

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

I had a truly wonderful Christmas break. I allowed myself to be present, fully, to my family. I didn't check email until the last couple of days. I slept in daily (yes, today was hard for me too!). I built six 1000-piece puzzles with my family, I played card games with my children, I visited with extended family, I reached out to my siblings, we went to mass, I cooked... in short, I enjoyed every moment of each day.



After the busyness of December for which I prepared for Christmas in various ways, it was lovely to go to church, to pray as a family at each meal and to relax and be present to those around me. Jesus came into the world so that we may have Peace and have it fully. I will try to move forward with that same Peace.

If I can be fully present to those around me, if I can see each task of each day as being done for God, if I can help others to do the same, than I can carry that Peace with me in to the New Year. But I cannot do it alone. I need to seek help daily from God. I need those around me.

Important Dates

- 1/8: Middle School Spirit Day-Favorite College Team or Colors Attire
2024-2025 Re-Enrollment Begins
PTO Meeting-6:00pm
- 1/10: 2nd Grade Mass
Boys Basketball Game-6:25pm
- 1/11: K-5 Student Council Spirit Day-Crazy Hair Day
- 1/12: End of 2nd Marking Period
- 1/15: No School-Professional Development Day
- 1/17: 1st Grade Mass
Boys Basketball Game-6:25pm
- 1/19: St. Brigid Spirit Wear Day
- 1/22: Kindergarten Open House-6:00pm
- 1/25: ICLE Open House-6:15pm

Time is precious. Life is precious. Peace and love are precious. As I move into the New Year, may my words and actions reflex the Peace which God brought into the world.

In the words of St. Therese of Lisieux, "My life is an instant, a fleeting hour. My life is a moment, which swiftly escapes me. O my God, you know that on earth I have only today to love you."

Laura E. Wilkowski

Re-enrollment Begins Soon!

Re-enrollment for current students will begin on Monday, January 8th. We have transitioned all our enrollment forms to Digital Academy. When you log into your Digital Academy account you will see a yellow box in the right hand corner alerting you that enrollment forms are ready. Once you open the forms, you will be prompted to verify all existing information and provide some updated information. When you have completed all pages, you will submit electronically and receive an email receipt showing your paperwork was completed. The Parent-Parish Contact form will still need to be completed on paper since it has to be signed by your Parish priest before turning into the office. If you are a member of St. Brigid Parish, Fr. Andy will need to sign your contract in person before your registration is fully complete. He will be available in the school lobby on January 11th, 18th, and February 1st from 2:45-3:15pm to sign any forms or you may reach out and schedule a different time. Classes with 100% re-enrollment by Catholic Schools Week (or notification of the office in the case of a family who is moving) will receive an ice cream treat!

January Student Leadership and Student Council Spirit Day

The Middle School Spirit Day will be held on Monday, January 8th. They are having College Apparel or College Color Dress Day. The K-5th grade students will have their spirit day on Thursday, January 11, which will be crazy hair day.

For service projects, the K-5th grade will be having a Penny War. Containers will be set up in classrooms. The Penny War will start on Monday, January 8th and run until Monday, January 22nd. Monies raised will be used to purchase a second water bottle refilling station. The Middle School students will be touring Open Door as well as eating lunch with residents and completing a service project.

PTO Meeting

Our January PTO will be held on Monday, January 8th at 6pm. To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/ega-cuoz-ttq>. Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 276-796-8195 and enter this PIN: 922 947 314#

We highly encourage all parents to attend and provide ideas and suggestions and ask any questions they may have. Everyone is a member of PTO! Students whose parents attend the meeting will receive a free dress pass.

No School Reminder

There is no school on Monday, January 15th due to a Staff Professional Development Day.

Kindergarten Open House

We will be holding our Kindergarten Open House of January 22, 2024 at 6pm. Do you know a friend or family member with a child entering Kindergarten in the Fall? Maybe a neighbor or co-worker? If so, please let them know about our upcoming Kindergarten Open House. Word of mouth is the best marketing tool there is! We are asking each parent to share the flyer posted on the school's Facebook or Instagram with a personal testimony about what you love about St. Brigid. Let Mrs. Wilkowski know you shared it and your student will receive a free dress pass!

