A mosaic background featuring a dove in flight on the left and a heart shape on the right, both composed of small, colorful tiles in shades of yellow, orange, red, and purple.

COME
HOLY
SPIRIT
FILL THE
HEARTS
OF YOUR
FAITHFUL

KINDLE
THE FIRE

OF YOUR
LOVE

2015

2016

SAINT
BRIDGET
CATHOLIC
CHURCH
ANNUAL
REPORT



**SAINT BRIDGET
CATHOLIC CHURCH
6006**

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YOUR LIFE IS A GIFT



A message from Monsignor Carr.

Dear Parishioners,

I love this parish, and I love the people of this parish. We have been together as priest and parish family for over 11 years now. We have worked together and worried together. We have laughed and cried together. In good times and in bad times God has brought us together time and time again and proved His faithfulness to us.

We are here because we believe in the power and prospect of true conversion and real life change by the power of Jesus Christ who is really present among us.

Our parish has always been generous in the matter of giving time, talent and treasure. We find hundreds of parishioners giving time and talent within the parish and far beyond.

That's very Gospel and certainly pleasing to God. The constant refrain of those who give so much is that they get so much more than they give. It's beautiful to see and to hear that.

Our giving makes us happy and we turn to God and say thank you for allowing us to give. Generous giving is not difficult when we remember that everything we have comes from God. Nothing is earned. Everything is a gift. Your life is a gift.

The sign of generous giving, the sign you are giving the right amount is when it touches

your heart. We should give, not until it hurts, but until we are joyous! As we begin this year's Parish Stewardship Appeal, I offer an invitation to joy, and an opportunity to trust God in a new way so that our faith might grow and our joy might deepen by the grace and power of Jesus Christ.

Saint Bridget parish is committed to nurturing the spiritual growth of parishioners of all ages, to offering a beautiful and inspirational place for worship, to providing our children with an excellent Catholic education, and to reaching beyond our own walls to aid those less fortunate in our community. These are the vibrant, life-filled areas of activity, worship, and outreach that comprise the fabric of our parish. Give the gift of your most valuable resources: your time, your talent and your treasure to ensure that our ministries continue to flourish.

Please read on to discover the impact of Stewardship on our parish, and please know how happy and grateful I am to be at your service.

Sincerely in Christ,



RENEW AND REBUILD THE CHURCH

“Jesus asks us also to forgive and to give. To be instruments of mercy because it was we who first received mercy from God. To be generous with others, knowing that God showers his goodness upon us with immense generosity.” — Pope Francis, Jubilee Year of Mercy

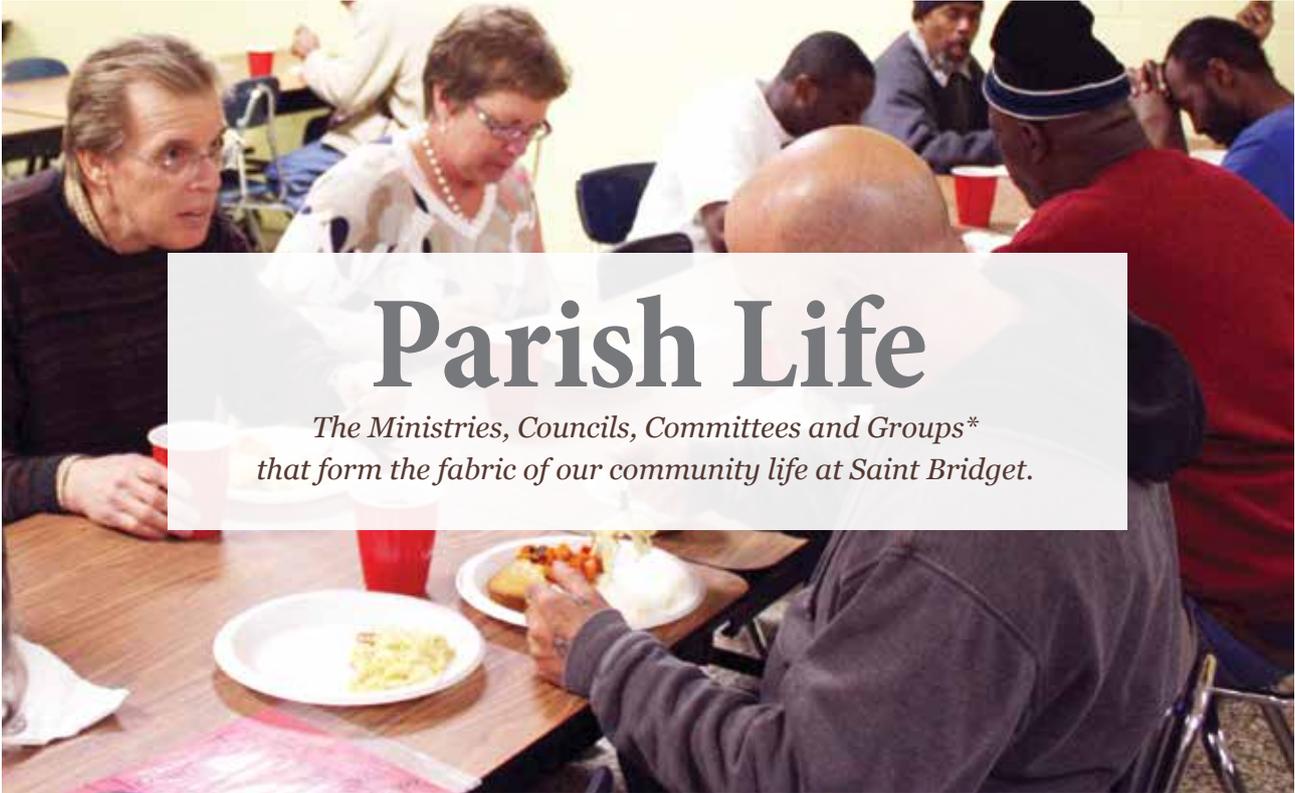
God asks a lot of Saint Bridget parish and it always answers His call with grace. In August, we said farewell to Father George and Deacon Mark and then we welcomed Father Francis Boateng from the Diocese of Obuasi in Ghana.

