

The *Bridge*



ST. BRIDGET
CATHOLIC CHURCH

A Message from Monsignor Carr

I would like to invite everyone to the **Lenten Parish Retreat!** “Discovering Who We Are In Christ” is the theme and an inspiring variety of new spiritual offerings will be made along with our parish family’s customary Lenten devotions.

Monsignor Michael Clay will lead our parish retreat during Lent. Monsignor Clay, a successful pastor in Raleigh, is now on the faculty of Catholic University of America. Monsignor Clay has kindly assisted our parish by helping with Sunday Masses.

The retreat will kick off at Masses on March 14th and 15th and continue during the week of March 16th. **Please check the back cover of the Bridge for more details and check the bulletin and our parish website.** I believe this will be a rich offering to our parish family and I ask you to repeat after me, **“This is good I will go!”**

Lenten Blessings,
Monsignor Carr



The Triduum: No Greater Love

Please Join Us

Holy Thursday - April 2nd

7:30 pm, Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper and Transfer of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Good Friday - April 3rd

7:30 pm, Celebration of the Lord’s Passion, Veneration of the Holy Cross and Holy Communion.

Easter Vigil - Holy Saturday - April 4th

8:00 pm, Solemn Easter Vigil, Church.

Easter Sunday - the Resurrection of the Lord - April 5th

7:30 am Church, 9:00 am MPH and Church, 11:00 am MPH and Church, 5:00 pm Church.

Please note there is no 8:00 am Mass on Holy Thursday or Good Friday.

At A Glance

Youth Ministry: Confirmation Retreat	pg 2
Parishioner Profile & MOPs	pg 3
Human Concerns	pg 4
New Parishioners	pg 4
Financial Update	pg 5
Growing in Grace	pg 6
Parish Fish Fry	pg 6
Sacraments	pg 7
Parish Lenten Mission	pg 8



Saint Bridget
(Saint Brigid of Ireland, the Abbess of Kildare)

Youth Ministry: Confirmation Retreat

The Saint Bridget Confirmation class had an amazing weekend teaming up with Saint Bede for a two night Confirmation Retreat in Jamestown. With over 170 Confirmands on retreat, the two youth groups shared meals, prayer, sacraments and activities throughout the weekend including Reconciliation, Mass with Fr. Mike Boehling, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, two massive Christmas tree bonfires, s'mores, archery, a friendly game of Bridget vs. Bede flag football and an epic talent show (won by St. Bridget's Ryan Fad). The theme of the retreat was "Signed, Sealed, Delivered" and included large group presentations elaborating upon how we are signed in Baptism, sealed in Confirmation and delivered to spread the Gospel with our lives after Confirmation. This year the Young Apostles, a group of previously-Confirmed teens, joined the retreat to help lead small groups and present a panel presentation on living out your faith in high school after receiving Confirmation, it was incredible. All Confirmed teens are invited to come back the following years to help as Young Apostles to share their own experience and help the Confirmands with their preparation and retreat. It's a beautiful thing!

How did the teens like the retreat? "It was way better than I thought it would be!" was the overwhelming response. That's an



Fr. Mike Boehling celebrates the closing Mass of the Signed, Sealed, Delivered Confirmation Retreat



awesome thing; the retreat is designed to pull the teens out of their regular lives and give them a weekend set apart to encounter God, a scary proposition for many. "Signed, Sealed, Delivered" allows the teens to go as "deep" as they choose and I was astounded at the depth of prayer and how beautifully the teens entered into the sacraments and reflections. There was a lot of fun on this retreat, but even more so there was an incredible amount of joy, healing and prayer this weekend. Tremendous thanks and appreciation go to the twelve young adult and parent chaperones as well as the Young Apostles who gave up their weekend to make this retreat possible.

