

October 26, 2025

St. Bridget of Ireland Parish

Mass Intentions This Week

("†" Indicates this person is deceased)

Sat., Oct. 25, Weekday

8:00 AM †Joel Grande
by Joyce Pinto

Sat., Oct. 25, Vigil of 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time

4:00 PM †Daniel and William Carlucci
by their family

Sun., Oct. 26, the 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time

8:30 AM †Richard Smith
by his wife and family
11:00 AM †Our Parishioners

Mon., Oct. 27, Weekday

7:00 AM †Deceased members of the
Powell family
by Biz McNeil

Tues., Oct. 28, Feast of St's Simon and Jude

8:00 AM †Marge Denicola
by her husband Joe

Wed., Oct. 29, Weekday

7:00 AM †Louis J. Martinoli
by Joe and Mike Martinoli

Thurs., Oct. 30, Weekday

7:00 AM †Mario Samala by his family

Fri., Oct. 31, Weekday

8:00 AM †Ed McLoughlin Sr. and
Ed McLoughlin Jr.
by their family

Sat., Nov. 1, Solemnity of All Saints

8:00 AM †Tony Tartaglila
by his wife and family

Sat., Nov. 1, Solemnity of All Saints

4:00 PM †Jean Julian
by her husband Dennis

**Sun., Nov. 2, the Commemoration of all
the Faithful departed (All Souls)**

8:30 AM †Diane Louise Palmer
by her family
11:00 AM †Our Parishioners

Please pray for the departed souls of our loved ones especially Valerie Geerer and Maria Farris, recently departed members of our parish. Grant them eternal rest and comfort in the arms of our Lord.



Remember Daylight Savings Time ends next weekend. The clocks are changed back an hour on Saturday night into Sunday, November 1st. Please remember to change your clocks back and enjoy that extra hour of sleep.

Need more information? Please visit our website:

www.stbridgetofireland.com



**St. Bridget "Nach Dem Octoberfest"
(after Octoberfest) 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 this weekend, October 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.



Christmas Boutique & Bake Sale:

St. Bridget Ladies Guild will present their Annual Christmas Boutique & Bake Sale on Saturday, November 22, 2025. We have a wonderful selection of artists and vendors joining us for this special event including several new vendors.

Calling all bakers- Now is your chance to show off your baking talents!! The Lady's Guild is in need of home made baked goods for their craft fair is bake sale on November 22. Items needed are cakes of all kinds, pound cake, coffee cakes, layer cakes, bundt cakes, pies, breads, brownies, cookies. Please contact Marie Sinclair, at 203-536-8749, to register your choice of baked good. They can be dropped off at the parish hall kitchen from 6:00 -7:30 Friday 11/21 or Saturday 11/22 morning by 8:00. Any questions, contact Marie Sinclair 203-536-8749. Thank you.

2026 Mass Intentions: The Mass Book for 2025 is now open. As in the past we must limit the quantity of Sunday Masses scheduled by each person, however there is no limit on weekday Masses. 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

October 19, 2025

Amount received:	2025	same week in 2024
Weekly	\$2,158.00	\$2,185.00
World Mission Sun.	\$1,174.00	\$ 940.00
Online Giving	\$3,052.00	\$1,391.75
Poor box	\$ 71.00	\$ 41.00
Candles	\$ 293.00	\$ 275.00

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



The Humble Heart that God Hears

Our readings this week invite us to examine the disposition of our hearts before God. The theme that runs through them is clear: God listens to the cry of the humble, but He turns away from those who are proud and self-satisfied.

In Sirach, we read that “the prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds.” God shows no partiality; He does not favor the rich over the poor, nor the powerful over the weak. Instead, He is attentive to those who cry out to Him in sincerity and need. The author reminds us that true prayer comes from a humble and contrite heart—a heart that recognizes its dependence on God’s mercy. The poor widow, the orphan, and the oppressed are close to God because they know they have no one else to rely on but Him.