Each year we embrace a new Parochial Vicar and that priest becomes a vital part of our parish to then move on to another parish and serve God. We are grateful and richer for each one's presence among us.

We work hard towards the goals of Evangelization. Embracing the spirit of Pope Francis - it is a time to renew and rebuild the Church, and the model is the personal holiness of Francis.

Saint Bridget Parish has a lot to give and we look forward to the expansion of the school and the enthusiasm and vigor that project will bring.

We are grateful God has blessed us with the means as well as so many eager, talented parishioners willing to help realize this exciting next chapter in our parish's journey.



Parish Life

The Ministries, Councils, Committees and Groups
that form the fabric of our community life at Saint Bridget.*

Our Councils and Committees

- Parish Pastoral Council
- Finance Council
- Liturgy Committee
- Building & Grounds Committee
- Respect Life Committee
- Haiti Committee
- Welcome Committee
- Parish Mission Committee
- New Evangelization Team
- Human Concerns Committee
- Stewardship Committee
- CHWC Committee

Parish Gatherings & Events

- CARITAS Week
- Parish Lenten Retreat Week
- Annual Parish Lenten Fish Fry
- Women’s Ministry Annual Retreat
- Vacation Bible School
- CHWC – Richmond
- Pancake Breakfast
- Stew & Brew

Ministries & Parish Groups

- Human Concerns & Pastoral Care
- Music Ministry
- Youth Ministry
- Religious Education
- RCIA Sponsors and Leaders
- Children’s Liturgy of the Word
- Middle School Youth Group
- High School Youth Group
- Confirmation
- Prayer & Fellowship
- Tutoring at Blackwell Elementary
- Mentoring at Armstrong High
- Benedictine Summer Basketball Camp
- CARITAS Ministry
- Cook Teams
- Leadership & Advocacy Ministry
- Solidarity Ministries
- Charity Ministries
- CrossOver Ministries
- ALPHA
- Parish Nurse Ministry
- Saints & Sinners
- Women’s Ministry
- Funeral Ministry
- Volunteer Ministry
- Knights of Columbus #5476
- Men’s Ministry

Ministries & Parish Groups

- Catholic Heart Work Camp
- Scripture & Bible Study Groups
- Scout Troops
- Moms Ministry and Playgroup
- Door Ministry
- Youth Bible Studies
- Sacrament Preparation Teams
- Adult Choir
- Saint Bridget Girl and Boy Choirs
- The Contemporary Ensemble
- Friends of Music
- Ministers of Holy Communion
- Lectors
- Ushers and Greeters
- Altar Servers
- Sacristans
- Men’s Catholic Bible Study
- Men’s Ministry of Faith and Fellowship
- Men’s Evening of Reflection
- Divine Mercy Cenacle
- Rosary Guilds
- Religious Education Catechists
- Habitat for Humanity

**Note: this is not an exhaustive list!*

Time & Talent

Volunteer Opportunities Abound

Our Parish offers many different opportunities for returning our gifts of time and talent to God. As faith-filled stewards of our God-given talents, volunteering in a ministry, organization or one of our parish events provides a way to thank God, share our faith with others, and enrich the fabric of our entire Parish community. Are you interested in volunteering at Saint Bridget but not sure where to start?

