

October 5, 2025

St. Bridget of Ireland Parish

Mass Intentions This Week

("✠" Indicates this person is deceased)

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

Mon., Oct. 6, Weekday

7:00 AM ✠Nino Antonelli
by Maria Mastroluca

Tues., Oct. 7, Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving
by Frank Palmer

Wed., Oct. 8, Weekday

7:00 AM ✠Armando & Inez Araujo
by their daughter

Thurs., Oct. 9, Weekday

7:00 AM ✠Louis Kubena
by the Magee Family

Fri., Oct. 10, Weekday

8:00 AM April and Albert Richter,
Happy Anniversary
by Frank Palmer

Sat., Oct. 11, Weekday

8:00 AM ✠St Bridget Memorial Fund

Sat., Oct. 11, Vigil of 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time

4:00 PM ✠Marie Parente
by her family

Sun., Oct. 12, the 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time

8:30 AM ✠Michael Interlandi
by his 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.

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

Need more information? Please visit our website:

www.stbridgetofireland.com.



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.



Thank You from the Ministry for the Homeless, Hungry and People in Need for your most generous donations of New and beautiful clothing for Clothes 2 Kids.

The Ministry was able to sort by size and gender and put together 20 Large Bags for pick-up. This assortment of new clothing will make a tremendous difference in the lives of so many underprivileged children as they choose a new free wardrobe for the new school year. We appreciate our St. Bridget parishioners for your efforts in making this a very successful mission.

2026 Mass Intentions: The Mass Book for 2025 will open on Thursday, October 23 at 9AM. As in the past we must limit the quantity of Sunday Masses scheduled by each person, however there is no limit on weekday Masses. Please be aware that Mass intentions may only contain one name or family name. We are not permitted to list multiple names.

The stipend for each Mass is \$10.00 which must be paid when the Mass is scheduled. Masses will be scheduled in the order the requests are received.

~ 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 28, 2025

Amount received:	2025	same week in 2024
Weekly	\$2,394.00	\$2,2145.00
Cap. Improve.	\$ 795.00	\$ 861.00
Online Giving	\$1,694.00	\$2,887.30
Poor box	\$ 92.00	\$ 101.00
Candles	\$ 472.00	\$ 183.00

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



Humble, Patient, Faith

How often have we found ourselves echoing the apostles' plea in this Sunday's Gospel? "Lord, increase our faith!" We face personal struggles, witness violence in the news,

or feel overwhelmed by the challenges in our families, work, and communities. In these moments, it's natural to feel our faith is small and weak, and to ask God to give us more.

The readings this weekend directly address this universal prayer, but they redefine what powerful faith truly looks like.

In our First Reading, the prophet Habakkuk is crying out to God, much like we do. "How long, O LORD? I cry for help but you do not listen!" He sees only violence and injustice, and God seems silent. God's answer isn't a detailed explanation for all the suffering, but a call to patient trust: "See, the rash have no integrity; but the just one who is righteous because of faith shall live." This is the foundation of our journey: faith is trusting God's ultimate goodness and timing, even when we cannot see the path ahead clearly. It's a stubborn, hope-filled confidence that He is in control.

When the apostles ask Jesus to increase their faith, He responds with two powerful images. First, the mustard seed. He isn't chiding them for having little faith; He is revealing the incredible power packed into even the smallest amount of genuine trust. Your faith doesn't need to be gigantic to be effective.

But the second image, the parable of the unworthy servant, challenges us. The servant does his duty—plowing the fields, tending the sheep, preparing the master's meal—and doesn't expect special thanks. He simply does what is required. Jesus teaches us that faith is not a tool for performing spectacular deeds to earn praise. Rather, true faith is expressed through humble, consistent, and dutiful service. We are called to do the work God has given us—loving our neighbor, caring for our families, fulfilling our vocations—not for a reward, but simply because we are His beloved children. Our service is the natural fruit of our relationship with Him. We can say, "We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do," not out of low self-esteem, but out of a deep gratitude for the privilege of serving the Lord at all.

Finally, St. Paul reminds Timothy (and us) that faith is not a passive possession but a living gift. He urges him to "stir into flame the gift of God you have." Faith is a fire that must be tended, fed by prayer and the Sacraments, and fanned into flame by acts of charity and courage. *(Continued in next column)*

(continued) It is a "rich deposit" that we must guard with the help of the Holy Spirit.

This Sunday, as we pray, "Lord, increase our faith," let's understand what we are asking for. We are not asking for the power to move mountains for our own glory. We are asking for the grace to trust God in the darkness, to serve Him humbly in our daily duties, and to boldly stir into flame the gift of faith we have been given. For in doing so, we will truly live.

- Fr. Jim Bates, Pastor



St. Bridget "Nach Dem Oktoberfest" (after Oktoberfest) Dinner

Saturday, November 1, 2025

from 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

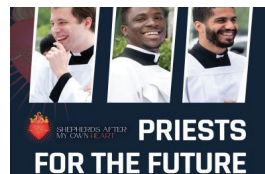
Join us for one of our most popular parish events—a festive evening of traditional German food and drinks! Bring your family and friends for a fun-filled night that celebrates community and good cheer.

Tickets: \$20.00 per adult, 10.00 per child or \$45.00 per family. Tickets will be sold after Masses on: October 18, 19, 25 & 26

We always need and welcome volunteers to help prepare, serve and clean-up. Please contact the parish office 203-324-2910 with any questions or to volunteer.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR FUTURE PRIESTS

Thanks be to God, we have 37 seminarians preparing for the priesthood! The cost for this formation is more than \$70,000 annually which breaks down as follows:



- 35% Tuition,
- 19% Room & board
- 21% Health insurance
- 15% Other living expenses,
- 10% Summer programs & mission trips

Our seminarians are intensely focused on spiritual growth, academic excellence, human maturity, and pastoral service. Your support allows them to focus on preparing to serve as good and holy priests!

We also have an excellent plan to further increase priestly vocations in our diocese, including:

- Revitalized Vocation Team
- Parish Vocation Ministries
- Called by Name Campaign
- Regional Discernment Groups
- St. Andrew Dinners
- Discernment Retreats Our Vocation Team's overall strategy is to identify and accompany young men as they hear and respond to God's call. Bishop Caggiano has asked all parishioners to be especially generous to ensure happy, healthy, holy priests for the future of the Church.

Please give at www.bridgeportpriest.org/give or donations may be deposited in the tall box near the center door of the church