

PLEASE PRAY FOR:
(ANY CHANGES, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE.)

John Christianson, Pauline Dusek, Patricia Rodvold, Jane Zidon, Marla Zidon, Dorothy Snell, Heidi Gustafson, Adriane Wellman, Isabelle Copeland, Tracy Letzring, Kelly Morrison, Jody Deibert, Allison Bleick, Dale Hultin, Bob McCartney, Lonnie Guderjahn, Susie Dimsha, Sherry McDonald, Shelbie Goodoien, Oliver Goodoien, Brent Collins, Merle Larson, Robert O'Toole, Ruth Rieger, Melanie Fischer, Ruth Ivesdahl, Mae Jackson, Carol Smith, Mary Louise, Bernard & Aletha Schommer, Brianna Fernandez, Brett & Rick Letzring, Jane Grazadzieleski, Rick Kilichowski, Donald Denault, Gary Olson, Joan Kerian

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION! On February 3rd, we dive into Chapter Sixteen! High school is at St Patrick

ST PATRICK ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pray the Rosary: Sun at 8:00 AM. **Adoration with Confessions:** Sat at 8:00 AM. **More Confessions:** Sun 8:00 AM. **February Church Cleaners:** DUANE & LINDA DUMAS, PAUL & EILEEN RINDE, SEAN & BLANCA REILLY. **Collection:** Jim Y & Vol-unteer (Jan 31); Diane & Melissa (Feb 7). **Reader:** Scott (Feb). **Sanctuary Lamp:** Alan Daley (Jan 31); Harrison & Galadriel Young (Feb 7). **Sacristan:** Duane (Jan 31); Scott (Feb 7). **Rosary:** Mary T (Jan 31); Mary S (Feb 7)

ST BRIGID ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pray the Rosary: Sundays at 10:00 AM. **Adoration with Confessions:** Wed and Fri at 11:00 AM; **More Confessions:** SAT. 4-5:00 PM, MON 5-5:15 PM. **February Church cleaners:** S-W. **Collection:** Michael & Val (Jan 31); Allan & Randy (Feb 7). **Readers (Feb):** Sat-Ryan K; Sun.-Aaron C. **Sanctuary Lamp:** Carl Winkler & Chris Sandison (Jan 31); Elise Kirking (Feb 7)

Prayer for Our Country: every Friday at 6:00 pm at St. Brigid

“33 Days to Greater Glory” We will meet every Thursday (@ St Brigid) 6:30-7:30 pm from Feb 4 to March 11 for this “total consecration to God the Father.” The books cost \$14 (or \$10 for electronic copy). Please join us for this life-changing consecration. For info, contact Kim Ford at: kimberlyf@cavalierhospital.com

Recent Baptism! Brynn Spicer (daughter Timothy and Samantha) at St. Brigid.

Action Needed! (from the Bishop) Please contact your **state senator** and tell him or her to vote **NO** on **SB2180**. This bill would try to make a priest say what he heard in Confession. The priest will not, even if it means jail.

Also: Please contact your **federal legislators** and tell them to save the Hyde Amendment (this amendment prevents our tax dollars from funding abortion).

Mon		Feb 1	5:15 pm	St Brigid	+Vernice DeMars
Tues	<i>The Presentation Of the Lord</i>	Feb 2	8:00 am	St Patrick	+Frank & Mildred Kleinschmidt
Wed	<i>St Blaise</i>	Feb 3	Noon	St Brigid	+Ray & Florence Robinson
Thur		Feb 4	8:00 am	St Patrick	Galadriel Young
Fri	<i>St Agatha</i>	Feb 5	Noon	St Brigid	Larry Schill Family
Sat	<i>St Paul Miki & Companions</i>	Feb 6	9:00 am	St Patrick	St Brigid & St Patrick Parish Members
			5:00 pm	St Brigid	+Clayton Motl
Sun	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Feb 7	8:30 am	St Patrick	+Patsy Votava
			10:30 pm	St Brigid	Pro Populo

Stewardship (as of 1-24-31)	St Brigid	St Patrick		St Brigid	St Patrick
Adult Envelope	1925.00	235.00	<i>St Patrick's Care Collection Jan 2021</i>		220.00
Plate	41.00				
Weekly Total	1966.00	235.00			
Yearly Actual Total	9303.00	2679.00	Peter Pence	215.00	100.00
Monthly Envelope Building Fund	285.00	1305.00	Solemnity of the Mother of God	702.00	85.00

