



Change at our parish - but one constant - our love of God and our devotion to serve him.

Our Parish is guided by God's love and a desire to serve His will. God asks a lot of St. Bridget Parish and it always answers His call with grace. This past month we said farewell to Father Stefan and welcomed Father George. 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.

St. 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.

Blessings,
 Monsignor Carr



National Right to Life Committee Chairman Emeritus Geline Williams Honored



A Mass of Thanksgiving was held in honor of St. Bridget parishioner Mrs. Geline B. Williams at St. Mary's Church on August 27. Father Michael Renninger and Monsignor William Carr honored Mrs. Williams, her tireless leadership in the right-to-life movement as well as her leadership in civic affairs and service on many boards and commissions. She was elected to the Richmond City Council in 1984, and served as Mayor from 1988-1990 as well as president of the Richmond Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. God bless Geline!

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

Faith, Service and Community

“Faith, Service and Community” is the mission statement of Catholic Heart Work Camp at St. Bridget Church. Everything we do throughout the year from visiting people in the community, serving spaghetti, participating in Adoration and going on the mission trip itself is based on these three goals. When St. Bridget started going on mission trips 11 years ago, we could never have imagined where this journey would have taken us and our parish. The support, prayers and time given by so many has made it possible for our students and adults to serve communities across the country. We have helped the elderly and disabled, worked with children, built wheelchair ramps, painted, helped at therapeutic horse farms, cleaned yards and houses and done every imaginable type of physical labor. However, the number of campers and the projects themselves do not reveal the amazing experiences that we have been a part of and witness to. As Quinn Girardi, a senior at Freeman High School said, “It is the one week where we not only get to grow in our faith but we actually get to live our faith out as we are learning more about God.”

This past summer, we sent 118 teens and adults to Charlotte, NC and Charleston, SC to help serve in those communities. Twenty-three adult campers took a week out of their summer and spent numerous hours throughout the year to help provide this

opportunity for our youth. All of us join together, sleep on the floor, eat cafeteria food and take cold showers for a week in order to give of ourselves, serve others and grow in our faith. As adult campers, we fully embrace the adolescent fun and have found the experience to be incredibly rewarding. From a faith perspective, Catholic Heart exposes all campers to many aspects of our Catholic tradition including daily Mass, the rosary, reconciliation and Adoration. Each camper has the opportunity to learn more about each of these aspects of our faith in a setting that is welcoming and inviting. As a result, campers realize that each of us is created with unique gifts and that the Roman Catholic faith provides numerous ways to express our faith and to grow closer to God.

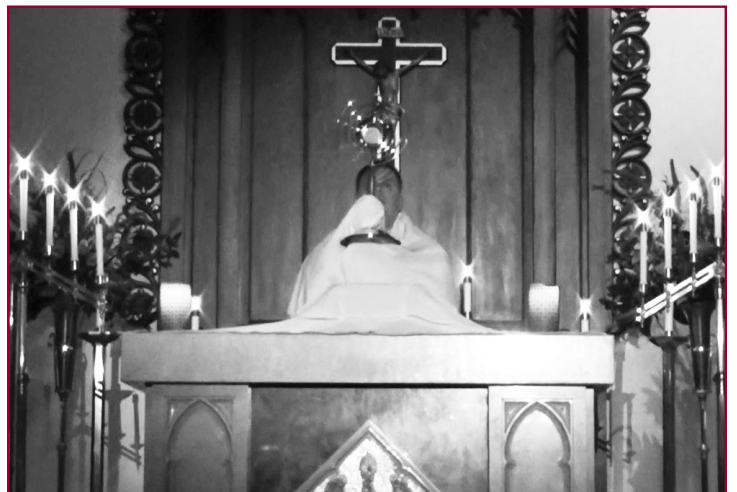
Our experiences at Catholic Heart Work Camp have inspired our youth to form their own non-profit organizations, to organize service events like Stop Hunger Now, to grow spiritually through retreats, to serve as staff for Catholic Heart and to serve more in our own community. We have realized that as Catholics we serve because of our love for God and Neighbor. It does not matter the faith of the person we serve. Our understanding of community has expanded well beyond the borders of our neighborhoods, schools, cities or even state. We have developed relationships with students from other schools and other states.



