

# Christmas and New Year's — Special Supplement to the Bulletin



## Go, Tell it on the Mountain!

December 15, 2011 — Saint Bridget School

Songs and Poems of the Nativity



## The New Organ and The Next 100 Years!

The parish's new pipe organ project was the subject of a mid-December meeting with Monsignor Carr, Allen Bean (Music Minister), John-Paul Buzard (Organ Builder) and John McCulla (Building Committee Chair) explaining different aspects of the project. Mr. Bean spoke about the vibrant and diverse music ministry with boy's and girl's choirs, the men's choir and adult choir, along with cantors and musicians who dedicate so much time and God-given talent to our parish.

Pipe organ builder John-Paul Buzard spoke to the enthusiastic audience about his work and how pipe organs are designed and built. More than 20,000 working hours will go into building our pipe organ which is Buzard Organ Company, Opus 42. Mr. Buzard explained that he has 15 employees whose work varies from design to construction to administration.

Monsignor Carr reflected on how appropriate it was to meet in the Commons with Monsignor Byrne's portrait overlooking while he spoke to those assembled. The history of this project dates back to Monsignor Byrne's time as pastor. Monsignor Carr recalled when he was first stationed here at St Bridget early in his career and noted there is a symbolic resonance to seeing this new organ installed and the original vision of the church being restored. Before he introduced the next

speaker he paid respect to current Skinner organ and to Dr. Charles Caravati Sr. for his vision in getting the organ from Monumental Church to us when that church closed, as well as the dedication of Tom McGranahan, the late Tom Daily and a host of parishioners who brought that original organ to St. Bridget.

The evening also included a demonstration of the different pipes and then questions. We heard the beauty of the actual pipes. We learned the new organ will weigh less than our current organ. We also learned that we will continue to worship in St. Bridget Church during the installation and while we will be without an organ during that time the inconveniences will be few and minor.

Closing the meeting John McCulla explained that even though the organ is a gift, there remain some outstanding project costs such as additional pipes to enhance the versatility of the organ, as well as future care and maintenance. This presents a wonderful opportunity for you to become part of this lasting legacy which will praise God for decades. Shortly after Christmas you will

receive more information about how you can join in this magnificent endeavor.

Awhile back we talked about how the pipe organ has defined the eras of our lives and has shepherded us through so many moments of great transition ... First Communion, Holy Matrimony, the celebration of Christmas, and then those solemn moments as we bid our final earthly farewell to loved ones. It is in honor of such times, and perhaps in memory of those who have gone before us, that you may make a gift toward this beautiful, lasting work of art. A gift from you will ensure that we and future generations can look forward to many years of exceptional music at St. Bridget!



*Monsignor Carr and Tom McGranahan.*



*From left to right: Monsignor Carr, Allen Bean, Grant Hellmers (from the American Guild of Organists), John-Paul Buzard and John McCulla.*



*Allen Bean, Monsignor Carr and Cookie Lewis.*

## Looking Ahead to the New Year — Liturgical Ministry in 2012

There are so many ways to give of yourself at Saint Bridget church but we often think of it as only giving — giving time, giving money, donating food, or purchasing things to support a group or cause. These choices are often done without a lot of discernment, we see a need and we try to help. As we prepare for the New Year it is a good time to stop and think about how we give of ourselves and serve our parish but also what we get back. So often we think about how we are asked to help but when we help we also get much in return.

One of the opportunities to serve at Saint Bridget Church is liturgical ministry. Becoming a Sacristan, an Usher, a Lector, a Eucharistic Minister (or Lay Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion), or a Pastoral Musician is such a meaningful way to give to your parish and at the same time, you get so much in return. Your faith deepens as you go about the discernment process— you have a stronger connection and awareness of why you are at Mass, not to mention the fellowship and kindred atmosphere around being a liturgical minister.

It is a commitment of time and it is a big responsibility. The length of service is three years with an opportunity to serve another three years before stepping down. During this time of service this commitment should be a priority. Just as a priest or Deacon would never think of not showing up for Mass when they have said they will be there, neither should a liturgical minister take their commitment lightly. The parish, the clergy and the

Lord depend on you to fulfill your commitment, to perform your role during the Eucharist.

