

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

*We invite you to join us in worship*

NOTE: If there is a Funeral, weekday Mass is canceled.

	SAINT BRIGID	ASSUMPTION	BLESSED SACRAMENT
MON, Mar 24	_____	8:00a Scripture & Communion	_____
TUE, Mar 25	6:45a Scripture & Communion	8:00a Mass	8:30a Mass 6:30p Our Mother of Perpetual Help
WED, Mar 26	6:45a Scripture & Communion 8:30a Mass 6:30p Evening Prayer	8:00a Mass	7:00p Evening Prayer
THU, Mar 27	6:45a Scripture & Communion 12:05p Mass	8:00a Mass	8:30a Mass w/School Children
FRI, Mar 28	6:45a Scripture & Communion 8:30a Mass w/School Children	8:00a Mass	_____
SAT, Mar 29 <i>Vigil: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter</i>	9:00a Confessions	8:00a Mass 4:30p Mass	8:30a Rosary 5:00p Mass
SUN, Mar 30 <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter</i>	9:00a Mass 11:30a Mass 5:30p Mass	9:30a Mass	8:30a Mass 11:00a Mass

**STEWARDSHIP: A Way of Life!**

*Very early in the morning after the Sabbath, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body with precious oils. The reward of this good and conscientious steward was to be among the first to know that Jesus had been raised from the dead!  
Alleluia!*

**TREASURE**

Regular Offertory \$15,962  
Children's Offertory \$109.05  
Capital Improvement Fund \$345

	TARGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
MAR 16, 2007	\$11,813	\$16,071	\$4,258
Year to Date	\$531,238	\$547,955	\$16,717

**MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MONDAY** \*\*\*OFFICE CLOSED\*\*\*  
**TUESDAY** 7:00 P.M. Bible Study  
**TUESDAY** 7:00 P.M. K of C Assembly  
**THURSDAY** 7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts

**Divine Mercy Sunday** – Sunday, March 30, at St. Michael's Parish, 225 S. Jennings St., Pinconning, MI. Mass celebrant: Father Richard Jozwiak. Confessions 2:00-3:00 p.m. It will be impossible for everyone to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the course of one day. Note: Your confession made during the season of Lent can be your Feast of Mercy confession. Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Benediction at 2:30 p.m. Mass at 4:00 p.m. For further information, please call Marcine Brazeau at (989) 879-4502.

**Cemetery Clean Up:** In preparation for our annual spring cleanup of the cemeteries and mausoleums, please remove all decorations from crypts, niches and ground spaces before March 31, 2008. We will remove all items left after the March 31 deadline as part of the general cemetery cleanup.

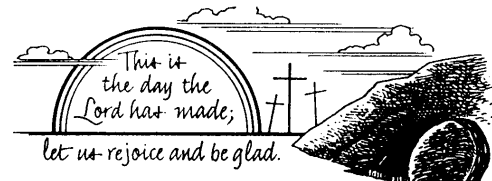
**Grief Recovery Process:** The three Catholic parishes of Midland are hosting an adult group grief recovery process that is Christian in focus and open to anyone in the community. This process is for healing within a safe and supportive environment for those who have experienced loss through the death of a loved one. Each group is led by a trained facilitator. This is a seven-week process and begins Thursday, April 10, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Rainbow Room of St. Brigid. There is much opportunity for sharing. There is no cost, but please register so we may have enough materials. Please call the Parish office at 835-7121 to register.

**CHILDREN'S STEWARDSHIP**

*WHAT I GAVE TO GOD THIS WEEK*

- Prayed for Dad's safe travel.
- Helped Mom and Dad do the wood.
- Listened to my Mom.
- Prayed for Grandma.
- Took care of my baby cousin.
- Helped at the special olympics.
- Made my bed.
- Found my sister's bike.
- Helped feed the dogs.
- Took out the trash.
- Gave my sister toys.
- Cleaned my room.
- Prayed for a friend to get better.
- Didn't put up a fight at bedtime.
- Didn't eat in my room.

