

## St. Bridget School

*Mission*  
St. Bridget School provides an excellent Catholic education in an environment where the message of Jesus Christ is taught, lived and shared.



# Irish Times

Learning Through Christ's Love

**5 B's:** Be Caring  
Be Fair  
Be Respectful  
Be Responsible  
Be Trustworthy

### Calendar of Events

### Volume 18, Issue 19

January 26, 2018

#### January 27

First Reconciliation 10:00 a.m.

#### January 28

Open House 8:30-11:30 a.m.

#### January 28-February 2

Catholic School's Week

#### January 30

Confirmation Parent Meeting 7:00 p.m.

#### January 31

St. Bridget Salamones North 4:30-8:30 p.m.

#### February 1

Feast of St. Bridget

Open House 5:30-7:30 p.m.

#### February 2

Ice Hogs Night 7:00 p.m.

Scrip Pick-up

#### February 8

3rd Grade Field Trip-Burpee/Discovery Center

#### February 9

8th Grade Graduation Pictures

Hot Lunch-Beef-a-Roo

#### February 10

8th Grade Fundraiser at Applebee's 8:00-10:00 a.m.

#### February 13

Valentine Classroom Parties 2:00 p.m.

7th & 8th Grade Field Trip-Skateco

#### Catholic Schools Week Open Houses

Our Open Houses will be Sunday, January 28th from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and Thursday, February 1st from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Please spread the word to anyone who may be interested in attending our school next year. There will be student guided tours of the school, and the staff will be available to answer questions. Registration packets will be available. Student Council officers will speak at all the weekend Masses to thank parishioners for their support.

#### Invest in Kids Act

The State of Illinois Invest in Kids Act Scholarship application website will open on Wednesday January 31 at noon. We will have the school computer lab available from 11:30 to 6:30 to assist with applications. Please first visit [www.empowerillinois.org](http://www.empowerillinois.org) to learn what documentation you will need to apply. If you plan to apply from home but would like assistance scanning necessary documentation in preparation for your application, we will be happy to assist you in the meantime. Come to the school office with a flash drive and we will help you scan your documents.

#### St. Bridget Night at Salamone's North

Visit Salamone's North (2583 N. Mulford Rd corner of Spring Creek and Mulford)

on Wednesday, January 31st from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. Dine in, carry out, and delivery. Just mention St. Bridget School.

#### Knights Of Columbus Free Throw Contest:: ALL BASKETBALL PLAYERS/ GIRLS AND BOYS

When: January 31st  
Where: St. Bridget School Gym  
Time: 3:15  
Who: All boys and girls that participated/participating in basketball during the 2017 - 2018 school year are welcome to participate.

#### Sports News!

Girls Uniforms: If you have not returned a girls basketball uniform, it must be submitted by Wednesday, January 31. Deposit checks will be returned to you the week of February 5th. If uniforms are not returned, deposit check will be cashed.

#### Boylan Dance Clinic

Boylan will be hosting their dance clinic on Saturday, February 3rd for girls ages 3-5 and girls in grades 1st thru 8th. All participants will receive a Boylan dance camp t-shirt and will perform at the Boylan basketball game at halftime on Wednesday, February 7th. Flyers of information and registration are available in the school office.

**St. Bridget Parish Daddy-Daughter Dance**  
The Women of St. Bridget

will be hosting a Daddy-Daughter Dance for girls ages 5 to 15 on Saturday, February 10th from 6:30-9:00 p.m. Cookies and punch will be served. Girls may be escorted by Dad, Grandpa, Uncle or any other adult. Tickets are on sale in the school office for \$10.00 per family.

#### Shamrock Shuffle Lights, Camera, Auction! Saturday, March 10th

Invitations went home last Friday. Purchase your tickets now. Event sold out last year. Hope to see you there!!!

#### Boylan Tennis Center

Boylan Tennis Center will be holding a Pizza / Tennis Match Play for Middle School Students on Saturday, February 3rd from Noon - 2:00 PM. Cost is \$15. Rackets can be provided. Please RSVP to Boylan Tennis Center @ 815-877-4273.

#### Order Your Yearbook

Deadline to order yearbooks is February 16th. To order your yearbook visit: [www.interstate.com/yearbook](http://www.interstate.com/yearbook) and enter code 23063K. The cost of the yearbooks are \$16.00.

#### Transportation Needed

A school family is looking for transportation for their child to and from St. Bridget School. If you live in Loves Park by or in the vicinity of Windy Knoll Ct. and will be able to help, please contact the school office. Thank you!

January 26, 2018

Dear Parents,

Next week will be busy with Catholic Schools Week activities. Information was sent home today in paper form and posted on School Speak. Please note all days but Tuesday are non uniform days, and note the service project as well. Thanks in advance for your participation in that. Friday we will have our annual 8th graders vs staff volleyball game. We staff are looking a bit weak this year with several staff members unable to play due to various health reasons and 3 pregnant momma teachers. Please join us for the game if you are able 1:45 on Friday afternoon. "Humiliation is a character builder" my dad used to say.

We will host Open Houses this Sunday from 8:30 to 11:30 am and Thursday February 1 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm for any prospective families. Spread the word if you know of a family that may be interested. We will have registration materials available. Let's grow our enrollment!

Next Friday February 2 is Catholic Schools Night at the Rockford Icehogs. Each school will have its own fan section. Let's rock the house with our St. Bridget group! Ticket forms are available on School Speak with details at the bottom of the form.

Re- registration paperwork was sent home today and is available on School Speak. Our tuition rates were raised for next year after much number crunching and deliberation, thanks to our parish finance council, business manager, and pastor, to allow for a bit higher pay scale for our dedicated and underpaid teachers. It was a well thought out process. As you can imagine teaching in a Catholic school is a ministry and we don't expect to earn near what the public school teachers are paid. However there is a Diocesan goal to strive to meet a particular percentage of that scale. We also want to avoid losing additional teachers due to the difficulty of making ends meet on the current pay scale. Furthermore, the recommendation of the consulting firm who facilitated our Diocesan Strategic Plan is to look at our school education as an excellent product that you parents value. We will continue to provide an ever- improving excellent education and faith formation for your children while keeping in mind overall affordability. It is a conscious decision to pay for private education and for many families at the sacrifice of other things but well worth the end result. I would do it again with my four children.

Also we will be changing our tuition management company to FACTS Management. This will be good news for you for several reasons: We will offer a tuition payment plan over 11 months in addition to 10 months, quarterly or annually. There will be flexibility with incidental billing such as field trips, hot lunches, extended care, etc. whereby those charges will not automatically be due at the same time as your chosen tuition payment date. The late fee will be reduced and you will be given a 5 day grace period. If you know your payment will be later than 5 days, contact me and I will turn off the late fee. The enrollment fee is \$50 per family but if you pay tuition and fees in full (choose annual payment plan) that fee reduces to \$20 and the school will actually pay that fee for you. So that translates into no enrollment fee for you. We will have more information for you very soon. FACTS is developing our site at this time and you will be notified when to enroll or go in and verify your family information.

Have a wonderful weekend.  
See you at Mass

Sincerely,  
Mary Toldo