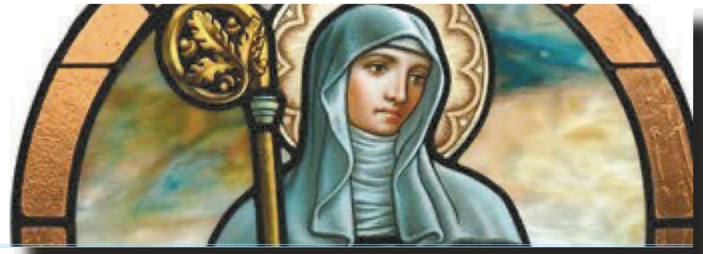




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WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday 5pm, *Sunday 9:30am

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Mon., Thur. & Fri. at 9:00am

Wednesday at 6:30pm

***live-streamed**

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM & CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Please contact Amanda Cahill

CONFIRMATION & R.C.I.A.

Please contact

Sarah & Alex Chopyak

MARRIAGE

Please contact Fr. William Heric

RECONCILIATION

Saturday - 3:45pm - 4:30pm

or by appointment

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please contact

Fr. William Heric



www.stbridgetchurch.org



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4900 NE 50TH ST - OFFICE HOURS: M-F 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM (206) 523-8787 - parishoffice@stbridgetchurch.org

SCRIPTURE READINGS & DAILY SAINTS

OCTOBER 1

R1, Ez 18:25-28

Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

R2, Phil 2:1-11

Gospel, Mt 21:28-32

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

OCTOBER 2

R1, Zec 8:1-8

Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23

Gospel, Mt 18:1-5, 10

Feast of the Guardian Angels

OCTOBER 3

R1, Zec 8:20-23

Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7

Gospel, Lk 9:51-56

Saint Theodora Guérin

OCTOBER 4

R1, Neh 2:1-8

Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6

Gospel, Lk 9:57-62

Saint Francis of Assisi

OCTOBER 5

R1, Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12

Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11

Gospel, Lk 10:1-12

Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska

OCTOBER 6

R1, Bar 1:15-22

Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9

Gospel, Lk 10:13-16

Saint Bruno

OCTOBER 7

R1, Bar 4:5-12, 27-29

Ps 69:33-35, 36-37

Gospel, Lk 10:17-24

Our Lady of the Rosary

OCTOBER 8

R1, Is 5:1-7

Ps 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20

R2, Phil 4:6-9

Gospel, Mt 21:33-43

Saint John Leonardi

A REFLECTION BY FR. WILLIAM HERIC

Dear Friends in Christ,

The month of October this year is full of several graced-filled opportunities for the Catholic Church far and near. October is **"Respect Life Month"** when we reaffirm the sanctity of all life from the moment of conception to natural death. That is an ongoing issue for the church and one that requires deep prayer.

October is also the **"Month of the Rosary,"** a powerful prayer indeed. A reminder that a group regularly meets at St. Bridget's on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm to pray the rosary together. All are welcome!



This October is also the much anticipated **"Synod on Synodality"** in Rome, attended by 478 bishops, priests, sisters, and laymen and women. Our own Archbishop Paul Etienne is a delegate to the synod. So, what's it all about? The document *Instrumentum Laboris* which will guide the work of the delegates asks a wide range of questions focused on how the Church can **foster communion, strengthen participation, and carry out its mission.** Topics considered include caring for creation, ecumenism, the participation of the baptized in the life of the Church, the role of women, and the inclusion of marginalized groups, as well as considerations around leadership and decision-making at the local, national, and global levels.

These are topics we have prayerfully discussed in our own synod listening sessions. They are at the heart of the **"Partners in the Gospel"** planning process to renew Catholic life through a reorganization of the parishes to which we belong. We are in the public phase when the people of our parishes are asked to offer their input and feedback on the proposed draft of families that will come together on July 1, 2024. Last weekend, I announced that our proposed family for **St. Bridget's is to join with Assumption and Our Lady of the Lake** parishes. The initial feedback has been positive, but it's time to go deeper.

