

ST BRIDGET CATHOLIC CHURCH

AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSEHOLD,
WE WILL SERVE THE LORD.

JOSHUA 24:15

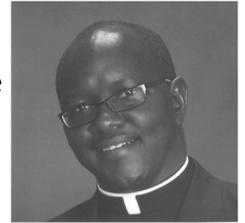


TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 22, 2021

Dear St Bridget Family,

Welcome to the Twenty First Sunday of the year. This Sunday also brings us to the end of the series of gospel readings on the **Bread of Life** discourse. The theme that runs through the readings this Sunday, especially the first reading and the gospel, is **Freedom and Choice**.



The gift of Freedom and choice is one of the most important distinctions to us as human beings. God created man a free being. This freedom, a special gift from God, is what makes us special among all other created things. We all crave to be ourselves, to exercise this gift of freedom thereby always longing to choose for ourselves. Unfortunately, the very first time humans beings made use of this freedom to choose, they made a very wrong choice. In the third chapter of the book of Genesis, we read how God gave an order to man and ,in freedom, man chose to do otherwise. It was such a painful one that to date we bear its consequences (the Fall/the Original Sin). Yet, in spite of that failure, God never went back on His gift of Freedom and Choice to us human beings. Man remained free in spite of that failure and disappointment.

There are some who have argued that it would have been easier and better if God took away the gift of freedom and choice from us. Unfortunately, if that happened, we would become mere puppets of God. This would make sin impossible and in the same vein, virtue would not be possible. The truth and reality is that because God loves us, He gave us the gift of freedom and choice. God does not control us, rather He gives us the freedom to choose between good and evil. This does not mean that our choices do not matter. They matters an awful lot. However, that freedom and choice comes with responsibility. In other words, since we are free, we are responsible for the choices we make and for the consequences of our choices. That is why it is said that, ***we are punished not for our sins, but by our sins!***

In our first reading today the people of Israel have made it to the Promised Land. Their leader Moses, had died by then and had been succeeded by Joshua who now puts a choice before them: *"If it does not please you to serve the LORD, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your fathers served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are now dwelling.."* It is almost ridiculous that Joshua gives them the option to choose between the God who set them free from slavery in Egypt and the other gods. Thankfully, they made a good choice saying: *'Far be it from us to forsake the LORD for the service of other gods. For it was the LORD, our God, who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, out of a state of slavery. He performed those great miracles before our very eyes and protected us along our entire journey and among the peoples through whom we passed. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God'*

In the gospel reading, after Jesus had presented Himself as the Bread of Life, offering His Body and Blood for His followers they said; **"This saying is hard; who can accept it?"** The gospel tells us that as a result of this many of the followers of Jesus left Him and returned to their former ways of life! Jesus then gave the Apostles an opportunity to choose. He said to them, **"Do you also want to leave?"** Simon Peter answered him, **"Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.** Simon Peter's answer points to the choice of the gift of Eternal Life which only comes from God!

My dear brothers and sisters, a question we may ask ourselves is: why would someone make an error in not making the right choices? The simple answer is because he/she doesn't think it matters. The followers of Jesus walked away because they thought it didn't matter that much. As you know, some decisions have short term consequences, others long term, still others have eternal consequences! Does eternal life matter to you? If Yes, then the choice of Jesus the Bread of Life is placed before us today and every day. Do we chose to believe Him and receive Him today as the bread of life?

Thanks and God bless,

Fr Simon Peter

A Chinese Girl—True Story That Inspired Bishop Fulton Sheen

This article on a modern day saint is a little different. It is about a young Chinese girl that was never canonized as a saint, but surely is one of the thousands of Christians who lived as a saint and died as a martyr for Christ. We do not know her name or even the date of her martyrdom. Excerpt from an article Let the SON Shine Out by Rev. Martin Lucia

A couple of months before his death Bishop Fulton J. Sheen was interviewed on national television. One of the questions was this: "Bishop Sheen, you have inspired millions of people all over the world. Who inspired you? Was it a Pope?"

