

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



On Monday of this week, our students had the opportunity to make an Irish Penal Rosary. They learned about the fact that people have not always been able to freely practice their faith. In fact, the smaller Irish Penal Rosary is designed to be hidden within the palm of one's hand so that others might not know they are praying.

In a time when we are free to practice our faith openly, we don't always do so. In a time when modern conveniences have freed up our time, I've prayed the rosary in the car as I drive to work. The truth is, this practice is new to me. It has never become a habit so I have to work to make it one.

### Important Dates

- 10/2: Mass-1st Grade Ministries-8:00am
- 10/4: St. Brigid Spirit Wear Day  
Coffee with the Principals-8:05am
- 10/5: Blessing of the Pets-10:00am
- 10/7: Mass-Consecration of St. Brigid School to Our Lady of the Rosary-8:00am  
Consecration Reception-9:00am
- 10/9: Picture Retake Day-Free Dress for All Students
- 10/10: Student Council/Leadership Spirit Day  
K-5: Sport Day-Dress in favorite sports team apparel or colors  
MS: Comfy Clothes Day
- 10/11: St. Brigid Spirit Wear Day  
Hearing/Vision Retest Day  
Kindergarten Field Trip to Santa School-10am
- 10/14: No School-Professional Development Day  
PTO Meeting-6:00pm
- 10/15: Sacramental Prep-2nd Grade-6:15pm
- 10/16: Mass-Kindergarten Ministries-8:00am
- 10/17: Staff Appreciation Lunch
- 10/18: St. Brigid Spirit Wear Day

It made my heart feel very full then, when, after creating these rosaries, several of our students began to pray the rosary right away. It made my heart full when others took the rosaries into the atrium to pray with them there. It makes my heart full that I saw several students with the rosaries tucked into their hands as I walked around to classes yesterday.

On Wednesday morning, Father Stephen will bless the rosaries during mass. Students are then free to bring them home to pray with them. I encourage you to make it a part of daily practice to do at least a decade of this rosary with your children. Perhaps our students may recognize the importance, power, and beauty of this prayer that allows us to reflect on the mysteries, rely on Our Lord, and look to Our Lady as a model of faith by which we pattern our own lives.

*Laura E. Wilkowski*

### Consecration of our School to Our Lady of the Rosary

It's not too late! If you have not been praying the novena with us, please start today! We are praying a Novena in preparation for the Consecration of our School to Our Lady of the Rosary on Monday, October 7th at 8 AM. All are welcomed to join us at Mass and after Mass for a reception in the gym. Click [here](#) for the directions for praying the Novena.



In order to commemorate this consecration, a framed image of Our Lady of the Rosary will be installed in the lobby of the school along with a prie-dieu where students can write their intentions and ask the Blessed Mother's intercession.

Fr. Stephen is moved to consecrate our school to the Blessed Virgin Mary for three reasons: 1) entrusting ourselves Mary is the surest and easiest way to holiness. He desires, and knows God desires, that our school be a place that leads our students to holiness and, ultimately, heaven. 2) The prayer of consecration to the Blessed Mother involves the renewal of baptismal promises. Through our partnership with ICLE, St. Brigid School is involved in a renewal of Catholic education, the grace that comes with a renewal of our baptismal promises will give us the spiritual boost to make the renewal a reality. 3) he believe Catholic educational institutions are at a crossroads in our Diocese of Saginaw. There are so many factors that threaten the flourishing of our Catholic schools in the future. By consecrating our school to Mary, we can be certain that whatever the future may hold, she will bring about God's will.

### October Spirit Day and Service Project

The K-5 Student Council has decided to have a donation drive for Open Door as the service project for October. Families are encouraged to donate gently used or new clothing, toys and books. Boxes are set out in the Open Area to place donations in.

Their spirit day will take place on **Thursday October 10th** and will be a Sports Day. Students may dress in their favorite sports team apparel or colors.

The Middle School Student Leadership has chosen to spend a half day volunteering at Open Door for their service project. The exact date has not yet been scheduled but permission slips will be sent home once it is arranged.

For spirit day on **Thursday, October 10th**, middle school students will be allowed to wear comfy clothes, no pajamas.

### Blessing of the Pets

To celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Fr. Stephen will be holding a Blessing of the Pets on Saturday, October 5th at 10:00am on the steps of the church. Bring your furry, feathered, or scaled friends to receive a blessing and celebrate the love and care we share with all of God's creatures. All are welcome, so come celebrate with your pets and community!

### Picture Retake Day

School picture retakes will be held on Wednesday, October 9th. If you are choosing retakes, you will be responsible for the cost of another picture package. There are picture envelopes available in the office if you need one.

### Athletic Sign-Up's

It is now time to sign up for our next round of athletics! Sign-up's are open for: 5th-8th grade boys basketball, 4th-8th grade pom team, and 3rd-8th grade cheerleading. You may pick up a sign-up form in the school office or from Ms Corie. All students must have a sports physical on file before the start of practice. The season will begin in November and run through the end of January. Pom team members will perform at halftime of the home basketball games and cheerleaders will cheer the duration of the home basketball games. You may only choose pom or cheerleading, not both.