**TAX STATEMENTS:** If you would like to receive a copy of your financial support statement for 2007, please call the Parish Office at 835-7121 and leave your name. The statement will be mailed to your home.



## OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

### PRE-SCHOOL THROUGH GRADE 5

**LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN:** All children four & five years old (including Kindergarten) are invited to be dismissed from 9:00 a.m. Mass to hear the scriptures read from the Lectionary for Masses with Children. Guests are always welcome.

**Elementary Faith Formation:** No sessions today and Sunday, March 30. Sessions resume Sunday, April 6, 2008.

**Kids for Kids:** *Thank you* very much for your generosity! We have been able to donate several very large boxes to area shelters. It has been very much appreciated.

### YOUTH MINISTRY – Grades 6 – 12

Forms can be found on [www.stbrigid-midland.org](http://www.stbrigid-midland.org) under the Youth Faith Formation “forms” link and on the youth bulletin board in the back vestibule next to the main Church doors and in the Office of Faith Formation located inside the school.

#### **Quick look at Youth Ministry:**

- March 16: YM “John 3:16” Prayer and Reflection (meet in CHPH)
- April 6: 4-part Series MS, HS and Parents, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

**YOUTH MINISTRY SPRING SESSION:** Registration forms are now available for the Spring 4-week Series. Morality will be the topic for Middle School youth, who will meet in the Rainbow Room (basement of the Parish Office Center). The *Theology of the Body* will be presented to the High School youth in Cardinal Hickey Parish Hall. Parents are invited to *Parenting Your Teen – Theology of the Body* in the “commons” (formerly the school library). The series will run April 6, 13, 20 and May 4, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Please turn registration forms in by April 3.

**GET A LITTLE LOONIE!** We will be working Loon’s games again this year. Our dates for doing so are 4/3, 4/5, 4/18, 4/23, 5/2, 5/6, 5/20, 6/7, 6/14, 6/16, 6/28, 7/12, 7/23, 8/8 and 8/23. If you are interested in helping to work the concessions, please call the Office of Faith Formation at 835-8831 to sign up

**Youth 2 Youth Retreat:** This awesome High School Retreat will be held on April 26-27 at Camp Rotary. This year’s theme is “*HE ALONE IS MY ROCK . . . I WILL NEVER BE SHAKEN.*” Forms are now available: registration is limited, so don’t hesitate – get your forms in right away! Every high school youth should experience this retreat!

**WORLD YOUTH DAY AT HOME:** High School Youth (including current 8<sup>th</sup> graders) are invited to Sydney, Ohio, for a 2-day World Youth Day event on July 19-20. Experience a sense of pilgrimage as you celebrate World Youth Day with peers. Travel to Sydney, Ohio, via motor coach with Fr. T.J. to Lehman Catholic High School grounds for feature presenter Mike Patin and music by “Who Do You Say I Am” and other artists. The Mass with the Pope will be comcasted to this event. There are only 110 seats available to our Diocese, so registration forms need to be turned in as soon as possible!

## YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

There are two young adult groups that will begin meeting after Easter.

The first group will meet in the Rainbow Room at 7.00 p.m. on Fridays: April 11 & 25, May 9 and 23. This group will discuss the chapters in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* concerning Prayer. For details please contact Anne Marie (835 8831).

The “*Theology on Tap*” meetings were so successful that the group, the Midland Area Young Adults, will continue to meet on alternate Sunday evenings in Pizza Sam’s at 7.00 p.m. beginning April 6. For details please contact Anne Marie (835 8831).

**“Just Live It II”: Everyday Discipleship:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Michigan Catholic Young Adult Conference will be held on March 29, 2008, at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Ann Arbor. Featured speaker will be Mike Hayes, Managing Editor of *Butedhalo.com*. Registration cost is \$40/individual or \$25/student. Registration forms can be found on the bulletin board at the main entrance of the Church or call the Office of Faith Formation for a registration form at 835-8831.

