

**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!** Next class: February 24th, we dive into Chapter Eighteen! 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:** Sherry & Kari (Feb 14); Al & Scott (Feb 21). **Reader:** Scott (Feb). **Sanctuary Lamp:** Joe & Katherine Salwei (Feb 14); Brother Joseph Maria (Feb 21). **Sacristan:** Melissa (Feb 14); Mary T (Feb 21). **Rosary:** Jim (Feb 14); Melissa (Feb 21)

**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:** Larry & Kay (Feb 14); Scott & ME Kirking (Feb 21). **Readers** (Feb): Sat-Ryan K; Sun.-Aaron C. **Sanctuary Lamp:** William McMillian (Feb 14); Edie Beste (Feb 21)

**Stations of the Cross:** every **Friday** during Lent at both churches at 5:30 pm (Deacon and Father will alternate)

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

**Lenten regulations:** *Ash Wednesday* and *Good Friday* are obligatory days of universal fast (only one full meal) and abstinence (from meat). *Fasting* is obligatory for all who have reached their 18th year and have not yet reached their 60th year. Also, all *Fridays* in Lent are obligatory days of complete abstinence (from meat) for all who have reached their 14th year.

*“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)!

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

**Annual Fish Fry is back!** March 26th, 4:30 pm—7:00 pm @ St. Brigid

<b>Mon</b>		<b>Feb 15</b>	<b>5:15 pm</b>	<b>St Brigid</b>	<b>+Carol Longtin</b>
<b>Tues</b>		<b>Feb 16</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>St Patrick</b>	<b>Special Intention Greg</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>Feb 17</b>	<b>5:15 pm</b>	<b>St Brigid</b>	<b>Pro Populo</b>
			<b>7:15 pm</b>	<b>St Patrick</b>	<b>+Geraldine Wentz</b>
<b>Thur</b>		<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>St Patrick</b>	<b>+Marlys Brown</b>
<b>Fri</b>		<b>Feb 19</b>	<b>Noon</b>	<b>St Brigid</b>	<b>Special Intention Ben</b>
<b>Sat</b>		<b>Feb 20</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>St Patrick</b>	<b>St Brigid &amp; St Patrick Parish Members</b>
			<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>St Brigid</b>	<b>+Duane Butch Indridson</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>1st Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>Feb 21</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>St Patrick</b>	<b>Michael Scott Salwei</b>
			<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>St Brigid</b>	<b>Pro Populo</b>

<b>Stewardship</b> (as of 2-7-21)	<b>St Brigid</b>	<b>St Patrick</b>		<b>St Brigid</b>	<b>St Patrick</b>
<b>Adult Envelope</b>	<b>1,740.00</b>	<b>1,210.00</b>	<b>St Patrick's Care Collection Feb 2021</b>	<b>40.00</b>	<b>220.00</b>
<b>Plate</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>280.00</b>	<b>Cemetery</b>		<b>300.00</b>
<b>Weekly Total</b>	<b>1,775.00</b>	<b>1,490.00</b>			
<b>Yearly Actual Total</b>	<b>12,562.00</b>	<b>4,824.00</b>	<b>Peter Pence</b>	<b>215.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Monthly Envelope Building Fund</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>1,560.00</b>	<b>Solemnity of the Mother of God</b>	<b>702.00</b>	<b>85.00</b>

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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

# St Brigid & St Patrick

## February 14, 2021

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

Penance and Reparation  
(Lent Begins This Wednesday)



**Penance** and **reparation** are the consequence of sin. Or again, penance and reparation are the price we have to pay for our own **and** other people's sin. Penance and reparation, finally, are what God requires from sinners as a *condition* for showing them His mercy. In order to better understand the meaning of penance and reparation, we have to look for a moment at what happens whenever we sin. Two things happen:

**First:** we incur guilt before God for the self-will that caused us to sin. We become more or less separated or estranged from God, depending on the gravity of our sin. **Second:** we deserve punishment for the *disorder we cause* by our sinful conduct. We become liable to suffering pain, again more or less pain, depending on how seriously we have done wrong.

Penance is the *repentance* we must make to remove the guilt, or to reinstate ourselves in God's friendship. Reparation is the *pain* we must endure to make up for the harm we brought about by our self-indulgence when we sinned. What then do *penance and reparation* have in common? They have this in common: they are absolutely necessary if the **justice** of God is to be satisfied after we have offended the *divine Majesty*. They **also** have this in common: God now has a right to demand more of us than He would have required had we not committed sin. The word “*more*” is basic to any correct understanding of penance and reparation.

But if penance and reparation have this in common, *how do they differ?* They differ, as we have seen, in the **two** different ways that we do wrong whenever we sin. Because we have failed in loving God, we now owe Him more love than He would have required had we not offended Him. We did wrong by our willful love of self. So now we have to make up by our selfless love of God. This is Penance. And because we have brought disorder into the world by our sins, we must undergo pain to undo this harm we have caused. This is reparation.

If we ask, **why** penance and reparation, the first answer is: Because God wants it. But if we press the question: *Why does God want it?* Then we must say, because in His mysterious wisdom, His **justice** requires it. We may legitimately say, without really understanding it, that *He has no choice*. Having given us a **free will**, if we abuse liberty, we must use our freedom to repay to God the love we have stolen from Him (which is penance) and repair the damage we have done (which is reparation).

*Penance and reparation* are **owed to God** not only because I have individually sinned, but because we human beings have sinned, and are sinning, in our day, on a scale never before conceived in the annals of history. We know better than *Cain* after he killed his brother, *Abel*. We are *our brother's keepers*. There is a profound sense in which all of us are somehow to do penance and make reparation, **not only** for our sinful misdeeds, but for the sins of our country and, indeed, for the sins of the whole human race.

We return to our question: *Why penance and reparation?* Because, in Christ's words, "*Unless you do penance, you shall all likewise perish*" (Luke 13: 5). Is it any wonder that on *Pentecost Sunday*, after Peter preached his sermon, and rebuked the people for their sins, and they asked him, "*what must we do,*" his first word to the multitude was the imperative verb, "Repent!" Is it any wonder that Our Lady of Fatima's message to a sinful world in our day, may be summarized in the same imperative, "**Do penance.**"

Indeed, the calamities that we have so far seen in the past century: **two** world wars with *more casualties* than in all the previous wars of history, and the threat of a nuclear holocaust that hangs over us like a tornado cloud. All of this is God's **warning** to do penance and reparation. Why? Because **God is not mocked**. You do not offend God with impunity. You do not sin without retribution. You do not ignore the will of the *Almighty* and expect the *Almighty* to ignore what you do.

What bears emphasis, however, is that this retribution is either to be paid **willingly**, with our penance and reparation, or will be paid **unwillingly** within the divine punishment. The *divine logic* is simple, awfully simple, and all we have to do is learn what God is telling us. Either we do penance and reparation because we want to, or we shall suffer (against our will) the consequences of our sins in this life, and in the life to come.

But remember, this *penance and reparation* is to be done **not only** for what we have personally done wrong. It is for all the pride and lust, for all the cruelty and greed, for all the envy and laziness and gluttony of a *sin-laden human family*. God is merciful, and in fact, Jesus Christ is the *Incarnation of divine mercy*. But God's mercy is conditional. It is **conditional** on our practice of *penance and reparation*.

(from *The Real Presence Association*)