

Saint Brigid Newsletter– Sixtieth Edition, 10/6/ 2020

At Saint Brigid of Kildare, nourished by the Word and Sacraments, we find life in Christ by gathering disciples for worship, service, and education.

From the Principal's Desk (Back at the Desk!!)



The waiting is the hardest part. The song by Tom Petty perfectly describes my day. I found myself sitting in the parking lot today waiting for my husband to have a routine health screening. Due to the COVID precautions, no one can wait inside anymore. So, I sat in my car. Since I didn't have a good enough internet signal, I couldn't connect to my computer to work on my to do list (including the newsletter). This left me time to simply sit and wait. Waiting is indeed the hardest part.

This year has been a year of waiting. Waiting to be able to go back to work. Waiting for guidelines on how to start school. Waiting for a vaccine to allow life to go back to some semblance of normal. Waiting. Why is it so hard for us to be still and wait. We learned over the stay at home order last year just how busy our lives really are because suddenly, we were not as busy; no more athletic events, dance classes, social activities, or band practices.

Waiting is hard because we are not used to doing it. If our internet doesn't connect instantly, we call our tech support. If a package doesn't arrive when we expect it, we start to call looking for it. My first internet experiences years ago were painfully slow but I could wait more patiently then. Now that I have faster service, I no longer want to wait the two minutes it takes for the page to load.

We have become impatient not just with the things and routines of the world, we have become impatient with people too. If the cashier takes too long to ring us up, we sigh loudly and roll our eyes. If the doctor's office is backed up because of another patient's needs, we are exasperated or even angry. If a politician makes a misstep, our social media posts are full of our anger.

I think when this happens, it is important to recognize that sometimes in life we are required to wait. Sometimes, we are required to be patient.

A reminder from the book of Psalms about waiting says, "I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning." (Psalms 37:7) James 5:7 tells us to 'Be patient, therefore, brothers until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and late rains."

Wait. But not just wait. Wait patiently. Wait with joyful expectation. Wait with love for others. Waiting is indeed the hardest part. But through prayer, fasting and almsgiving, our waiting can indeed be joyful. Our waiting will produce precious fruit. Because the love of others and the love of God are worth the wait. The life that awaits us after this life is worth it. Wait patiently. A good reminder for me on this beautiful day of waiting.

Laura E. Wilkowski

Kindergarten has a special visit!

Kindergarten was able to take a walk to the Santa House a few weeks ago. Mrs. Claus met us at the door, and invited us to come in! Imagine how surprised we were when Santa himself, and two reindeer were out in the back of the house! We also got snowed on; it was a magical trip for us. The students came back and wrote about all the things they saw on our walk. We can't wait to go on another walk sometime. Wonder what we might see?



Saint Brigid Student Council News

The student Council is having a penny war to raise money for the purchase of a water bottle refill station to be installed at the water fountain. Tomorrow, October 8th, everyone (K-5) will dress in their pajamas and enjoy watching a movie in their classrooms.



Student Leadership News

The middle school students chose their spirit day activity on Thursday to be lunch together at the Tridge. All grades will walk downtown, together, wearing their masks until they spread out at the park. We will eat our lunch and visit together and return within our lunch hour.

Please make sure the students are dressed for the weather and have a packed lunch. Students may order a "Brown Bag Lunch" option from the cafeteria if we know in advance. Forms are available for the students to use.

The middle schoolers will tie tags for the giving trees for their service project on October 19th. More information will be forthcoming.



Wellness Screening

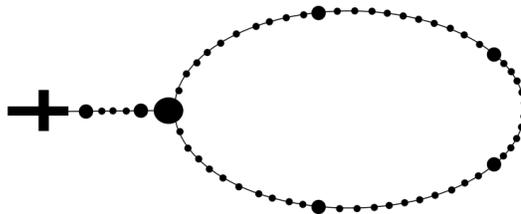
Just a reminder to do your wellness screenings each day for your students. Thank you for all who have kept up with these each day! Every day of school that we are here is a good day!



Living Rosary

The Living Rosary has been one of our honored traditions both from a Catholic perspective and a Saint Brigid perspective. This year, in order to maintain our health guidelines while continuing this tradition, we have put together a Google Slides version of the rosary into which videos of the children leading the prayers will be inserted. This slideshow will be shared with parents.

We will be asking for students to volunteer to do this reading. Because the lideshow will be shared with the school families, I am asking participating students to complete a permission slip that allows for them to be videotaped doing the prayer and consequently, shared with the school families.



Third Grade Studies the Rosary

The third grade has been very diligently studying the Rosary, its origin, the layout, and the prayers that surround it. Their projects will be going home today, so at pickup keep an eye out for some brightly colored rosary creations!

Halloween Spooktacular

In keeping with our tradition of dressing up for Halloween and walking around downtown trick or treating, we will be planning for a similar event for this year. Due to COVID-19 health and safety standards, the parade will look a little different. Participating business will place prepackaged snacks and treats on a table for students to come by and pick up. Students and participating business people will be masked. It is a good idea to incorporate the mask into the costume. Room parents or other designated parents may accompany the teacher on this walk. All grades K-8 will take part with adequate distance between groups.



Saint Brigid Has a New Technology Manager

Recently, our technology manager, Natalie Schwartz, resigned for personal reasons. We received a number of responses to our request for resumes. I am delighted to announce that Gerald Cain, a long time parishioner, former Saint Brigid parent, Knights of Columbus and team leader at IBM will begin next week to manage and maintain our domain, our Chromebooks and our server needs. Please join me in welcoming him to our Saint Brigid family! He can be reached via email at gcain@stbrigid-midland.org.