Bishop Sheen responded that it was not a Pope, a cardinal, another bishop, or even a priest or a nun. It was a little Chinese girl of eleven years of age. He explained that when the Communists took over China, they imprisoned a priest in his own rectory near the Church. After they locked him up in his own house, the priest was horrified to look out of his window and see the Communists proceed into the Church, where they went into the sanctuary and broke into the tabernacle. In an act of hateful desecration, they took the ciborium and threw it on the floor with all of the Sacred Hosts spilling out. The priest knew exactly the number of Hosts in the ciborium; thirty-two.

When the Communists left, they either did not notice, or didn't pay any attention to a small girl praying in the back of the Church who saw everything that had happened. That night the little girl came back.

Slipping past the guard at the priest's house, she went inside the Church. There she made a holy hour of prayer, an act of love to make up for the act of hatred. After her holy hour she went into the sanctuary, knelt down, bent over and with her tongue received Jesus in Holy Communion, since (at that time) it was not permissible for laymen to touch the Sacred Host with their hands.

The little girl continued to come back each night to make her holy hour and receive Jesus in Holy Communion on her tongue. On the thirty-second night, after she had consumed the last and thirty-second host, she accidentally made a noise and woke the guard who was sleeping. He ran after her, caught her, and beat her to death with the butt of his rifle. This act of heroic martyrdom was witnessed by the priest as he watched grief-stricken from his bedroom window.

When Bishop Sheen heard the story he was so inspired that he promised God he would make a holy hour of prayer before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament every day of his life. If this frail, little child could give testimony and witness to the world concerning the real and wonderful Presence of her Savior in the Blessed Sacrament, then the Bishop was absolutely bound by all that was right and true, to do the same. His sole desire from then on was to bring the world to the burning Heart of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

The little girl showed the Bishop what true courage and zeal really is; how faith could overcome all fear, how true love for Jesus in the Eucharist must transcend life itself. What is hidden in the Sacred Host is the glory of His love. The sun in the sky is symbolic of the Son of God in the Blessed Sacrament. This is why most monstrances are in the form of a sunburst. As the sun is the natural source of all energy, the Blessed Sacrament is the supernatural source of all grace and love.

TODAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING | (Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b)

PSALM | (Psalm 34)

SECOND READING | (Ephesians 5:21-32 [2a, 25-32])

GOSPEL | (John 6:60-69)

DECISIONS

There is an axiom that states, "Not to decide is to decide." This saying was popular in the turbulent times of the Vietnam War. It urged us not to allow others to answer the moral questions raised by our nation's involvement in that terrible conflict, but to decide for ourselves. Making such choices is never easy. Avoiding them is common. Jesus, for his part, was not only a gallant risk-taker, but a clear decision-maker. As he pursued the mission to which the Father called him, he continually decided for us and for the Father. He worked hard to lay out a scenario that would enable others to make similar choices. Never did he make decisions for others or force others into decisions, even decisions that had eternal ramifications. Jesus is inviting us to make such decisions today. We won't be absolutely sure. What is sure, however, is the command that issues from God's word: Take the risk. Decide!

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

FEAST OF FAITH

Come, Spirit!

The presider at the Eucharist can choose from among a number of different Eucharistic Prayers, all of which follow a similar pattern. Almost always, they begin with an epiclesis, a Greek word that means "invocation upon" or "calling over here." At this moment in the prayer, the priest calls down the Holy Spirit upon the gifts of bread and wine that we have brought to the altar: "Father, we bring you these gifts. We ask you to make them holy by the power of your Spirit, that they may become the body and blood of your Son" (Eucharistic Prayer III). The words of the prayer are accompanied by the ritual gesture of the laying on of hands, the ancient sign of the gift of the Spirit, which is also used in most sacramental celebrations, from the rite of confirmation to the ordination of deacons, priests, and bishops. Liturgists sometimes call this first epiclesis the epiclesis of consecration. Later in the Eucharistic Prayer, there will be another epiclesis, the epiclesis of communion, as the priest asks that the Holy Spirit be sent upon us to transform us. "Grant that we, who are nourished by his body and blood, may be filled with his Holy Spirit, and become one body, one spirit in Christ" (Eucharistic Prayer III).