ICLE Open House Night

On Thursday, January 25, 2024, from 6:15-7:30 pm we will be holding an ICLE Open House Night. ICLE is the Institute for Catholic Liberal (Arts) Education. They have partnered with us to help us to fully integrate our faith into all aspects of our education and to truly make the process of learning about the truth and beauty of the world as engaging and awe inspiring as we can make it. We are inviting all current parents, prospective parents and educators within the Diocese to see a sneak peek of what we are doing. Teachers will be conducting a 15 minute mini-lesson/presentation which they will do four times. You may choose to go to any four presentations that you would like to see within this one hour open house. It is our hope that your understanding of the wonderful things that we are doing will help you to better engage with your child in the evenings and engage in conversation with others about these lessons.

Emerald Evening Cash Raffle Sales

Thank you to everyone who has been busy selling cash raffle tickets! We have sold ALMOST 50% of our 1,000 tickets with only 63% of families participating. The success of this fundraiser and the impact it has on each student at the school depends on participation from 100% of families. If each family continues to work hard at selling their 10 tickets, we will meet our goal, but it will take a team effort by all families!

If you need some help selling tickets, we have some Mass sale times available to sign up for:

St Brigid: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4CA5AC2DA6F8C25-46455112-stbrigid>

Blessed Sacrament: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4CA5AC2DA6F8C25-46639661-blessed#/>

Reminder, tickets can be purchased with a credit card online at charityauction.bid/emeraldevening2024 or you may collect cash or check and turn it into the school office in exchange for a ticket. Please remind people who are purchasing online to list your family name in the comments section so you receive credit for their purchase.

Congratulations to our 3rd grade class who was the winner of the December ticket sales for the 2nd month in a row!! They will be enjoying a pizza party very soon! Also congratulations to the Miller Family who won the \$1,000 seller incentive drawing!

Gift Card Donations

As those of you familiar with the Emerald Evening event know, one of our most highly anticipated & enjoyed special events of the evening is our Balloon Pop. The concept is simple in that attendees may purchase a balloon, pop it, and receive a number that corresponds to a gift card, ranging from \$10-\$50! In order to make this possible, we need gift card donations. There are multiple ways that you can donate a gift card: purchase one from the Scrip table, buy one from a local business, ask a local business if they would be willing to donate one to the event, or donate an unwanted gift card you may have laying around. It's that easy! Just drop the gift cards at the school office before January 31st! Every family who donates a gift card will earn a FREE DRESS DAY for their student!

Emerald Evening Program Cover Contest

Are you a 5th through 8th grader who is looking for a way to help the school and have fun? You are invited to share your creative and artistic abilities by designing a program cover for the Emerald Evening event in February. This is a great opportunity to highlight your talent and support our school. If your design is chosen, you will receive a gift certificate to Pizza Sam's and be recognized at the school with your artwork on display.

Guidelines include :

- All artwork must be on an 8" x 10" white sheet of paper and in color.
- Artwork should include "Where the Wild Things Are" theme - (think:jungle/tropical) Ask your parents for ideas too!
- Submission should include the title "Emerald Evening 2024" toward the top of the page and include the date of the event which is February 24, 2024.
- Your first and last name and grade should be written on the **back** of your submission.
- Each student is allowed only one submission.
- Entries should be submitted to the school office by Friday, January 26, 2024.

Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week will be here before we know it! Below is our tentative schedule of events. We are still working on some things so there could be a few changes to the schedule. Thank you to Shannon Luft who agreed to run the talent show and to Kim Scott who agreed to run the STEM fair! We still need volunteers to help with the sock hop. If you would like to help set up and decorate, please email Laura Wilkowski at lwilkowski@stbrigid-midland.org.