So, our **next synod gathering** to consider our proposed family of parishes will be this **Sunday, October 1**, following our 9:30 am Mass. There will be another opportunity on **Tuesday, October 3** at 7:00 pm. Please consider attending to offer your feedback about our proposed family. What excites you about it? What concerns you? What alternatives would you propose? Your voice matters and will be considered in the final makeup of the family. Thanks!

Come Holy Spirit!

Fr. William Heric, Pastor

GOSPEL LISTENING SESSIONS

Mark your calendar to join us on **October 1 at 11:00 am or October 3 at 7:00 pm** for our Partners in the Gospel Listening Sessions around proposed placement of St. Bridget's in a local parish family of Assumption Parish and Our Lady of the Lake Parish. This is an important gathering around the future of our parish family. We hope you'll join us or consider taking the online survey available now on our parish website.



LISTENING SESSIONS
at St. Bridget's
October 1 & 3

You may find more information on the Archdiocese website. Please stay tuned for updates.

LIFE GIVING WOUNDS

Healing to adult children of divorce

If you've experienced the pain of divorced parents, please join us on October 18th at Blessed Sacrament Church in Seattle to explore bringing a new ministry to Seattle called Life Giving Wounds (www.lifegivingwounds.org). Life Giving Wounds seeks to bring healing to adult children of divorce with retreats, support groups and other means while exploring the Church's teaching on redemptive suffering.

The meeting time is 7pm, October 18th at the Blessed Sacrament Parish Library. RSVP to Nick by phone or text message at 503-898-0521 for more detailed directions to the meeting location.

"...IN THIS WORLD I CANNOT SEE
THE MOST HIGH SON OF GOD WITH
MY OWN EYES, EXCEPT FOR HIS
MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD."

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI



CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS (CST)

LIVING OUR CATHOLIC VALUES THROUGH ADVOCACY

Here's why peace in the Sahel matters: violence in the area is forcing millions to flee their homes. In fact, in less than two years, the number of displaced persons has increased by 40%, reaching 2.5 million people in five West African nations in the Sahel. The Catholic Church in West Africa and other faith-based organizations are united in responding to the violence through the Sahel Peace Initiative. Please visit www.crs.org for more information and to see how you can help!



NEW PARISHIONERS

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all new parishioners and visitors to our church!

Visitors, we hope that you've enjoyed your time with us. If you would like to join our family here at St. Bridget we invite you to become a registered parishioner.

Welcome!

The Patrick Family

*Justin, Meg, Palmer, Leighton
and Baby #3!*

The Corr Family

Duncan & Alexandria

The Corr Clark Family

Evan, Katie & James

The DeWater Family

Taylor, Erica, Sophia & Peyton

We're so glad you're here!

FATHER BILL HERIC ON VACATION

Fr. Bill Heric will be on vacation Oct.4-16. Please welcome the visiting priests who will serve us while he is away. Thank you!



UPCOMING EVENTS & NEWS

WEEK OF OCTOBER 2 - 8

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
OCTOBER 2	OCTOBER 3	OCTOBER 4	OCTOBER 5	OCTOBER 6	OCTOBER 7	OCTOBER 8
9:00am-5:00pm Church is open 9:00am Daily Mass 3:00pm-10:00pm Adoration	9:00am-5:00pm Church is open 7:00pm Partners in the Gospel Listening Session #2 (Parish Hall) 7:00pm SVDP Meeting (Fireseide Room)	9:00am-7:00pm Church is open 5:30pm Holy Rosary 5:00pm Paint Your Pet Auction Sign Up Party 6:30pm OCIA Meeting 6:30pm Daily Mass	9:00am - 10:00pm Church is open 9:00am Daily Mass	9:00am - 9:00pm Church is open 9:00am Daily Mass 9:30am Anointing of the Sick	Assumption Parish 100 Year Anniversary 9:00am - 10:00pm Church is open 3:45-4:30pm Reconciliation 5:00pm Vigil Mass 6:00pm Anointing of the Sick	9:00am - 3:00pm Church is open 9:30am+ Sunday Mass 10:30am Anointing of the Sick 10:30am Coffee and Donuts <i>+Live-streamed</i>

UPCOMING EVENTS

TEENS NEEDED

Help with Kids' Movie Night on October 12



We're looking for teenagers to assist with Kids' Movie Night on **October 12th**, which is one of the fantastic sign up party events we offered during our spring auction. If you're interested in being a volunteer for this enjoyable event, please click the sign up.

