

September 14, 2025

St. Bridget of Ireland Parish

Mass Intentions This Week

("✠" Indicates this person is deceased)

Sat., Sept. 13, Memorial of St John Chrysostom

8:00 AM ✠St. Bridget Memorial Fund

Sat., Sept. 13, Vigil of the Feast of Exaltation of the Holy Cross

4:00 PM ✠Catherine Dolan
by her family

Sun., Sept. 14, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:30 AM ✠Eleanor Martinoli
by her sons, Joe and Mike

11:00 AM ✠Our Parishioners

Mon., Sept. 15, Memorial of our Lady of Sorrows

7:00 AM ✠Maria Imbrogno
by Angie Lucherini

Tues., Sept. 16, Memorial of St's Cornelius & Cyprian

8:00 AM ✠Antonia "Tina" Lorenti
by Elaine Belmonte

Wed., Sept. 17, Weekday

7:00 AM Steve Russel, for healing
by Susan Araujo

Thurs., Sept. 18, Weekday

7:00 AM ✠Tommy Fowler by his family

Fri., Sept. 19, Weekday

8:00 AM ✠Frank Lucherini by his family

Sat., Sept. 20, Memorial of St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon

8:00 AM ✠Harold and Kathleen McMannus
by Neil McMannus

Sat., Sept. 20, Vigil of the 25th Ordinary Sunday

4:00 PM ✠Catherine Dolan
by her family

Sun., Sept. 21, the 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time

8:30 AM ✠Our Parishioners

11:00 AM ✠Thomas Magee Sr.
by the Magee family

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

New Members of St. Bridget's Memorial Fund

✠**Jim Fahey**

enrolled by Chris & Agnes Kinahan, Shirley Rodgers, Patricia Connors Talty, Masters of Care LLC.

✠**Jo-ann D. Gerace**

enrolled by Karen & Anthony Fodera

✠**Louise Macchiarelli**

enrolled by the Malloy Family

Saint Bridget Memorial Fund is for those who wish to "memorialize" their loved ones (living or deceased) in perpetuity. Mass is offered at least once a month for all those enrolled. Memorial cards are available to acknowledge the enrollment. Please contact the parish office to enroll your loved ones.



September Back-to-School Clothing

Drive: Our Ministry for the Homeless, Hungry, and People in Need will be hosting a clothing drive for "Clothes to Kids" from September 13th through 21st.

This wonderful organization provides two free wardrobes per year (Spring and Fall) to underprivileged children. Kids shop by appointment and select their own clothing—giving them confidence and dignity as they head back to school.

New Clothing Only, *Please leave the shopping tags intact.*

Flyers with details on ages, sizes, and needed items are available in both vestibules.

Thank you for supporting this important drive and helping children in need start the school year strong!



Ladies Guild Annual Christmas Boutique

– Vendor Call : Are you a crafter, artist, or photographer looking to share your talents and sell your handmade items this holiday season? The Ladies Guild is now accepting vendor reservations for our Annual Christmas Boutique, to be held on Saturday, November 22, 2025. Space is limited, so early registration is encouraged! For a reservation form or more information, please contact: Carol Nardi at (203) 975-9842 or Clara Grande at (203) 322-2421. *Let's make this year's boutique a joyful celebration of creativity and community!*



2025 Lourdes Retreat: A Special Day of Hope and Healing.

All are invited to a Lourdes Retreat celebrated by Bishop Frank J. Caggiano, Sunday, September 14, at 2:00 PM at St. Mary Parish, Stamford. Hosted

by: Fr. Gustavo Falla, Pastor

This special retreat will include:

- Guest speakers from the Office of Safe Environment Committee for Healing
- A courageous testimony from a survivor of abuse. Distribution of Lourdes Water
- Eucharistic Blessing and Candlelight Rosary.

Refreshments will be served. Free Admission – Donations Encouraged. For information and registration: Contact Stefania Canneto: (203) 324-7321 or email her at stefania.canneto@yahoo.com

~ Financial Support of Our Parish~

September 7, 2025

Amount received:	2025	same week in 2024
Weekly	\$2,095.00	\$2,346.00
100% Fund	\$ 841.00	\$ 816.00
Online Giving	\$1,653.00	\$1,227.50
Poor box	\$ 26.00	\$ 39.00
Candles	\$ 197.00	\$ 269.00

Thank you for your support. Your gifts help us to reach the weekly budgeted amount necessary to run our Parish.



