



ST. BRIDGET
CATHOLIC CHURCH



DECEMBER 31, 2023 | LEADING LIVES FULL OF **FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE**



Rooted in the Gospel of Christ, we are a Catholic parish community, welcoming all people to pray, love, and serve together.

MASS TIMES

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday 5pm, *Sunday 9:30am
*live-streamed

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Mon., Thur. & Fri. at 9:00am
Wednesday at 6:30pm

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



[@stbridgetchurch](https://www.facebook.com/stbridgetchurch)



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

PARISH INFORMATION & NEWS

SCRIPTURE READINGS & DAILY SAINTS

DECEMBER 31

R1, Sir 3:2-6, 12-14

Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5.

R2, Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17

Gospel, Lk 2:22-40

Saint Sylvester I

JANUARY 1

R1, Nm 6:22-27

Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8

R2, Gal 4:4-7

Gospel, Lk 2:16-21

Mary, Mother of God

JANUARY 2

R1, 1 Jn 2:22-28

Ps 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4

Gospel, Jn 1:19-28

Saint Basil the Great

JANUARY 3

R1, 1 Jn 2:29-3:6

Ps 98:1, 3CD-4, 5-6

Gospel, Jn 1:29-34

Most Holy Name of Jesus

JANUARY 4

R1, 1 Jn 3:7-10

Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9

Gospel, Jn 1:35-42

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

JANUARY 5

R1, 1 Jn 3:11-21

Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5

Gospel, Jn 1:43-51

Saint John Neumann

JANUARY 6

R1, 1 Jn 5:5-13

Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20

Gospel, Mk 1:7-11

Saint André Bessette

JANUARY 7

R1, Is 60:1-6

Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

R2, Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel, Mt 2:1-12

Saint Raymond of Peñafort

A REFLECTION BY FR. WILLIAM HERIC

Dear Friends in Christ,

Christmas this year is a buffet line of spiritual delights for us to savor and find nourishment. In the past seven days we have celebrated the 4th Sunday of Advent, and the Nativity of the Lord on Dec. 24-25th, followed in the next week by the feast of the Holy Family on Dec. 31, and the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God January 1. I hope this banquet has left you full, satisfied, and even hungry for more!



The feast of the **Holy Family** is another reminder, that our faith in Christ can never be just personal and private, but is meant to be shared in a community, beginning with our family of birth, and evolving to our family of choice, the greater Christian community, and in a real sense the entire human family. This feast calls for family life in whatever form we experience it, to be rooted in the unconditional love of God as witnessed by the life of **Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**.

My prayer for all of us is that our families be rich sources of health, happiness, and holiness; blessed by the memories of those who have gone ahead of us; enriched by the presence of new family members we receive through birth, adoption, baptism, marriage, or friendship; dedicated to a common mission to spread Christ's peace and love to all we meet.

My special prayer for the family of **St. Bridget Parish** as we face the future together is that we stay "Rooted in the Gospel of Christ, welcoming all people to pray, love, and serve together."

A happy, and holy New Year to all in 2024!

Blessings of peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Fr. William Heric".

Fr. William Heric, Pastor

p.s. **Heartfelt thanks** to all of you who have been so generous to me with Christmas gifts! Your kindness means the world to me...as do all of you! Thanks again!

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS (CST)

LIVING OUR CATHOLIC VALUES THROUGH ADVOCACY

"We've been burning fossil fuels and that's what's created the problem. That's why we're in a climate crisis." ~Gina Castillo, Catholic Relief Services' climate policy and research advisor speaking to WYPR's "On the Record" about COP28 and fossil fuel phase-out. Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the overseas aid agency of the United States Catholic bishops, recently released a statement in response to the historic outcome of COP28 in Dubai. Please visit www.crs.org to view the full statement and to see how you can help!

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

The Sword and the Family

In the first few weeks of parenthood, the tears flowed fast and freely, and with very little provocation.

Sometimes I wept because it was getting dark out, and sometimes because the sun was coming up. Sometimes I wept because the days were so unbearably long. Sometimes I wept because they were so cruelly short and slipped past so quickly, bearing away with them forever these inaugural moments of my daughter's life — moments I knew I would long for on my deathbed.

So, the inclusion of the Presentation of Christ in the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary has always struck me. The Blessed Mother, just a few weeks after giving birth, standing at the holy temple: Is she tired? Is she emotional? Is she frightened? Is she happy? We cannot know for sure, but if she is anything like most of the postpartum women I know, she is all four. But she stands there dutifully, offering her baby to the Lord, and this is what she is told, "A sword shall pierce your heart."

