

ST. BRIDE



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

WWW.ST-BRIDE.ORG

Founded 1893

7811 SOUTH COLES AVENUE – CHICAGO, IL 60649

Parish Office: 773-731-8822

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Our Parish Staff

Reverend Robert J. Roll, Pastor
Ms. Laura L. Zbella,
Administrative Manager
Mr. Terry Rose, Youth Minister
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.



The Prodigal Son

**The Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 6, 2016**



MASSES THIS WEEK

Daily Mass is celebrated at 8 AM

In the Parish House Chapel as scheduled

The Fourth Sunday of Lent:

For the Intention of Matthew Williams

For the Intention of Carolyn Anzalone

For the Intention of Marge Machay

For the Intention of Thomas Wilczak Family

For the Intention of Vito Marzullo

For the Intention of William J. Waldron

For the Intention of William Martin

For the Good Health of Fr. Bernard Kennedy

Monday: Ss. Perpetua and Felicity

Tuesday: St. John of God

Wednesday: St. Frances of Rome

For the Intention of Andrew Koval

Thursday: Lenten Weekday

Friday: Lenten Weekday - *Abstinence*

Saturday: Lenten Weekday

The Fifth Sunday of Lent:

For the Intention of Al Piamonte

For the Intention of

Fritz and Laverne Baumgartner

For the Intention of George and Helen Brongel

For the Intention of Sherman Carey, Sr.

For the Intention of Rev. Tom Unz

For the Intention of the Stephen Plaza Family

For the Good Health Cruz Family

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b;
Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9;
Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18;
Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23;
Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23;
Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12;
Jn 7:40-53

Sunday: Is 43:16-21; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 3:8-14;
Jn 8:1-11



Next Saturday Night
At 2 AM:

Daylight Savings Time
Begins on
March 13, 2016

Support Our Food Pantry

The St. Bride Food Pantry is open. We will welcome your donations of *NON-PERISHABLE* food items to stock our shelves and prepare bags for those who utilize our outreach program when you bring them to Church each week, September to June! Food can be brought on Sundays to the Church! Gift cards for groceries are also welcome!

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. 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. You can schedule Masses by email or on Give Central; see left column of our web page at www.st-bride.org.

Upcoming Dates and Events 2016

March 13th – St. Patrick and St. Joseph
Luncheon following Mass

March 20th – Palm Sunday:

Mass and Procession at 10 AM

March 24th – Holy Thursday:

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 5PM

March 25th – Good Friday:

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 3 PM

March 26th – Holy Saturday:

The Easter Vigil at 7 PM

March 27th – Easter Sunday:

Mass at 10 AM

May 15th – Annual Spring Luncheon

All tickets and ads must be completed and paid for by May 9, 2016. Add \$10 per ticket, if available, after May 9, 2016

JUBILEE OF MERCY

ADMONISH SINNERS

Obviously, with tact and with the best and most effective ways of communicating, we exercise a merciful task when we help people who are on a self-destructive path or are veering sharply away from what God wants of them. *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom.* (Colossians 3:16)



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ONE WORD
AT A TIME

A SUNDAY FOR REJOICING

Today's Gospel story of the prodigal son is a favorite of many. We can identify with all the major figures and their crisscross of emotions. The father's initial grief over his young son's avarice is turned to relief at his return. The son's grief over his loss of fortune, family, and friends is turned to delirious joy at the sight of his father.

We understand the eldest son's bewilderment over his father's generosity. For the older son, virtue seems not to be its own reward. For all his honorable toil and loyalty, there seems to be no celebration. The father, however, is prodigal in his forgiveness and mercy. He expects the same generosity from his older son. He wants all to rejoice when the lost one is found.

This is a Sunday for rejoicing. It's time to pause, consider, and encourage one another. We are the prodigal children heading home. We are the elder siblings waiting with the eager Father, who scans the horizon. In Christ Jesus we are reconciled to the Father and one another. In his death and resurrection we have passed over. We are a new creation. In this we rejoice.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

One of the first steps to a Catholic wedding takes place in the parish rectory, as the newly engaged come forward to "set a date." We owe this scenario to reforms made by the emperor Charlemagne late in the eighth century. He required that nobles and commoners alike have public weddings, and also required that marrying couples be examined for factors that would block a marriage, such as previous marriages or close kinship. The pope was more conservative, however, and resisted the emperor's creativity. It was enough for the pope that the couples exchange consent.

That tradition is passed on to this day, to some couples' surprise. In 866, Pope Nicholas ruled that a marriage was legal and binding even without a liturgy or public celebration. After that, it was the consent of the couple, not the blessing of parents or priest, that made a marriage "count." If consent was lacking, such as through abduction or fear, then the marriage could not "take." Charlemagne got a great deal done, but he was a political flash in the pan, and the empire had virtually collapsed by the year 1000. Europe broke into a checkerboard of princedoms and languages, and at last all marriages came under the church, the glue holding the known world together.

Jubilee Year of Mercy - Fourth Sunday of Lent

On Laetare Sunday, we rejoice as Luke's Jesus proclaims that God is boundlessly merciful. The parable's prodigal son returns home, not authentically repentant but desperate, having squandered on prostitutes (or so his older brother claims) the inheritance wrongly demanded while his father still lived. This selfish son is only spared ritual "shaming" when the father "shames" himself, running to embrace him, interrupting his prepared "act of contrition." By doing so he challenges confessors, and all of us, to be signs, says Pope Francis, "of the primacy of mercy always, everywhere, and in every situation, no matter what." Avoid the harshness of the elder son, Francis warns, "who stands outside, incapable of rejoicing," his judgment "severe, unjust, and meaningless in light of the father's boundless mercy" (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 17). If John's Gospel is proclaimed, the "religiously observant" people there likewise serve to warn against harshly judging others, for the physical blindness of the man they expel from the synagogue is healed, while their own blindness of heart remains.

Lenten Regulations

Abstinence -- Catholics over 14 years of age are bound to the obligation of abstinence. Abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays of Lent. On days of abstinence, meat may not be used at all.

Fast -- Catholics over 18 and up to the beginning of their 60th year are bound to the obligation of fasting. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are the days of fasting. On these days, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed. Regarding other weekdays of Lent, participation in daily Mass and the voluntary observance of fasting is recommended.

Commendable, particularly during Lent, is generosity to local, national and world programs of sharing our abundance, the traditional Lenten Devotions and all the self-denial summed up in the Christian concept of "mortification."