Volunteer page

www.saintbridgetchurch.org/volunteer

Go to saintbridgetchurch.org/volunteer and you will find Sign-up Genius with many on-going opportunities to volunteer at the parish. From helping with coffee and donuts to Youth Ministry Service projects you can find a way to participate! There are additional ministries opportunities under Human Concerns - for example if you want to volunteer for Coal Pit, Blackwell or Funeral Ministry click on Human Concerns. For assistance email volunteercoordinator@saintbridgetchurch.org to find the right volunteer opportunity.



There is no greater gift to the body of Christ than a person's active participation in the life of the Church. Dale Matanic is a regular volunteer at Saint Bridget.

THE PARISH WEBSITE

WWW.SAINTRIDGETCHURCH.ORG

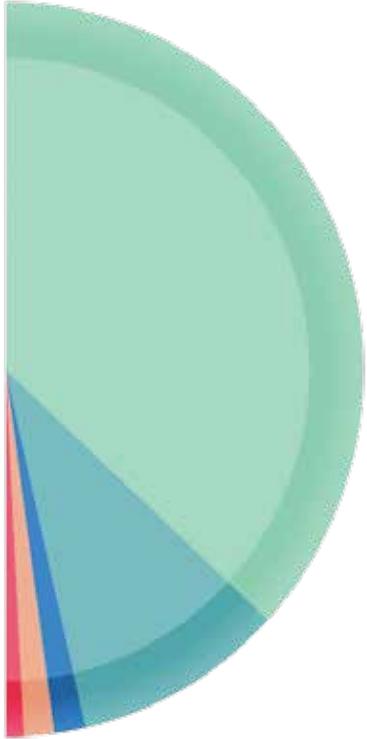
Go to www.saintbridgetchurch.org and click the "Subscribe" button in the upper right-hand corner, fill out a short form and you will receive news and events once a week! The website offers information about Saint Bridget parish, our parish ministries, faith formation and parish groups. Click on the banners at the top of the page to learn more about parish events or scroll down to read the announcements. We have many exciting volunteer opportunities (both short and long term) at Saint Bridget!



While Mass is never canceled, event cancellations due to weather appear on the website.

The most popular page on the website is the weekend Celebrant Schedule.

Daily Mass Readings can be found on the main page.



INCOME

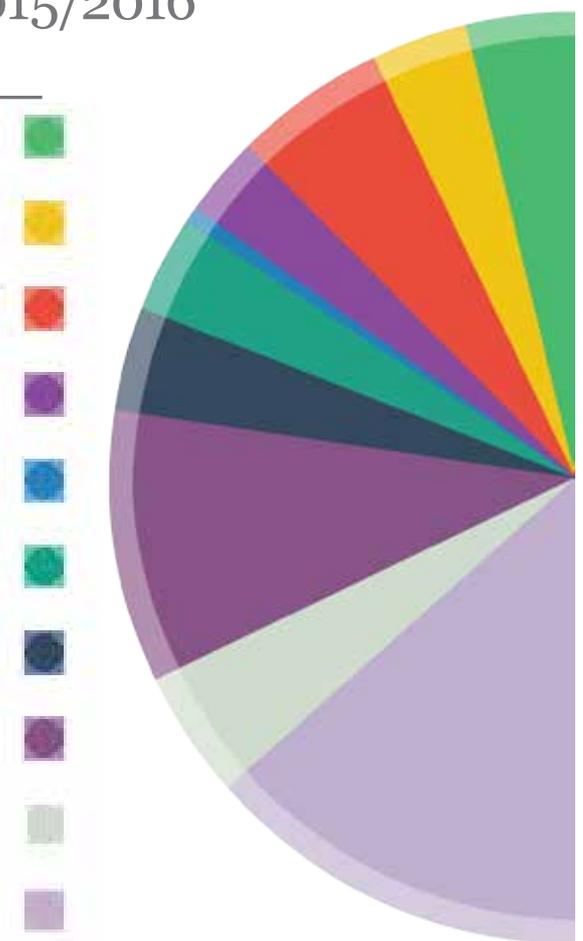
Offertory	73.8%	\$1,970,000
Memorials/Bequests	18.9%	\$ 506,000
Other Income	2.8%	\$ 74,000
Social Ministry	2.8%	\$ 74,000
Religious Ed	1.7%	\$ 44,000