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

MONDAY | 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Mt 23:13-22

TUESDAY | Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51

WEDNESDAY | 1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-12ab; Mt 23:27-32

THURSDAY | 1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5a, 12-14, 17; Mt 24:42-51

FRIDAY | 1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1, 2b, 5-6, 10-12; Mt 25:1-13

SATURDAY | 1 Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Mt 25:14-30

SUNDAY | Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Ps 15:2-5; Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

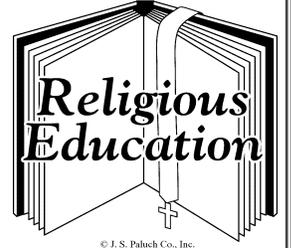
IMPORTANT DATES

August 16 Youth Formation/Religious Education Parent Meeting
Grades K – 5 at 5:30 pm in The Community Life Annex

August 23 Youth Formation/Religious Education Parent Meeting
Grades 6 – 11 at 5:30 pm in The Community Life Annex

August 30 Youth Formation Opening Mass for all students, parents, and mentors
grades 6 – 11 at 6:00 pm in The Community Life Annex

November 13 Youth Formation Retreat



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



“In an ever changing world, the Holy Eucharist is a constant reminder of the great reality of God’s changeless love.”

— ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

St. Bridget Adoration Chapel
Open 6 AM—8 PM

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Come Lord Jesus—a scripture study focusing on the weekly readings is held on Monday’s from 9 AM –10:30 AM. Call 446-9096 for more information.

The Rosary is prayed every Wednesday and Friday after the 8 am Mass. All are invited to join in this experience.

Attention Catholic School Parents

Parents of students in Catholic School grades 2, 10, and 11 **MUST** register their children with the local church parish for Sacraments (First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation). Please contact Miss Bernadette for more details.



Our Father in Heaven,
through the intercession
of Our Lady of Prompt
Succor, spare us during
this hurricane season
from all harm.

Protect us and our homes
from all disasters of
nature.

Our Lady of Prompt
Succor, hasten to help us.
We ask this through
Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Welcome All!

WEEKDAY MASSES
MONDAY—FRIDAY 8 AM

WEEKEND MASSES
SATURDAY | 4 PM
SUNDAY | 8:30 AM
10:30 AM

CONFESSIONS
SATURDAY | 3 PM — 3:50 PM
SUNDAY | 7:30 AM — 8:20 AM
10:00 AM — 10:20 AM

PHONE | 985-446-6801

LOCATION | 2076 W MAIN ST SCHRIEVER, LA 70395

EMAIL | STBRIDGETCHURCH@HTDIOCESE.ORG

MEDIA | FACEBOOK.COM/STBRIDGET

WEBSITE | [HTTPS://STBRIDGET-HTDIOCESE.ORG](https://STBRIDGET-HTDIOCESE.ORG)



TWEEN LITURGY

Join us on Friday nights
Didier Hall
5:30pm -7pm
Snacks will be provided



"When I first opened the bible, I was completely clueless. I couldn't find anything, and I was even struggling to find the table of contents! But a couple of days in, I can just open the bible and find anything I want. I think this has definitely allowed me to learn more about and get closer to Jesus.' - Ladd L.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Join us during
8:30 & 10:30 Mass
Every Sunday!