This retreat marked a special conclusion for one of our most dedicated and long-serving volunteers. Tom Lawrence has been involved with the Confirmation formation program and myriad other faith formation programs at St. Bridget since his own Confirmation in the mid 90s. He has a tremendous love for his faith as well as for encouraging and guiding others in their relationship with Christ. He is dedicated, selfless and immensely helpful in a multitude of capacities. We wish him well as he moves from the professional world into religious life as a seminarian for the Diocese of Richmond. We'll miss him at St. Bridget and pray for his vocation and ministry in the years to come.

Confirmation is a sacrament that demands a response. The teens are challenged to use the Gifts of the Holy Spirit that come in Confirmation to spread the Gospel not only with their words, but with their lives. Tom is a sterling example of one who has responded to that call and deeply invested in making use of those Gifts. As Tom is leaving it is worth noting that we can always use more help and would love more young adults and parents to be involved! Thank you for your continued prayers for the over 90 teens preparing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation at St. Bridget on May 20th and 21st!

- Dan Harms, Director of Youth Ministry

Saint Bridget vs. Saint Bede Flag Football along the banks of the James River at the Jamestown 4H Retreat Center.



Saint Bridget and Saint Bede Young Apostles including St. Bridget's: Blake Krongaard, Emily Condlin, Isabelle Bersano, Kate Hardrick and Sammi Thiedieck.

Parishioner Profile: Tom Lawrence

Tom Lawrence, life-long parishioner has been accepted into the Seminary. The parish is proud of Tom and his many contributions to parish life will be missed. Please read on to learn a little about Tom.

When did you come to St. Bridget?

I was baptized at St. Bridget at about 14 months. My mother is Methodist and my Father is Roman Catholic. I imagine there was some confusion or disagreement about when the sacrament should take place.

Subsequently, I attended St. Bridget School through 8th grade (then Benedictine, then University of Richmond). When I was able to drive, I started attending Mass on my own. This was around the time of my Confirmation year.

Each time I come to St. Bridget and choose to participate, it is an active choice. I want to distinguish this from when I entered the Church (through each and all of the Sacraments of Initiation). Faith is something which must be nurtured, challenged, and fed. St. Bridget's does this for me constantly.

Why do you want to be a priest?

As a young child, I was enlivened by and marveled at the priests among us, but until my Confirmation I didn't possess the faintest notion of what the Lord had

in store for me.

In my life, I've been increasingly driven by an imperative to place service to others ahead of my own wants, and it has now become my primary desire. I don't think that I've come upon this desire by my own strength and knowledge. I believe that at many key moments the Spirit has provided me with circumstances which have given access to this mentality. Ultimately I believe that the gifts I've been given are not mine to keep, but to give back to my brothers and sisters. These brethren have constantly mentioned the priesthood to me as an assumed state or a hopeful state, and with them so has my heart.

What are your thoughts about the priesthood?

I look at the priesthood as one of the most significant ways one can make their life a function of the needs of others.



Tom Lawrence

The opportunity to serve, council, and minister to people on our collective journey back to the Father is a great gift from the Church and to the Church.

What can the parish do to help?

Pray for all those seminarians currently in formation for our diocese. Their strong discernment will help as I continue with mine.

Pray for understanding of God's will in regards to their own and their children's possible vocations (to married life, the priesthood, religious life, or dedicated single life) so that they can understand how beautiful the alignment to a call can be.

Pray for Fr. Boehling and his continued success as Vicar of Vocations for the Diocese.

Help any seminarians they encounter to understand what you find valuable about our shared Faith and how and when you find yourself drawn closer to the Lord.

VBS 2015: Time to Plan!

It's time to start planning for VBS 2015! There will be a planning meeting on Friday, March 6th at 10 a.m. in the Murphy Conference Room. Please help us make Vacation Bible School a success again this year. Contact Teresa Lee for more information: tlees@saintbridgetchurch.org

Mothers of Preschoolers at Saint Bridget Church

Better Moms make a better world! The MOPS program exists to encourage, equip and develop mothers of young children to realize their potential as women, mothers, and leaders in the name of Jesus Christ.

