



April 19, 2026



# St. Bridget of Ireland Parish

## Mass Intentions This Week

("†" Indicates this person is deceased)

- Saturday, April 18, Easter Weekday
  - 8:00 AM †Stanley and Leonora Gryniuk by their family
- Saturday, April 18, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter
  - 4:00 PM †Michael and Rosa Pimpinella by their daughter
- Sunday, April 19, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter
  - 8:30 AM †William J. Murray by his family
  - 11:00 AM †Our Parishioners
- Monday, April 20, Easter Weekday
  - 7:00 AM Steve Russell, for healing by Susan Araujo
- Tuesday, April 21, Easter Weekday
  - 8:00 AM †Dora Castagnetto by Dennis
- Wednesday, April 22, Easter Weekday
  - 7:00 AM †Albert Lucherini by his family
- Thursday, April 23, Easter Weekday
  - 7:00 AM †Connie Falkenstein by her husband and family
- Friday, April 24, Easter Weekday
  - 8:00 AM Gabriela Crosse, *Happy Birthday* by Elsa Maldonado
- Saturday, April 25, Saturday with the Octave of Easter
  - 8:00 AM †John Conte by Hyacinth Natrajan
- Saturday, April 25, the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter,
  - 4:00 PM †Our Parishioners
- Sunday, April 26, the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter,
  - 8:30 AM †Marco Ruiz by Elsa Maldonado and family
  - 11:00 AM †Tony Tartaglia by Carla and Antonio Malagisi

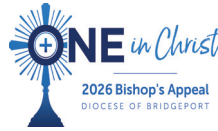
Please pray for the departed souls of our loved ones. Grant them eternal rest and comfort in the arms of our Lord.



### St. Bridget Ladies Guild Mothers Day Gift Basket Raffle.

Starting next weekend the Ladies Guild will be selling raffle tickets to win a beautiful gift basket made just "For Her". Contents will include a comfy bathrobe & slippers, spa items, gift cards, treats, and more! Total contents valued over \$300!

Tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10! Drawing will be after the 8:30 AM Mass on Mother's Day, May 10.



Annual Bishop's Appeal: Sacraments are outward signs of inward grace. We all remember our first holy communions. Some remember those beautiful "I do's." And there is no better feeling than walking out of a confessional with a clean slate. Sacraments require formation and preparation. The Institute for Catholic Formation accompanies young hearts as they encounter the One, Jesus Christ, on their journey of faith. Your gift to the Bishop's Appeal continues our mission of preparation and formation for grace throughout Fairfield County. Thank you for your support. So far, our parish has pledged 96 gifts worth \$26,040 bringing the parish to 55.17% of its \$47,200 goal. We need everyone's help to reach our goal. Your support is much needed and will be greatly appreciated! To learn more please visit: [www.2026BishopsAppeal.org](http://www.2026BishopsAppeal.org). Thank you for your support.



Digital Media Committee – We're launching a new Digital Media Committee and are seeking volunteers with experience in social media, website management, photography, video, graphic design, or livestreaming. Your skills can make an immediate impact as we strengthen how we communicate and share our parish life.

If you have experience and are willing to help, please contact Poochie Malloy at (203) 324-2910 or [PMalloy@stbridgetofireland.com](mailto:PMalloy@stbridgetofireland.com).



Today we welcome to our parish community: Elliot Thomas Asquino, son of Nicole and Jacob Asquino. Bless this child and send your Spirit to guide his family as they raise Elliot in the Holy Catholic Faith.

### ~ Financial Support of Our Parish ~

April 12, 2026

Donations	2026	2025
Weekly	\$2,249.00	\$3,340.00
100% Fund	\$1,036.00	\$1,441.00
Online Giving	\$3,699.70	\$1,725.00
Poor Box	\$70.00	\$93.00
Candles	\$254.00	\$218.00

Thank you for your continued support. Your generous gifts help us reach the weekly budgeted amount necessary to operate and sustain our parish.



considered supporting our parish via online giving? Getting started is easy—just scan this QR code or visit our website, [www.stbridgetofireland.com](http://www.stbridgetofireland.com) and click the online giving link.



## Recognizing Christ

The readings for the Third Sunday of Easter invite us to reflect deeply on a central question of the Christian life: how do we recognize the risen Christ in our midst?

