

September 28, 2025

St. Bridget of Ireland Parish

Mass Intentions This Week

("✠" Indicates this person is deceased)

Sat., Sept. 27, Memorial of St Vincent de Paul

8:00 AM ✠Joel Grande
by Sandy Fox

Sat., Sept. 27, Vigil of the 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time

4:00 PM ✠Our Parishioners

Sun., Sept. 28, the 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time

8:30 AM ✠Harriet Abruscado
by Jeanne Knight

11:00 AM ✠Tony Tartaglia
by his wife and family

Mon., Sept. 29, Feast of St's Michael, Gabriel & Raphael

7:00 AM ✠Arthur and Eleanor Moe
by Renee Moe

Tues., Sept. 30, Memorial of St. Jerome

8:00 AM ✠Joel Grande
by Dawn Hammond

Wed., Oct. 1, Memorial of St. Therese of the Child Jesus

7:00 AM ✠Anthony Nocita
by his family

Thurs., Oct. 2, Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels

7:00 AM Legal protection of the unborn
by Frank Palmer

Fri., October 3, Weekday

8:00 AM ✠Joan Regina McGirr
by her husband Bill and family.

Sat., Oct. 4, Memorial of St. Francis

8:00 AM ✠Souls in Purgatory
by John Witek

Sat., Oct. 4, Vigil of the 27th Ordinary Sunday

4:00 PM ✠Helen and Albert Conforti
by her family

Sun., Oct. 5, the 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time

8:30 AM ✠Frances Fusco
by the Fusco family

11:00 AM ✠Our Parishioners

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

~ Financial Support of Our Parish~

"Give generously to him and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to." Deuteronomy 15:10

September 21, 2025

Amount received:	2025	same week in 2024
Weekly	\$2,306.00	\$2,605.00
Monthly	\$1,258.00	\$ 818.00
Online Giving	\$1,439.50	\$2,556.10
Poor box	\$ NA	\$ 42.00
Candles	\$ NA	\$ 193.00

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



Today is Priesthood Sunday. We give thanks for the faithful ministries of Father Bates, and all the Priests of our Diocese. We are grateful for the gift of your vocation and we pray for others to follow the call to serve.

"O God, You have constituted your only-begotten Son Supreme and Eternal Priest for the glory of Your Majesty and for the salvation of mankind. Grant that those whom He has chosen ministers and dispensers of His Mysteries may be found faithful in fulfilling the ministry they have received. Amen"



Saturday, October 4th, at 12:00 PM we will celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi with a special blessing of animals. Please bring your pets to our St. Francis Shrine to receive a special blessing for your beloved pets. All animals must be on a leash or if appropriate in a cage.

New Members of St. Bridget's Memorial Fund

✠**Jim Fahey**

enrolled by Jean and Tom Hunt
and by Maureen P. Hughes

✠**Rita Molgano**

enrolled by Elsa Maldonado

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.

Are you part of our flock? Please be aware that we're using Flocknotes to stay in contact with parishioners! Our Flocknote email list is based on your original parish registration. Perhaps your contact information has changed. If you are not receiving Flocknotes, please contact the parish office at (203) 324-2910 or by emailing: parish.office@stbridgetofireland.com with your name and current email address to be included on the mailings



Please join us on Sunday, October 5, following the 11 AM Mass. for our Annual Parish Family Picnic. The event will take place on the lawn in front of the Rectory.

There is no charge to attend, but donations are appreciated to help cover costs. Reservations are strongly encouraged. Please sign up in response to the Flocknote sent out this week or on the paper lists in the vestibules of the church.

Need more information? Please visit our website:

www.stbridgetofireland.com.



Blindness to Suffering

In today's readings, God warns us against the dangers of complacency and indifference.

The prophet Amos condemns those who enjoy comfort and luxury while ignoring the suffering of their brothers and sisters. It wasn't their wealth

itself that drew God's anger—it was their blindness to others' pain. Amos reminds us that self-indulgence without compassion leads to ruin.

Jesus illustrates this truth in His parable of the rich man and Lazarus. The rich man feasted every day, while Lazarus, sick and hungry, lay at his gate. Yet the rich man never noticed him. When both die, their fortunes are reversed: Lazarus is comforted in heaven, while the rich man suffers torment.

What condemned the rich man was not active cruelty but passive indifference. He did nothing to hurt Lazarus—but he also did nothing to help. His heart was closed.

This parable challenges us to ask: who are the "Lazaruses" at our own gates? The poor in our community, the lonely neighbor, the sick or homebound, the unborn, the refugee—all cry out for our compassion. Do we see them? Do we respond? Or do we walk past, too absorbed in our own comfort to notice?

St. Paul reminds Timothy in the second reading to "pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness." That is how we "lay hold of eternal life." Our salvation is not about storing up wealth or security for ourselves but about loving as Christ loves.

Every Sunday, the Eucharist trains our hearts to see differently. We are fed not with crumbs but with the Bread of Life—Christ Himself. As St. John Chrysostom once said, if we honor Christ at the altar but ignore Him in the poor, our worship is incomplete. Receiving the Body of Christ in Communion must open our eyes to the Body of Christ in the suffering.

So, what can we do? Be attentive to the needs of those around us. Practice generosity, not only with money but with time and compassion. Pray for eyes that notice and hearts that respond. In doing so, we not only serve others—we prepare our souls for eternal life with God. May we never be blind to the Lazaruses at our gate. May the Lord give us hearts of mercy, so that one day we too may be welcomed into His eternal banquet.

- Fr. Jim Bates, Pastor



One-day Spiritual Retreat, Saturday, October 4. The Bereavement Ministry of the Catholic Cemeteries is sponsoring a one-day spiritual retreat for any parent who has suffered the loss

of a precious child due to miscarriage, stillbirth or infant loss. We have found that focusing on the spirituality of the grieving process, with the help of caring clergy members, and with the support of other grieving parents, can help tremendously. This beautiful day of healing is offered for any parent, no matter how long ago your loss took place. If you have been silently carrying the heartbreak of losing a pregnancy or a precious infant, we invite you to join us at St. Rose of Lima Church, 46 Church Hill Road, Newtown, CT on Saturday, October 4, 2025, 9:00 – 6:00 pm. For further information, please contact: Bereavement Office Fairfield County Catholic Cemeteries of the Diocese of Bridgeport, CT. at: bereavement@ctcemeteries.org or call us at: 203 404-0023



Special Rosary: With the unsettling events the world is experiencing, we need to pray the rosary more than ever. The Blessed Mother at Fatima in 1917 told the people to pray the ro-

sary for world peace. In answer to our Lady's request, America Needs Fatima is planning 20,000 public rosaries on: Saturday, October 11th at 12 Noon.

Please join our fellow parishioners and faithful for this special Rosary Rally. Saturday, October 11th at 12 PM a group organized by our parishioner Marylena Antonelli will gather by our Blessed Mother Shrine to pray the Rosary. The goal of America Needs Fatima is to win the heart and soul of America for Mary by spreading Our Lady's Fatima message and promoting devotion to Her Immaculate Heart. The admonitions, requests, and warnings of Mary Most Holy can rightly be called a heaven-sent survival manual.

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 "Nach Dem Oktoberfest"

Saturday, November 1 | 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

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

We look forward to seeing you there!