The MOPS group at Saint Bridget Church meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month for fellowship, faith sharing, and encouragement for the daily-ness of being a mom. When the group formed in 2010 there were 5-10 mothers meeting each month. The group has grown into a vibrant ministry with 25-30 members. An off-shoot of this ministry is the Friday morning playgroup where mothers and their children can enjoy time together in a relaxing and faithful environment.

One of our goals is to give back to the community. Since starting the group we have done Christmas Sharing, Operation Christmas Shoebox, donated to local food pantries, Halloween trick or treating at local nursing homes - and much more!

The women in our MOPS group experience authentic community, mothering support, personal growth, and spiritual hope, all to help them be the best moms possible. If you are interested in joining MOPS at Saint Bridget, or would like more information, please contact Maria Brown at mags4vt@gmail.com.

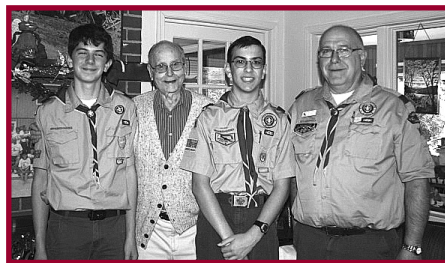


Human Concerns: Bringing Joy and Lots of Smiles

What a way to spread some joy! Scouts Aidan Stengel and Gabriel Romito spent time with three of our homebound parishioners during the Christmas Season. Working on their Ad Altare Dei Religious Emblem they are called to visit, help or assist the elderly. The boys reached out to the Parish and asked if there were parishioners that they could visit. On Saturday, December 20, 2014 they visited Bob Kline, Marcy Dillion, and Ann Williams. Aidan and Gabriel presented each person with a small silver heart engraved with the word "Joy" at the beginning of their visit and a larger red stone heart with the word "smile" imprinted on the front. As the pictures below show these tiny gifts were well received and did indeed bring lots of joy and smiles.



Visiting Marcy Dillion was also a treat. Marcy shared stories with the boys and they enjoyed getting to know her.



Aidan Stengel, Bob Kline, Gabriel Romito and Assistant Scoutmaster Kevin Stengel visited Bob. Bob was more than happy to explain his family history as depicted in the picture to the left of Aidan.



Visiting Ann Williams at Imperial Plaza was another rewarding visit. She shared several family memories with the boys and thoroughly enjoyed the break from her day.

A Warm Welcome to Our New Parishioners

Allie Cruz
 Mrs. Joanne Meeley
 Ms. Elizabeth McManus
 Mr. & Mrs. Scott Stevens
 Mr. & Mrs. Scott Erpelding
 Mr. & Mrs. Joe D'Onofrio,
 Children: Madelyn, Emily
 Ms. Claire Cooper, Child: Cooper
 Patrick & Abigail Cureton
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Romano
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward Teaster
 Dr. M. Linda Christian
 Mr. & Mrs. Philip Noonan, III,
 Child: Philip
 Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Scheiber
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Mathews,
 Child: Tess
 Ms. Lauri Rinehart
 Dr. & Mrs. Trevor Stefanski,
 Children: Jack, Cory
 Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Pohlmann,
 Children: Jack, William, Isabelle
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Baker,
 Children: Haley, Eliza
 Ms. Stacy Mott
 Mr. Brian O'Laughlin