Pastor: Fr. Charles LaCroix
charles.lacroix@fargodiocese.org

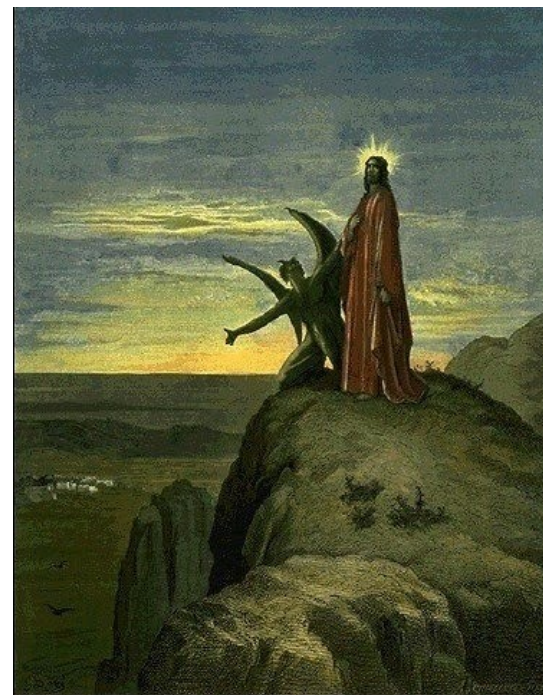
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Brigid & St Patrick

January 31, 2021

PO Box 280
Cavalier ND 58220
Phone: 701-265-8877

JESUS: AUTHORITY OVER THE DEMONS
(An article by Fr. John Hardon)



It was *divinely providential* that Christ **allowed** Himself to be tempted by the devil at the beginning of His public ministry. He is teaching us one of the most important lessons we need to learn in life. If He, the living God in human form, was tempted by the evil spirit, then we must expect to be tempted as well. In order to imitate Christ, we must resist the devil as Christ, Himself, resisted the devil.

As *St. John* tells us, we are tempted from *three sources*: by the world, the flesh, and the devil. The **world** is the attractive sinful conduct of other people. The **flesh** is our *concupiscence*, the natural inclination that we now have after the fall of the human race, to follow what appeals to us even though it is displeasing to God. The **devil** is, in some ways, the most powerful enemy we have in the spiritual life.

If there is one thing we learn from the masters of the spiritual life it is to **expect** to be tempted by the evil spirit. It was the evil spirit who tempted *Eve* and brought on the fall of the human race. As we reflect on temptations by the devil in our own lives, we must keep in mind who the devil is. He is the evil spirit. Spirit because he is not sensibly perceptible. We cannot hear him with our bodily ears or see him with our bodi-

ly eyes. He is an evil spirit whose number is legion and who has been phenomenally successful in seducing untold numbers from their allegiance to God.

The devil knows that you get nowhere alone, you inspire others to follow you. Then you train your followers and disciples and they will carry on your work. The devil trains his followers to seduce not just people or cities, but **whole nations**.

What, then, is the first and indispensable condition for resisting the evil spirit? It is a deep, sincere **humility** of heart. As *St. Peter* tells us, we are not to be afraid of the evil spirit. Why not? Because we have the *grace of God*, one of the main purposes is to resist the machinations of the devil. At the same time we must be **watchful**. This means we must expect to be tempted by the *father of lies*. We must have a clear mind in order to distinguish inspirations from the good spirit and instigations of the evil spirit.

We must be **sober**, which is a strange word in our *drink-preoccupied* society. Sobriety, in the language of scripture, means *temperance* in the use of the creatures in our lives. God wants us to enjoy some of the things that He gives us. But, He also wants us to endure, and endure many creatures; He wants us to **remove** some creatures; and He wants us to sacrifice many things that are naturally pleasing. All of this is locked up in that strange word, be sober.

The devil knows us very well. He **cannot** read our secret thoughts **but** he can conclude to our inner spirit by our *external behavior*, and even, as exorcists tell me, the emotional expressions on our face. When *St. Peter* tells us not to be afraid of the evil spirit he means more than meets the eye. He means that we should **not even show** by our emotions that we are afraid of the devil. Our emotional expressions, in what we say, how we react, how we allow our feelings to manifest themselves in our bodies – all of these are dangerous in dealing with the devil. We must not only be at peace *inside*, but manifest a peaceful attitude in our *external* behavior. The devil is especially influential in mastering those who are afraid of him.

The courageous behavior of Christ in His temptation by the devil is a **pattern** of how we should deal with the evil spirit.

One strong recommendation, **never** engage the devil in conversation. I mean **never**. I have had enough experience of people foolish enough to engage in conversation with the devil who have suffered disastrous consequences as a result.

One more **recommendation** based on *St. Peter's* injunction. Be strong in your faith. This is not a pious *cliché*. It means that we exercise our faith, courageously undertaking what we believe God wants us to do and not be afraid of the consequences. The faith we need is the faith of living martyrs in our day.

We are to be **witnesses** of the power of Christ as a divine exorcist and never allow ourselves to doubt that God's *grace* in our lives is more powerful than all the demons of hell.

Pray daily to **St. Michael the Archangel**. He was the first leader of those who led the fallen spirits into their eternal damnation. *St. Michael* is our chief *commander* in dealing with the strategy of the master of evil and the prince of this world. Christ assured us He has overcome the world, which means that we have received from Christ to do the same in our *demonically plagued* society.