On ramp from left to right: Harrison Alley, Aaron D'Amato (kneeling), Clayton Ashey, Lizzie Cozens, Justin Ashey. Our teens are joined by the work team that built the ramp in Greensboro, NC.

One of the many examples of community that has occurred through Catholic Heart Work Camp took place this past summer when the CHWC camp in Greensboro dedicated a wheelchair ramp to one of our parishioners, Christian Cozens. Christian is a student at Randolph Macon College and was diagnosed with a tumor on his pelvic bone last spring. He is presently undergoing treatment and is working towards a full recovery. Over the past few

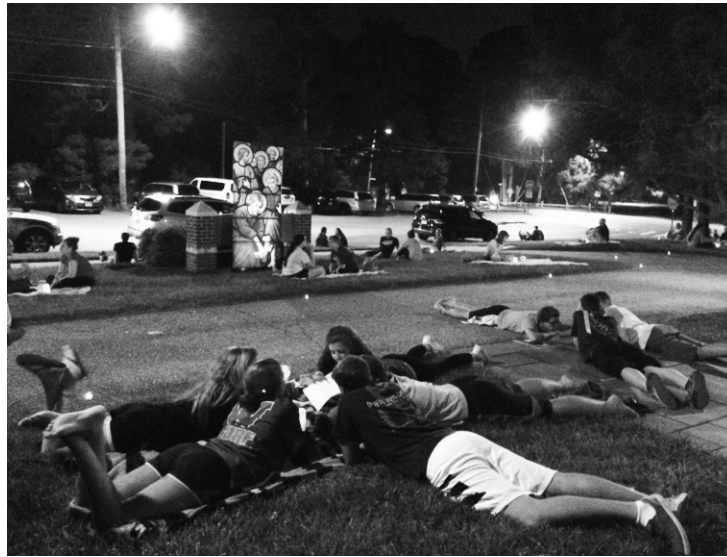
years, Christian along with several other older teens from our parish became leaders among the student campers at Catholic Heart. Their enthusiasm was and is contagious and continues to impact the students as well as the adults at camp. When the Greensboro camp leaders heard that Christian was sick, they decided to dedicate one of the wheelchair ramps they were building in support of his healing. Students from around the country came to Greens-



Fr. Ed Bresnahan celebrating Adoration with teens and adults.

boro to build a wheelchair ramp for a disabled woman, members of the Greensboro community helped build and finance the ramp, students and adults from St. Bridget came to help with the dedication and Catholic Heart Work Camp brought all of us together. Working together, we accomplished something that was bigger than all of us and united us as a community of faith. This ramp is just one of many incredible examples of service and community that are experienced at camp each year.

Similarly, our participation in Catholic Heart Work Camp, has given us the ability to host a camp right here in Richmond. Through the work and support of Msgr. Carr, priests throughout the diocese, numerous community members and parishioners, we were able to welcome 255 campers to Richmond, VA this past summer. Thank you for your help with cleaning and preparing the school, serving meals, trouble shooting and working at worksites. As a result of your efforts and support, campers were able to serve local organizations such as Support One Housing, Virginia Supportive Housing, Housing Families First, The Faison School, Tricycle Gardens, St. Frances Home, The Little Sisters of the Poor, Shalom Retreat Center and Southside Childhood Development Center. Additionally, we were able to help individual residents and parishes in the surrounding community. It is humbling to see how God has allowed



us to be part of a project that serves so many – the campers, the staff, the community and our parish. We can't help everybody but if you are aware of a person in need this may be an avenue by which that need may be filled.

If you would like more information about attending Catholic Heart Work Camp or the Catholic Heart Work Camp that is held at St. Bridget, please contact Anne-Marie Condlin at (804) 426-5298 or amcondlin@gmail.com.

Some of the 255 campers who came to Richmond, VA this past summer participating in 4 corners, a prayer experience.



Thank you again for your continued prayers and support!

~ The CHWC Committee

Saint Bridget Friends of Music 2015 – 2016 Series

A Gift of Music to the Richmond Community, all concerts are free, though donations are gratefully accepted.