The Exaltation of the Holy Cross: Triumph Through Sacrifice

Each year on September 14th, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. At first glance, it may seem unusual to “exalt” a cross—an ancient instrument of shame and execution. Yet for Christians, the Cross has become the central symbol of salvation, the sign of God’s victory over sin and death. On this feast, we are invited to contemplate not only the suffering of Christ but also the glory and power revealed through His sacrifice.

The origins of this feast date back to the fourth century, when St. Helena, the mother of Roman Emperor Constantine, made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and discovered what was believed to be the True Cross on which Jesus was crucified. The Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre was dedicated shortly after, and the Cross became a focus of veneration for Christians across the world. The liturgy of this day recalls both the historical discovery and the deeper mystery of Christ’s self-offering.

In the Gospel proclaimed at Mass (John 3:13–17), Jesus speaks of being “lifted up,” just as Moses lifted up the bronze serpent in the wilderness. For the Israelites, gazing upon the bronze serpent brought healing from deadly poison. In a far greater way, looking upon Christ lifted up on the Cross brings healing from the poison of sin and the gift of eternal life. The Cross, once a sign of cruelty, has become the very throne of mercy.

The paradox of the Cross lies at the heart of the Christian faith: life comes through death, glory through humility, victory through apparent defeat. St. Paul captures this mystery when he writes, “*We proclaim Christ crucified... the power of God and the wisdom of God*” (1 Cor 1:23–24). What seemed to the world a humiliation was in truth the greatest act of love.

This feast also reminds us of the crosses in our own lives. Each of us is called to take up our cross daily and follow Christ (Luke 9:23). While our burdens may differ—illness, infirmity, suffering, injustice, or personal struggles—the Cross teaches us that no suffering is wasted when united to Christ’s. In His hands, even pain and sacrifice are transformed into channels of grace and redemption.

When we gaze upon the Cross, we see more than wood and nails. We see the outstretched arms of a Savior who held nothing back. We see love poured out to the last drop. We see the path that leads not to despair, but to resurrection and eternal joy.

As we celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, let us renew our devotion to this sacred sign. Let us wear it proudly, trace it reverently upon ourselves, and look to it often for strength. May the Cross remind us that in all our struggles, God’s love is stronger than sin, and Christ’s victory is ours to share.

“We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.”

- Fr. Jim Bates, Pastor

Save the Dates – St. Bridget Parish Events!

We’re excited to invite you to two upcoming community celebrations at St. Bridget! Mark your calendars and join us for fellowship, fun, and festivities:

St. Bridget Family Picnic

Sunday, October 5 | 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Bring the whole family for an afternoon of games, food, and joyful community spirit!

St. Bridget Octoberfest

Saturday, October 25 | 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Celebrate the season with music, delicious food, and autumn-themed fun for all ages!

Stay tuned for more details.

We look forward to seeing you there!



St. Bridget Choir Practice Resumes!

Join us as we lift our voices in joyful praise! Choir practice begins again on Sunday, September 21 at 10:00 AM, before singing at the 11AM Mass. All musical levels and abilities are welcome. Come be part of something beautiful—your voice matters! For more information, please see Ria.

The Ladies Guild will hold a meeting on Tuesday, September 16th, at 7pm in the Parish Hall. All women of the parish are welcome and encouraged to attend. We will be discussing several opportunities for supporting Parish events and, most importantly, plans for our annual Christmas Boutique in November. Any questions call Clara Grande, 203-253-4587.



St. Bridget Parish Raffle 2025 – We Need Your Help!

Our parish raffle has been a wonderful success in the past, bringing joy to winners and much-needed support to our parish. Unfortunately, we haven’t had enough prizes to hold the raffle for the past two years, and the loss of revenue has deeply impacted our parish finances. We’re preparing for the St. Bridget Parish Raffle 2025, and we need your help to make it happen!

How You Can Help:

- Donate a prize! Vacation homes, timeshares, gift certificates, services, or new products—anything is welcome and tax-deductible.
- Help us gather prizes now so we can secure permits and print tickets.
- Sell a few extra raffle tickets this year to support our parish.

The raffle will take place in October and November.

To donate or ask questions, please contact the parish office:

Email: parish.office@stbridgetofireland.com

Phone: (203) 324-2910

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!