**VERITAS** Young Adult weekend will be held on May 16-18 at St. Stanislaus Koska parish in Bay City. Veritas is an opportunity for young adult men and women to discover and express their Catholic faith. The weekend consists of talks, music and activities focused on recognizing the role God plays in our everyday life. Veritas is open to all Catholic young men and women ages 18-28; cost is \$35 which includes all meals. Registration forms can be found on the bulletin board at the main entrance of the Church or call the Office of Faith Formation for a registration form at 835-8831.

## ADULT FORMATION

**R.C.I.A.:** The Saint Brigid Parish Family welcomes our neophytes, Jessica and Anna, and Anna’s brother Matthew, who completed their Christian Initiation at the Easter Vigil.

Jesus told many parables. But, what is a parable? Which is your favorite parable? Do you know in which Gospel to find the parable of the Prodigal Father? A new 8-week **Little Rock Scripture Study** beginning on Tuesday, April 8, will deepen your understanding of the Parables of Jesus and help make daily scripture reading an essential part of your life. To register for the new LRSS please contact Bill (695-4687), Karla (835-2735) or Sally (631-3743).

Are you ready to get **F.I.T.**? Beginning Wednesday, April 16, we will be meeting after Evening Prayer to get **Formed, Informed and Transformed** by the upcoming Sunday Scriptures. Please contact Anne Marie in the Faith Formation Office (835-8831) to register.

**THANKSGIVING FOR MUSICIANS:** *Alleluia!* How can you show your appreciation to members of the Saint Brigid Parish Choir and Young Voices ensemble for their exceptional efforts preparing for Lenten and Paschal Triduum services? How can you thank Saint Brigid Parish's cantors for leading the singing at Mass when a choir is not present? How might you thank members of the folk ensemble for expanding the variety and creativity of the parish's musical outreach? How can you thank the Easter brass ensemble, guest accompanists and service players, and other instrumentalists for echoing the beloved words of Psalm 150? Please consider showing your appreciation to Saint Brigid Parish's many talented volunteer musicians during the fifty days of Eastertide. Perhaps joining with them in the ministry of music: perhaps taking part in a choir: perhaps volunteering to play an instrument is an even better way to thank God for the gift of music. Contact Nicholas Schmelter, Associate for Liturgical Music and Organist, for more information at 835-7121.

**MHS MEISTERSINGERS BENEFIT CONCERT:** The Midland High School Meistersingers, under the direction of Robert Sabourin, will sing their annual benefit concert at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 25, at St. Brigid Catholic Church. Nicholas Schmelter will accompany the concert. The purpose of the Meistersingers' benefit concert is to generate interest and support for the choir's upcoming travels to Washington. Music of David Conte, (local composer) H. R. Evans, Felix Mendelssohn, Gwyneth Walker, and others highlights the program. The concert is open to the public.

**NOONDAY RECITALS CONTINUE:** Nicholas Schmelter, Associate for Liturgical Music and Organist at St. Brigid Catholic Church in Midland, Michigan, will perform a thirty-minute organ recital titled *Easter Triumph* at St. Brigid Parish, 12:00 p.m. on March 28, 2008. This is the sixth in a series of organ recitals that the parish will host during the 2007-2008 year. The program will be comprised of André Fleury's Six Chants de Pâques. This organ suite is made up of traditional Easter plainchant melodies set musically in a variety of improvisatory, meditative, and humorous manners. The program is free to the public. A free-will offering will be taken following the recital to support the ongoing ministry of the parish's choirs. Schmelter will perform the remaining program of this season on April 18.