STEWARDSHIP

Fiscal Year 2015/2016

EXPENSE

Religious Education	6.8%	\$ 192,000
Education Assess.	6.8%	\$ 192,000
Diocesan Assess.	10.6%	\$ 299,000
Social Ministry	5.3%	\$ 150,000
Parish Life	1.9%	\$ 55,000
Liturgy	6.8%	\$ 193,000
Clergy	6.9%	\$ 195,000
Office Administration	19.0%	\$ 538,000
Property Maintenance	8.7%	\$ 242,130
Fund Transfers	27.4%	\$ 771,400



Fund Transfers includes transfers of money received from bequests and *Living Our Mission* to Capital Reserve, Endowment, and Church Building Funds. Copies of all financial reports are available through the Parish Office.

SPECIAL MINISTRIES

Haiti Ministry

\$58,677

Other Ministries

(Including but not limited to Catholic Heart Work Camp,
Blackwell School, Armstrong Academy, etc.)

\$126,790

Diocesan Ministries

(Including but not limited to second collections for Catholic Relief
Services, Catholic Charities, Retired Religious, etc.)

\$32,650

Parish Ministries

(Including but not limited to School Annual Fund, School Building
Fund, Little Sisters of the Poor, etc.)

\$66,910

Total Given for Special Ministries

\$285,027



BEQUESTS & MEMORIALS

*Saint Bridget parish is most grateful
for the generous bequests and
memorial donations received this
past 2015-16 fiscal year.*

Bequests

Stasia Mayfield "Mitzi" McDowell
John Louie Tighe, Jr.

Memorials

Mary Burgess
Samuel Joseph "Sam" Cadden
Christian Baird Cozens
Patricia Tremer Crawford
Jamie Denton
Janet A. Fagan
John Faulhaber, Jr.
Virginia Freeman
Angelo Garcia
William Gettsy
Dr. Richard C. Hard
Cornelius and Rita Healy
Theodore L. Hnatko
Mary-Alice Hulcher
Alexander "Al" T. Markow
Mary E. McFadzen
Marilyn Maureen Minetti
Mary Beth Morgan
William W. Paca, Jr.
Jane Ivey Quick
Theresa J. Redford
Dr. Joseph J. Tokarz
Margaret "Peggy" Valdrighi
Marguerite Webb
Theodore W. Woods
Helen Morrissey Wren



PLEDGE OUR OFFERING

Please prayerfully consider your pledge and join your parish family in increasing your support and making your pledge today!

E-Giving and Stewardship Pledges

Join the 400+ families that contribute to Saint Bridget parish by using E-Giving, a convenient way to make your secure donations to Saint Bridget parish online. You may use debit cards, credit cards or electronic funds transfer to fulfill your stewardship pledge and make donations to the various funds and special collections. Use E-Giving to make payments for Religious Education registration for all ages and for event ticket purchases. Keep up with your stewardship pledge even when you are away! To get started, simply click on the E-Giving link found on our website at saintbridgetchurch.org. Contact Kimberly Lapkin at kimberly@saintbridgetchurch.org or (804) 525-7888 with any E-Giving questions. Thank you for this generous response to God's call to stewardship and your support of the parish!

What will I put in the basket?

The Sunday Offertory is an important ritual as we celebrate Mass. It signifies our support of the parish as a community ready and willing to live the Scriptures just proclaimed. Our young people – watching everything we do – see us making a sacrifice for the good of the parish. To allow those using E-giving to participate in the Sunday Offertory, you will find laminated cards in the Commons and church entrances. Those using online and bank draft are invited to take one as they enter the church and place it in the collection basket when it's passed. It will be received and blessed with our other gifts given this day. Thank you for your gift and for your prayers.