SHRIMP BOIL FUNDRAISER

by
**Knights of Columbus 12285
of St. Bridget Catholic Church**

Friday, September 10th, 2021

**Boiled Shrimp, Potatoes, Corn, Crackers, Dip
\$12 per plate**

Cash or Checks made payable to Knights of Columbus 12285

Forms can be returned via:
FAX: 985-448-2764

**Orders should be placed by 5:00 PM on
Tuesday, September 7th, 2021**

For more information, please call 985-856-6868 or 985-859-0598

Order forms also available in St. Bridget Annex

THE SANCTUARY LIGHT | IN MEMORY OF

August 22nd—August 28th

Tristan Ables by Ma Maw and Family

Charles Duet Jr. by Ellen Duet and Family

MASS INTENTIONS

August 21st	4 PM	Tristan Ables by Ma Maw and Family Charles T. Hebert (DA) by Pat and Family
August 22nd	8:30 AM	Gina Benoit Boudreaux by Dale and Cecile Benoit Ronnie Thomas by Carroll And Dianne Williams
	10:30 AM	Claire Babin by Members of the UPMA
August 24th	8 AM	Chris Martin Jeff Thanksgiving to the Holy Spirit
August 25th	8 AM	Jules and Joyce LeBoeuf by Family and Friends
August 26th	8 AM	Charles Duet Jr. by Ellen Duet and Family
August 29th	8:30 AM	Ronnie Thomas by Carroll and Dianne Williams
	10:30 AM	Charles Duet Jr. by Ellen Duet and Family

God is good — All the time

PRAYER LINE

To be added to the prayer line, call Nina Richard at 446-1206 or the rectory at 446-6801. In the charity of your prayers, please pray for the sick, elderly, and homebound. Please pray for: Elaine Ables, Susan Arce-neaux, Heidi Ardoin, Donnie Aucoin Jr, Jacob Aucoin, Jeannie Aucoin, Sara Aucoin, Elvin Babin, Tommy Badeaux, Chad Barrileaux, Ronnie Bednarz, Chuck Beebe, Gertrude Benoit, Fr. Paul Bergeron, Mitzy Bettridge, Gretchen Bilello, Preston Billiot, Alvin & Gail Blanchard, Dennis Blanchard, Ronald Blanchard, Lynn Bonneval, Aline Boudreaux, Emile "Jay" Bourgeois, Patricia Bourgeois, Connie Bouterie, Emma Del Brous-sard, Susan Caillouet, Gary & Sheila Cavalier, Bessie Chiasson, Randy Chiasson, Jane D. Clement Bryce Comeaux, Huey Cortez Sr., Martha Cortez, Randy Davis, Cary Davis, Jr., Dorothy Didier, Barbara & Ronni Duhon, Linda Ekiss, Avery "Brother" and Sonja Fonseca, Melissa Fontana Darin Fonz, Robin Ford, Marie Four-nier, Alisa Frederick, Dante Galliano, Toby Gambarella, Leigh Ann Gardner, Carrie Gibbens Belinda Gil, Bran-don Gil, George Gil, The Gil Family, Carrie Mae Givens, Austin Gros, Bryan Gros, Chad Gros, George Gros, Rosebella Gros, Kendra Guillot, Joy Hebert, Katie Hebert, Jerrell Hebert, Sr., Cheryl Henderson, Jessie Hoff-pauir, Samara Holland, Kristen Koppel, Eldine LaFleur, Jackson LaFleur, Mona Lambert, Elmay Landry, Joyce Landry, Craig Landry, Mark Landry, Barbara Nell Lapeyrouse, Allie LeBlanc, Emily LeBoeuf, Evelyn Leger, Tam-my Babin Loney, Tim Long, Payton Martin, Keith Matherne, Rick Melancon, Asher Miller, Savannah Miller, Emma Mire, Bethany Moore, Meghan Naquin, Misty Naquin, Shannon Naquin, Eric Olivieri, Annie Ordoyne, Kara Pellegrin, Sherry Pennison, Lisa Pennison, Kenneth Pitre, James Pierce, Kip Pierce, Sharon Prejean, Ed Raidl, Kerri Reynolds, Bryce Richard, Ella Richard, Gladys Richard, Lorita Rodrigue, Susan Rodrigue, Cynthia Rogers, Danielle Samanie, Chester Sanchez, Karla Saunier, Kathy Savoie, Earline Simmoneaux, Penny Sim-mons, Brenda Sonier, Louis Stevens, Melissa Tardiff, Trish Templet, Pierre & Mary Theriot, Cammie Thibodaux, Lacey Thibodeaux, Thibodaux Family, Chris Touns, Joyce Touns, Ricky Turner, Sara Day Vignes, Allison Walters, and Wanda Wawrose, Freddie Webre, Anna Wooten. **Please notify the office when names can be removed.**