**GUEST CHOIR TO VISIT PARISH APRIL 6:** St. Brigid Catholic Church will hold its regular Sunday Mass at 5:30 p.m. on April 6. Exultate Deo, a chamber choir that includes singers from Midland, Freeland, Bay City, and Saginaw, will sing at the service in collaboration with the parish's Young Voices ensemble. Robert Sabourin will direct the choir, and Nicholas Schmelter, the parish's organist, will accompany the voices. In addition to the great hymnody and psalmody of Eastertide, the choir will sing motets and other music by composers William Harris, Giovanni Pierluigi Palestrina, Richard Proulx, and Healey Willan.

**F. T. D. O. F. T. J.**  
*Week of March 23<sup>rd</sup>*

**Scripture Readings and Feast Days for the Week:**

Mon. Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt. 28:8-15; **Easter Monday**  
Tues. Acts 2:36-41; Jn. 20:11-18; **Easter Tuesday**  
Wed. Acts 3:1-10; Lk. 24:13-35; **Easter Wednesday**  
Thurs. Acts 3:11-26; Lk. 24:35-48; **Easter Thursday**  
Fri. Acts 4:1-12; Jn. 21:1-14; **Easter Friday**  
Sat. Acts 4:13-21; Mk. 16:9-15; **Easter Saturday**  
Sun. Acts 2:42-47; I Pt. 1:3-9; Jn. 20:19-31; **Second Sunday of Easter**

**HAPPY EASTER!!!**

The message I want to share with you this Easter Sunday is from an e-mail I received a few weeks ago from a personal friend. The subject matter of the e-mail is: "A Teenager's view of Heaven."

17-year-old Brian Moore had only a short time to write something for a class. The subject was what Heaven was like. "I wowed 'em," he later told his father, Bruce. "It's a killer. It's the bomb. It's the best thing I ever wrote." It also was the last.

Brian Moore died May 27, 1997, the day after Memorial Day. He was driving home from a friend's house when his car went off Bulen-Pierce Road in Pickaway County and struck a utility pole. He emerged from the wreck unharmed but stepped on a downed power line and was electrocuted.

The Moore's framed a copy of Brian's essay and hung it among the family portraits in the living room. "I think God used him to make a point. I think we were meant to find it and make something out of it," Mrs. Moore said of the essay. She and her husband want to share their son's vision of life after death. "I'm happy for Brian. I know he's in heaven. I know I'll see him."

**Brian's Essay: The Room...**

In that place between wakefulness and dreams, I found myself in the room. There were no distinguishing features except for the one wall covered with small index card files. They were like the ones in libraries that list titles by author or subject in alphabetical order. But these files, which stretched from floor to ceiling and seemingly endless in either direction, had very different headings. As I drew near the wall of files, the first to catch my attention was on that read "Girls I have liked." I opened it and began flipping through the cards. I quickly shut it, shocked to realize that I recognized the names written on each one. And then without being told, I knew exactly where I was.

This lifeless room with its small files was a crude catalog system for my life. Here were written the actions of my every moment, big and small, in a detail my memory couldn't match. A sense of wonder and curiosity, coupled with horror, stirred within me as I began randomly opening files and exploring their content. Some brought joy and sweet memories; others a sense of shame and regret so intense that I would look over my shoulder to see if anyone was watching.

A file named "Friends" was next to one marked "Friends I have betrayed." The titles ranged from the mundane to the outright weird "Books I Have Read," "Lies I Have Told," "Comfort I have Given," "Jokes I Have Laughed at". Some were almost hilarious in their exactness: "Things I've yelled at my brothers." Others I couldn't laugh at: "Things I Have Done in My Anger", "Things I Have Muttered Under My Breath at My Parents." I never ceased to be surprised by the contents.

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Often there were many more cards than I expected. Sometimes fewer than I hoped. I was overwhelmed by the sheer volume of the life I had lived. Could it be possible that I had the time in my years to fill each of these thousands or even millions of cards? But each card confirmed this truth . Each was written in my own handwriting. Each signed with my signature.

When I pulled out the file marked :”TV Shows I have watched”, I realized the files grew to contain their contents. The cards were packed tightly, and yet after two or three yards, I hadn’t found the end of the file. I shut it, shamed, not so much by the quality of shows but more by the vast time I knew that file represented.