St. Paul, in the second reading, gives us a moving example of humble confidence in God. Writing from prison, aware that his death is near, Paul reflects not on his own greatness but on the faithfulness of God who has sustained him: “The Lord stood by me and gave me strength.” He speaks of the “crown of righteousness” not as something he has earned on his own, but as a gift that awaits all who have longed for Christ’s appearing. Paul’s humility is born of trust—he knows he has fought the good fight, but he attributes the victory to God’s grace, not to his own merit.

The Gospel from Luke makes the message unmistakable. Jesus tells the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector who go up to the Temple to pray. The Pharisee’s prayer is filled with self-congratulation: “O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity.” He lists his good deeds and compares himself favorably to others, especially the tax collector standing nearby. But Jesus tells us that this man’s prayer does not reach God. Meanwhile, the tax collector, standing at a distance, cannot even lift his eyes to heaven. Beating his breast, he prays simply, “O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.” And Jesus concludes: “the latter went home justified, not the former.”

Humility, then, is the key that opens the door to God’s mercy. Pride closes us off from grace because it blinds us to our need for forgiveness. When we approach God thinking we are righteous, we have already separated ourselves from His mercy. But when we come before Him in humility—aware of our sinfulness, our weaknesses, and our dependence on His love—He lifts us up.

As we gather for Mass this Sunday, the Lord invites us to examine our hearts. Do we come before Him like the Pharisee, boasting inwardly of our goodness, or like the tax collector, humbly asking for mercy? The Eucharist is the perfect act of humility: Christ, though without sin, offers Himself for sinners. May we learn from Him the prayer that God always hears: “O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.” - Fr. Jim Bates, Pastor



The Parish Raffle is back! In the past, our parish raffles have been a tremendous success. They’ve provided a much-needed boost to our parish finances—and some lucky folks won fabulous prizes!

This year, we’ve experienced many changes that have impacted on our financial situation. While we’ve managed to save in some areas, our regular operating costs—just like in your homes—have increased substantially.

We have sent each family four (4) \$10.00 tickets. Please call the parish office if you did not receive the mailing. If you’re unable to purchase them, please try to sell them to others or return them to the Parish Office.

Need more tickets? Additional tickets are available through the Parish Office. Selling extra tickets to your family, friends, and co-workers will help us reach our goal. Remember, this is our Parish Family! “What could I win?” Thanks to our generous parishioners, we have 12 great prizes this year:

1. \$1,500 American Express Gift Card
2. \$750 Visa Gift Card
3. \$500 American Express Gift Card
4. Technivorm Moccamaster Coffee Brewer & Baratza Coffee Grinder (*valued at \$480*)
5. Black Classic Coach Purse (*valued at \$329.99*)
6. \$300 ShopRite Gift Card
7. \$300 Amazon Gift Card
8. \$250 ShopRite Gift Card
9. \$200 Gift Certificate to The Capital Grille
10. \$200 Gift Certificate to Villa Italia Restaurant
11. Eureka ReactSense Stick Vacuum (*valued at \$179*)
12. \$100 Visa Gift Card

The drawing will be held on Sunday, December 7, following the 11:00 AM Mass.

Please support your parish—and good luck!

ANSWER THE
CALL TO
ACTIVE
PARTICIPATION
AT MASS



Volunteer in Our Liturgical Ministries

Give the Gift of Your Time and Talent: We invite you to respond to God’s call in the Gospel by supporting the Celebration of the

Mass. Our Liturgical Ministries are seeking volunteers to serve as:

- Eucharistic Ministers
- Readers
- Altar Servers
- Ushers
- Choir members



Ministers are needed across all weekend Masses to support the Liturgies of the Word and Eucharist. Training is provided—no prior experience necessary.

To volunteer, please contact the Parish Office: (203) 324-2910 or parish.office@stbridgetofireland.com