Mr. Heath Meyer & Ms. Tracy Cassalia,
 Child: Gabrielle
 Mr. & Mrs. Brian Foley,
 Child: Katherine
 Mr. & Mrs. Zach Rudegear
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Blackburn,
 Child: Alexander
 Dr. & Mrs. John Dyer,
 Children: Rocco, Leila, Joseph, Alexis
 Mr. & Mrs. Chandler Davis
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward Lanza
 Mr. & Mrs. Eric Barker
 Mr. & Mrs. William Van Thuren,
 Child: Wills
 Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Barnhart,
 Children: Isabelle, Clara
 Mr. & Mrs. Casey Richardson,
 Child: Connor
 Mr. & Mrs. Jay Venable,
 Child: Evelyn
 Mr. Rick Stump & Ms. Jocelyn Riebe
 Mrs. Nancy Pfund
 Mr. Thomas Victors & Mrs. Fiona Clancy,
 Child: Aoife
 Mr. Garland Gray & Ms. Valerie Paquette
 Edward & Anne Arden Norfleet, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Krouse,
 Children: Olivia, Alexander
 Mr. & Mrs. Sean Murphy
 Dr. & Mrs. Ryan Jones,
 Children: Coplan, Sawyer, Merrick
 Elizabeth Nygren
 Darryn and Susanne Appleton,
 Children: Sean and Lena
 Nancy Bland
 Beth and Dave Brotherton
 Amanda Chase
 Chip and Beth Collingwood,
 Children Cade and Camryn
 Lonnie House and Carol Hernandez,
 Children: Dominic and Damian
 Ross and Rae Girardi
 Barbara Gorla
 Steven Kanaby
 Rob and Kathleen MacSwan,
 Child: Campbell
 Anastasia Moore
 Alex and Maggie Padron
 Steven and Tovia Smith,
 Children: Edward "Lee" and Tovia
 Matthew and Kimberly Uccellini
 Peter and Sara Vick,
 Child: Toby
 Mike Yager

Summary Church Operating Fund Report: July 2014 through December 2014

Stewardship: Sharing Our Gifts

St. Bridget Parish Annual Financial Stewardship Appeal continues to thrive. Twenty-nine percent of parishioners making pledges are increasing their pledge over last year's pledge. Thank you for this generous response to God's call to stewardship and your support of the parish!

It is vital to our parish life that we have the financial support of every parishioner! Join your fellow parishioners and complete your 2015 Stewardship pledge card and mail it in the return envelope, or place it in the offertory at Mass, extra pledge cards are in the Commons or pledge online www.saintbridgetchurch.org. If you have any questions, please contact Kimberly Lapkin, Director of Stewardship, at 804.525.7888 or kimberly@saintbridgetchurch.org.

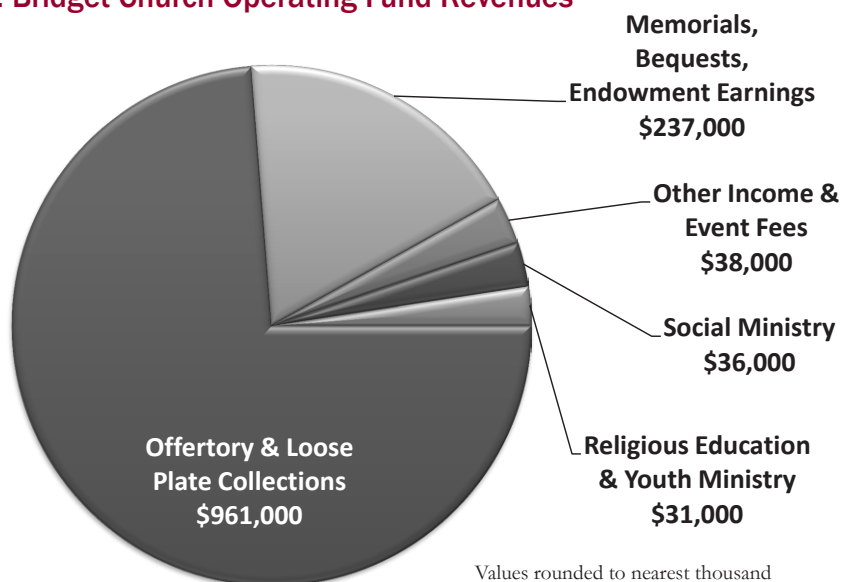
E-Giving and Your Stewardship Pledge:

If you are not already doing so, please consider E-Giving to make donations to the parish. To make a contribution on-line, visit our website at www.saintbridgetchurch.org and click on the E-Giving link. You may use debit cards, credit cards or electronic funds transfer for your contributions. E-Giving provides a secure and convenient option to fulfill your stewardship pledge and make donations to the various funds and special collections. Contact Kimberly Lapkin at 525-7888 or kimberly@saintbridgetchurch.org with any E-Giving questions.