Those who respond to God's call to serve at the Lord's Table receive plenty of assistance. If you are worried about the practical side of the commitment — how do I schedule time to serve, what if I cannot make the Mass I signed up for? — or the spiritual side of the commitment—I do not feel worthy, I am not “good enough” to serve ; or the intellectual side of the commitment—I don't know enough about Mass or what to do, do not fear. When you become a liturgical minister you will be trained and more experienced ministers will be there to help you, guide you and make sure you are comfortable with your role. Together you will meet the commitment and honor this responsibility. While you give of yourself, you show your reverence for Christ's presence and bring His presence to others.

On October 15<sup>th</sup>, 60 mostly current liturgy ministers (Lectors, Ushers, Sacristans, Pastoral Musicians and Lay Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion) came together to affirm the importance of their ministry to revealing Christ's real presence during the Eucharist. The purpose of the workshop was to invite liturgy ministers to take on an attitude and approach to the Mass grounded in Christ's promise to be with us when two or three gather in His name. The goal is for each minister to not only get service during their part of the Mass “right”, but

also to see how all the parts work together to reveal Christ's presence. Each ministry matters.

There is another opportunity to attend Ministry Matters on **February 18, 2012**. If you already are a liturgical minister this is your chance to reaffirm your commitment and this training will be necessary for you to continue to be scheduled after March 1, 2012. If you are thinking about becoming a minister this is your chance to learn, ask questions and commit to being a minister if you choose. The first step in considering liturgy ministry is to visit the Worship/Sacraments section of the Saint Bridget website <http://saintbridgetchurch.org/liturgical%202.htm>. You may also contact Don DeLaney by phone at 804-564-2246, or by email: [donaldfdelaneyjr@gmail.com](mailto:donaldfdelaneyjr@gmail.com). If, after going through the discernment process you decide you would like to begin this ministry, come to the February 18th Ministry Matters workshop for your initial formation and training. For any questions regarding Ministry Matters, contact the Liturgy Committee Chair: Don DeLaney by phone at 804-564-2246, or by email: [donaldfdelaneyjr@gmail.com](mailto:donaldfdelaneyjr@gmail.com).

Heartfelt thanks to those who have answered and will answer God's call to serve as liturgical ministers. Your service in ministry matters, because it is through it that we experience the Risen Christ in our midst! Our parish is blessed by your continued, committed service. Again, thank you.

# Caritas is Coming

February 18- 25<sup>th</sup>

We Need Your Help!!!!

We will be hosting 40 men

Sign-ups will begin January 21<sup>st</sup>



## There are so many ways you can help.

**Time, money, donation of supplies. If you have something to give these are ways you can help:**

Hospitality, Spend the night, Drive to the Laundromat or YMCA, Serve meals...

Use your skills as a Barber or health care professional.

Help make dinners, provide parts of their lunches, orange juice, soft drinks, laundry towels, set up or take down cots

Donate gift certificates to Wal-Mart, Target, K-Mart, Costco, BJs or rolls of quarters. Please send these to the church office attn. Frances Smith.

Donate laundry detergent, travel size baby powder, tissues, Lysol Spray, air fresheners.

Donate used or new blankets, twin Sheets, pillows and pillow cases.

Donate men's hats, gloves, scarves, sweat shirts and sweat pants. NEW briefs and boxers (size m-xxl), white socks and undershirts (short or long sleeved, m-xxl).

## Thank you!

*"Little children, let us love, neither in word nor with the tongue, but in deed and truth"*

(1 John 3:18)

*"You shall generously give to (your poor brother), and your heart shall not be grieved when you give to him, because for this thing the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all your understandings."*

*Book of Deuterotomy*

*"He who sows iniquity will reap vanity, ... He who is generous will be blessed, for he gives some of his food to the poor."*

(Proverbs 2:8,9)

*"Become doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves with false reasoning. For if anyone is a hearer of the word, and not a doer, this one is like a man looking at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself, and off he goes and immediately forgets what sort of man he is. But he who peers in to the perfect law that belongs to freedom and who persists in it, this man because he has become, not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, will be happy in his doing it"*

(James 1:22-25)