In the Gospel account of the road to Emmaus, two disciples are walking away from Jerusalem, burdened by disappointment and confusion. They had hoped that Jesus would redeem Israel, yet His crucifixion seemed to shatter those hopes. As they walk, Jesus Himself draws near and journeys with them—but they do not recognize Him. This moment is both striking and familiar. How often does Christ walk beside us in our own struggles, doubts, and daily routines, and yet we fail to see Him?

Jesus begins to open the Scriptures to them, revealing how the suffering and death of the Messiah were part of God’s plan. Their hearts begin to burn within them, stirred by the truth of His Word. Still, it is not until they sit at table with Him—when He takes bread, blesses it, breaks it, and gives it to them—that their eyes are opened. In that simple, sacred act, they recognize the Lord.

This Gospel passage offers a powerful reminder that we come to recognize Christ in two primary ways: through the Word and through the Eucharist. Each time we gather for Mass, we are placed on that same road. Christ speaks to us in the Scriptures, illuminating our minds and hearts. Then, in the breaking of the bread, He becomes truly present to us. The challenge is not that Christ is absent, but that we are often distracted, discouraged, or simply not attentive enough to recognize Him.

The first reading from Acts shows Peter boldly proclaiming the resurrection. Once fearful and uncertain, Peter now speaks with conviction, declaring that Jesus is alive. His transformation came through encountering the risen Christ. Similarly, the disciples in the Gospel immediately return to Jerusalem after recognizing Jesus, eager to share the good news. Recognition leads to mission.

The second reading reminds us that our lives have been redeemed by the precious blood of Christ. Because of Him, we are called to live with faith and hope, aware that God is actively at work in our lives.

This Sunday challenges us to grow in awareness. We are invited to recognize Christ not only at Mass, but also in the ordinary moments of life: in conversations, in acts of kindness, in times of suffering, and in unexpected encounters. The risen Lord is not distant—He walks with us.

May our hearts burn within us as we listen to His Word, and may our eyes be opened in the breaking of the bread, so that we may recognize Him more clearly each day.

- Fr. Jim Bates, Pastor



Baked Goods needed: End of the Year St. Bridget/St. Maurice Faith Formation Celebration - We are excited to celebrate the end of the year with our St. Bridget and St. Maurice Faith Formation families on April 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:45 to 10:45!

The Kona Shaved Ice Truck will be joining us to make this celebration extra special, and each registered student will receive a ticket for a shaved ice—something all the children look forward to. We kindly ask for donations of baked goods/ snacks or water bottles to help make this event even more enjoyable for everyone. If you are able to contribute, please email me before April 25<sup>th</sup> at [religious.ed@stbridgetofireland.com](mailto:religious.ed@stbridgetofireland.com). Thank you for your support!



With hearts full of joy and gratitude, we congratulate our 2026 Confirmands. On April 10, the Sacrament of Confirmation was beautifully celebrated at St. John Church in Darien. United in faith, three parish communities—St. Bridget of Ireland, St. Maurice, and St. John—gathered as one to witness this sacred moment.

We were especially blessed by the presence of Bishop Frank J. Caggiano, who presided over the sacrament, calling down the Holy Spirit upon our young people as they were strengthened in faith and sent forth to live as true disciples of Christ.

Please keep our Confirmands in your prayers: Emma Avalos, Amelia Broussard, Guiliana Burke, Maura Fox, Viviana Marras, Sarah Petersen, Daniel Conroy, Kevin Hallet, Matero Lucero, Paul Trovato, Kaili Builes, Victoria McDonald, Victoria Ruiz, Brayden Denison, Kevin Romano, and Stefania Motta.



**Planting for the parish:** Saturday, May 9 from 9:00 AM-Noon. Please join us for a morning of gardening to beautify the areas around our church and shrines. Come for an hour or stay the whole morning! Plants will be provided, though more are always welcome. We would also welcome donations of bulbs to plant for next spring.

Come and bring your gardening tools and spend the morning serving the Lord in a very special way. A small amount of your time will help to keep our parish beautiful.



Are you part of our flock?

Please be aware that we use Flocknote to stay in contact with parishioners. Our Flocknote email list is based on your original parish registration. If you are not receiving Flocknotes, please contact the parish office at (203) 324-2910 or email: [parish.office@stbridgetofireland.com](mailto:parish.office@stbridgetofireland.com) with your name and current email address to be included in the mailings.