

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

Spring is a time of new beginnings. The rain we had for the last couple of weeks has made the grass green again. Leaves are emerging on the trees and flowers are blooming. Water is essential for life.

Today, I had the opportunity to observe kindergarteners in the atrium as they learned about Baptism. The leader asked why water is important. Students answered that you can drink it, it makes things grow and it washes things clean. Water nourishes us and cleanses us. The leader (Bailey), showed students the white garment. She asked students why it was white. They said because it was bright. Some said it was light. It reminds us that the light of Jesus is in us.



Important Dates

- 4/24: 1st Grade Mass
All Sports Banquet-6:00pm
- 4/25: LEGO Club-3:00-4:30pm
Student Council Meeting-3:00pm
- 4/26: 8th Grade Mass with the Bishop at Cathedral-10am
4th Grade Field trip to Bay City State Park
- 4/29-5/1: 5th Grade to Camp Hartley
- 5/1: Kindergarten Mass
- 5/3: St. Brigid Spirit Wear Day
Middle School Spring Formal-6:30pm
- 5/6-5/10: Staff Appreciation Week
- 5/8: Middle School Mass
- 5/9: Student Council/Leadership Spirit Day
Spring Music Concert-6:00pm
- 5/13: 5th Grade DARE Graduation-1:45pm
PTO Meeting-6:00pm
- 5/14: Talk About it Tuesday Series-6:00pm
- 5/15: 5th Grade Mass
- 5/17: St. Brigid Spirit Wear Day
4th Grade Field Trip to Mackinac Island
Kindergarten & 1st Grade Field Trip to Zoo-10am

Epiclesis, the same gesture, that the priest does during the consecration, occurs as the priest asks God the Father to bless the water.

Then the students learned that water is poured over the child three times- one each for the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The child is anointed first with the oil of the Catechumens to symbolize strength. Then they are anointed with the Sacred Chrism, which has a sweet smell and shows that we are given the sweetness of Jesus.

The child receives light from the Paschal (Easter) candle as another sign of the light that is within them.

This lesson lasted about six minutes but it carried with it such meaning and created a sense of joy in the students. It is no wonder that many students then chose this work during their time.

This spring is a good time for us to reflect on our Baptism and how we are called to continue to live in the light and follow our Baptismal promises. We need only to look around to see what water can do. What has water done for you?

Laura E. Wilkowski

All Sports Banquet

A banquet will be held on Wednesday, April 24th at 6:00pm for all student-athletes who participated in a team this school year. Those teams include 5th-8th grade boys basketball, 5th-8th grade girls basketball, Pom, cheer, 3rd/4th co-ed basketball, and 5th-8th girls volleyball. Pizza will be provided and we are asking families to bring in items to share. Please visit the signup sheet at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FAFA828A6F5C16-48438791-allsports#/> and sign up for an item. When you RSVP to Corie, please notify her of any dietary allergies or restrictions.

Lapham's Garden Center Voucher

We are selling \$20 vouchers to Lapham's Garden Center in the school office until May 10. Saint Brigid School will receive \$8 for each voucher sold. Vouchers can be paid for with cash or check (made out to St. Brigid School). Lapham's carries all your flowering and garden needs including hanging baskets, deck pots, vegetable plants, herbs, succulents, house plants, annuals, and perennials. Vouchers must be used by June 15. Great way to stock up on your flowering/gardening needs while supporting St. Brigid school!

Camp Hartley

Our fifth grade students will be attending Camp Hartley from April 29, 2024- May 1, 2024. Camp Hartley offers outdoor educational experiences to talk about habitat, ecosystems, predator/prey relationships, team building and so much more. Our fifth grade students will be hiking, playing educational games and bonding with their classmates in a wonderful setting. Please pray for safe travels and wonderful educational experience!

Middle School Spring Formal

St. Brigid Middle School Spring Formal will be held on Friday, May 3rd, from 6:30-8pm for our 5th-8th graders. Our Middle School gym teacher, Ms. Goenner has been teaching the students dances and her 7th/8th grade students (8 students) from St. Elizabeth in Reese will be joining us as well.

Spring Concert

The Spring Music Concert is scheduled for Thursday, May 9th at 6:00pm and will feature our students singing from K-5th and our bands from 5th-8th. Students will be showcasing some rock-n-roll songs and are encouraged to dress in rock-n-roll attire or simply in nice dressy clothing. Students are asked to be in their classrooms at 5:45pm.

DARE Graduation

Our fifth grade students have been participating in the DARE Program this school year and will have a graduation on Monday, May 13th at 1:45pm in the Gym. All 5th grade family members are invited and encouraged to attend this event.