Quality Funeral Services for Generations

447-9041

LANDRY'S
EST. 1888 | FUNERAL HOME

THIBODAUX REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
602 North Acadia Road
(985) 447-5500
www.thibodaux.com

Smart FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORIUM

SOUTH LOUISIANA BANK

635 Bayou Blue Road, Houma, LA 70364
4511 West Park Avenue, Gray, LA 70359
985.851.6540
office@smartfuneralhome.com
www.smartfuneralhome.com

catholicmatch® Louisiana

CatholicMatch.com/myLA

SCHRIEVER CONCRETE CO., INC.
447-7922

Ready Mix Concrete
Large & Small Jobs
111 Horseshoe Road
Schriever

Get this weekly bulletin delivered by email - for FREE!

Sign up here:
www.jspaluch.com/subscribe

Courtesy of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.

WHY IS IT
A man wakes up after sleeping under an ADVERTISED mattress and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas bathes in an ADVERTISED shower shaves with an ADVERTISED razor brushes his teeth with ADVERTISED toothpaste washes with ADVERTISED soap puts on ADVERTISED clothes drinks a cup of ADVERTISED coffee drives to work in an ADVERTISED car and then refuses to ADVERTISE believing it doesn't pay. Later if business is poor he ADVERTISES it for sale.
WHY IS IT?

CANNATA'S FAMILY MARKET

Serving The Area Since 1939
Morgan City • Bayou Vista
Houma

FINDaPARISH.com
Check It Out Today!

DANTIN CHEVROLET

The Most Complete Online National Directory of Catholic Parishes

CHARLES A. PAGE & SONS
Insurance Agency, Inc.
5911 Main 872-5711
Auto • Home • Business • Life • Health

If You Live Alone You Need MDMedAlert!

24 Hour Protection at HOME and AWAY!
✓Ambulance ✓Police ✓Fire ✓Friends/Family
Solutions as Low as **\$19.⁹⁵ a month**
FREE Shipping FREE Activation NO Long Term Contracts

CALL NOW! 800.809.3352
GPS Tracking w/Fall Detection Nationwide, No Land Line Needed EASY Set-up, NO Contract 24/7 365 Monitoring in the USA

MDMedAlert
Safe-Guarding America's Seniors Nationwide!

CHEVROLET
644 West Main
448-2277

AG& REFRIGERATION
1309 St. Patrick St. | 446-6256
www.agrefrigeration.net

ST. BRIDGET CHURCH
St. Bridget Catholic Church
100 Hwy. 311
Schriever, LA 70395-9998

Protecting Seniors Nationwide

24SEVEN
Medical Alert System

\$29.95/Mo. billed quarterly

- One Free Month
- No Long-Term Contract
- Price Guarantee
- Easy Self Installation

Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608

Daigle Himel Daigle PHYSICAL THERAPY & HAND CENTER

985-447-3164 • 985-223-4760 • 985-876-1155

eBlanc
PAINCOURTVILLE (985) 369-6014

SCHRIEVER
(985) 493-9191
READY-MIX CONCRETE
GRAVEL MASON SAND
FILL SAND DIRT LIMESTONE
Since 1945

ONE PARISH

Download Our Free App or Visit www.MY.ONEPARISH.com

Grow in your faith, find a Mass, and connect with your Catholic Community with OneParish!

Download on the App Store GET IT ON Google play

SONOCO
Sontheimer Offshore/catering Co.
www.sontheimeroffshore.com
985-851-0727