HOW TO PLEDGE

TRADITIONAL METHOD

1. Fill out and return your pledge card in the mail or collection basket.
2. Use weekly offertory envelopes to fulfill your pledged contribution at Mass each week.

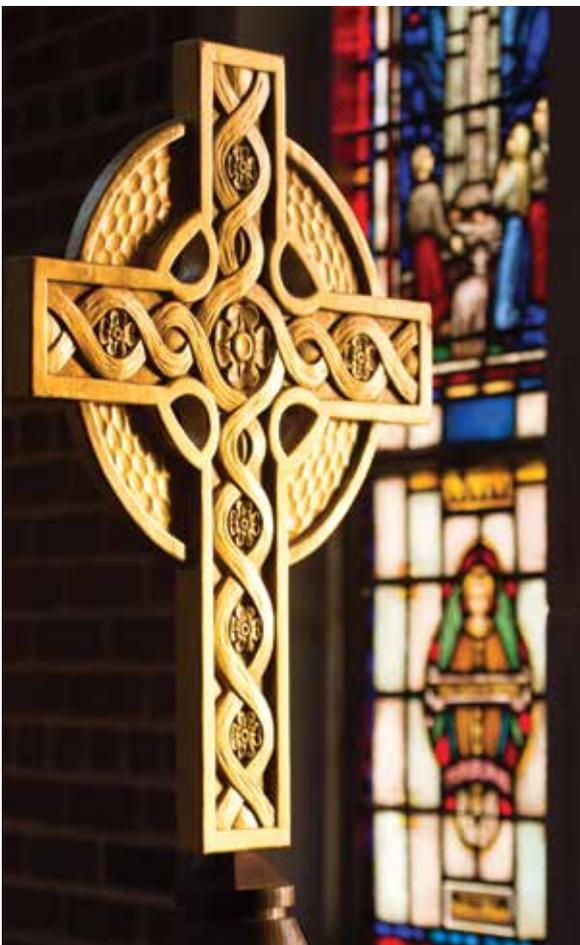
ONLINE METHOD

1. Submit your online pledge form through www.saintbridgetchurch.org/pledge.
2. Set your E-Giving account to make your contribution automatically each week.



Year End Giving

Thank you! The parish was truly blessed by generous year-end contributions this past year. Your gift to our parish can make a great difference to us and help you as well. As you begin year-end tax planning, take advantage of the charitable tax deduction for gifts made before December 31 and consider the variety of gift options available to you. As always, work closely with your tax and legal advisors to determine how any particular strategy will affect your overall tax situation. Please contact Kimberly Lapkin at the Parish Office (525-7888 or kimberly@saintbridgetchurch.org) by December 31 to advise the parish of your gift of stock so that it will qualify as a donation in 2016. The Parish Office will coordinate with your financial advisor or broker to ensure the gift is properly received. If you choose to make a cash donation, please prepare your check and mail it so that your envelope is postmarked or received by the Church Office by December 31. Thank you for financially supporting the many ministries of Saint Bridget parish!



Legacy Gifts

Leaving a legacy gift to Saint Bridget Catholic Church can be tax efficient and beneficial to your heirs. Prospective donors are urged to consult their personal tax and financial advisors concerning the specific consequences of making gifts to the parish. Your attorney, financial planner or tax consultant will help you determine a giving plan that can be tailored to your needs, desires and capabilities. Some of the gift arrangements are revocable and others cannot be changed once established. Some work better with cash and others with appreciated assets. Regardless of the method or the amount, we are grateful for your prayerful consideration of a gift in your will or living trust and of your commitment to the future well-being of St. Bridget Catholic Church. The financial gifts you return to God by sharing with your parish family have a tremendous impact – your gifts never stop giving! Contact Kimberly Lapkin, Director of Stewardship, for more information.

Year-end giving in 2015 was the highest Saint Bridget has had in a number of years and surpassed the previous year's year-end giving by over \$85,000! Thank you for your generosity!

6773

REGISTERED
PARISHIONERS



678

FINANCIAL
PLEDGES

355

STUDENTS
IN YOUTH
MINISTRY OR
RELIGIOUS ED



773

FAMILIES
GIVEN AID

102

NEW FAMILIES
JOINED



60K

WEBSITE
VISITS

BY THE NUMBERS

2015 - 2016

79

FIRST HOLY
COMMUNIONS



104

BAPTISMS

8352

VOTIVE
CANDLES



97

CONFIRMATIONS

33

MARRIAGES



29

FUNERALS