

St. Bridget Catholic Church

100 Highway 311 • Schriever, Louisiana

www.stbridget-htdiocese.org

March 31, 2019 |

Fourth Sunday of Lent



St. Bridget Mission Statement

We the community of St Bridget Parish, as members of the Mystical Body of Christ, are dedicated to living out our faith and belief as Christian people. Through our words and actions, we strive: to promote and live the Gospel teachings of Christ; to recognize, develop, and encourage the unique gifts and talents given to each person by the Holy Spirit; to unite as a Parish family in the Eucharist; to witness, to share, and to empower one another's spiritual growth.

Very Rev. Simon Peter Engurait, VG

Pastor

Stephen Brunet

Deacon

Contact Information

Church Office : 446-6801 or 876-7975

Fax Line: 448-2764

Youth Formation Office: 446-1985

E-mail address: stbridgetchurch@htdiocese.org

Facebook: [facebook.com/StBridget](https://www.facebook.com/StBridget)

www.stbridget-htdiocese.org

Mass Schedules

Daily Masses:

Monday— Friday: 8:00 am

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 pm

Sunday Masses: 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Confessions:

Saturday: 3:00-3:50 pm

Sunday: 7:30-8:25 am & 10:00-10:25 am

*For Adoration Chapel information call 985-446-6801

*To report suspected abuse, call
1-855-452-5437



The Sanctuary Light burns in memory of:

March 24-30

Roy Boudreaux (DA) Earline and family
Annette Richard (B) by Marlene & Ronnie

March 31—April 6

Brandon Filardo by Mom and Dad

DA=Death Anniv.

B= Birthday

WA=Wedding Anniversary

Mass Intentions



March 30 4:00 pm

Rudy Thibodaux by family

Paul S. Thibodaux by Marilyn and family

March 31 8:30 am

Robert Crochet by Crochet family

March 31 10:30 am

Keith Babin by Mom, Dad and family

Diane Levron by Medrick and family

April 1 Aline Boudreaux by Brenda Cannon

April 2 Aline Boudreaux by Brenda Cannon

April 3 Aline Boudreaux by Brenda Cannon

April 4 Aline Boudreaux by Brenda Cannon

Lee Roy Breaux (DA) by Ronnie and Betty Thomas

April 5 Rosella S. Karp, Marge K. Burke and
Marie A. Eltz

April 6 4:00 pm

Bessie Usey (B) by family

Russell Hebert Jr. by Janet and family

April 7 8:30 am

Robert Crochet by Crochet family

April 7 10:30 am

Aida & Jesusa Fontenot by Moncivaiz family

Diane Levron by Medrick and family

Keith Babin by Mom, Dad and family

Lent - Mass Schedule

Morning Masses

Monday—Friday - 8 am

Saturday— 8:30 am

Evening Masses

Monday at 5:45 pm

Tuesday - Thursday 6:00 pm

Friday -Way of the Cross at 5:30 pm

Mass after Way of the Cross

A Thank You from Bishop Fabre and Others

Bishop Fabre, Father Simon Peter and most importantly the ministries of the Diocese would like to thank everyone in St. Bridget parish and all people throughout the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux for answering the call of prayers and generosity to the 2019 Annual Bishop's Appeal. Each gift our Diocese received directly support our 14 seminarians, caring for our retired priests, youth formation and religious education, and Catholic education. The generosity and prayers our Diocese has received reminds us that hope is in us all, but more importantly it is in the most important person - Jesus. Thus far our parish has reached 79 % of its appeal goal, thank you.

If you have yet to make your commitment and would still like to do so, there is still time as you can return your commitment card in the offertory, or simply mail it to the Diocese in the provided envelope, or you may also visit www.htdiocese.org/bishopsappeal to make your gift online. If you would like more information about the 2019 Appeal, please contact the Annual Bishop's Appeal Office at 985-850-3116 or email aponson@htdiocese.org.

“THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU”

April 10, 2019

The Sacrament of Reconciliation
(confession) will be offered after 6:00 pm
Mass until the last person.

Note: If you are not able to make it here at St. Bridget, the Sacrament will be offered at all parishes in the Diocese that day from 6-8 pm .

March 17, 2019

Envelopes \$ 3026.00

Loose 465.06

\$ 3491.06

Attendance 366

Thank You For Your Generosity

HOLY WEEK

Monday 8:00 am & 5:45 pm

Tuesday 8:00 am & 6:00 pm

Wednesday 8:00 am & 6:00 pm

Seder Meal (more information later)

Holy Thursday 10:30 am Chrism Mass

7:00 pm Mass of the Lords Supper followed by Eucharistic Adoration till midnight.