Friday, November 20, 2015 at 7:30 P.M.: Allen Bean, Music Minister, Saint Bridget Church. Our Music Minister gives a concert as a gift to the parish and the community. His program will show off the many colors of the John-Paul Buzard, Opus 42 pipe organ.

Friday, January 29, 2016 at 7:30 P.M.: Daniel Stipe, Organist. Richmond's own virtuoso organist gives a concert in support of the LPM program of Virginia.

Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 7:30 P.M.: Daniel Roth, Organist of St. Sulpice, Paris, and International Organ Concert Artist. This will be the first concert given on the Buzard, Opus 42 organ by a European organist. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to hear this great concert.

Friday, March 18, 2016 at 7:30 P.M.: VCU Artistic Ambassadors to Colombia, VCU's Brass Quintet that will visit Cartagena in the spring. This concert will feature a quintet of VCU brass students who will visit Colombia at the end of this academic year.

Saturday, April 9, 2016 at 7:30 P.M.: Hymn Festival led by The Saint Bridget Choirs. Find inspiration through singing along with, and hearing our Adult and Girl & Boy Choirs.

Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at 7:30 P.M.: Russell Weismann, Organist. Russell is currently the Director of Music at St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish in Bethesda, Maryland. His previous professional experience includes serving as Associate Director of Music at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Director of Music and Liturgy and Adjunct Professor of Sacred Music at Georgetown University, University Chapel Organist and Teaching Fellow at Yale University and Associate Music Director at Saint Paul Cathedral in Pittsburgh, PA.

Human Concerns: Armstrong Update

Anyone who is familiar with Richmond knows that St. Bridget Catholic Church is located in the affluent suburbs of the West End while Holy Rosary Catholic Church is located in the economically challenged East End. They are not far apart geographically, but they are miles apart in so many other ways.

For years, Msgr. William Carr, from St. Bridget, and Father David Stanfill, from Holy Rosary, have been looking for a project in which their congregations could partner. When Armstrong High School's new Freshman Academy came along, they believed they had found just the right one.

Armstrong High School, one of the first African-American high schools established after the Civil War, is located in the East End of Richmond. It has a proud history with an impressive list of past graduates. But, because of demographic shifts and the concentration of public housing in the East End, its task of suc-

cessfully educating our youth is much more challenging. Today Armstrong students come mostly



A Luncheon to kick-off the new year.

from four of Richmond's five public housing developments; they are economically and educationally challenged. Approximately 75-90% qualify for free and reduced-priced lunch, 99% are African-Americans and on-time graduation rates were 74% in 2013 and 80% in 2014. In addition, approximately 67% of entering 9th graders are two or more grade levels behind in math and English. Truancy rates well exceed other Richmond City high schools as well as other high schools in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Armstrong Priorities Freshman Academy, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, is an interfaith project involving 13 Churches, mostly in the East End. The Academy is designed to help those incoming 9th graders who are behind in math and English by bringing them to grade level by the time they enter 10th grade and by providing opportunities to develop the skills and attitudes that will help them succeed in high school and life. To accomplish this, the Academy students receive a double dose of math and English instruction in the classroom. Also, these students each receive a mentor and individual tutoring. Volunteers not only from St. Bridget and Holy Rosary but also from the 11 other faith-based institutions throughout the East End, come into the school and provide tutoring, mentoring and activities.

April Hawkins, the Principal of Armstrong, often tells these volunteers: "You must dream for these students until they can

dream for themselves." This is done by taking the students on field trips (often the first time they have been outside the East End), talking to them about the importance of education, telling them they believe in them, helping them navigate high school and sometimes just being there to listen to them.



Father Stanfill with "shower" recipient and his mom.

St Bridget recently allocated funds it received from the diocesan Living our Mission Campaign to partner with Holy Rosary and support the Freshman Academy. The two parishes just co-hosted a Welcome Luncheon for the incoming Academy students and their families- another way to show our support for the potential these students possess. For 4 years, Holy Rosary has been sponsoring a "college shower" for an Armstrong graduate who is going to college and needs just about everything; St. Bridget is now partnering with them on this shower.

