This is what we will do for eternity. Heaven will be one eternal act of thanksgiving to God for His goodness and Mercy. When we can turn our eyes away from ourselves and focus in on God, this gift of gratitude will begin to direct our lives (See Diary #1285-1286).

Are you grateful? You will be grateful only if you allow yourself to see the countless gifts that God lavishes upon you every day. It’s easy to allow self-absorption to cloud our vision of these countless blessings from God. But if you can turn your eyes toward Heaven and see the truth, you will be amazed at God’s infinite goodness. Do not let yourself miss out on this glorious discovery of all that God does for you day and night. Do not close your eyes to the abundance of His Mercy. Reflect, today, upon whether or not you allow yourself to see His merciful love lavished upon you and upon others. Fix your gaze upon this Mercy and allow this realization to foster within you a profoundly grateful heart.

My Lord, I thank You for all that You have done in my life and I thank You for all that You will continue to do in me. Help me to become increasingly aware of Your merciful love and the countless blessings You bestow upon me and upon all Your children. As we see Your handiwork all around, fill my heart with sincere gratitude. Jesus, I trust in You. (This free reflection can be found at: https://divinemercy.life/2020/09/08/reflection-253-the-response-of-total-gratitude-2/)
Reflection: Beloved of the Master

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Romans 14:7-9

Sadly, it may take a tragedy to remind us that we belong to God. We fill our lives with activities. We rely on our own strength. We depend on other people. We forget sometimes the God who made us, who loves us, and who will one day call us home.

When life is going well, we think of ourselves as our own masters. We have freedoms and choices. We make decisions about our families, our work, and our play.

But every so often, we discover we are not the masters. We do not have complete control over our health. We cannot determine what another driver will do. We cannot stop enemies of the state from acting irrationally and irreverently. We cannot control everything.

St. Paul tells the Romans, “None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. ... whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s.”

Sometimes this does not sink in until a tragedy touches our lives. When we suddenly realize we are not in control, we wake up to our dependence on God.

God governs creation and redemption and all that lies in the middle. Although we are not masters, we are not slaves either. We are the beloved of God. God does everything for us in love, and all that we do in life is in response to the love we receive.

Yes, we live. Yes, we shall die. Yes, we belong to God.


Father Vogel's Column

Dear Friends in Christ,

Forgiveness is a path to life that we should always be walking down. The Gospel for this weekend is about the power of forgiveness, and also the power if we decide to not forgive.

It is amazing how self-absorbed we become when someone has done us wrong and we say to ourselves, "I cannot forgive them." It's so tough at times, if not incredibly tough. Yet forgiveness is the primary path for us to begin healing and to move on with life in a more fruitful and healthier direction than if we never forgive.

Do you find yourself holding on to a grudge? Tell Jesus Christ about it. A good way to start forgiveness is to add it to part of your daily prayers, "Lord Jesus, I forgive (name of individual) for all the wrongs they have done to me. Help me Jesus to forgive them fully. Mother Mary, my sweet Mother, help me your child to forgive as your Son forgives. St. Joseph, my father and lord, help me to forgive as a saint would forgive."

Forgiving people is a divine action from our part because it requires God's Grace, and the decision from our part. Let us imitate our Lord Jesus Christ, Who is always ready to forgive us if we have a contrite heart.

In Christo et Maria,
Father Vogel

Schedule Change This Week

Father Vogel will be on vacation during the week. There will be no daily Mass or Confessions. A Word and Communion service will preceed Adoration on Thursday.

Reporting Abuse

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combating sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at (800) 392-3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
3. If reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at (816) 812-2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcj.org, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City – St. Joseph.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Services Advocate, Kathleen Chastain, at (816) 392-0011 or chastain@diocesekcj.org for more information.
Mass Intentions
Tuesday, September 15 through Thursday, September 17  No Masses
Saturday, September 19  + Paula Nickle by The Family
Sunday, September 20  For the Parishioners of St. Bridget Parish

Mass Readings and Antiphons

Monday, Sept. 14
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Entrance Antiphon: We should glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection, through whom we are saved and delivered. Cf. Gal 6:14
Readings: Numbers 21:4b-9; Psalm 78; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17

Communion Antiphon: When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself, says the Lord. Jn 12:32

Tuesday, September 15 - Our Lady of Sorrows

Entrance Antiphon: Simeon said to Mary: Behold, this child is destined for the ruin and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign of contradiction; and your own soul a sword will pierce. Cf. Lk 2:34-35
Readings: 1 Cor 12:12-14,27-31a; Ps 100:1-5; Lk 7:16

Communion Antiphon: Rejoice when you share in the sufferings of Christ, that you may also rejoice exultantly when his glory is revealed. Cf. 1 Pt 4:13

