

# St Brigid & St Patrick

August 22, 2021

## The Real Presence: Profession of Love

(Part Three of a Three-Part Series)

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



Finally, as with faith and hope, divine love is impossible without divine grace. Divine love is supernatural love and is impossible to practice naturally. It must be nourished and sustained by the grace of God. In fact, divine love doesn't even begin to exist unless it first has been touched by grace.

What does it mean when we say we profess our love for God in the Real Presence? We mean any one or all of the following three "P's": prayer, practice and promotion.

**Prayer:** We profess our love for God in the Real Presence when we come to pray before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. This will mean telling Our Lord with our lips, and especially, in the depths of our hearts, that we love Him. What follows is crucial to understanding what we're saying. Remember in Matthew's Gospel when Christ said, "You shall love the Lord your God with your whole heart, with your whole soul and with your whole mind"? Christ added the closing words "with your whole mind" because the God whom we

are to love is the God who became man. And we are to love this God become man with our whole mind believing with the intellect that Jesus Christ is God, that Jesus Christ our God became Man and that Jesus Christ the God-man is on earth in the Blessed Sacrament. And if we believe in His Real Presence, we will naturally want to come to Him in the Eucharist, professing our love for Him with our minds in prayer.

**Practice:** We also profess our love for God in the Real Presence by putting into practice what we profess with our lips or even profess in the depth of our hearts. Remember what we had said before. Our love for God is to be lived in the real world in which He has placed us — in these circumstances, under these conditions, with these people, at this time, so we might put into practice what we may be sincerely telling Our Lord in prayer. Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, we may say, is the soul of our love for God. But this soul is alive; it is to express in action what it professes in thought and desire and sentiments of our hearts.

**Promotion:** Finally, we profess our love of God in the Real Presence when we promote devotion to Christ in the Blessed Sacrament according to the limits of our state of life and the opportunities God's Providence provides in our lives. We can become apostles of the Real Presence, missionaries of the Real Presence or promoters of the Real Presence. This is so important today. We live in a world which is so immersed in selfishness, even to the point of cruelty with millions of people being mercilessly destroyed. How this world of ours needs to discover the truth that God is love, that God who is love became man, and that this God who is love and became man died on Calvary and is on earth today. We believe this Love who became man is still on earth in the Blessed Sacrament in order to provide us an opportunity to show how much we love Him and to allow us to obtain from Him what He alone can give us: the ability to love in a loveless world.

All that we said tells us that the great blessings which come from fervent faith in the Real Presence and faithful prayer before the Blessed Sacrament is the blessing of opening the human heart to give itself to God. Of ourselves, we are all naturally self-centered, self-preoccupied, self-interested and self-opinionated. We are all naturally self-concerned, self-indulgent, self-satisfying, self-admiring and self-attentive. In a word, we are all profoundly and deeply self-willed. There is one idolatry to which every human being is constantly prone, and that is the worship of oneself.

Yet we know, on faith, that selfish people will not reach Heaven. We also know from faith and experience that selfish people are not really happy. What then is the secret of acquiring selflessness? The secret is to obtain the light and strength we need to win the one war in which we are all engaged — the war against self. Self-conquest is impossible by ourselves. We need the grace that only Christ can give, and that's why He is on earth, present in the Holy Eucharist. That's why Love became man — so that Love Incarnate might enable us to become like Him in selfless love for Him and for all those whom He puts into our lives

**Closing Prayer:** Lord Jesus, none of us has any illusion of what it really means to love You. To love You means to love what You want, and You told us You want us mainly, constantly to love You by loving those whom in Your mysterious, unexplainable Providence, You have placed into our lives.

Dear Jesus, we have all lived long enough to know we cannot do this without You. That is why You are here with us, near us, constantly available to us, so that when we come to You begging for Your help, You enable us to do with Your grace what is impossible for us to do by our own self will. Dear Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, enlighten our minds so that with every human being who enters our lives, we will see You telling us, "love me." And by loving those whom You place into our lives, we might more deeply love You. Amen.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

(ANY CHANGES, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE.)