ENRICHMENT CLASS INTEREST SURVEY

We are actively pursuing enrichment classes that appeal to a variety of interests in our parish community. Please take a moment to share your thoughts by taking this very brief survey. Simply scan your smart phone on the image and go to the link provided. Thank you!



TEENS NEEDED

Volunteer Service Hours at St. Francis House



ST. FRANCIS
HOUSE SEATTLE

Calling all tweens and teens! Join us for an exciting opportunity to make a difference and have a blast at St. Francis House. Get ready to earn valuable service hours and make the most of your day off from school. We have two action-packed shifts available on **October 13, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm and 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm**. Come be a part of something amazing! Please contact Melissa Malley for more information: melissa@stbridgetchurch.org

TUESDAY SERVICE OF THE WORD & COMMUNION DISCONTINUED



Because of the consistently small number of people in attendance, we will no longer be offering a service of word and communion on Tuesdays. The church will be open at 9:00 am for those who wish to come in to pray. Weekday Masses will continue on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 9:00 am, and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. Thank you.

PARISH INFORMATION

ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...

- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?
- Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of the Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm accepting setting.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN ON THE PARISH WEBSITE!

Classes will continue on **Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8:00 pm.** All are welcome! For information please contact Alex Chopyak at RCIA@Stbridgetchurch.org

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

Ryan Oftebro - Co-Chair
roftebro@uw.edu

Cheryl Carey - Co-Chair
cahc06@gmail.com

Mary Kay Beeby

Jean Marie Shields

Stephanie Eastman

Shallete D'Souza

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mike Wietholter Chairman
mikewieth@hotmail.com

Tim Vinopal Vice Chairman
timvinopal@comcast.net

Ilaria Hare Heiderich Secretary
ilaria@floorworksinc.com

Manon Cypher

Arun Mathew

Beth Toomey

Julie Henling

Shannon Hull

Joe Rinaldi

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for those who are ill:

Betty Coady
Joseph Daniel
Marilyn Davis
Irene Dunphy
John Ernest
Mary Gibson
Linda Lovinger
Daisy Lu
Catherine Lubatti
Henry Lubatti
Judith Platt
Fr. Tim Sauer
Jeanne Shields
Jonathan Spencer
Doug Woods
The patients in Seattle
Children's Hospital

SPECIAL MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	Oct.	2	9:00am	Daily Mass	For the Parish
Wednesday	Oct.	4	6:30pm	Daily Mass	For the Parish
Thursday	Oct.	5	9:00am	Daily Mass	For the Parish
Friday	Oct.	6	9:00am	Daily Mass	For the Parish
Saturday	Oct.	7	5:00pm	Vigil Mass	For the Parish
Sunday	Oct.	8	9:30am	Sunday Mass	For the Parish

PARISH STAFF

Pastor	Fr. William Heric	wheric@stbridgetchurch.org	Ext. 207
Deacon	Angus McDonell	amcdonell@stbridgetchurch.org	
Parish Admin. & Accountant	Lyanne Scott	lyanne@stbridgetchurch.org	Ext. 203
Office Manager	Christine Kelly	christine@stbridgetchurch.org	Ext. 201
Dir. of Communications	Susie Lane	susie@stbridgetchurch.org	Ext. 204
Pas. Asst. for Children Faith Form.	Amanda Cahill	children@stbridgetchurch.org	Ext. 205
Pas. Asst. for Music & Confirm.	Sarah Chopyak	sarah@stbridgetchurch.org	Ext. 223
Pas. Asst. for Adult Faith Form.	Alex Chopyak	RCIA@stbridgetchurch.org	Ext. 223
Program Coordinator	Anne Lovinger Earhart	anne@stbridgetchurch.org	Ext. 214
Program Coordinator	Melissa Malley	melissa@stbridgetchurch.org	Ext. 214
Parish Office		parishoffice@stbridgetchurch.org	(206) 523-8787
Principal, ASB School	Kathleen Conklin	kconklin@asbschool.org	(206) 524-7452

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Towards a Listening Church

SYNOD Q & A

What is a Synod?