5th-8th Grade School Musical

We are so excited to have a theatrical play again this year! This year's cast has been rehearsing hard for the musical mash-up, "Making Hard-Knock History" and look forward to performing for all of you on May 22nd. The play will be held at Creative 360 at 6:00pm. No ticket is required. We hope many families can come out and support our students and see the hard work they have put in to bring this play to light.

Talk About It Tuesdays!

Our next virtual Talk About It Tuesday will take place on May 14 at 6:00pm and will focus on Connecting with Children. It will cover a number of effective problem solving approaches when communicating with your child(ren). This is a very relevant and important topic. Register by emailing Angelina Mitus at amitus@stbrigid-midland.org or calling the office!

Teacher Appreciation Week

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6-May 10. The PTO has planned a week of showering our staff with appreciation for all that they do! Below is a schedule of activities for the week. If you would like to help prepare for these events, please reach out to Angelina Mitus.

SAINT BRIGID CATHOLIC SCHOOL

TEACHER & STAFF Appreciation Week

MAY 6th - 10th

THANK YOU

Monday

RISE & SHINE IT'S STAFF
APPRECIATION
BREAKFAST TIME!
YOGURT PARFAITS &
MUFFINS IN MS
LIBRARY

Tuesday

STUDENTS BRING IN A
CLASSROOM SUPPLY
FOR THEIR TEACHER &
WEAR THEIR
TEACHER'S FAVORITE
COLOR

Wednesday

YOU'RE AWESOME TO
THE CORE!
ENJOY A CARAMEL
APPLE BAR IN THE MS
LIBRARY

Thursday

STUDENTS BRING A
HANDWRITTEN CARD
WITH THEIR TEACHER'S
FAVORITE SNACK/TREAT.

Friday

WE APPRECIATE YOU A
BUNCH, PLEASE ENJOY
A DELICIOUS LUNCH
IN THE MS LIBRARY
11:00AM-1:00PM

THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO FOR OUR SCHOOL & STUDENTS!

♥ We truly appreciate you! ♥

PTO Meeting

Our final PTO meeting of the year will be held on Monday, May 13th 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.

A HUGE thank you to our PTO Executive Board for their commitment to our PTO!

Amazing Shake

We are hosting our second annual 'Amazing Shake' for our middle school students on May 24th. An important part of our academic program is teaching the students manners, discipline, respect, and how to conduct him or herself in a professional environment. At Saint Brigid Middle School, students learn the mechanics of a proper handshake and working the room so that they are able to present themselves exceptionally well for opportunities today and in the future. Each student will go through an obstacle course, spending 1 minute interacting with over 20 business professionals from our community. When the student walks away, the professional scores the child based on handshake firmness, eye contact, confidence, common sense, etc. The ratings and feedback is shared with the students at the conclusion of the event. If you are a business professional and would be interested in helping at this event, please reach out to Mrs. Wilkowski.

Graduation

Our 8th grade graduation will take place on Tuesday, May 28th, beginning with Mass at 5:30pm and an Italian dinner to follow in the open area for 8th grade students and their families as well as the 7th grade students who had classes with them. Formal invitations and RSVP's will be distributed soon.

End of Year School Picnics

It seems unbelievable to think about, but we are already discussing this year's school picnics. School picnics will take place on Thursday, May 30th, which is a 1/2 day of school. Kindergarten & 1st Grade will take place at Grove Park, 2nd & 3rd will take place at Emerson Park Pavilion C and 4th & 5th at Emerson Park Pavilion E. Middle school will join together for their picnic at an undecided location. More details about the picnics will come out from classroom room parents.

End of Year School Mass

We always start and end the school year together in prayer with an all-school Mass. This year, Mass will be held on the last day of school, May 31 at 10:00am. Dismissal for summer break will take place at 11:30am. We hope all families can join us at this Mass to celebrate the wonderful school year we had!

Tips from the Reading Specialist

More Tips for Supporting Reading Skills at Home...Continued

Have conversations before, during, and after reading together. Having conversations when reading with children helps them develop higher level thinking and language skills, such as predicting, problem solving, or contrasting. While reading books aloud, ask the child questions and talk about the content of the story together before, during, and after reading.

- Use open-ended questions to ask the child to think about the book's messages and what is happening.
- Ask the child to apply the book's messages to the world around him by connecting events to his own life.
- Ask more and more complex questions, so the child continues to build her vocabulary and language skills.

(from What Works Clearinghouse)