Parish Office: 773-731-8822  
Church Hall:  773-734-9125  
Fax: 773-721-0673  
Email: stbride@archchicago.org

Our Parish Staff  
Reverend Robert J. Roll, Pastor  
Ms. Laura L. Zbella,  
Administrative Manager  
Mr. Tommy Slay, Facilities Manager

Liturgy Schedule  
Sunday at 10 AM  
Monday thru Friday as scheduled  
8 AM in the House Chapel  
The Sacrament of Reconciliation  
Before Mass and anytime by appointment!  
The Sacrament of the Sick  
Please make arrangements with the Parish House to have the Sacraments brought to the sick and homebound.  
The Anointing of the Sick should take place early in any illness and as often as necessary.  
Please note: Hospitals are not allowed, by law, to contact the parish.  
Please have someone contact the Parish House for a hospital visit.

New Parishioners  
Please consider registering after Mass at the Activity Table in the Church or call the Parish House at your convenience!

Welcome Visitors to St. Bride  
We are honored to have you with us! Please be sure to sign our guest book.
MASSES THIS WEEK
February 16, 2020
The Sixth Sunday of the Church Year
For the Intention of Gloria Tepavchevich
Monday: The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
Presidents’ Day
Tuesday: St. Simeon
Wednesday: Weekday
Thursday: Weekday
Friday: St. Peter Damian
Saturday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle; Washington’s Birthday

Mass Intentions Available - If you have a special anniversary or family member or celebration that you want to remember at Mass, now is the time to arrange to reserve that date. If you wish the Intention to be published in the bulletin, it must be submitted 15 days before! Please be sure to include your intention as well as your phone number when submitting the request. The traditional stipend per Mass is ten dollars.

Electronic Giving for Weekly Offerings - Since we have started Give Central, more than $35,000.00 has been contributed through this electronic means of giving! Click on the “Donate Now” button on our web site.

Free Table – There are free books, tapes and other religious objects on the table in the rear of the Church. You are invited to share your used items, as well.

MICKEY’S MINUTE
“I am a big believer in the ‘Mirror Test’.
All that matters is if you can look in the mirror and honestly tell the person you see there, that you’ve done your best!”
– John McKay

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday: Jas 1:1-11; Ps 119:67-68, 71-72, 75-76; Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18; Ps 94:12-13a; 14-15, 18-19; Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday: Jas 1:19-27; Ps 15:2-4ab, 5; Mt 8:22-26
Thursday: Jas 2:1-10; Ps 32:4-7; Mk 8:27-33
Friday: Jas 2:14-26, 26: Ps 112:1-6; Mt 8:22-26
Saturday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19
Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

UPCOMING EVENTS
Mother Theresa Sundays 2020
March 15th and April 19th
Veneration of her relic and Prayers for Vocations at Mass
Mardi Gras Luncheon
February 23, 2020
TICKETS ON SALE TODAY!
Ash Wednesday - February 26, 2020
St. Joseph and St. Patrick Luncheon
March 22, 2020
Palm Sunday - April 5, 2020
Good Friday - April 10, 2020
Easter Sunday - April 12, 2020
Annual Spring Luncheon
May 31, 2020
Dynasty Banquets in Hammond, IN
We are anticipating a large demand for tickets this year. Current St. Bride parishioners will be given preference in reservations. Watch for reservation details in the coming weeks.

CONSCIENCE
Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire, called conscience.
—George Washington
“If you choose you can keep the commandments,” Sirach tells us. God “has set before you fire and water; to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand” (Sirach 15:15, 16). This is a great mystery: God does not control us so completely that we cannot choose our own path. We have certain boundaries, of course, but no one but we can choose our way within those boundaries.

In today’s reading from Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus reminds us of our freedom and our responsibility for our lives. He calls us to look beyond the words of the commandments, all the way to their meaning. Look beyond the adultery to the selfishness that poisons our love. Look beyond the murder to the anger that eats away at our compassion. Look beyond the perjured testimony to the lies and deception that drive our behavior.

Our vocation is to choose life for ourselves, and to choose a path through our part of the world that helps make life possible and more abundant for others as well.

THE CHAIR OF ST. PETER THE APOSTLE - February 22

In brushing up for “Catholic Jeopardy,” it might help to know that there is only one feast on the calendar for a thing, rather than a person or mystery. It’s for a chair: Saint Peter’s chair in fact.

After the Resurrection, there can be no doubt that the disciples reserved a special place for Simon Peter in the upper room. Later, Peter became the bishop of Antioch in today’s Syria, the place where we were first called Christians. From there, he went to Rome, the center of the Empire, where it is said that Peter sat in a chair in the house of Priscilla and Aquila to instruct his flock. Jesus, in entrusting the keys of the Kingdom to Peter and his successors, entrusted his compassion and mercy to them, and charged them with pointing to the Kingdom of God. Compassion and mercy are to resonate through their teaching.

Since the ancient sign of a teacher is the chair (“disciple” literally means one who sits at the feet of a teacher), Peter’s chair has long been treasured. Today there is a symbolic shrine of Peter’s chair above the main altar of St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome. This monument is the last work of Bernini, a huge bronze throne supported by four doctors of the Church: Augustine and Ambrose from the Western Church, and Chrysostom and Athanasius from the East. High above it is the alabaster window of the descent of the Holy Spirit.

Meaning of Mardi Gras

❖ “Mardi Gras” literally means “Fat Tuesday” in French.
❖ It is called this because Mardi Gras falls on the day before Ash Wednesday, which is the last day before Lent (a forty day season of prayer and fasting observed by the Roman Catholic Church that ends on Easter Sunday).
❖ “Fat Tuesday” is thought to have come from the ancient Pagan custom of parading a fat ox through the town streets during holidays, which were filled with excessive eating, and drinking prior to a period of fasting.