Parishioners of St. Bridget and Holy Rosary believe this partnership goes well beyond what is being done with Armstrong students. In contrast to the often negative news about race relations in the news these days, we are seeing what we can accomplish when people of diverse backgrounds come together for a common purpose and learn from each other as we do God's work in the world in the unity to which we are called.

The partnership Msgr. Carr and Father Stanfill envisioned is now taking shape in a meaningful way. **Want to help? Please contact Paul Amrhein paul@saintbridgetchurch.org or 525-7902.**

New Feature!

St. Bridget Weekly Email Update

Would you like St. Bridget events and news delivered right to your inbox? Go to sainbridgetchurch.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!



Summary Church Operating Fund Report: July 2014 through June 2015

Saint Bridget Parish Annual Financial

Stewardship Appeal, *Serve One Another*, begins January 2016. Saint Bridget Parish: a church so alive that it stands as an inspiration to all of us to count our blessings as we go forward in faith. Stewardship is part of that journey. You make availability and service possible. Stewardship is your active commitment to use your time, talent and treasure to Serve One Another for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.

In January 2016, parish families will receive a Stewardship mailing and pledge card included with the parish Annual Report. Stewardship cannot happen without you. Thank you for your heartfelt and generous response to our annual parish Stewardship Appeal!

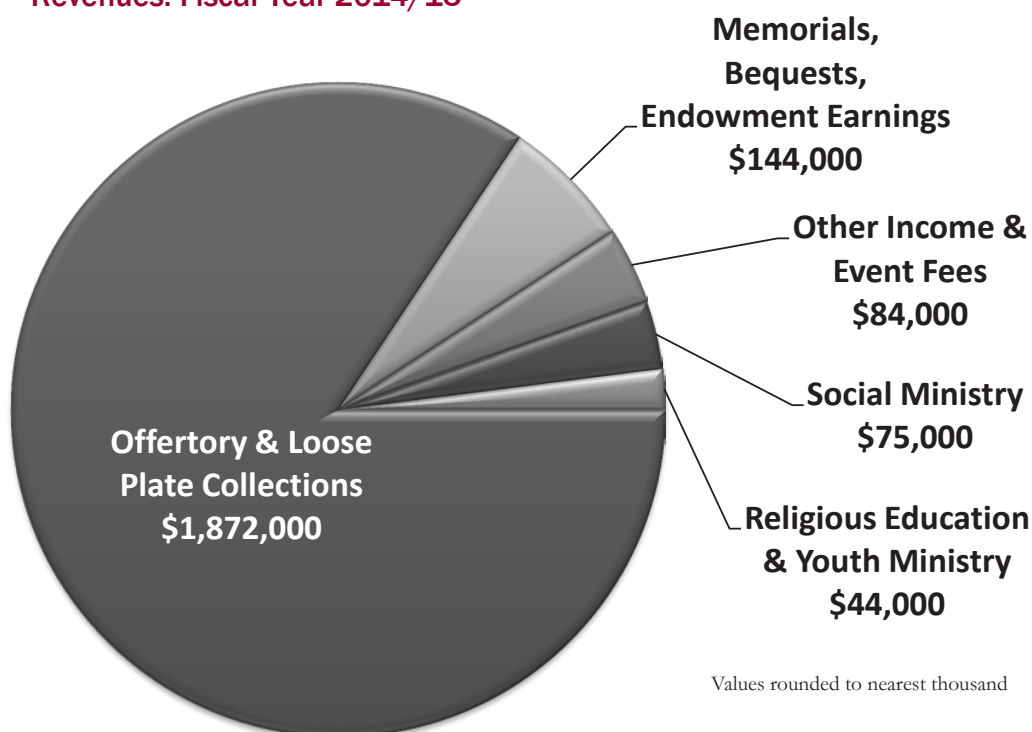
"As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." - 1 Peter 4:10-11