Good Friday 10:00 am Out Door Way of the Cross

3:00 pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday 8:00 pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am Easter Sunday



Next Breakfast April 7 9-10:30am

Our next Pancake Breakfast will be held Sunday, April 7, 2019 in the Saint Bridget Community Annex from 9:00 am to 10:30 am. Please join us for breakfast and fellowship. 3 pancakes, 3 sausage links, milk or orange juice for \$6.00, additional milk or orange juice is 50 cents. Complimentary Coffee will also be served.

Fasting

Abstinence

Almsgiving

Catholic Charities Office offers Free Income Tax Preparation & E-Filing of Federal and State Income Tax returns to low income families making less than \$50,000 per year.

Walk In Sites:

Terrebonne Main Library
151 Library Drive
Tuesdays: 9am – 3pm
J. Gaudet: Site Coordinator

Galliano Government Complex
16241 E Main St, Cut Off
Wed. and Fri.: 9am –

Appointment Only Sites:

Thibodaux Health Unit
2535 Veterans Blvd
Tue. and Thur. 8am – 2:30pm
Leslie Guidry: 985-227-1936

Lockport Town Hall
710 Church Street
Tues. and Fri.: 9am - 4pm

Lafourche Parish Government Complex
4876 Hwy 1, Mathews
Monday and Wednesdays: 9am – 4pm
Cheryl Cavalier: 985-696-3600

Knights of Columbus



The KCS are the fraternal organization of men serving the church parish with physical and spiritual needs. The KC's meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month in the Community Life Annex. The organization is open to Catholic men aged 18 and above. The next meeting is on March 27. Contact Ricky Biliot at 985-856-6868 for more details.



Please Pray for the
Repose of all souls,
especially the Souls of

Jesusa Fontenot

and

Sandra Valure Bergeron

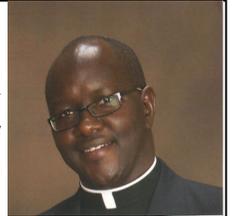
May the souls of all the faithful departed
rest in peace. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY NEEDS HELPERS

The St. Bridget Children's Liturgy Team will meet Friday, April 5 following The Way of the Cross. All those interested in helping out in this ministry are invited to attend.

My Dear people of God,

Today we celebrate **Laetare Sunday**, that is Latin for 'rejoice Sunday.' In the middle of our Lenten journey, we are invited and given a moment for rejoicing. All the readings this Sunday provide us with the reason for this rejoicing; namely, **the goodness of God**. The response to the Responsorial Psalm, invites us to simply, "*Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord.*" This goodness is above all expressed in His mercy. The gospel reading today as well as the one for next Sunday present to us vividly the infinite goodness of the Lord as expressed in His mercy to sinners.



The gospel reading today presents us with one of the best known and loved parables of Jesus, **the parable of the prodigal son**. It probably could even be better referred to as the "**Parable of the Loving Father.**" It has been said that the entire gospel message and mission of Jesus is contained in this parable. Tons of books have been written on this parable and above all, many lives have been touched and transformed by it. The core message of the gospel and mission of Jesus is summed up in one verse in the Letter to the Romans: "**...God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us**" (Romans 5.8). This core message is illustrated in the parable of the prodigal son in today's gospel.

The parable of the prodigal son reveals to us what is required of us to tap into the goodness of God so that we can rejoice. First and foremost, we must know and realize that the reason for rejoicing is the goodness of God our Father. God is good All the Time! In Baptism we were born again and became God's children. As we all know, once a child always a child. The prodigal son knew this! Secondly, the prodigal son only had to acknowledge his failure, and humbly return to his father who would receive him with open arms. That is what we call **repentance**. All it takes for us to experience God's love and mercy is repentance (the core message from last Sunday).

The parable of the prodigal son is regarded by some as being unfair in favor of the wild son and to the disfavor of the faithful older son. The younger son seems to get away with murder! But in reality that is what mercy is all about and all of us need mercy. No wonder the Psalmist in Psalm 130 says: **If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities (our sins), O Lord, who could stand..?** Some have also argued that this parable enables bad behavior. But that is far from the case.

The prodigal son behaved badly- there is no doubt about it and it needs to be said. The parable does not hide it. The gospel reading states that: '*he came to his senses*' and that says a lot: it not only reveals that he came to a profound awareness of his sins and failures, but also of the pain he had caused to his father, that is why he went on to think he no longer deserved to be called a son (of his father). This is a true manifestation of repentance, a turning away from sin and return to goodness.

The prodigal son deserved to be punished, he knew it and even asked for it. Yet as we all know, in that state punishment is the last thing one needs. In fact, he had already received his punishment when his friends deserted him and in the hunger, loneliness and degradation to the level of pigs that he had experienced. This is what God does for us when we repent and turn away from our sinfulness. In His goodness, God welcomes us back with open arms, cleanses and renews us.