### Science Specialist at Saint Brigid Catholic School

We are pleased to announce that Sarah Dobbs has accepted the position of elementary science specialist. Sarah has a BS in Integrated Sciences Education, did her student teaching in Houghton-Portage Middle School, worked as an administrator for Learning Tree Cooperative Preschool, and has served as a multi-level Troop Leader for Girls Scouts. Sarah has two girls currently enrolled at Saint Brigid, Hazel in kindergarten and Ada in second grade. Sarah will begin to work with students at the beginning of the 2nd nine weeks!

### Book Fair

Our Book Fair will be hosted by Bookmarks Bookstore in the school's open area from October 21st to October 25th. Students will have a looking day on Monday followed by a buying day on Tuesday. You as parents may buy books for your children on any day during that week. Teachers will also create a wish list basket if you would like to choose books to purchase for your child's classroom.

### Veteran's Day Speaker Needed

We will hold a Veteran's Day assembly on Monday, November 11, 2024 at 8:30 am to honor all who have served our country. Traditionally, we have a veteran speak to our students at this assembly for no more than 5-10 minutes. The speaker talks a little about their military experiences and how their faith played a part in their service. If you or someone you know has served and would be willing to come and speak to our students, please reach out to Laura Wilkowski at [lwilkowski@stbrigid-midland.org](mailto:lwilkowski@stbrigid-midland.org).

### Living Rosary

Please join us on Monday, October 21st at 8:30am in the balcony in the Church for the Living Rosary. Students will be selected for a part in the next couple weeks and will be bringing home a note with instructions to practice. Students may bring their own rosary, if they'd like. If you plan on joining us, please sit in the balcony of the Church, as the students will be spread out throughout the pews. The Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Rosary on October 7, and the entire month of October is dedicated to this ancient and beautiful prayer: "With the Rosary, the Christian people sit at the school of Mary and are led to contemplate the beauty of the face of Christ and to experience the depths of his love. Through the Rosary the faithful receive abundant grace..."—Pope Saint John Paul II

### Halloween Parties

Our Halloween parties will be on Thursday, October 31, 2024. Students will start to get into their costumes at 12:45pm. We will begin the downtown parade at 1:00pm. Parents will not be allowed into classrooms until 12:45pm so please do not show up before that time. Parties in the classroom will follow the parade and run until the end of the day. Room parents will be sending out an email soon with more class details and sign-ups for activities and food.

**Just a reminder that all parent volunteers and attendees must have done all volunteer requirements- fingerprinting, VIRTUS and paperwork.** If you are unsure of your volunteer status, please reach out to Angelina Mitus.

### Scrip Program

If you have not signed up and started using Scrip gift cards, you are missing out on free money! To get started, click here: <https://www.raiseright.com/> and set up an account. Be sure to download the RaiseRight app for easy, on the go eGift card purchases.

The SCRIP To Go Table will be open Friday, October 4th from 2:45-3:15pm in the school lobby. If you have an online order to pick up before then, you can pick it up in the school office.



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## Christmas Concert Date Change

The date previously on the Digital Academy calendar for the Christmas concert had to be changed due to a scheduling conflict with a parish event. The Christmas concert will be held on Tuesday, December 10th starting at 6:00pm. We apologize for any inconvenience this change causes.



## The Reading Corner

October is DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH

Dyslexia is “a learning disability that is neurobiological in origin” ([www.dyslexiaida.org](http://www.dyslexiaida.org)). In other words, Dyslexia is a physical difference in the brain.

- Human brains were not ‘built’ to read – and not everyone has the brain connections to easily translate sounds to the letters we attach to them
- 1 in 5 people have signs of dyslexia
- Dyslexia is NOT seeing letters backwards
- Dyslexia IS difficulty processing information (like letter / sounds) differently than ‘typical readers’ do.
- Dyslexia can be hereditary
- Dyslexia is NOT an indicator of intelligence
- People with dyslexic brains can also have difficulty with math/numbers, handwriting, difficulty with focus / impulsivity.
- DYSLEXIC BRAINS CAN BE ‘REWIRED’, but will always work differently than a non-dyslexic brain.
- People with dyslexic brains do not lack intelligence, their brains just work differently.
- Some famous dyslexic folks:
  - ◊ Albert Einstein, Steven Spielberg, Walt Disney, Henry Ford, Steve Jobs
  - ◊ Henry Winkler (the Fonz) \* he wrote a series of books under the pen name Hank Zipzer that feature a dyslexic student and his (mis)adventures in school.

If you have questions or concerns about your child’s reading, please talk to their classroom teacher or contact me!

Karen Kozerski

## Atrium Updates

Students love the new Rosary work in the Atrium! Excited for all the blessings our school will receive in the coming month, dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary.

