

Contact Us!

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., M-F
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A MESSAGE FROM MONSIGNOR CARR

Dear Parishioners,

When reading through this week's Bulletin and the booklet describing our Human Concerns ministry, I am deeply struck by and grateful for the sheer amount of good will, hope, and support that you give to one another and to our brothers and sisters in our community. Yet, in my heart I know there is more we can do, and will do, given more resources. As we continue our stewardship reflections, I pray for God's will to touch each of your hearts so that you may experience the joy of seeing His grace work through your personal acts of compassion and generous giving.

*Blessings,
 Monsignor Carr*

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 23, 2011

Saturday	8:00 a.m.: Kay Stockwell, 5:30 p.m.: Bill and Mary Nienaber
Sunday	7:30 a.m.: Gene Kastelberg, 9:00 a.m.: Frank Uvanni, 10:30 a.m.: Joseph Baker, 12:00 p.m.: Adele Assouan, 5:00 p.m.: Patrick O'Brien, Sr.
Monday	Aggie Wellhouse
Tuesday	Charlie Caravati
Wednesday	Gene Kastelberg
Thursday	John Duncan MacLean
Friday	The People
Saturday	8:00 a.m.: St. Anthony, 5:30 p.m.: Mary Townsend
Next Sunday	7:30 a.m.: Gene Kastelberg, 9:00 a.m.: Pilar Sierra Astruc, 10:30 a.m.: Patrick Karn, 12:00 p.m.: George and Anne Reul, 5:00 p.m.: Sarina Seger

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK, INFIRM & THOSE IN NEED****OUR PARISHIONERS**

Angel Presti, Bonnie Ware, Lethe Kazi, Evelyn Binns, Janet Alston, Mary Jo McRoberts, Jackie Glasscock, Evelyn Whitlock, Ida Saxby, Michael Buseck, Joe Jowaisas, Mary Bliley Davies, Chuck Bogatie, those facing long term illness and disability.

FRIENDS AND RELATIVES OF PARISHIONERS

Ryan Armstrong, Mary Ann Beck, Hope Foley, Nick Kuriger, Tracy Amato, Evelyn Byrd Selby, Mary Frances Adair, Gretchen Gwynette, Rebecca Williams, Tom Anderson, Nicole Hunter, Ray Stencil, Janine Thompson, John Rupel, Cassidy Scott, Ryleigh Scott, Kenzie Scott, Kay Meyer Webber, Sandra Toot, Karen Dynia, Charles Oliverio, Jeanne Tribble, John Coggins, Katy Wilson Measell, Patty King, Jarrod Russell, Danny Mizelle, Grant Mountcastle, George Flournoy, Elizabeth Story.

DECEASED

Kathleen Diemente, wife of Nicholas J. Diemente, passed away Saturday January 15th, 2011.



"That which you do unto others, so you do unto Me."

Stewardship – A personal commitment to give one's time, talents, and treasure – in cheerful gratitude for one's gifts from God – for the benefit of our church, our faith, our eternal salvation, and, for others.

This week, our stewardship focus is on Human Concerns, a ministry in which our stewardship gifts directly impact how much – and at times how little - we can do for others. It will warm your heart to read our Human Concerns pamphlet distributed after today's Masses. Please take the time to read about these ministries and the good work being accomplished by the people of St. Bridget Parish in so many communities. "Listen" and hear how God is working through the Stewardship of St. Bridget Parish and its parishioners to provide His blessings of care and hope through community volunteerism and financial support.

As you learn about the life-changing impact made by the Human Concerns ministries, consider that direct parishioner giving to fund our Human Concern ministries was about \$30,000 last year, or about \$5 per person in our parish. St. Bridget Parish dedicates additional funding through your stewardship gifts for a full budget of about \$88,000. We thus have remained steadfast in responding to God's call to help feed, clothe, shelter, and provide for our brothers and sisters in our community. But, it is becoming increasingly difficult.

This past year, parish giving has decreased, requiring us to delay our September quarterly payments to the community ministries to which we pledged support. Though we were able to make our pledged payments in December, a delay in our support can have a direct and adverse effect on the well-being of hundreds of men, women and children – they go hungry, they go cold, and they lose hope. We must remain reliable and generous with our funding and volunteerism in support of our Human Concern ministries be it for the Support Life Ministry, the Freedom House, or CARITAS.

Continuing a trend from last year, St. Bridget Parish has experienced a staggering surge in requests for emergency financial assistance from both parishioners and non-parishioners. In 2009, we responded by creating the Neighbor to Neighbor Network. Last year, the Network provided \$20,000 in emergency financial support, \$18,000 of which was given to members in our parish. Only six months into this year, just \$1,600 remains in this support fund to help fellow parishioners who are faced with financial crises.

After reading the Human Concerns pamphlet, please pray to the Lord for His loving guidance on how to respond with your personal stewardship. It may be that giving up a small portion of our "wants" will help meet others true needs. Your stewardship pledge this year can help us to increase our Human Concerns budget, and to provide direct and necessary aid to one another and our community brothers and sisters.

"As faithful disciples and imitators of Christ, you are urged to go against the current, choosing the evangelical option of serving the brethren...above all, because you are impelled by the unceasing power of divine charity." Pope John Paul II (2001).

St. Bridget Stewardship Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your many blessings on St. Bridget Parish, and pray that You will help us to answer Your call to Stewardship.

We ask that you . . .

. . . Open our ears, that we may hear the Gospel message of sacrifice and giving;

. . . Open our eyes, that we may recognize the needs of our church and our community;

. . . Open our hearts, that we may respond with love to what You ask of us; and,

. . . Open our hands, that we may return to You a meaningful measure of what You have blessed and entrusted to us.

We ask all of this in the name of Jesus Christ Your Son, knowing that all things come from You and Him through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.