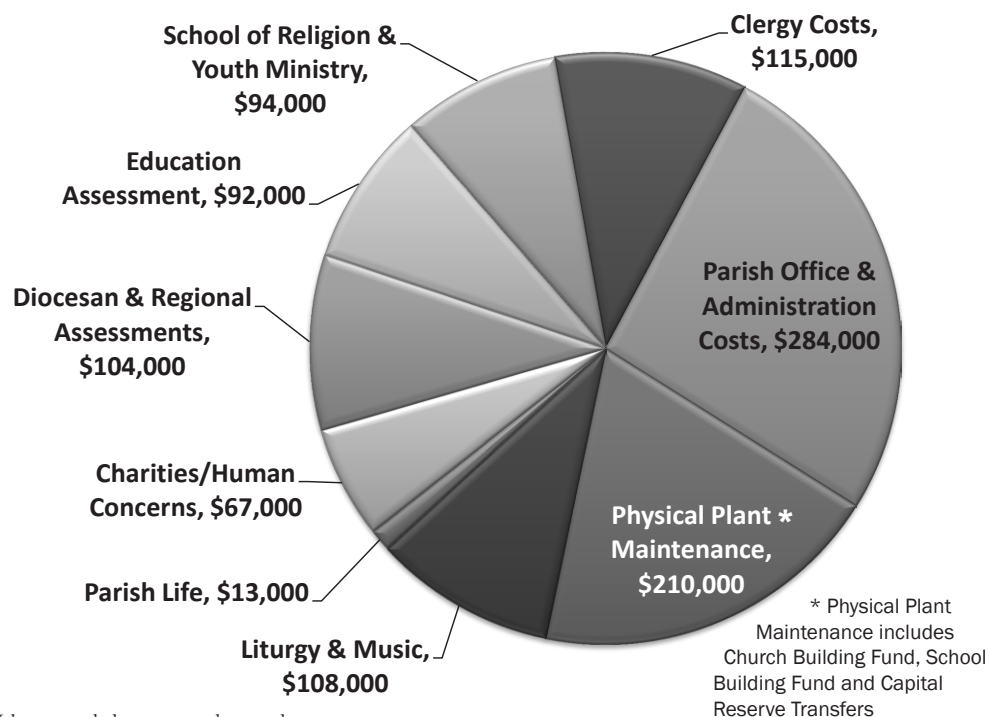
If you have already submitted your pledge card and updated your E-Giving, thank you! If not, please submit a pledge card so that we may record your pledge.

Please remember to update contribution amounts or card/bank information on E-Giving. If you forget your username or password or have any other E-Giving questions, please contact our E-Giving Team directly at 1-877-771-3336 or Kimberly Lapkin. Thank you for your contributions to support God's work here at Saint Bridget Church!

St. Bridget Church Operating Fund Revenues



St. Bridget Church Operating Fund Expenditures



2014 Year-End Contribution Statements Mailed

Thank you for your contributions to the parish! Christmas and year-end contributions were most generous! Contribution Statements itemizing your 2014 contributions to St. Bridget parish have been mailed. If you have any questions about your statement please contact Kim-

berly Lapkin at 804.525.7888 or e-mail at kimberly@saintbridgetchurch.org. Your commitment to help ensure the future growth of our parish community is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support!