Jim Dunnigan, Patty Durand, Lori Hill, Millie Laxdal, John Christianson, Pauline Dusek, Patricia Rodvold, Jane Zidon, Marla Zidon, Rex Grill, Heidi Gustafson, Adriane Wellman, Isabelle Copeland, Tracy Letzring, Kelly Morrison, Jody Deibert, Allison Bleick, Dale Hultin, Bob McCartney, Susie Dimsha, Sherry McDonald, Shelbie Goodoi, Oliver Goodoi, Brent Collins, Merle Larson, Robert O'Toole, Ruth Rieger, Melanie Fischer, Ruth Ivesdahl, Carol Smith, Mary Louise, Bernard & Aletha Schommer, Brianna Fernandez, Brett & Rick Letzring, Jane Grazadzieleski, Rick Kilichowski, Donald Denault, Gary Olson, Fr. Finnestad, Joan Kerian.

**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. **Aug Church Cleaners:** Mary Wild, Nick & Molly Wild, Marilyn Olafson. **Collection:** Deidre & Dianne (Aug 22); Clay & Jim (Aug 29). **Reader:** Tom (Aug). **Sanctuary Lamp:** Casey & Ruth Stumpf (Aug 22); Lance & Tanya Wieler Family (Aug 29). **Sacristan:** Scott (Aug 22); Melissa (Aug 29). **Rosary:** Mary S (Aug 22); Jim (Aug 29)

**Pray the Rosary:** Sun at 10:00 am. **Adoration with Confessions:** Wed & Fri at 11:00 am; **More Confessions:** Sat 4-5:00 pm, Mon 5-5:15 pm. **Aug Church cleaners:** G-K. **Collection:** Doug & Gary (Aug 22); Trevor & Scott (Aug 29). **Readers (Aug):** Sat-Brian; Sun-Matt. **Rosary:** Larry C (Aug). **Sanctuary Lamp:** Melissa Scheer Chadwick (Aug 22); Vacancy (Aug 29)

**Bishop Folda requests** that we contact our federal legislators and urge them to keep the Hyde Amendment intact. The Hyde Amendment is a pro-life amendment which prevents the use of federal funds to pay for abortion. It has saved 60,000 lives per year. You can also visit this website: <https://www.notaxpayerabortion.com/>

**Year of St. Joseph Prayer:** "Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen"



This week on "Formed"  
Learn about the **Queenship of Mary** and about **Sts. Monica and Augustine** (mother and son saints)!  
Sign-up at **formed.org**



Mon		July 12	5:15 pm	St Brigid	<b>Winston Miller</b>
Tues	<b>St Henry</b>	July 13	8:00 am	St Patrick	<b>Jim Young Family</b>
Wed	<b>St Kateri</b>	July 14	Noon	St Brigid	<b>Skylar Alex</b>
Thur	<b>St Bonaventure</b>	July 15	8:00 am	St Patrick	<b>Makensie Miller</b>
Fri	<b>Our Lady of Mt Carmel</b>	July 16	Noon	St Brigid	<b>Landon Alex</b>
Sat		July 17	9:00 am	St Patrick	<b>St Brigid &amp; St Patrick Parishes</b>
			5:00 pm	St Brigid	<b>+Dolores, Arni, Dirk Johnson</b>
Sun	<b>16th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	July 18	8:30 am	St Patrick	<b>St Brigid &amp; St Patrick Parishes</b>
			10:30 am	St Brigid	<b>Jim Young</b>

Stewardship (as of 7-4-21)	St Brigid	St Patrick		St Brigid	St Patrick
Adult Envelope	<b>1835.00</b>	<b>1190.00</b>	St Patrick's Care Collection July		<b>70.00</b>
Plate	<b>96.00</b>	<b>20.00</b>	Cemetery	<b>4,010.00</b>	<b>4,681.69</b>
Weekly Total	<b>1931.00</b>	<b>1210.00</b>	St Anthony Cemetery \$1390.00		
Yearly Actual Total	<b>57,378.26</b>	<b>25,535.99</b>	St Brigid Gods Gift Goal: \$23,485.48	<b>11,698.00</b>	
Monthly Envelope Building Fund	<b>2,152.00</b>	<b>2,605.00</b>	St Patrick Gods Gift Goal: \$9,103.15		<b>5,752.00</b>
Ascension	<b>495.00</b>	<b>105.00</b>	St Helen Cemetery \$475.00		
			St Bernard Cemetery \$262.00		