

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

Willie Laxdal, 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 10th, we dive into Chapter Seventeen! High school is at St Brigid

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:** Dianne & Melissa (Feb 7); Sherry & Kari (Feb 14). **Reader:** Scott (Feb). **Sanctuary Lamp:** Harrison & Galadriel Young (Feb 7); Joe & Katherine Salwei (Feb 14). **Sacristan:** Scott (Feb 7); Melissa (Feb 14). **Rosary:** Mary S (Feb 7); Jim (Feb 14)

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:** Allan & Randy (Feb 7); Larry & Kay (Feb 14). **Readers** (Feb): Sat-Ryan K; Sun.-Aaron C. **Sanctuary Lamp:** Elise Kirking (Feb 7); (Vacant, Feb 14)

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.” You can still join (you can catch up)! For info, contact Kim Ford at: kimberlyf@cavalierhospital.com

Success! State Senate bill **SB2180**, which would have tried to force a priest to say in court what he heard in Confession, has been defeated.

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

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|------|---|--------|----------|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Mon | <i>St Jerome & St Josephine Bakhita</i> | Feb 8 | 5:15 pm | St Brigid | +Wade Puppe |
| Tues | | Feb 9 | 8:00 am | St Patrick | Special Intention Mason |
| Wed | <i>St Scholastica</i> | Feb 10 | Noon | St Brigid | +Cyndi Schill |
| Thur | <i>Our lady of Lourdes</i> | Feb 11 | 8:00 am | St Patrick | C & E O'Sullivan |
| Fri | | Feb 12 | Noon | St Brigid | Greg Zidon Family |
| Sat | | Feb 13 | 9:00 am | St Patrick | St Brigid & St Patrick Parish Members |
| | | | 5:00 pm | St Brigid | John Gorman |
| Sun | Sunday in Ordinary Time | Feb 14 | 8:30 am | St Patrick | Pro Populo |
| | St Valentines Day | | 10:30 pm | St Brigid | Jim & Melissa Young |

| Stewardship (as of 1-31-21) | St Brigid | St Patrick | | St Brigid | St Patrick |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|--|---------------|---------------|
| Adult Envelope | 1455.00 | 595.00 | <i>St Patrick's Care Collection Jan 2021</i> | | 220.00 |
| Plate | 29.00 | 60.00 | Cemetery | | 300.00 |
| Weekly Total | 1484.00 | 655.00 | | | |
| Yearly Actual Total | 10,787.00 | 3,334.00 | Peter Pence | 215.00 | 100.00 |
| Monthly Envelope Building Fund | 285.00 | 1405.00 | Solemnity of the Mother of God | 702.00 | 85.00 |

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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Brigid & St Patrick

February 7, 2021

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



The Patience of Job
(The Model of Suffering Well)

Suffering has a *divinely ordained* purpose in our lives. Remember the many chapters of the Book of Job? Suffering, all kinds of misfortune befell him.

His "*friends*" gathered around him and told him: "Job, look, why don't you confess; why don't you admit to God: 'I've got it coming'? Maybe God in his mercy will have pity on you." Job **protested**. Never in the history of divine revelation is pain, deep, agonizing, searing, human pain more graphically described than by the suffering Job. But coming

as he did centuries before Christ, Job admitted: "I don't understand. I do not believe that all this suffering that I am experiencing is God's punishment for my sins; but I trust God that he has a reason."

Job does not wish to suffer; he suffers because he cannot escape his sufferings. He is a victim by necessity. Job submits to a destiny. God, centuries later, became Man. Christ is called a *second Adam*; he is also called a *second Job*. Again, suffering has a **divinely ordained** purpose in our lives.

The Servant of God, Jesus Christ, suffers because He wishes to suffer, in order to blot out the sins of others. The Servant of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, undertakes the act of a voluntary, *expiatory* sacrifice. And in Him, it is God who offers Himself and suffers."

By **our** ready acceptance of pain, we become more and more like God, who became Man in order to endure suffering. In God's providence, a patient endurance of suffering is the ordinary way in which sinners are **converted** to God. Where there is sin, there must be suffering. This needs **repeating**: *where there is sin, there must be suffering*. Someone must endure pain in order that the sinner might be reconciled with God, and then might *expiate* the debt of penalty due for the sins committed.

"All right," we are liable to say, "*sinner deserve to suffer; let them suffer. If that's the penalty for their offending a good God, they've got it coming.*"

But that is not the lesson of the patience of God in the person of Christ. The lesson that Christ's patience teaches us is that someone must suffer, and there is such a thing as someone else suffering for the sins I have committed, **and** I suffering for the sins that others have committed against a just God. What Christ's patient suffering teaches us is there is a *mysterious solidarity* among the members of the human family, which is why God became Man: to join the human family, so that the sin of one member of the human family can obtain from God the mercy the sinner needs by the suffering of another member of the human **family**.

The **more holy** a person is, and therefore the less sins that individual, man or woman, has to expiate, sins which they have themselves committed, the more innocent the sufferer, the more sinless the one who endures pain, the more pleasing that suffering is to God, and the **more expiatory** in the salvation of souls. To become as holy as we can, so that when we experience suffering, and patiently endure pain, our sufferings, like that of Christ's, will be *sublimely effective* in the eyes of God.

Often too, in the providence of God, the patience we are called upon to practice with someone who is unkind, offensive, rude and maybe even cruel toward us, that is **the normal way** that God enables us to embrace the one who causes us suffering; so by our patience with him or her, the graces that in God's *ordinary providence* that person would never receive, they will receive, provided we have been patient in enduring pain at the hands of other people. Nothing in the world more closely unites us with Christ and makes us more like him than to suffer for him, to suffer with him, and to suffer like him.

Needless to say, in order to practice the patience that God expects of us, we must cultivate the habit of **constant prayer**. Why? To obtain the grace we need to endure; to obtain the grace we need to see the *value of suffering*; to obtain the grace to unite what we experience with acts of love and in so doing, endear ourselves to the patient Christ.

"My Savior, grant me the grace to accept this trial from your hands patiently. And the perfection of my offering is to show gratitude when I am tried. Help me to see that the sufferings of this life are not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in us. May I profit from this visitation of your mercy by resigning myself to your will, and generously cooperating with the grace you offer to expiate my sins and grow in the likeness of you, my Lord and Redeemer. Amen."

(from *The Real Presence Association*)