Contact Us

Dial 282.9511,
then use 3-digit extensions or the
direct line when provided

Clergy

Rev. Msgr. William H. Carr:
Pastor,
parishmail@saintbridgetchurch.org

Father Stefan Migac:
Parochial Vicar,
frstefan@saintbridgetchurch.org, 327

Father Michael Boehling:
Vicar for Vocations, In Residence

Rev. Mr. John Arkesteyn:
Permanent Deacon,
johna6565@gmail.com, 525.7904

Rev. Mr. Robert Giovenco:
Permanent Deacon,
bobbygio@comcast.net, 316

Rev. Mr. V.J. Petillo:
Permanent Deacon,
vjpetillo@gmail.com

Pastoral Staff

Paul Amrhein:
Human Concerns & Pastoral
Care Minister,
paul@saintbridgetchurch.org,
525.7902

Allen Bean:
Music Minister,
abean@saintbridgetchurch.org,
525.7892

Dan Harms:
Youth Minister,
sbvayouth@gmail.com, 525.7901

Ray Honeycutt:
St. Bridget School Principal,
rhoneycutt@saintbridget.org, 288.1994

Teresa Lee:
Director, Religious Education & RCIA,
tlee@saintbridgetchurch.org, 525.7896

**Saint Bridget Women's Ministry invites you to a
Lenten Retreat for Women:**

Growing in Grace 2015: "Feminine Genius"

Saturday, March 28th 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Guest Speakers

Father Novokowsky
Pastor of
St. Joseph Parish,
Richmond



Gretchen Ridgely
with "ENDOW"
Educating on the Nature
and Dignity of Women

**A special lunch speaker will talk about
women's health and wellness**

**Morning Mass, rosary &
quiet reflection in the church 8-9 am**

Advanced Registration fee: \$20 (\$25 at the door)
Please make checks payable to St. Bridget Church.
You may mail them to Kimberly Lapkin, St. Bridget Church,
6006 Three Chopt Road, Richmond, VA. 23226, or
register online at www.saintbridgetchurch.org (look for us under
the heading "E-giving" & tickets)

For more information:

Shannon Garbett, shannongarbett@verizon.net or
Kim Hulcher, dkhulcher@yahoo.com

St. Bridget Parish Annual Lenten Fish Fry

St. Bridget Parish Annual Lenten Fish Fry – March 13th - Get Your Tickets Now! An evening of food, fellowship, and fun brought to you by the Knights of Columbus and the Liturgy Committee. You will enjoy a tasty dinner of fried or baked fish, macaroni and cheese, coleslaw, potato salad, corn, roll and dessert. Local craft brews and good wine will be available to quench your thirst! Proceeds will support the Knight's Catholic High School Scholarship fund and Liturgy Committee initiatives. \$10/dinner for adults; \$5 for children under 12. Friday, March 13th, 5:00 – 8:00 pm in Mother Presentation Hall. Please buy your tickets soon to hold your place. Tickets will be sold after Mass over the coming weekends, online via E-Giving, and through the Parish Office.



Contact Us

Dial 282.9511,
then use 3-digit extensions or the
direct line when provided

Administration

Michele Healy:
Director of Communications,
communications@saintbridgetchurch.org,
525.7899

Julie Koury:
Pastoral Assistant,
julie@saintbridgetchurch.org,
525.7890

Kimberly Lapkin:
Director of Stewardship,
kimberly@saintbridgetchurch.org,
525.7888

Pat Morrison:
Wedding Coordinator,
akmpm@juno.com,
741.6620

Cheryl Peters:
Director of Administration,
cpeters@saintbridgetchurch.org
525-7894