E-Giving and Your Stewardship Pledge

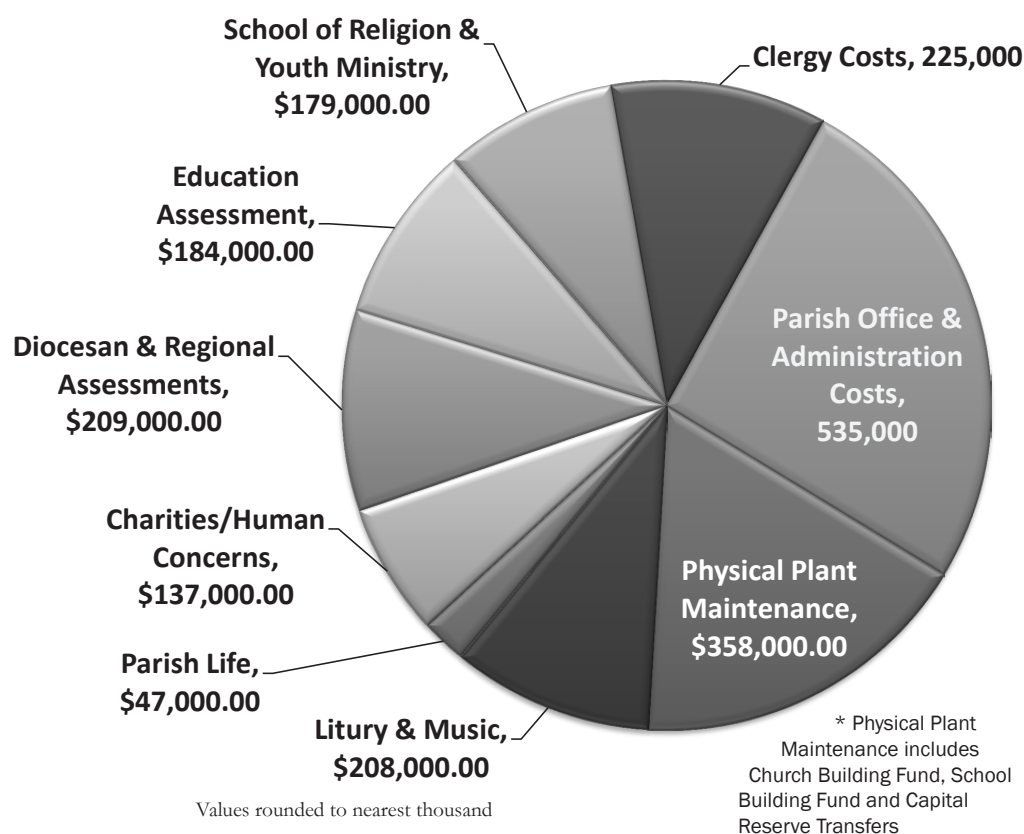
Please consider E-Giving to make donations to the parish. To make a contribution on-line, go to saintbridgetchurch.org and click on the E-Giving link. You may use debit cards, credit cards or electronic funds transfer for your contributions. E-Giving provides a secure and convenient option to fulfill your stewardship pledge and make donations to the various funds and special collections.

E-Giving provides a cost savings to the parish since processing time is quick and easy and we send fewer Envelope Packets. Contact Kimberly Lapkin at 525-7888 or kimberly@saintbridgetchurch.org with any questions regarding E-Giving. Thank you for your contributions to support God's work here at Saint Bridget Church!

Revenues: Fiscal Year 2014/15



Expenses: Fiscal Year 2014/15



Contact Us

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

Clergy

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Teresa Lee:
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Councils & Committees

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Parish Pastoral Council:
Kerri Inge,
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Parish Announcements

St. Bridget Saints and Sinners James River Cruise and Buffet Lunch!

October 22, 2015 10:00 am to 3:00 pm - Join us on the "City of Fredericksburg" Paddle Wheel Boat for a wonderful tour of the James River. We'll depart from Rocketts Landing (3101 Wharf Street Richmond, VA 23223) for a 2 hour cruise of the beautiful James River. See the James and its shorelines as our earliest settlers did five centuries ago! Our cruise includes a freshly made All-U-Can-Eat lunch buffet featuring sliced ham, turkey, roast beef, hot pulled pork bbq, and a variety of salads. The first half of our trip will be narrated by the ship's Captain while the second half will feature our favorite music. A full bar will be available serving your choice of spirits. The City of Fredericksburg features two decks, a full bar, and dance floor. We will leave from the parking area in front of St. Bridget at 10:00 am, and arrive back at St. Bridget about 3:00 pm. We will carpool together to the departure point at Rocketts Landing. The cost of \$35 per person includes cruise, lunch, and tips. Reserve your seat in Parish Office – make your check out to St. Bridget Church - note SAS Trip. This will be a relaxing time together! Call John McCulla at 342-1112 for more information or questions.

