

February 28, 2021

St. Bridget of Ireland Parish

Mass Intentions This Week

("†" Indicates this person is deceased)

Saturday, February 27 Vigil of the 2nd Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM †Mary Flynn by the Blank family

4:00 PM †Karen DeBartolo
by her husband

Sunday, February 28, the 2nd Sunday of Lent

8:30 AM †Frank Lucherini
by Margaret & Al Uva

11:00 AM †Jane Gianniattasio
by her nieces Donna Lee Fabrizio
and LouAnn Finch

Monday, March 1, Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM †Frank Lucherini
by Gloria Schafer

Tuesday, March 2, Lenten Weekday

8:00 AM Ruby Saldanha, *for recovery and
improved health*
by Hyacinth Natrajan

Wednesday, March 3, Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM †Anna & Frank Jelinek
and Gerry Kral
by Rosemarie & Claude Victor

Thursday, March 4, Lenten Weekday

7:00 AM Mariann Amann
(living) for support
by Noelle & Tom Amann

Friday, March 5, Lenten Weekday

8:00 AM Dylan McAuley, *Happy Birthday*
by Peepa Ed

Saturday, March 6, Vigil of the 3rd Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM †Sheila Blank
by Clara Grande & Family

4:00PM †Josephine Cardillo
by Peter & Angela Thagouras

Sunday, March 7, the 3rd Sunday of Lent

8:30 AM †Kathleen Schmidt Ruskowski
by her family

11:00 AM †Raphael & Joseph Pagano
by their family

*Please pray for the departed souls of our loved ones grant them
perpetual rest and comfort in the arms of our Lord.*

Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation

any Saturday between 3:00-3:30 PM. Confessions are heard in the young family room to allow proper distancing and masks are required, but reservations are not necessary, just come and find peace and forgiveness

Need more information? Please visit our website:
www.stbridgetofireland.com.



The next Nocturnal Adoration will

be March 5, 2021. Nocturnal Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament will be during the hours of 8 to 9PM; 9 to 10PM; 10 to 11PM; and 11 to 12 midnight, commencing with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during the first hour and will conclude the hour with Benediction.

Approaching the presence of Jesus can be daunting, but the late Augustinian Assumptionist priest and author Joseph A. Pelletier, who wrote the "The Sun Danced at Fatima," offered some advice: "Too often we freeze up and get uptight when we are before the Blessed Sacrament. We suddenly become very formal. We do not know what to say. We wait for God to put some fancy words in our mouth. ... If we would only talk to him — as we would to a friend we meet on the bus or on our coffee break or the neighbor we visit for a chat. Just start talking to Jesus: 'Jesus, thank you for staying with us night and day, so that we can come and talk to you.'"

For further information or to volunteer please contact the parish office at 203-324-2910 or parish.office@stbridgetofireland.com

Praying together as a parish in these challenging times. Unfortunately we will not be able to gather in the church for Stations of the Cross this year. We have found a way to pray together by using the information emailed to everyone this past week. We encourage everyone to pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday at 7PM. We sent a YouTube video of "Mary's Way of the Cross" We also included the pages of the matching booklet of reflections, you could print it out to follow along or read directly from your computer while watching the video.

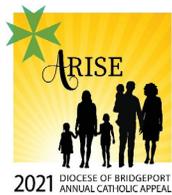
Please notify the parish office (call 203 324-2910 or email: parish.office@stbridgetofireland.com) if you are not receiving our "Flocknote" emails. Flocknotes have become a wonderful way to communicate with everyone!

~ Financial Support of Our Parish ~

February 21, 2021

Amount received:	2021	same week in 2020
Weekly	\$2,075.00	\$2,800.00
Cap Improvement	\$ 430.00	\$1,070.00
Online Giving	\$2,697.99	\$2,318.54
Poor box	\$ 270.00	\$ 270.00
Candles	\$ 243.00	\$ 243.00

Please continue to support your parish especially during this difficult time. Donations may be mailed to the office, placed in the designated box in the church or given online.