Joyful? I would have snatched the baby back, called the police and sobbed for a week.

But Mary knows that Simeon speaks the truth, and she cannot receive God's will with anything less than joy, even if it means a pierced heart.

Family means love, but love means — what, exactly? Pleasure, fulfillment, contentment? Yes, but so much more, too. Love means you have much to lose.

How full is family life with these beautiful moments which, on the surface, look and feel painful — but hold within them the opportunity to be like Mary, to bow our heads and once again say "Yes, Lord."

"Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another..." — Colossians 3:12

SVDP GIFTS FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

On December 17th, Assumption Parish hosted the Assumption St. Bridget SVdP Christmas Gift Wrapping Party, a heartwarming event that brought the community together to wrap presents with festive cheer. Volunteers adorned gifts with care, creating a joyful atmosphere filled with laughter and the true spirit of Christmas. Following the celebration, the SVdP team, fueled by the generosity of volunteers, delivered these beautifully wrapped presents to 50 families in the neighborhood. The initiative not only showcased the community's commitment to spreading joy but also embodied the teachings of St. Vincent de Paul. This event was a testament to the power of collective kindness, making a meaningful impact on the lives of those less fortunate and embodying the true essence of the holiday season.



PARISH REGISTRATION

New to St. Bridget's?
Welcome! We would love to have you join our growing community! Simply scan the QR code below to find the online form. It's easy and fast.



UPCOMING EVENTS & NEWS

WEEK OF JANUARY 1 - 7

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
JANUARY 1	JANUARY 2	JANUARY 3	JANUARY 4	JANUARY 5	JANUARY 6	JANUARY 7
Parish Office Closed Today 9:00am-10:00pm Church is open 9:30am The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God	9:00am-5:00pm Church is open	9:00am-7:00pm Church is open 5:30pm Holy Rosary 6:30pm Holy Mass	9:00am - 5:00pm Church is open 9:00am Holy Mass	9:00am - 5:00pm Church is open 9:00am Holy Mass	9:00am - 6:00pm Church is open 3:45-4:30pm Reconciliation 5:00pm Vigil Mass	9:00am - 3:00pm Church is open 9:30am+ The Epiphany of the Lord 10:30am Coffee and Donuts

+Live-streamed

UPCOMING EVENTS & NEWS



Save the date!

February 3 at 6:00 PM

FEAST OF ST. BRIDGET CELEBRATION

Join us for a fun-filled evening celebrating our patron saint, St. Bridget of Kildare

More details to follow soon



First Communion

For 2nd graders, it's First Communion time! Let us assist you in preparing for this important sacrament through our personal and meaningful Sacramental Prep program starting in January. For details and registration, visit our website:

stbridgetchurch.org/first-communion



HELPERS NEEDED

Seeking volunteers in a variety of capacities; Mass Greeters, Gift Bearers, Ushers, Help with Coffee and Donuts, Eucharistic Ministers and more. Please see our website below:



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

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:**

Ronnie Cross

Tristan Blits

Joseph Daniel

Marilyn Davis

Irene Dunphy

John Ernest

Mary Gibson

Gary Hill

Linda Lovinger

Daisy Lu

Catherine Lubatti

Fr. Tim Sauer

Jonathan Spencer

The patients in Seattle

Children's Hospital



SPECIAL MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	Dec.	1	9:00am	Daily Mass	For the Parish
Wednesday	Dec.	3	6:30pm	Daily Mass	For the Parish
Thursday	Dec.	4	9:00am	Daily Mass	For the Parish
Friday	Dec.	5	9:00am	Daily Mass	For the Parish
Saturday	Dec.	6	5:00pm	Vigil Mass	For the Parish
Sunday	Dec.	7	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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**DOES YOUR NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION NEED
A NEWSLETTER?**

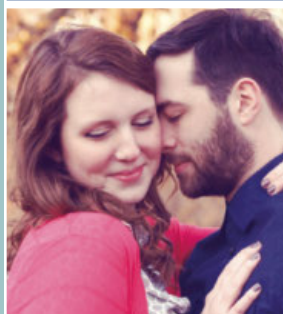


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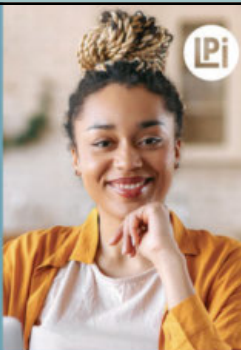
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