A Warm Welcome to Our New Parishioners

Michael & Nicole Arthur
children: Chloe, Nicholas, Jack
Rita Baird
Sharon Benedict
Matej & Rhoda Bevc
children: Gabriel, Dominic, Maria
Elizabeth Bodenheimer
Eleanor Boyce
Robert & Claire Campbell
children: Leighton, Walker
Gary & Madeline Cason
child: Theodore
Brian & Lauren Cecil
child: Jack
Scott & Catherine Coleman
children: Connor, Branden, Cason,
Dellan
Sean & Anna Crofford
child: Mac
Hunter Curle & Noelle Mazary
Jared Fisher
Samuel & Mary Beth Fleegle
child: Luke
Erin Garnett
Mackenzie Grubbs
Christian & Nora Guzman
child: Maddison Isabella
Matt & Cara Hartle
child: Evan
Jay & Valerie Jennison

Thomas & Jennifer Jones
Cherrie King
Carol M. Knight
Deborah Krausse
Bradley & Katie Marsh
child: Augustus
Christopher Martin
Oliver & Josephine Martinez
children: Leonidas, Theodore, Augustine,
Benedict
Pierre Morel
Daniel & Laura Musick
child: Charles
Natalie Phillips
Jason & Jeannette Plamp
child: August
Marshall & Kara Printy
Andrew & Jessie Ryan
Lindsay Sanchez
Gregory & Michelle Sesny
child: Gianna
Mrs. Allison Thornton
children: Madelyn, RYanne
Elijah Torres
Andrew & Elizabeth Waring
children: Joseph, Lily, Anne
Yunlai & Kate Wei
children: Alaina, Kai
Jessica Whitaker

Contact Us

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

Administration

Cheryl Peters:
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Michelle Sesny:
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Sacraments

Baptisms

Everett James Abrams
Michael Richard Abrams
Hailey Martina Appleton
Lena Uta Appleton
Chloe Madeline Arthur
Bridget Genevieve Barker
Maria Bevc
Autumn Everly Bode
Jack Madden Cecil
Benjamin Council Cureton
Max Ennis
Grayson Hagan Gallihugh
Andres Nicolas Gontaruk
Burke Fuller Grissom
Madelyn Jean Jernigan
John Alton Jones III
Augustus Murray Marsh

Aiden Joseph Matthew
Aidan James McCormack
Kenneth Connor Montgomery
Beckett Lowery Noggle
Walter Thomas Olejer
Michael Anthony Oley
Sullivan Louise Phillips
August Edward Plamp
Connor Scott Richardson
Josiah Sanchez
Allyson Kathryn Savino
Neil Hudson Stewart
Isla Mae Uccellini
Ballard Anderson Walters
Kai Alexander Wei
Davis Harrison Wright

Marriages

Minerva Guerrero and Shawn Pardee
Veronica Tharp and Jordan Harless
Ellen Goodrich-Stuart and Remy Huentjens

Bridie McCulla and Francesco DaVela
Kelsey Creech and Aaron Stumpf

Deaths

Bill Burlee
LaMar Dotter
Katherine Fuller
Modesta Gross

Tina Lustig
Al Markow
Philip Quinan
Mary Katherine Solari Stone

Jean A. Taylor
Theodore Woods



St. Bridget School and Martin's grocery store A+ School Rewards program

We are excited to announce the start of the 2015/2016 Martin's grocery store A+ School Rewards program! From October 9, 2015 through March 17, 2016, St. Bridget School (School ID 22862) will have the opportunity to earn cash through the Martin's A+ School Rewards Program every time you use your Martin's Bonus Card. We need your help! **All you have to do is:**

Log on to www.martinsfoods.com/aplus to designate St. Bridget (ID #22862) on-line using your Martin's BONUSCARD OR Call the A+ Hotline at 888-448-4642 for assistance.