My dear brothers and sisters, this parable by no means gives us a license to sin. Rather it shows us that if we do sin, we can and should come back to our loving and merciful Father. Our past can be overcome and we can make a fresh start. This is a great lesson for us today. Therefore as we embrace this second half of the Lenten season let us like the prodigal son, with confidence approach our loving and merciful Father.

God bless you,

Fr. Simon Peter

Catholic Social Teaching Principle: Call to Family, Community and Participation

Human beings are social by nature. We, like the early disciples, are called to come together as a community whether that community is our classroom, workplace or family.

The second reading reminds us that we have been called to a “ministry of reconciliation”.

The gospel makes the “forgiveness experience” concrete in a wonderful story.

The process of reconciliation is sometimes a long journey. Consider the years it took for the people of Israel to get to where they are in the first reading – eating the yield of their own land.

The father in the gospel story wants his son back. The father waits a long time. The son eventually comes back. All is forgiven. There is a celebration. But, the story does not end there. There is still need for healing in the family. The father desires to bring in the elder son as well. His plans is “all inclusive” – to bring the whole family together. It is not easy.

Forgiveness is possible because the father does not get stuck on blame and judgment. This is not to say he has not been pained by the actions of his younger son. He is pained by the attitude of the older son, but still he goes out to invite him in to the family celebration. The word of God invites us to apply this story not only to our interpersonal relationships, but to relationships between communities of people – people who are different than ourselves. It is not easy. However, it is possible with the grace of God. God passionately desires it. God passionately calls us to keep working to heal relationships.

ATTENTION: CHOIR MEMBERS, VOCALIST AND CANTORS

The Office of Worship is inviting choir members, vocalists and cantors from every parish in the diocese to participate in a diocesan choir for both the Chrism Mass and Priesthood ordination this year.

The Chrism Mass is on Holy Thursday morning, April 18, 2019 at 10:30 AM at the Cathedral of St. Francis de Sales, Houma. Music Rehearsals for the Chrism Mass are Thursdays, April 4 and 11, 2019 at 6:30 PM at the Cathedral.

The Priesthood Ordination is on Saturday, June 1, 2019 at 10:00 AM at the Cathedral. Music rehearsals for the Chrism Mass are Fridays, May 24 and 31, 2019 at 6:30 PM at the Cathedral.

It is necessary for choir members to make the rehearsals to participate.

MAKE BENEFICIARY FORMS WORK FOR YOU

The beneficiary forms associated with life insurance, retirement accounts, certificates of deposit and other financial arrangements are often plain-vanilla, one-size-fits-all documents – especially forms made available online. But what if the forms don't fit your planning needs?

You should contact your account manager or customer service representative if you wish to name a trust as beneficiary, or make a designation that goes beyond just the name of a person or organization. For example, it's possible to name us to receive part or all of your IRA in exchange for a charitable gift annuity payable to a surviving spouse or others. But special instructions would need to be included on a separate page attached to the beneficiary form.

Friends sometimes wish to leave us a particular dollar amount from their IRAs but find that the beneficiary forms permit IRAs to be divided up only by *percentages or fractions*. One solution is to state that we are to receive a certain percentage (25%, for example) “not to exceed \$50,000” (or some other dollar amount likely to be less than the stated percentage).

It's important to ensure that the company understands and consents to any special beneficiary language, and to have your attorney look over these documents as well. Our staff will be glad to provide you with appropriate language for naming us as one of your beneficiaries.

CRS RICE BOWLS *Encounter Kumba*

We encounter Kumba from Sierra Leone, who, through her education, is providing hope for her family and community. How has education given you opportunities in life? How do you use your education for the common good? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

Forgiveness And Greed: Reflections On The Prodigal Son, by Ngozi Nosike

The story of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-20) is a story of forgiveness, second chances and retracing one's footsteps. It is the story of a wayward son who returned home after squandering his inheritance, to meet a very loving forgiving father that he had once wronged.

In my world, I often imagine myself as the father of the prodigal son and I marvel at how lenient the father was towards his son. Were it to be me, I would give that son a piece of my mind. I wouldn't spare him, Oh no I wouldn't. I might probably start with "Junior, so you have decided to join us again eeh? What happened to your great business plan, the great life that lay ahead you? And what's that pig smell lingering on you?" I might also find it amusing watching him grovel seeking mercy.

Eventually I might forgive him though. However, that does not mean I would forget. No way would I forget! and if I did, it would take a while. I would keep rubbing it in; "Ehen Junior, come ooh, we are short of wheat by a bag, please let's cut your next month salary to make up for it ooh, you owe us that."

