## **PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

(ANY CHANGES, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE.)

Lori Hill, Millie Laxdal, John Christianson, Pauline Dusek, Patricia Rodvold, Jane Zidon, Marla Zidon, Rex Grill, Heidi Gustafson, Adriane Wellman, Isabelle Copeland, Tracy Letzring, Kelly Morrison, Jody Deibert, Allison Bleick, Dale Hultin, Bob McCartney, Lonnie Guderjahn, Susie Dimsha, Sherry McDonald, Shelbie Goodoien, Oliver Goodoien, Brent Collins, Merle Larson, Robert O'Toole, Ruth Rieger, Melanie Fischer, Ruth Ivesdahl, Mae Jackson, Carol Smith, Mary Louise, Bernard & Aletha Schommer, Brianna Fernandez, Brett & Rick Letzring, Jane Grazadzieleski, Rick Kilichowski, Donald Denault, Gary Olson, Fr. Finnestad, Joan Kerian \*(Please call the office (701-265-8877) or Deacon Keith (701-460-1051) if someone needs a visit and/or Holy Communion)

## ST PATRICK ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pray the Rosary: Sun at 8:00 am. Adoration with Confessions: Sat at 8:00 am. More Confessions: Sun 8:00 am. May Church Cleaners: Loren & Karen Salwei, Isaac & Christina Burrell, Paul & Sherry O'Toole. Collection: Clay & Jim (May 23); Dianne & Melissa (May 30). Reader: Jim (May). Sanctuary Lamp: Henry & Mary Wieler (May 23); Karen Flanagan (May 30). Sacristan: Duane (May 23); Scott (May 30). Rosary: Mary T (May 23); Mary S (May 30) Altar Society Meeting: June 9th, 6:30 pm. Bridal Shower: June 6th, 2-4 pm, for Emma Waskom (Jonathan Young)

## ST BRIGID ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pray the Rosary: Sun at 10:00 am. Adoration with Confessions: Wed & Fri at 11:00 am; More Confessions: Sat 4-5:00 pm, Mon 5-5:15 pm. May Church cleaners: L-R. Collection: Michael & Val (May 23); Allan & Randy (May 30). Readers (May): Sat-Loren S; Sun.-Steven M.; Rosary: Larry C (May 23); Larry C (May 30). Sanctuary Lamp: Allison Puppe & August Puppe (May 23); Ricky Sandison & Richard Kochendorfer (May 30)

<u>Postcards were sent out</u>: For cemetery upkeep. Thank you for your generosity in whatever donation you can make.

Lent is Over, Can We Now Eat Meat on Fridays?: No! Unless you substitute it with another penance. Every Friday in the year is a day of penance. It's just that, here is the US, outside of Lent, you can choose your penance.

Calling All Men: You can still become a Knight of Columbus. Contact Gary Robinson of St. Brigid.

If You Want to Comment: The Ride-In Committee website: https://www.cavaliermotorcycleridein.com/contact-us

<u>Sign up for "Formed"!</u> We need everyone with an e-mail address to sign up! It is <u>free</u> to all of our parishioners. This is the week to sign up. It's easy; see the front of this bulletin. Go to: formed.org

Another note about "Formed" Once you sign-up and sign-in for the first time, if you never log out, you never have to log in again! So, you can "X" out. But, don't log out. If you never log out, you're always ready to go!



This week of "Formed"
Watch movies on real-life Catholic military heroes: **Fr. Emil Kapaun** and **St. Joan of Arc**(Go to formed.org to sign up!)

Mon	Blessed Virgin Mary , Mother of the Church	May 24	5:15 pm	St Brigid	+Jonathan Frelich	
Tues		May 25	8:00 am	St Patrick	Skylar Allex	
Wed	St Philip Neri	May 26	Noon	St Brigid	Winston Miller	
Thur	St Augustine Of Canterbury	May 27	8:00 am	St Patrick	Makensie Miller	
Fri		May 28	Noon	St Brigid	Landon Allex	
Sat	St Paul VI	May 29	9:00 am	St Patrick	St Brigid & St Patrick Parish Members	
	Sunday Vigil Mass		5:00 pm	St Brigid	Miranda Allex	
Sun	The Most Holy Trinity	May 30	8:30 am	St Patrick	The King Thoelke Family	
			10:30 am	St Brigid	St Brigid & St Patrick Parish Members	

Stewardship (as of 5-16-21)	St Brigid	St Patrick		St Brigid	St Patrick
Adult Envelope	2325.00	301.93	St Patrick's Care Collection May		315.00
Plate	73.50	10.00	Cemetery	2350.00	3,256.69
Weekly Total	2,398.50	311.93	St Anthony Cemetery \$730.00		
Yearly Actual Total	43,987.26	19,306.04	St Brigid Gods Gift Goal: \$23,485.48	6,508.00	
Monthly Envelope Building Fund	1,745.00	2,380.00	St Patrick Gods Gift Goal: \$9,103.15		4,655.00
Ascension	485.00	55.00	St Helen Cemetery \$275.00		
			St Bernard Cemetery \$87.00		