“Arise” is the theme that I have chosen for the 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) because it calls us to renewed hope and a deepened commitment to serve our neighbor. The call to “Arise” challenges us to put our personal faith into action and provide for the

needs of our sisters and brothers, no matter who they may be. Over the last few months, the story of the raising of Lazarus from the dead has deeply touched me. Recall the words of the Lord Jesus to Lazarus, “Untie him and let him go free.” In profound ways, I believe that the Lord is offering to you and me these same words. He is inviting us to be set free to preach, teach, witness, innovate and to serve His people in love.

As I look back upon the past year, with all its sufferings, heartaches and sacrifices, I am deeply grateful for your generous response to the Annual Catholic Appeal, which brought the mercy of Christ to so many people who turned to the Church when no one else could help. For example, the celebration of Mass, the sacraments and religious education were made available both virtually and in person. Our Catholic schools responded by providing an on-line academy and in class personalized learning, safeguarding the lives of students and teachers. Catholic Charities remained highly active, providing food, clothing, shelter and psychological counseling to an unprecedented number of persons, many of whom found themselves facing need for the first time in their lives.

As we arise from these difficult months, we are inaugurating new and innovative initiatives designed to effectively address the changed landscape created by the pandemic. Among them are a long-term program of Eucharistic renewal; a new strategic plan for our schools and programs of faith formation; and the creation of four pastoral centers focusing on family life, culture and arts, young adult entrepreneurship and evangelization.

In addition, for the first time, a new partnership has been established between the diocese and our parishes to share resources generated from the ACA. More specifically, once your parish has exceeded its ACA goal, the additional proceeds will be available to address a critical need within your parish. Your pastor and finance council will determine this allocation.

This year’s goal is \$8.1 million, 10% less than last year due to the success of the We Stand With Christ Capital Campaign, and will allow the diocese to maintain works of charity, pastoral ministry, education and catechesis. Please join with me and support this year’s, Arise, Annual Catholic Appeal. With your renewed support, the good works of the Church will continue to address the needs of those in need. Thank you for your generosity and support.

With every best wish for God’s blessings upon you and your family, I am sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano

Bishop of Bridgeport

Help Stop State Sponsored Suicide

Politicians in Hartford are again considering assisted suicide legislation. The Public Health Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly is considering legalizing a form of suicide in our state commonly referred to as "aid-in-dying" or "physician-assisted suicide". The Committee has raised House Bill 6425 "An Act Concerning Aid in Dying for Terminally Ill Patients".

Modern hospice care and the proper use of pain medications render suicide unnecessary, and we need to be mindful of the threat that a suicide mentality poses to vulnerable people and to people with disabilities

Many people believe that a physician is deeply involved in this process. This not true. The physician orders the mixture of medications, the patient must then consume the deadly cocktail of drugs without assistance. Many times without even a physician or nurse present.

We should never allow legislators to establish suicide as a solution to medical issues. Don’t let the state persuade us that it’s dignified for an ill person to sign their own execution order. Don’t let the state create an environment where ill people will feel they have a “responsibility to die”.

Catholic teaching condemns physician-assisted suicide because it, like murder, involves taking an innocent human life: *Suicide is always as morally objectionable as murder. The Church's tradition has always rejected it as a gravely evil choice: To concur with the intention of another person to commit suicide and to help in carrying it out through so-called "assisted suicide" means to cooperate in, and at times to be the actual perpetrator of, an injustice which can never be excused, even if it is requested. Saint Augustine writes that "it is never licit to kill another: even if he should wish it." True "compassion" leads to sharing another's pain; it does not kill the person whose suffering we cannot bear. (John Paul II, The Gospel of Life, no. 66).*

TAKE ACTION:

Go to the website below, read more on the issue and then sign the petition to stop the legalization of assisted suicide in Connecticut: www.ctstopsuicide.org

Current family information: Please notify the parish office (call 203 324-2910 or email: parish.office@stbridgetofireland.com) of any changes in your personal information such as change of address, phone number, email address, marital status or a new addition to your family. We are utilizing our Email system to stay in touch throughout the year and during emergencies, so please send us your email to be included in all parish notifications.