REMEMBER: If you registered your card last year, you DO NOT need to re-register this year. You can visit the website to verify correct school assignment. Also, don't forget to encourage your friends and relatives to do the same. It could mean more CASH for our school. After you register your card, each shopping trip at Martin's using your BONUSCARD earns CASH for our school. Our school will receive a check at the end of the program and the money can be used for any of our school's educational needs. Last year, we earned almost \$5,000 from this program alone! **Please be sure to designate St. Bridget School using ID #22862.** Thank you for choosing to support St. Bridget School!

This summer the youth of Saint Bridget were busy!

After Confirming 84 students and wrapping up the school year, vacation, travel, summer jobs and sports proceeded as usual but there were plenty of opportunities for teens to gather together to continue to gather in community and grow in relationship with Christ. In addition to Catholic Heart Work Camp, a few highlights include the Summer Praise and Pizza series, Ice Cream Socials after 5pm Mass, The Diocese of Richmond Middle School Summer Camp, and a Whitewater Rafting/Camping retreat with area Parishes.

Praise and Pizza: Six nights throughout the summer teens met at various host homes around town for fellowship and prayer.

These gatherings saw young adults home from college all the way down to students getting ready to enter middle school. Half an hour of pizza followed by half an hour of prayer, reflection and song provided a great opportunity to connect with friends and God mid-week and put a boost in everyone's prayer lives.



Ice Cream Socials: It seems one of the most effective ways to build community and encourage parishioners to chat after Mass is to offer them doughnuts! While the Knights of Columbus regularly offer refreshments after morning Masses, seldom is anything offered at the 5pm Sunday evening Mass. This summer Youth Ministry volunteers set up and scooped Ice Cream after select Sunday evenings. They were surprised to find ice cream's appeal to all ages - there were as many adults in line as there were kids!

Diocesan Middle School Camp: Fun and faith collided in the best possible way at this year's Middle School Day Camp. Students from Saint Bridget's Middle School Youth Group joined peers from around the Richmond area and engaged in team building, service projects, sacraments and a waterpark excursion during the week long day camp. In the words of two rising seventh graders the camp was "awesome sauce."

Whitewater Rafting/Camping Retreat: About thirty teens from Saint Bridget, Saint Michael and Our Lady of Lourdes spent two days of adventure and one night sleeping under the stars this July on our first White Water Rafting/Camping Retreat on the Lower New River in West Virginia. It. Was. Awesome.



Campfire cooking, smores, tents, pouring rain, raging white water rapids, cliff diving, team challenges and sharing the Word of God around the fire all added up to an unforgettable 48 hours. High School students should look forward to joining the trip next year when we head out for another awesome adventure.

The school year is beginning again which means newly Confirmed Young Apostles, Middle School and High School Youth ministries return with a full schedule including the Diocesan Youth Conferences for both Middle and High School students, a Ski Trip, Youth Trip to Haiti and looking forward to next summer!

Daniel Harms, Director of Youth Ministry

Join us Friday and Saturday for 2 great St. Bridget Community Events!

Oct. 2, 2015 5pm-10pm



at St. Bridget Church

FEATURING

The Bart Chucker Band

A Community Event hosted by St. Bridget Church. Self-guided tour of the Church will be offered. All are welcome!

BRUNSWICK STEW \$5

CRAFT BEER \$5

**HOT DOGS FOR THE KIDS \$5
(with chips & a drink)**

Net proceeds will go to the needy in our community

Let's Soar Together!

**A Fundraiser to Celebrate
our School and our
Students**

**Dinner, Auction,
Raffle, & Live music**

October 3, 2015

6:00 -10:00 p.m.

**St. Bridget School
6011 York Rd.**

**Attire is dressy casual
Tickets are \$40**

**and may be purchased online at
[https://stbridgetschoolpto.
fasttransact.net](https://stbridgetschoolpto.fasttransact.net) or by mailing a
check to the school.**