Wednesday, September 16

Ss. Cornelius and Cyprian

Entrance Antiphon: The souls of the Saints are rejoicing in heaven, the Saints who followed the footsteps of Christ, and since for love of him they shed their blood, they now exult with Christ for ever.
OR
Holy men shed their glorious blood for the Lord; they loved Christ in their life, theyimitated him in their death, and therefore were crowned in triumph.
Readings: 1 Cor 12:31-13:13; Ps 33:2-5,12&22; Luke 7:31-35

Communion Antiphon: It is you who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer a kingdom on you, says the Lord, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom. Lk 22:28-30 OR
See how rich is the Saints’ reward from God; they died for Christ and will live for ever.
Thursday, September 17 - St. Robert Bellarmine

Entrance Antiphon: I will look after my sheep, says the Lord, and I will appoint a shepherd to pasture them, and I, the Lord, will be their God. Cf. Ez 34:11, 23-24 OR
This is the steward, faithful and prudent, whom the Lord set over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time. Cf. Lk 12:42
Readings: 1 Cor 15:1-11; Ps 118:1b-2,16ab-17,28; Luke 7:36-50

Communion Antiphon: It was not you who chose me, says the Lord, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last. Cf. Jn 15:16 OR
Blessed is that servant whom his lord finds awake when he comes and knocks at the gate. Cf. Lk 12:36-37

Friday, September 18

Entrance Antiphon: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophesies be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel. Cf. Sir 36:18
Readings: 1 Cor 15:12-20; Ps 17:1bcd,6-7,8b&15; Lk 8:1-3

Communion Antiphon: How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings. Cf. Ps 36 (35):8 OR
The chalice of blessing that we bless is a communion in the Blood of Christ; and the bread that we break is a sharing in the Body of the Lord. Cf. 1 Cor 10:16

Calendar
Tuesday, September 15
*No Confessions or Mass*

Wednesday, September 16
*No Confessions or Mass*
6:30 pm  Men’s Group
Ledwidge Hall

6:30 pm  Women of Faith
Adult Ed Room

Thursday, September 17
*No Confessions or Mass*
9:00 am  Word and Communion Service
9:30 am - 8:00 pm  Adoration

Friday, September 18
9:00 am  Bible Study
Ledwidge Hall

Saturday, September 19
5:00 pm  Mass

Sunday, September 20
7:30 – 7:50 am Confessions
8:00 am  Mass
After Mass  K. of C. Carryout breakfast

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Catholic Charities: Workplace Campaigns

As partners with United Way, donations you make through your company can be assigned to identify Catholic Charities of Kansas City-St. Joseph as the recipient. We will also participate in a Combined Federal Campaign later this fall for those employed by the federal government. Selecting our CFC #97843 during this campaign will direct funds to Catholic Charities KCSI. For more information, please contact Nancy Butters, Parish Outreach Manager at nbutters@ccharities.com or 816-659-8266.

40 Days for Life: September 23—November 1

Join in this peaceful, prayerful campaign to access God’s power to bring an end to the tragedy of abortion. God will hear our prayers and honor our fasting; a great activity for Respect Life Month in October. If interested in doing this, please sign up at www.40daysoflife.com/overland-park.

Diocesan Rosary Congress

There will be a Diocesan Rosary Congress Oct. 3 - 9, 2020. Eucharistic Adoration will be held around the clock and a rosary every hour on the hour in 7 parishes around the diocese. An opening and closing Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Johnston. A Marian International Rosary Procession will be held at St. Patrick North at 10:00 am on October 10th. The schedule:
Oct. 3rd: Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 2:30 pm, Opening Mass, Adoration
Oct. 4th: Coronation of Our Lady - Grandview, 10:30 am Mass, Adoration
Oct. 5th: Our Lady of Guadalupe - St. Joseph, 8:00 am Mass, Adoration
Oct. 6th: Our Lady of Good Counsel, 12:00 pm Mass, Adoration
Oct. 7th: St. Mary, Independence, MO 12:00 pm Mass, Adoration
Oct. 8th: Holy Rosary, Clinton, 8:30 am Mass, Adoration until 7:00 pm
Oct 8th: Our Lady of Lourdes, Raytown, 6:00 pm Mass, Adoration
Oct 9th: Our Lady of Lourdes, Raytown, 7:00 pm Closing Mass
Bishop Johnston presiding at Opening and Closing Mass
Oct. 10th: St. Patrick North, Kansas City, 10:00 am, Marian Rosary Procession
See parish web sites for more details. For all details, see flyer at https://kcsocatholic.org/wp-content/uploads/2020-Rosary-Congress-6-1.pdf.