

Fellowship Insert — A Special Supplement to the Bulletin



Ministry Matters

On October 15th, 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.

The morning workshop, required for all existing liturgy ministers and open to all who would like to serve in liturgical ministry, included intellectual, spiritual and practical elements. Msgr. Carr reviewed some of the theological foundations for litur-

gical ministry, consultant Debbie Stollery shared the power of nonverbal communication to reveal Christ's presence, and members of the liturgy committee offered practical training and reflection in each ministerial area.

Each practical session communicated similar ideas, for example that preparations for each ministry are unique, and each ministry is vital. Every time Mass is celebrated, it is imperative that liturgy ministers prepare so Christ's real presence can be revealed through them. Through this preparation, the Mass is treated as the sacred and wondrous gift of God-with-us. Each practical session also reviewed the basics of the ministry, refreshing the experienced ministers, training new ministers and answering questions.

At one point toward the end of the workshop Monsignor asked for one



word to describe Ministry Matters. Words like "informative", "re-activation", "re-start", and "extraordinary" were offered – and while not just one word, but a phrase, this seemed to sum up the morning: "the start of an educational process." Kathleen Ross, who became a Catholic 5 years ago, is

(Continued on next page)



Ministry Matters (cont'd from cover)

training to be a Lector. "As a new Catholic, I am excited about this as a way to serve my faith."

Is there another opportunity to attend Ministry Matters? YES! Ministry Matters will be offered a second time on **February 18, 2012**. Who should come? All existing liturgy ministers who did not attend on October 15 are required to attend if they wish to be scheduled after March 1, 2012. Additionally, if you feel the call to serve God through liturgy ministry, visit the "Worship/Sacraments" section of the Saint Bridget website for tools to assist in your discernment. If, after using the discernment process on the web, you determine you would like to begin this ministry, please come to the February 18th Ministry Matters workshop for your initial formation and training.

Heartfelt thanks to those who answer God's call to serve as liturgy ministers. Your 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.

For questions regarding Ministry Matters, contact the Liturgy Committee Chair: Don DeLaney 804-564-2246, email: donaldfdelaneyjr@gmail.com.



CHWC: Committed to Three Major Goals: Faith, Service and Community

Dear St. Bridget Family:

Over the years, you may have heard about Catholic Heart Workcamp (The St. Bridget teen mission trip). Nine years ago, our parish saw the need to expand opportunities for our teens to grow in their faith and give back to the community. On their first trip, 17 teens and parents served in Appalachia and found the experience both fulfilling and inspiring. The following year, our parish began doing the teen mission trip with Catholic Heart WorkCamp (CHWC).

CHWC has a unique way of combining service and faith-filled programming to empower and inspire all who participate. **Catholic Heart WorkCamp is not just a one-week camp, it is a year long youth ministry program at St. Bridget Church. We are committed to three major goals: faith, service and community.**

Inspired by our CHWC experience, we have added several spiritual components to the program such as the Lenten Adoration and the fall and winter retreats. This level of commitment and interaction allows campers to be fully invested in the experience, and helps them prepare for the weeklong summer mission trip.

The CHWC mission trip is life altering for both the student and adult participants. By breaking away from our daily life for a full week and coming together with other teens from around the country, we are given a unique opportunity to grow spiritually, experience the value of self-sacrifice, and discover in that moment, we can serve others in a way we never thought possible. In fact, last year and this year several veteran campers continue their participation with CHWC by serving on the CHWC staff. Also, one of our teens was so inspired by her CHWC experiences that, upon her return, she formed her own non-profit organization to help children in Uganda.

Service to others is certainly a key goal, but equally important is the impact the CHWC program has on the spiritual



growth of everyone involved. Students and adults alike have come to love daily Mass, the rosary and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Our participation in Mass and in the ministries involved in Mass has significantly increased. **The bottom line is that this program has inspired the campers to grow closer to God and to serve in international communities as well as our parish and local communities.** All of us involved with CHWC feel honored to be a part of this program and to be able to witness the Holy Spirit touching the lives of so many.

