

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

May 9-10

8th Grade Field Trip-Springfield

May 11

1st Grade Field Trip-Discovery Center
7th & 8th Grade Dance

May 14

Home & School Open House Meeting 6:30 in Cafeteria

May 15

Band Concert 9:15 a.m.

May 16

Student Council Elections
Spring Concert 6:30 p.m.

May 17

Hot Lunch-Culver's

May 18

8th Grade Honors Assembly 10:30

May 19 & 20

Scrip Cash & Carry after all weekend Masses

May 22

8th Grade Graduation

May 23

5th Grade Field Trip-Challenger
6th Grade Field Trip-Atwood
7th Grade Field Trip-Cave of the Mounds

May 28

School not in Session
Memorial Day

Volume 18, Issue 30

May 4, 2018

Race For Ed NUT Cards

Students may use their NUT cards **only on Fridays**. Dress should follow the Spirit Day dress as per handbook: Bottoms allowed: jeans, khaki type pants, khaki shorts (cargo or walking), capris, sweatpants, athletic shorts (appropriate length). Tops allowed: St. Bridget Spirit wear t-shirts or sweatshirts.

Key Dates for Next Year's Calendar

School begins Tuesday, August 21
Thanksgiving break, November 21-23
Christmas break begins with half day on December 19th and return January 3
Spring break, March 25-29
Easter break shortened. Off Good Friday and Easter Monday only, April 19th and April 22
Last day of school, May 31st

Confirmation

Congratulations to our 8th grade students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday.

K-4 Uniform Shorts

Students in grades K thru 4th have the option to wear uniform shorts beginning **May 1st**. All shorts must be the Dennis uniform shorts or Land's End uniform shorts.

Home & School Open Meeting

Home and School will be having an Open Meeting on Monday, May 14th at 6:30 in

the school cafeteria. We will have elections, refreshments, a book fee give-a-way, and information to share relating to fundraising, school improvements etc. We are in need of people to fill 3 positions on the Home and School Board next school year. Nomination forms went home last week. Please consider volunteering.

St. Bridget Backyard Grill & Bar Night

Thank you to all who participated in the Backyard Grill Night on April 12th. We received a check for \$500.00. **WOW!! A BIG THANK YOU** Rich & Dana Schmidt for their generous percentage of profit donation back to our school.



Classroom Laptops Needed

Are you or your place of work looking to upgrade your technology? We are in need of laptops for classroom use with our interactive whiteboards. Please consider donating to St. Bridget School. Laptops in working order may be dropped off at the school office.
Thank you!

Rockford Titans Jr. Tackle Football/Cheer

Ages 5 to 14. Register online at <http://tshq.bluesombrero.com/rockfordtitans>.



Totus Tuus

St. Bridget Totus Tuus Summer Camp

St. Bridget will have a weeklong summer camp held at our parish for children in grades 1st-6th July 23rd to 27th from 9:00 a.m.-2:15 p.m. Cost is \$30.00 (Max family \$60.00). Students in grades 7th-12th July 22nd to July 26th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Cost is \$10.00. Please contact Shannon McKenna at 815-633-6311 or smckenna@stbridgetlovespark.org with questions or if you would like to volunteer to help this summer. You can obtain a registration form from the Parish and School offices.

Boylan Tech Studio Summer Camp

Come and explore the world of Engineering. Boylan will be having a summer camp for girls and boys in grades 4th-8th June 18th thru 22nd. Learn coding, robotics, 3d printing and CAD. There will be two sessions: 10:00 a.m. to 12 Noon and 12 Noon to 2:00 p.m. The cost is \$65.00. Register by May 15, 2018. For information contact Katie Schmid at kschmid@boylan.org. Registration forms can be obtained in the school office or on boylan website.

May 4, 2018

Dear parents,

As you probably are aware, there is a consolidation in the works for 4 of our fellow Catholic elementary schools in the Rockford Deanery; St. Peter Cathedral, St. Bernadette, St. James, and St. Edward. The process is ugly but necessary due to unfortunate declining numbers in many of our schools. It was hoped that no changes would be necessary until the fall 2019-20 school year, however a first step in the consolidation will now begin next year and the schools involved received a letter of confirmation last week. Perhaps you have seen it if you have connection? I got a copy on Friday, and would like to verify a few points for you since there are many versions of the facts out there:

This fall all four schools will remain open, but St. Peter Cathedral and St. Bernadette will offer only grades 1-8. That was a disappointment for them as you can imagine. The following school year, 2019-20, all four schools will consolidate to St. James Rockford. A new school name, mascot, and specialized curriculum is in the planning stages. Of course imagine if our dear St. Bridget was directly involved and how difficult it would be to hear that our school would be closing. Understandably, there is much angst among our fellow, local Catholics.

As a response we have heard from many families currently attending St. Bernadette. As of today they will bless us with 21 new students next year. We have plenty of room and will not overtax our classrooms. In fact, contrary again to rumor, we are not busting at the seams, or near capacity (other than incoming 8th grade class and we are watching those numbers closely). We typically lose about 20 students per year; some test into the gifted program, some home school, some move to Roscoe/Rockton or Belvidere, some no longer prioritize a Catholic education, some find it unaffordable. Thankfully we have gained just as many students each year and are able to hold our enrollment. We have many current families even now in early May who have not re-registered for various reasons, so this influx from our neighboring school is in fact such a blessing. Thank you God. We are known as a school for our friendly, welcoming atmosphere and we have you parents and the faculty to thank for that. I have no doubt we will continue to do the same. If you are interested in helping to formally welcome our new families, please email or call me.

I took a curious look back at the numbers with our current 8th grade class, having been their Kindergarten teacher. Of the 30 students in the overall class that year, 13 are still at St. Bridget. That means of the current 38 students in 8th grade, 25 have joined over the years. Otherwise we would be graduating a class of 13!! Pretty amazing, right?

We will have our end of year Home and School Open Meeting on Monday May 14 at 6:30 in the cafeteria. Thanks to Jim and Maura Walker for their efforts this year as Presidents, and Tonya Murphy as secretary. So far we have a nominee/volunteer for both President and Vice President. We are still in need of someone to fill the secretary position. Let us know if you are interested. At the meeting on the 14th we will be drawing for a free book fee and taking suggestions for future school purchases or projects. Plan to attend if you have something to share. We would be happy to hear both concerns and kudos!

Have a great weekend.
See you at Mass

Sincerely,
Mary Toldo