

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

A Facebook memory popped up for me that shows my children as they prepared to go to the sock hop back in 2014. Ten years later, they dwarf their former selves (and me!). However, when they saw the memory, they said that they loved the sock hop. In fact, they missed the fun of Catholic School Week.

Catholic Schools Week should be and is a celebration. It is a celebration, first and foremost of our school, which has been educating children for 101 years now. It is a celebration of our hardworking staff who work tirelessly to make sure that students are learning, that they are forming a relationship with God, that the building is clean and well maintained, and that students are well fed and happy.

Catholic Schools Week is a celebration of our students. Our students are the future of our school and of our church. They are joyful, curious and intelligent and eager to learn. Our job is to continue to stoke that desire to learn. They are kind, growing in virtue and love for God and each other, and they are learning how to serve.

Finally, Catholic Schools is a celebration of you, our parents. It is your commitment to a Catholic Education that has sustained 100 years at Saint Brigid. But it is also your stewardship- you dedication to sharing your time, your talents and your treasure.



### Important Dates

- 2/7: 4th Grade Mass-8:00am
- 2/8: Student Council/Leadership Spirit Day  
K-5: Pajama Day  
Middle School: TBD
- 2/12: Yearbook Classroom & Group Pictures-10:00am  
PTO Meeting-6:00pm
- 2/13: Valentine's Day Parties  
K-2: Classroom Parties-1:30pm  
3-5: Roller Skating Party-12:30pm  
MS: TBD  
Talk about it Tuesday Wellness Series-6:00pm
- 2/14: Ash Wednesday Mass-3rd Grade-8:00am
- 2/16: St. Brigid Spirit Wear Day  
Lenten Fish Fry-4:30pm-7:00pm

For these reasons we celebrate! We celebrated with our community by playing bingo, making Valentines cards for our seniors, by raising money for Open Door, by showing off our academics in a Science Fair, we celebrated our nation in prayer, we celebrate our students with a talent show, we celebrate our vocations with Father Andy and Father Matthew, we celebrated our patron saint, Saint Brigid, we celebrate our staff on Friday and culminate in a celebration of our families at the sock hop.

Catholic Schools is a celebration. Saint Brigid has so many reasons to celebrate. Come celebrate with us!

*Laura E. Wilkowski*

### **Re-enrollment Has Begun**

Re-enrollment for current students is currently taking place. 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.

### **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.

### **Emerald Evening Updates**

***Dinner Tickets:*** We are less than a month away from our largest fundraiser for Saint Brigid School! This year's event, "Where the Wild Things Are", being held on February 24th, is guaranteed to be a glamorous event. Dinner tickets are now on sale! Tickets are \$125 and can be purchased online at [charityauction.bid/emeraldevening2024](https://charityauction.bid/emeraldevening2024) or at the School Office. The night will consist of dinner, silent auction, live auction, special events, and dancing to music from Sound Productions. Tickets will sell out fast so make sure you get yours right away if you plan to attend!

"Where the Wild Things Are" is the Emerald Evening theme that was inspired by the childhood book we all know and love. We are expanding the theme to include jungle and tropical decor, dress and accessories. All cocktail/formal attire is welcome. If you would like to dress for the theme, here are some ideas: black, neutrals (cream, brown, tan), animal print, jewel tones (magenta, orange, sapphire, emerald)

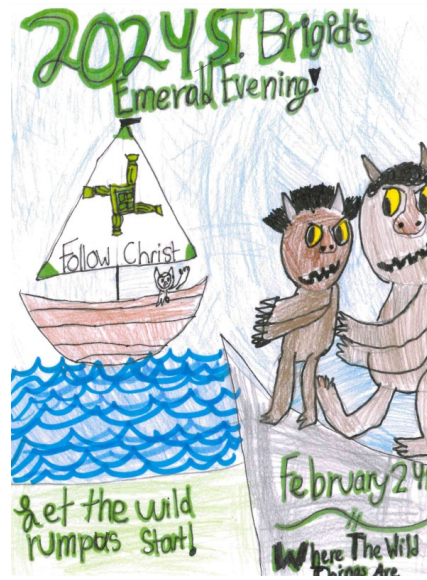
Please feel free to incorporate animal print and jungle themes into your wardrobe and accessories!