And that is me, imagining, if it were me. I also keep wondering how his father just forgave him, with no conditions or requirements. He did not stop there, he restored him to his former glorious position and celebrated his return. Now that is quite generous, and that is our heavenly Father- generous. He chastises, He forgives, forgets and clothes us in splendor. He does not keep a record of wrong, because love does not keep a record of wrong and our God is love. And that is the very essence of the parable, the unquantifiable love of God.

Another side of this story however has got me thinking, the side of the prodigal son. I wonder to myself, what happened to this son that's he could not invest his money wisely in some profitable venture. It is obvious he participated in running his father's business, so why couldn't he continue when he left home, he could have opened up his own complex, he had his father's name, his share of all he had worked for, which I presume is a lot of money, but he just didn't think. Instead he went drinking and partying and after women, forgetting that someday his money would run out. It is different when a son decides to leave home for a different part of the country to open up a new branch, in which case the aim is expansion, and father and son are still working together. No, this son decided that it was time to leave home, he was done and he wanted to be on his own. But in my opinion, that son was just plain stupid. If he had been wise, the story would have ended differently. Jesus could have told it as the story of the wise son.

But who ever got wise from leaving the fountain of wisdom? and that was when I saw the missing message that was only inferred. All that the son was came from the father- his wisdom, his business acumen, his substance. The moment he took his cut and left, he left the source of all he had, it was only a matter of time before he ran out.

It is the same with us and our heavenly Father. All that we are, and all that we can ever be stems from him. Packing up and leaving with the reward of all we have worked might not seem such a bad idea. Wanting to be independent of the father might not seem wrong. The truth, however, is that you might not make the best of decisions away from the fountain of knowledge. This is one place where independence from parents is not a sign of maturity, but total dependence is the ideal. We all need a daily dose of God to make decisions, to thrive, and to sustain our substance.

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. ***-John 15:4-5***

Abbey Youth Festival – Thanks

God is good! Thanks to all parents, participants, and youth ministers who helped to make the 2019 Abbey Youth Festival a huge success. Fifteen youth and youth ministers traveled to Covington to witness the power of God first hand. Please pray that the Holy Spirit continue to guide these youth to Christ.

Help Wanted – Is God Calling You

Help is needed for Youth Formation for the 2019 – 2020 school session. Please prayerfully consider assisting with the program which is held on Monday evenings. Youth in grades K – 6 attend classes from 5:30 – 6:35 pm. Adult volunteers are needed from 5:15 – 6:45 pm. Youth in grades 7 – 12 work in small group settings from 6:45 – 8:00 pm. Adult volunteers are needed from 6:30 – 8:15 pm. Meetings and trainings will be held prior to the opening of the school.

Contact Miss Bernadette at 985-446-1985 for more details.



Youth Car Wash – April 6th

The youth will be sponsoring a car wash Saturday, April 6th from 9:00 – noon. Donations received from the car wash will be used to defray the expenses involved with the Steubenville on the Bayou Conference. Persons wishing to have vehicles washed need to enter the property from Hwy 311 and exit onto Hwy 24. The car wash will be held in the parking lot near the back of the Annex. Thanks in advance for your generosity.

Spring Fling

Spring Fling will be held Saturday, May 11th from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm
Plans are underway for a Cajun Boucherie.

More details are forthcoming.



Splash Canyon Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is June 3 - 7 from 9 am - 12 noon in the Community Life Annex. VBS is open to children entering Kindergarten through 6th grade. Teen and adult volunteers serve as leaders of the program. Registration forms can be found on the Youth Page of the website at <https://stbridget-htdioocese.org> Contact Miss Bernadette in the Youth Formation Office (985-446-1985) for more details.

The 'most wanted' items VBS bulletin board will be placed in the church after Easter. We greatly appreciate parishioners who have donated to this program in the past and trust in the Lord that you will continue to be generous.

Steubenville on the Bayou News

Youth entering grades 9 through college are eligible to attend the annual Steubenville on the Bayou Youth Conference June 14 – 16, 2019 at the Houma-Terrebonne Civic Center. The youth will be selling World's Finest candy in order to defray the cost of the conference. Adults who can help with the candy sales are asked to contact Miss Bernadette in the Youth Formation Office (446-1985). Steubenville applications will be handed out in Youth Formation Classes and will be available on the St. Bridget website (<https://stbridget-htdioocese.org>).



Court St. Bridget of Sweden #2461

Catholic Daughters will meet Thursday, April 11 at 7:00 pm in the Community Life Annex. Catholic women age 18 and above are encouraged to join the organization and attend the meeting. Annual dues (\$25) are due at this time and can be paid at the meeting.