Pastor: Fr. Charles LaCroix charles.lacroix@fargodiocese.org

Pentecost Sunday

## St Brigid & St Patrick

May 23, 2021

PO Box 280 Cavalier ND 58220 Phone: 701-265-8877



"Pentecost"

(The Church, Conceived on the Cross, Is Birthed on Pentecost)

On the way to His <u>ascension</u>, Christ promised to send the **Holy Spirit** on His followers. He told the disciples not to leave <u>Jerusalem</u>, but to "wait there for what the Father had promised." He reminded them: "It is what you have heard me speak about. John baptized with water, but you, not many days from now, will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." Then still

more clearly, He predicted what the Holy Spirit would do in their lives. "You will receive **power**," Christ assured them, "when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses, not only in Jerusalem, but throughout Judea and Samaria and indeed to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1)

In the original inspired text of the *Acts of the Apostles*, Jesus promised the disciples that they would be "*my martyrs*." If there was ever an age in Christian history when the followers of Christ would need the strength of martyrdom, it is <u>today</u>.

We are liable to miss the preceding adjective "<u>mv</u>" in the clause, "You shall be my martyrs." This prefix is crucial. Those who are martyrs are **witnesses** to Christ. They testify, if need be with their blood, that what they believe is true because they have known Christ. The implication is that in order to be a witness, even to martyrdom, one <u>must</u> have experienced Christ, in a way comparable to what Peter told the early Christians: "You did not see Him, yet you love Him. And still without seeing Him, you are already filled with joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe" (1 Pet. 1:8).

Not all the **faithful** who suffer for Christ also die for Christ. Opposition to the Christian faith and way of life does *not always* end in violent death for the persecuted victims. Consequently, it is well to distinguish between what may be called *martyrdom of blood* and *martyrdom of opposition*, which is bloodless indeed, but no less and sometimes more painful to endure.

But that is **not** the whole picture. We need to shake ourselves into awareness that our country <u>is</u> going through persecution. It is **no** less real for being subtle, and **no** less painful for being perpetrated in the <u>name</u> of democracy. Any priest or religious, any married or single person in America who wishes to **sincerely and fully** live up to his Catholic commitment, finds countless obstacles in his way and experiences innumerable difficulties that accumulatively demand <u>heroic</u> fortitude to overcome and withstand.

Call it an *unbloody martyrdom*. But have no doubt that to live an authentic Catholic life in America today is to live a <u>martyr's life</u>. That is why the sacrament of *Confirmation* cannot be more clearly identified than to call it the sacrament of *martyrdom*. Only the Holy Spirit whom we received on **our** *Pentecost Sunday* can sustain us in our **witness** to Jesus Christ. Only heroic bishops and heroic priests, heroic religious, heroic fathers and mothers, heroic faithful, will survive the massive persecution of the Catholic Church in our country today. The only "*liberty*" that is given freedom is the liberty to do your own will. *Pro-choice* is not just a clever phrase. It is the hallmark of a culture in which **millions** have chosen to do what <u>they want</u> and make life humanly impossible for those who choose to do what God wants.

We still have **one more** type of martyrdom to reflect on, and it is, in a way, the most pervasive of all be cause no follower of Christ can escape it. This is the martyrdom of <u>witness</u>.

What do we mean by martyrdom of *witness*? Here the firm **believer** in the Church's teaching authority; the devoted **servant** of the papacy; the convinced **pastor** who insists on sound doctrine to his flock; the **teenagers** who want to preserve their chastity; the firm **parents** who are concerned about the moral training of their children such persons will <u>not be spared</u> active criticism and open opposition. But they must especially *be ready* to live in an atmosphere of **coldness** to their deepest beliefs. To continue living a Christ-like life in this kind of environment is to practice the *martyrdom of witness*. Why witness? Because it means giving testimony to our deep religious convictions although **all around us** others are giving their own example to the contrary.

If we would know the power of this martyrdom of *witness*, we have only to read the annals of the early **Church**. The <u>handful</u> of believers who received the **Holy Spirit** on *Pentecost Sunday*, were as a drop in the immense culture surrounding the *Mediterranean Sea*. Yet <u>see what happened</u>. This <u>small</u> group of convinced faithful were able, in less than three hundred years, to **turn the tide** of paganism in the *Roman Empire*.

But their patience and meekness finally **prevailed**. Yes, but <u>only</u> because it was supported by unbounded courage, born not of their own strength, but of the <u>power</u> of the Holy Spirit that Christ promised to give those who would witness to His name. This promise is **just as true today**. All that we need is to trust in the Spirit whom we possess, and <u>never grow weary</u> in giving testimony to the grace we received.

(By: Fr. John Hardon, Real Presence Association)