Joan Scarola:
Pastoral Assistant,
jscarola@saintbridgetchurch.org,
525.7898

Joel Keith:
Bookkeeper,
jkeith@saintbridgetchurch.org,
525.7889

Councils & Committees

Building Committee:
Rick Kastelberg,
wfkberg@gmail.com
350.3951

Finance Council:
John McCulla,
jkmcculla@comcast.net,
306.2488

Liturgy Committee:
Bruce Slough,
bslough@hotmail.com,
288-4675

Parish Pastoral Council:
Paul Sinclair,
paul.sinclair@kingscrest.com,
353.3140

Sacraments

Baptisms

Olufolahan Oludemilade Akinola
Olufolayemi Oludarasimi Akinola
Clara York Barnhart
Andrew Charles Bryant
Caroline Elise Clarke
Minh Cam Curtis
Charlotte Cecelia Ellington
Katherine Louise Foley
Isabella Annalyse Hernandez
Cecily Lena Jaso
Merrick Scott Jones
Laney Reese Karnes
Lily Catherine Keeler
Burton Mick Kessel
Ashlinn Marie Lankford
Isabella Maria Lo Presti
Margaret McKenney Lucier
Berkeley Elizabeth Macfarlane
Brooke Lundy Macfarlane

Marriages

Reynell Farrar and Timothy Amato
Theresa Dunn and Parker Collins
Staci Brophy and Alexander Phillips
Katherine Kitchen and Robert Murray

Quinn James MacLaughlin
Elsie Mae Marklin
Gabrielle August Meyer
Everett Grace Moore
Tucker DeWitt Moore
Chase Louis Nowak
Hampton DeSouza Pilcher
Peter Davis Pinna
Avery McLean Shaw
James Walker Shaw
Jackson Clark Silver
William Roy Van Thunen
Sophia Claire Vega
Evelyn Marie Venable

Deaths

Joseph Tokarz
Claudia McArthur
Peter Rosanelli
Charles Marchetti
Bernard Bland
Sarah Bruch
Kathleen Brown Rodenburg
Nick Diemente
Anthony Velo
Janet Fagan
Louis Kastelberg
Joseph Paul Rapisarda, Sr.
Ben Carlos Cleary, Sr.
Mary Ann Siewers

The Next Friends of Music at Saint Bridget Church Concert

Ensemble Chanterelle - March 13, 2015 at 7:30 pm

Ensemble Chanterelle has captivated audiences at festivals, museums, historic sites and college campuses across the United States since making its acclaimed New York recital debut in 1984 as winner of the Concert Artists Guild Award. Ensemble Chanterelle's warm and engaging performances combine humor, drama, passion and virtuosity with imaginative and innovative programming. Sally Sanford, soprano; Catherine Liddell, lute & theorbo; and Brent Wissick, viol and Baroque cello are all distinguished artists in the field of early music performance. They have recorded CDs and broadcasts for radio and television in Europe, North America and Australia.

PLEASE JOIN US FROM MARCH 14 - 21, 2015 FOR Discovering Who We Are In Christ

THE STORY

Love God.
Love Others.
Make Disciples.

SO WHAT'S HAPPENING

New Evangelization, St. Bridget's Lenten Retreat

WHO'S TALKING

Monsignor Michael Clay, an inspiring, effective and transformative leader, will kick off the retreat at Masses on March 14th and 15th.

WHAT ABOUT

Building a church culture where people value doing life together and recognize that the Holy Spirit has called each of us to advance our faith and the kingdom of Christ.

THINGS TO KNOW

Mon-Fri 8:30 -10:30am /6:30 -8:30pm (of course, 8am daily Mass too)
Don't need to come every day but hope you do! All at St. Bridget's
We've got your babysitting covered each evening

REPEAT AFTER ME

This is good I will go!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 14 - 21, 2015

EVENT SCHEDULE

Saturday/Sunday

"Discovering Who We Are in Christ"

Monday

"Evangelization: Understanding the Essential Starting Point of the Catholic Faith Journey"

Tuesday

"Great Moments in Catholic Guilt: A Tradition of Contrition"

Wednesday **10:30 am**

Mass and Anointing of the Sick

Wednesday Evening

Evening Prayer and Anointing of the Sick

Thursday

Reconciliation and Lenten Penitential Services.

Friday

"The Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord"

Saturday

"Forming Our Children in the Gospel in a Secular World"

Saturday Night

Date Night! Dinner, Keynote, Child Care and Cash Bar