Saint Brigid Celebrates Catholic Schools Week 2024



Sunday January 28 Celebrate Your Parish	Monday January 29 Celebrate Your Community	Tuesday January 30 Celebrate Saint Brigid Students	Wednesday January 31 Celebrate the Nation	Thursday February 1 Celebrate Vocations	Friday February 2 Celebrate Staff & Volunteers
<p>School Community Mass with the students of our school doing all ministries. 9:00 AM</p> <p>Community Coffee & Donuts following Mass Cardinal Hickey Parish Hall 10:00AM</p>	<p>Free Dress for \$1- Benefits Open Door</p> <p>Lunch with a Grand "Friend"</p> <p>K-5 Students make Valentines Cards for Senior Center</p> <p>6th-8th Grade Students play Bingo at Senior Center 10:00AM</p>	<p>St. Brigid Spirit Wear Day</p> <p>No Homework Today!</p> <p>S.T.E.M Fair (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) Cardinal Hickey Parish Hall All are welcome. 1:00-3:00PM</p>	<p>Mass 8:00AM</p> <p>School Prayer 9:00AM</p> <p>Talent Show CHPH 6:00PM</p> <p>Ice Cream Social following the Talent Show Open Area 8:00PM</p>	<p>Thank You Father Andy and Father Matthew! We are Blessed!</p> <p>Mass-Feast of St. Brigid 8:00AM</p> <p>Vocations Talk according to Class Schedule</p>	<p>Students Dress as Your Favorite Staff Member</p> <p>Staff Appreciation Lunch</p> <p>K-8 Movie Day</p> <p>Sock Hop Everyone is welcome to come celebrate CSW and dance in the CHPH at a fun old-time sock hop. 6-8PM</p>

Thank you for your continued support of Saint Brigid Catholic School!

Valentine's Day Parties

Valentine's Parties will be held on Tuesday, February 13th due to February 14th being Ash Wednesday. Kindergarten-2nd grade will have classroom parties from 1:30-3:00pm. 3rd-5th graders will be going to the Roll Arena for a roller skating party from 12:30-2:30pm. Permission slips will be going out closer to the date and parent drivers will be needed. The PTO is covering the cost of this field trip. Middle School students are still working on the details of their party-look for communication from teachers soon.

Parents are welcome to attend as long as all volunteer requirements have been met. Teachers will be sending out information regarding Valentine exchanges for their classrooms as the date approaches.

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a Free Throw Contest at St. Brigid on January 25th. Registrations starts at 5:00pm and the contest will run 5:30-6:00pm. Boys and girls ages 9-14 are welcome to participate.

Lenten Fish Fries

Lent begins on February 14th this year which means that Fish Fries start on February 16th. Those who are interested in volunteering should contact Corie VanSumeren at 989-835-9481, ext. 64. We will need volunteers to serve, sell 50/50 raffle tickets, clear tables and set up tables. Middle students who volunteer may receive service hours.

Rescue Project

While the time to put away the Christmas decorations will soon be upon us when we conclude the Christmas season this Sunday with the Epiphany, you don't have to forget the story of His life, death and resurrection. Join us this winter and Lent for an 8 week journey called the Rescue Project. Take 2 minutes and learn more here <https://youtu.be/IHH40Ft2iM4>. Register Here: <https://forms.gle/wT98KAeJMg1ehR3V8>.

Tips from the Reading Specialist

How to support reading/learning opportunities at home:

- Read with your children and ask questions about the stories, including the ones they are reading at school
- Wonder aloud about the things you see in nature
- Delight in their ability to learn wonderful poems by heart, and see if you can do it as well as they can
- Don't ask, "What did you get on that test?" Instead, ask, "What was the most interesting thing you learned today? Tell me about it!"



**SIGN-UPS FOR 3TH & 4TH
GRADE CO-ED BASKETBALL
AND 5TH-8TH GRADE GIRLS**

VOLLEYBALL ARE TAKING PLACE NOW!

**PERMISSION SLIPS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE
AND NEED TO BE RETURNED BY 1/19/24.**

The seasons run mid February-March

ALL ATHLETES MUST HAVE A SPORTS PHYSICAL ON FILE AT THE SCHOOL BEFORE THE SEASON BEGINS.