When I came to a file marked “Lustful Thoughts,” I felt a chill run through my body. I pulled the file out only an inch, not willing to test its size and drew out a card. I shuddered at its detailed content...

I felt sick to think that such a moment had been recorded. An almost animal rage broke on me. One thought dominated my mind: “No one must ever see these cards! No one must ever see this room! I have to destroy them!” In insane frenzy I yanked the file out. Its size didn’t matter now. I had to empty it and burn the cards. But as I took it at one end and began pounding it on the floor, I could not dislodge a single card. I became desperate and pulled out a card, only to find it as strong as steel when I tried to tear it.

Defeated and utterly helpless, I returned the file to its slot. Leaning my forehead against the wall, I let out a long, self-pitying sigh.

And then I saw it. The title bore “People I Have Shared the Gospel With.” The handle was brighter than those around it, newer, almost unused. I pulled on its handle and a small box not more than three inches long fell into my hands. I could count the cards it contained on one hand.

And then the tears came. I began to weep. Sobs so deep that they hurt. They started in my stomach and shook through me. I fell on my knees and cried. I cried out of shame, from the overwhelming shame of it all. The rows of file shelves swirled in my tear-filled eyes. No one must ever, ever know of this room. I must lock it up and hide the key. But then as I pushed away the tears, I saw Him.

No, please not Him. Not here. Oh, anyone but Jesus. I watched helpless as He began to open the files and read the cards. I couldn’t bear to watch His response. And in the moments I could bring myself to look at His face, I saw a sorrow deeper than my own.

He seemed to intuitively go to the worst boxes. Why did He have to read every one? Finally He turned and looked at me from across the room. He looked at me with pity in His eyes. But this was a pity that didn’t anger me. I dropped my head, covered my face with my hands and began to cry again. He walked over and put His arm around me. He could have said so many things. But He didn’t say a word. He just cried with me.

Then He got up and walked back to the wall of files. Starting at one end of the room, He took out a file and, one by one, began to sign His name over mine on each card. “No!” I shouted rushing to Him. All I could find to say was

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“No, no,” as I pulled the card from Him. His name shouldn’t be on these cards. But there it was, written in red so rich, so dark, so alive. The name of Jesus covered mine. It was written with His blood. He gently took the card back. He smiled a sad smile and began to sign the cards. I don’t think I’ll ever understand how He did it so quickly, but the next instant it seemed I heard Him close the last file and walk back to my side.

He placed His hand on my shoulder and said, “It is finished.” I stood up, and He led me out of the room. There was no lock on its door. There were still cards to be written.

*“For God so loved the world that He gave His only son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13). My, “People I shared the gospel with” file just got bigger, how about yours?*

**May God Bless You All!**

**HAPPY EASTER!!**

Love,

Fr. T. J.

**SCHOOL**

There is **no school** on Easter Monday, March 24. School resumes on Tuesday, March 25. *Happy Easter!*

**Raffle tickets** for the Bishop’s Charity Ball may be purchased from any school family or in the school office until April 11. Remember the prizes are a Pontiac Solstice, a trip to Rome or Home Improvements worth \$5,000. Each ticket is only \$5.00. *Thank you for your support of Catholic education!*

**Registration** has begun at Saint Brigid Catholic School for all grades, K-8, for 2008-2009. If you are interested in a tour of the school or need more information, please contact Mrs. Becker at 835-9481. Don’t delay, our classes are filling up!

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**Prayer for Easter Meal**

Jesus Christ is risen today. Alleluia.  
Lord Jesus,  
we celebrate your resurrection  
and we rejoice in your love.  
You are with us now as we share this meal  
Offering us forgiveness, peace, and new life.  
Help us to recognize you in the breaking of this bread  
and strengthen us to share  
the good news of your rising with others.  
Jesus Christ is risen today. Alleluia.

**HAPPY EASTER!**