

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

From the Principal's Desk

It has been nine years since my father passed away and five years since my mother passed away. Though it has been some time, I think of my parents often. And, at some low points, I have asked for their prayers on my behalf. My parents weren't perfect, but my parents *are* saints. *All souls in heaven are saints. Some souls in heaven are Saints. Besides a capital S, what is the difference? Saints with a capital S have been canonized and serve as examples for all of us who want to someday be saints (or Saints).*



Our primary mission as educators and as parents is to ensure that our children become saints. We want to teach our children to know, love and serve God so that we may one day be reunited in Heaven with God. And it is this that we celebrate on All Saints' day and All Souls' day.

It is easy to get caught up in the commercialism and candy of Halloween. A great way for you to remember the real meaning of this day is to light a candle and put up a picture of your dearly departed and to attend our Living Saints Wax Museum to be held Wednesday after mass in our open area. There, our fifth grade students will remember the Saints that have gone before us and serve as examples of how to live out the virtues in our lives. It is a wonderful opportunity for students to research, write on and finally, to speak on, a Saint who is meaningful to them. I

Important Dates

- 11/3: St. Brigid Spirit Wear Day
Emerald Evening Kick-Off Assembly-2:45pm
- 11/8: 3rd Grade Mass
- 11/9: Student Council/Leadership Spirit Day
K-5: Multiples Day
MS: Character Day
- 11/10: Veterans Day Assembly-8:30am
Red, White and Blue Free Dress
- 11/13: Monthly PTO Meeting-6:00pm
- 11/15: 2nd Grade Mass
- 11/17: St. Brigid Spirit Wear Day

am proud of what the students know and can speak about and even prouder when I see them living the virtues about which they speak.

This week, amidst the candy and the parties, take time to think about the loved ones that have gone before us and those we hold up as examples of our faith. Though they are gone, they are still working and praying for us still. This is what is meant when we say we believe in the communion of saints. We are a community fully alive in Christ!

Laura E. Wilkowski

Emerald Evening Kick-Off Assembly

It's that time again! Emerald Evening Cash Raffle sales start on Friday, November 3rd! We will be selling 1,000 tickets again this year but have some exciting new cash incentives for selling tickets early along with some fun classroom competitions! We will be unveiling these along with more details at a short assembly this Friday, November 3rd at 2:45pm. We are asking parents to attend to hear the new changes and ask any questions. School families are asked to sell 10 cash raffle tickets and we are happy to provide you with past purchasers information if you need assistance.

November Student Council/Leadership Spirit Day

November 9th is Student Council/Leadership Spirit Day. K-5 students will have multiples day, dressing as a twin, triplet, or more with other students in their class or school. Middle School students will have Dress as Your Favorite Character Day.

Veterans Day Assembly

We happily invite all veterans to join us for our Veterans Day Assembly on November 10th at 8:30am in the gym. If you know of any veteran's in the community, we ask that you please invite them to attend and be honored by our students.

PTO Meetings

Our November PTO meeting will be about our Emerald Evening fundraiser. Each parent has an obligation to help in some way in this, our largest and primary fundraiser for the school. We will explain the benefits of participating, ways you can help, and the fun that is this event. Please plan to attend our November 13, 2023 meeting at 6 pm using the following link: <https://meet.google.com/wcv-zkxy-dgi> Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 321-465-5002 and enter this PIN: 648 873 782#.

Holiday Craft Show Bake Sale & Hot Cocoa Crawl Volunteers Needed

Every year we hold a bake sale during the St. Brigid Holiday Craft & Gift Sale. The sale is on Saturday, November 18th from 9am-3pm. **We are still in need volunteers for a variety of things.** Middle school students are able to sign up and receive service hours as well. First and foremost, we need parents to donate baked goods for the sale. All items need to be individually wrapped and must be nut-free. To sign-up to bring a baked good, visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FAFA828A6F5C16-45139972-baked>. Baked goods can be dropped off at school on Friday, November 17th or the morning of November 18th.

We need volunteers to work a shift at the bake sale table. If you are willing to cover a two hour shift, please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FAFA828A6F5C16-45140471-bake>.

One more event that day is the Downtown Midland Hot Cocoa Crawl, which we will be participating in again this year. This is an opportunity to network with people that are downtown for the parade and let them know about Saint Brigid, about our holiday craft fair and to share holiday greetings. In order to host this event, we are in need of volunteers to serve a hour shift to pass out hot cocoa to those who are out and about. If you are able to volunteer, please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FAFA828A6F5C16-45371461-hotcocoa>.

These are all wonderful opportunities to teach your child about serving others!

After School Care Cancellation

Due to the limited number of those who need care on Wednesday November 22, it is not feasible to offer ASC. No After Care services will be provided on that day and all students should be picked up at dismissal.

Spirit Wear Sale

We are holding another St. Brigid Spirit Wear sale ahead of the holidays. A great time to grab a gift for your student or yourself! The sale is currently open and will run until November 30th. Orders should be ready for pick up the week before Christmas break. Three dollars from every item will be given back to the school. To view all the items available and place your order, visit <https://saintbrigidfall2023.itemorder.com/shop/home/>.

Christmas Music Concert

Our Christmas Music Concert will be held on Thursday, December 7th at 6:00pm in the Gym. K-5 students will perform their musical numbers followed by the 5th grade band, 6th grade band, and Shamrock band. Students should dress in their Sunday best and be to their classrooms by 5:45pm.

ICLE Updates

The middle school students took part in a symposium last Friday. The word symposium comes from two Greek words meaning to drink together. Originally, this was an opportunity for Greeks to get together and eat, drink and converse on various topics. The word today is now used to describe a collection of speakers on various topics. Our middle school students got to combine the two. They had a symposium about Middle Eastern/Mediterranean music, art, had a speaker who spoke about the faith of Abraham and the virtue of Faith, and got to sample Greek foods. It was an opportunity to see how interconnected all of their learning is and to view faith through the lens of all subjects. The middle school classes will get to experience a symposium each month!

Atrium Updates

I recently had the pleasure of observing the fourth grade class as they participated in the Atrium. They were reviewing the set up of the altar in Mass and the names for each item. Though I am a cradle Catholic, I find that each time that I go, I learn something new in the short 3-5 minute mini-lessons that preface the work time. For example, did you know that the cloth that goes on the altar is called a Corporal. The word corporal means body. This cloth, set under the chalice that holds the body of Christ, called the Ciborium, is there to catch any pieces of Jesus' body that fall. That is also why the cloth is carefully folded then so that any pieces do not fall out. Also, when the water and wine are poured together into the chalice, exactly one drop of water is poured into the wine. The water represents us. The wine represents God. So as the water is dispersed throughout the wine, we are united in God. Upon reflection of this, students made such comments as "It's as if you were dropped in God's love around you" and "You feel loved and you feel you have the Holy Spirit in you".



Living Saints Wax Museum

Our 5th graders did a wonderful job with their Living Saints Wax Museum in honor of All Saints Day! They chose a Saint, researched and wrote a report on that Saint, and then dressed up as their Saint and participated in a Living Wax Museum where parents & students learned more about each of their lives. Great job 5th grade!



Tips from the Reading Specialist

To Read with Fluency and Comprehension A Child Needs: continued

Visual Perception

- Discrimination of size, shape, color patterns
- Visual memory
- Sequential visual memory

Organization of Thought, Order

- Ability to sort information-classify, categorize, label
- Ability to recognize parts that make up the whole
- Ability to breakdown the whole into parts

Recognition of sequential order-beginning, middle, end-first, next, last

November Scripture Memory Verse

Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

Romans 5:5