The Church is in Synod! The word “synod” literally means “on the way together,” and refers to a gathering of the Church for discernment or decision-making.

Who is part of the Synod?

This Synod is unprecedented in the breadth of participation. In the fall of 2021 and the winter and spring of 2022, millions of people all over the world participated in listening sessions—the widest consultation of the people of God, and indeed of the human family, in history. In our own Archdiocese of Seattle, 11,000 people took part in listening sessions, in their parishes or online. In October 2023, laypeople as well as bishops will serve as official delegates to the Synod—a first. Our own Archbishop Paul D. Etienne was named a delegate by Pope Francis. He will be one of 363 voting delegates, including about 20 Americans, in Rome in October, 2023.

What documents has the Synod produced?

The Synod is more about the experience of listening to one another and to the Holy Spirit than it is about documents. Indeed, the preparatory documents for the Synod stated: “The purpose of the Synod... is not to produce documents, but to plant dreams, draw forth prophecies and visions, allow hope to be nourished, inspire trust, bind up wounds, weave together relationships, awaken a dawn of hope, learn from one another, and create a bright resourcefulness that will enlighten minds, warm hearts, (and) give strength to our hands.” That being said, the Synod has created a number of significant documents, at the local, the national, and the worldwide levels. Each round of consultation has produced a synthesis document, which in turn have informed further listening.

- Archdiocese of Seattle Synthesis (English and Spanish)
- Synthesis for Region XII (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Alaska)
- Synthesis for the United States of America
- Document for the Continental Stage (DCS): *Enlarge the Space of Your Tent*
- North American Synthesis Document (response to DCS)
- *Instrumentum Laboris* for October 2023

Continued on the next page



For information about the Synod,
visit archseattle.org/synod

What happens next?

All of the work that has happened to this point has prepared the way for the gatherings of delegates in Rome in October of 2023. The work of the delegates will be guided by the *Instrumentum Laboris* for the Synod. What happens next depends on their deliberations. We know that the Synod will continue into a second session in October of 2024.



What will be talked about?

The *Instrumentum Laboris* which will guide the work of the delegates this fall asks a wide range of questions focused on how the Church can foster communion, strengthen participation, and carry out its mission. Topics considered include caring for creation, ecumenism, the participation of the baptized in the life of the Church, the role of women, and the inclusion of marginalized groups, as well as considerations around leadership and decision-making at the local, national, and global levels. Ultimately, the focus of this synod is synodality itself: how can we walk together more effectively? How can our decision-making processes engage the whole people of God? How can we listen to one another and to the Holy Spirit more intentionally? How can we overcome polarization and divisions and walk together without erasing difference, but holding them in creative tension?

Where can I find out what's happening at the Synod this October?

The Synod Assembly is likely to be widely covered in the media. It is important to choose reliable sources, as many popular media outlets will likely focus on any controversial topics that are discussed, possibly losing sight of the big picture: the Synod is not about a single topic, but rather about how we walk together as Church in every aspect of life and ministry. The following sites are recommended for balanced information about what is happening at the Synod:

- synod.va – site for the Synod, available in several languages
- vaticannews.va – official media site for the Vatican, available in several languages
- usccb.org/newsroom – official media site for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
- nwccatholic.org – new from our local Church and around the world
- www.archbishopetienne.com – Archbishop Etienne's blog, where he will share regular updates first-hand from the Synod Assembly. You can sign up to receive new posts in your e-mail

What can we do now?