***Cash Raffle:*** We are in the final stretch!! You all have answered our call to action on selling 300 tickets in 30 days. We only have 122 tickets left to sell! Reminder that for every 3 tickets your family sells beginning 1/25/24 until we sell out, you are entered into a drawing for a Meta Quest VR headset and \$250 tuition credit for next school year. Tickets can be purchased with a credit card online at [charityauction.bid/emeraldevening2024](https://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.

***Day of Volunteers:*** In order to have a successful event, we utilize numerous volunteers throughout the evening in a variety of capacities. Whether you are attending the event and would be willing to help for an hour or you would prefer not to purchase a dinner ticket but would like to attend and volunteer for the evening or just a few hours, WE WANT YOU! Please reach out to Heather Syrylo at [h.syrylo@gmail.com](mailto:h.syrylo@gmail.com). If you have any questions or would like more information, please reach out.

### **Emerald Evening Program Cover Contest**

We had an abundance of wonderful entries for the Emerald Evening Program Cover Contest! The voting was tough and very close! The first place winner was Mea Wesley in 8th grade. The second place back cover winner was Eleanor Lange in 5th grade. Great job ladies and thank you to everyone who participated!



### **Talk About it Tuesdays**

We will once again host a monthly Talk About It Tuesday virtually beginning on Tuesday, February 13, 2024. Partners in Change counselor, Jessica Jesberg (and our school counselor), will conduct these once a month sessions for us. The series of discussions will be as follows:

1. ADHD in School Aged Youth (February's Topic)
2. Managing Screen Time and Technology Use (March's Topic)
3. Anxiety in Youth (April's Topic)
4. Connecting with Children (May's Topic)
5. Advanced Parenting strategies (June's Topic)

They would like you to register ahead of time by calling the school office or emailing Mrs. Mitus. A link for the virtual presentation will be sent out to those who are registered

### **February Student Leadership and Student Council Spirit Day**

The K-5 Student Council has chosen pajama day for their spirit day on February 8th. For their service project, they will be holding a canned food drive competition. The competition will run February 7-February 21. Teachers will designate a spot in their room for cans to be placed. The class with the most canned food will win a free dress pass.

The Middle School is still determining their spirit day and service project.

### **PTO Meeting**


Our February PTO will be held on Monday, February 12th 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.


## 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. Our middle school students will be holding a bake sale at each fish fry to help pay for their Capstone Trip. Middle students who volunteer may receive service hours.

### Our Cod is an Awesome Cod!



**Saint Brigid**  
*Catholic School*  
A community fully alive in Christ



## FISH FRY

130 W Larkin Street, Downtown Midland

### 4 Fridays During Lent

4:30 to 7:00 p.m. February 16, 23, March 1, 8

Menu	Take-Out
Fried Cod & Walleye, Shrimp, Grilled Cheese, Mac-n-Cheese, Baked Potato, French Fries, Dinner Roll	<b>Please Call Ahead</b> 989-835-9481 ext. 64 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Pick up inside the hall off Larkin Street
<b>Salad Bar</b> Tossed, Pasta, & Potato Salads, Lemonade, & Water	<b>Pricing</b> All Walleye Box: \$16 Fish/Seafood Meal: \$13 Grilled Cheese Meal: \$5
<b>Pricing</b> Adult Meal: \$16 Child Meal: \$9 <i>Children under 5 eat FREE.</i>	
<b>Bake Sale &amp; Beer &amp; Wine Available!</b>	

**Proceeds benefit Saint Brigid Catholic School.**

## LEGO Club

We are still looking for a parent to help with Lego club. We need to have two parents to run the session. We have plenty of activities for this amazing club. Please let me know if you could host this four week event!

## Gift Card Donations

We are still collecting gift card donations for one of our most highly anticipated & enjoyed special events at the Emerald Evening event, 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. Every family who donates a gift card will earn a FREE DRESS DAY for their student in February.

## Tips from the Reading Specialist

Everyone knows there are some students who will devour a book a day, others who are doing well if they read a book a month, and many ambivalent ones somewhere in between. Here are some tips to foster a love of reading in your classroom or home...Continued

**3. Model good reading.** Choose books that are well-written, engaging, and wholesome. Demonstrate how to read dramatically, with fluidity, emphasis, and articulation. Have them practice with you by reading dialogue while you narrate, using different voices or even accents for various characters.

**4. Make reading a reward.** Have a special space for reading. Many students love to get out of their desks even just to sit on the floor. Make the space cozy with a rug, cushions or comfy chairs.

(from ICLE)