None of this would be possible without the generous support of our parish. We know that most of the fundraising takes place right here at St. Bridget - our parish family makes these trips possible. Thank you for your continued generosity as we prepare to send 126 campers this year. With God's help, our hard work and your prayers and support we know nothing is out of reach.

On November 12 and 13, there will be a second collection to help support the CHWC mission trip. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Anne-Marie Condlin, CHWC Co-Chair

Fellowship Opportunities

Parish Playgroup!

The 2nd and 4th Friday every month Saint Bridget Parish welcomes parents (and grandparents) and their little ones (newborn through pre-k) to join us in the small nursery for playgroup from 10:00 to 11:30 am. This is a wonderful opportunity for our new members to learn more



about all our parish has to offer, as well as providing some fellowship for those that have been here awhile! Please contact Maria Brown at mags4vt@gmail.com if you have any questions.



Please join the Parish Nurse Ministry for a presentation on

Caring for the Elderly A Home Health and Mental Health Perspective

Presented by Mary Beth Marcello, MSW, LCSW
Gentiva Health Services/Chapman Senior Care

**Monday, Nov. 14th at 7:00 p.m.
In the Church Chapel**

Girl's Night Out 2011

An evening to benefit Saint Bridget School **Thursday, November 17th from 5-10pm**. Over 36 boutique vendors from all over Virginia will be here at St. Bridget's! We will have food, wine, shopping and live music featuring our very own Cookie Lewis and Allen Bean! A night of fun and fellowship not to be missed! Bring your friends! Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door!!

Knights of Columbus: Msgr. Francis Byrne Council 5476

Membership in the Knights of Columbus provides the opportunity for wholesome association with other Catholic gentlemen who recognize the same beliefs of duty to God, family & neighbors. Programs are tailored to individual members' interests. Come round out your lives with acts of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. Become a Knight of Columbus! To learn more, contact Membership Director Victor MacLaughlin. Victor may be reached at 804.432.7897 or email maclaughlin@koc.org or Gary Port at 804.741-8666 or email gary.port@comcast.net.

Other Upcoming Fellowship Events

Saints and Sinners—John Paul Jones presented by Bill Young, Thursday, November 10, 10:00 am. Come one and all to see and hear this historical portrayal of Captain John Paul Jones. You may also share coffee, tea and desserts with all your friends. Sign up sheet is on the Saints and Sinners bulletin board.

Little Sisters of the Poor—Christmas Bazaar, November 12, 2011, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at 1503 Michaels Road on the corner of Three Chopt.

West End Interfaith Thanksgiving Service—November 22, at 7 pm, Seventh Street Christian Church, 4101 Grove Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221

OCTOBERFEST 2011!

Sunday, November 6th, 2 p.m. 'til dark, at the Picnic Pavilion at the Columbian Center, 2324 Pump Road. Men, Join Us for St. Bridget's 12th Annual Oktoberfest! Ready to spend a casual fall afternoon outside, **craft-brewed beer** in hand, pitching horseshoes, and watching football? Want to meet other men from St. Bridget's and other parishes? Then join us for this year's Oktoberfest! Hosted by the St. Bridget's Men's Ministry, this men's social event has been a great hit over the years, and one you'll surely enjoy! Once again, we're shipping in those **famous brats** from **Usinger's of Milwaukee**, and serving them up with sauerkraut, potato salad, baked beans, genuine apple strudel, and a hand-picked selection of the best beers in the world! Cost is \$20/person for a full meal and some great fest brews! **Call John McCulla (ph. 342-1112) or Dale Matanic (ph. 240-2862) for more information. Call Charlie Giovannetti (ph. 673-8980) to register and to buy tickets.**

Happy Halloween!!

St Bridget School celebrated Halloween with the annual parade through school by the kindergarten students. The kindergarteners wear their costumes and the older children get to dress in orange and black to mark the holiday. Treats and Halloween activities make it a very special day. Even Principal Honeycutt and some of the teachers dressed up!