As individuals or in parishes, this is a good time to read, reflect on, and discuss the *Instrumentum Laboris* and the other documents the Synod has produced so far. Above all, let us pray for the Synod, that the delegates in Rome may listen deeply to one another, and most especially, to the Holy Spirit!

radical solidarity

In the Gospel of John, shortly before he is to suffer his Passion, Jesus proclaims to his disciples: *“I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another”* (Jn 13:34). And it is love for one another that Jesus says will be the identifying characteristic of his disciples.

The Church’s entire social doctrine is guided by the fundamental principle that every human life has innate dignity and incomparable value: “Every human being is the object of God’s infinite tenderness, and he himself is present in their lives.”¹ As disciples of Christ, we are called to make a sacrificial gift of ourselves for the sake of our neighbor, for “to love someone is to desire that person’s good and to take effective steps to secure it.”²

Fulfilling Christ’s command to love one another takes shape in our practice of solidarity. Solidarity is the means by which we put our love for others into action, making the good of others our own. Solidarity “is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people... On the contrary, it is a firm and

**“I give you a new
commandment: love one
another. As I have loved
you, so you also should
love one another.”**

John 13:34

persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good...to the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all.”³

In reaction to the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, some areas of the country now protect the child in the womb, while others are doing all they can to increase access to abortion. At this critical moment, we have been entrusted with new *opportunities* and new *responsibilities* to build a civilization of authentic love. Our culture claims to offer women so-called “choice,” but ultimately abandons mothers to make tragic and painful decisions alone. We must lead the way in showing the alternative: “*In firmly rejecting ‘pro-choice’ it is necessary to become courageously ‘pro woman,’ promoting a choice that is truly in favor of women. ... The only honest stance,*



in these cases, *is that of radical solidarity with the woman*. It is not right to leave her alone.”⁴

Experience shows that when a mother is supported, “she is even capable of heroism.”⁵ Radical solidarity compels us to come alongside vulnerable mothers in profound friendship, compassion, and support for both them and their

Radical solidarity “refers to something more than a few sporadic acts of generosity.”

preborn children. It requires us to address the fundamental challenges that lead an expectant mother to believe she is unable to welcome the child God has entrusted to her. We must do all we can to provide mothers, children, and families with the support they need to flourish. This cannot be accomplished by laws or policy alone, but requires the continual transformation of our own hearts, recognizing in every person the face of Christ, and placing their needs before our own.

Radical solidarity “refers to something more than a few sporadic acts of generosity. It presumes the creation of a *new mindset*.”⁶ A culture of radical solidarity “gets involved by word and deed in people’s daily lives... and it embraces human life, touching the suffering flesh of Christ in others.”⁷ We each have our particular gifts, role, and obligation within the Body of Christ to help build a culture of life. We must honestly ask ourselves, “What radical, out-of-the-ordinary, actions have I taken to help a pregnant or parenting mother in need, or to proactively contribute to a culture of life in some other way?”

Inspired by Christ’s own example of love, may we “enter fully into the fabric of society, sharing the lives of all, listening to their concerns, helping them materially and spiritually in their needs, rejoicing with those who rejoice, weeping with those who weep.”⁸ May we work together to bring about a culture of life through radical, sacrificial, Christ-like love.

To learn more about the call to radical solidarity—including ways that you can help support pregnant and parenting women in your community—visit respectlife.org/radical-solidarity.



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1 Pope Francis, *Evangelii gaudium* (*The Joy of the Gospel*), no. 274.

2 Pope Benedict XVI, *Caritas in veritate* (*Charity in Truth*), no. 7.

3 Pope John Paul II, *Sollicitudo rei socialis* (*On Social Concern*), no. 38.

4 Pope John Paul II, *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, p. 207.

5 Pope John Paul II, *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, p. 207.

6 Pope Francis, *Evangelii gaudium* (*The Joy of the Gospel*), no. 188.

7 Pope Francis, *Evangelii gaudium* (*The Joy of the Gospel*), no. 24.

8 Pope Francis, *Evangelii gaudium* (*The Joy of the Gospel*), no. 269.



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