



St. Bridget News

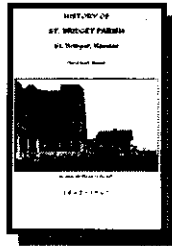
Mass for Deceased on Nov. 6

Make Plans To Join Us - Dress Accordingly



You are invited to join us on November 6 at 2:00 p.m. (weather permitting). This is the date chosen to have our Fall get-together and celebrate the Mass for all our deceased family and parishioners. Remember the church is not heated and if it is cold outside, it will be cold inside. So dress accordingly. If weather is threatening, and you are not sure if Mass at St. Bridget will be held, feel free to call Fr. Tom (736-2220) or Terry Stallbaumer (736-2910) between noon and 1

It's Here!



We are proud to announce the release of our new history of St. Bridget Parish. Over two years in the making. **74 pages** of stories, historical data, and over **seventy-five** pictures or reproductions of photos and newspaper articles dealing with events surrounding the growth and decline of St. Bridget Parish. It has been historically documented and available now from the St. Bridget Historical Society. **Price is \$15.00 per copy.** It has a durable hard paper cover and printed on 8 1/2" x 11", 60 pound paper. Copies available at St. Bridget Church or from the officers, Fr. Tom or State Bank of Axtell. If you wish it mailed to you, enclose \$17.50 for 1 book; \$32.75 for two; \$ 48.00 for 3 books. Make checks payable to: "St. Bridget Historical Society". Order from:

Leo or Doris Glynn
Rt. 1- Box 56
Summerfield, KS 66541
(402) 248-6243



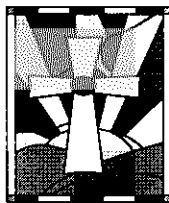
A Response from the Kansas Historical Society

The St. Bridget Historical Society, through Leo Glynn, received a response from the Kansas State Historical Society. Martha Hagedorn-Krass, who is the Architectural historian with the Kansas Preservation Office, went through the *preliminary site questionnaire* originally sent to them and informed us we passed through the first stage. Now we submit an application to the National Register.

Martha Hagedorn-Krass wrote, "The property is a significant cultural resource that should be preserved, and appears eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. I would encourage you to pursue a nomination on the property."

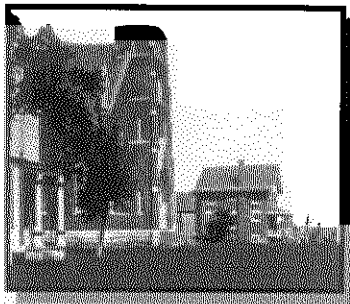
We thank Ms. Hagedorn-Krass for her endorsement and we are planning to pursue a nomination as she suggests. We are thankful to Chari Johnson-Reynolds for her efforts in this regard.

A BELATED THANK-YOU



In the last newsletter, we thanked individuals who helped with the upkeep and repairs to St. Bridget Church. We inadvertently left out Mrs. James (Kathy) Fischer for her help in repairing a stain-glass window at the Church. Kathy owns and operates *Glass by Fischer* in Axtell and she donated her time and talents to repairing a south sacristy window damaged by a hailstorm 18 months ago. Her gift to the church is greatly appreciated.

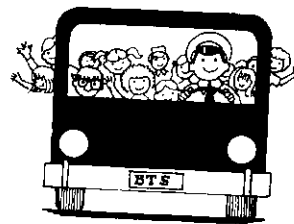
Visitors Welcome



Any Old Pictures?

Even though we have recently published a new history book of St. Bridget, we are still looking for any old pictures of the parish you may have. The picture above was sent by Mr. and

Mrs. George Young of Wichita. It was taken sometime between 1916 and March of 1919. It was used as the cover picture for our new history book. The brick rectory pictured here was built in 1916 but burned down three years later on March 25, 1919, because of a defective furnace flue. Fr. Nelligan rebuilt the rectory in 1920. The rebuilt rectory is the house now owned by the Terry Stallbaumer family. We are grateful to Irene and George for sharing their pictures with us. If you have any old pictures or interesting stories about life in St. Bridget parish, we hope you would be willing to share them with us. Please contact Fr. Tom (P.O. Box K - Axtell, KS 66403) or contact Terry and Norma Stallbaumer (341 30th Rd — Axtell, KS 66403). If you could make us a copy of the photograph, we will reimburse you your costs.



The Glacial Hills Tourism Council recently sponsored a tour of historic churches in a Tricounty area on Friday, October 14, 1994. St. Bridget Church, with its unique Gothic style architecture, suspended vaulted ceiling — without use of interior pillars, and its beautiful stain-glass windows, was chosen as one of the churches to tour. We thank them for remembering us.

At 10:00 a.m. and at 2:30 p.m., two separate groups enjoyed a leisurely stroll through St. Bridget Church. A brief pamphlet of interesting dates and data on the church was available to every visitor. Father Tom Dolezal shared historical facts and amusing anecdotes and stories that have been passed down through many generations of former parishioners

NEXT ST. BRIDGET DAY

Archbishop Keleher, of the Kansas City in Kansas Archdiocese, has indicated that he would like to celebrate Mass with us next year, if we can work out a date that will fit into his extremely busy calendar. June of 1995 marks the twenty-fifth year since St. Bridget Day was first started on June 7, 1970. We would be honored to have the Archbishop celebrate with us. We may be able to talk some of the former pastors to return that Sunday and have one of those old fashioned chicken dinners St. Bridget Parish was known for preparing. We will let you know in the Spring newsletter.

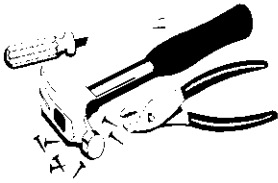
**ANNUAL
DUES FOR
MEMBERSHIP
IN ST.
BRIDGET
SOCIETY
\$5.00**

For Book or dues mail to:

Leo or Doris Glynn
Rt. 1 - Box 56
Summerfield, KS
66541

Phone: (402-248-6243)

WORKDAY RESULTS



On July 16, 1994, about 30 dedicated workers showed up to help out with the annual St. Bridget Workday.

Dirt and gravel work was done in the cemetery. Trees in front of the church were trimmed back and steps to the basement were given a bright yellow safety stripe to help people see the different levels of steps. In October, Norma Stallbaumer had her own workday and spent about 10 hours striping the stairs leading up to the front door of the church. **All of us who wear bifocals or trifocals thank you!**

Also, on the workday, the tin corners of the church roof were reattached after wind storms over the years had loosened them. A new outdoor restroom for public use was moved in and painted. We wish God's blessings on all those who came out and helped in any way or sent donations to offset the workday expenses.

Thank You

Thank You To Oretha Ruetti, Marshall County historian, and a weekly contributor to *The Marysville Advocate*. She devoted her column of October 13, 1994 to St. Bridget Parish. The picture she used of the church was taken by Ray Ellenbecker of Marysville about 1973. We thank her for her kind article toward our historical society and our new history book. Our county owes her a special thanks for sharing her vast knowledge of Marshall County history with us over these past years.



Twenty-Nine Pictures of Former Pastors

The new St. Bridget History book contains twenty-nine photographs of former pastors, like this picture of Father Timothy Lubber, O.S.B. Father Lubber built the first rectory in 1877-78. This was the building that became the first convent and burned down in October, 1935. The

new parish history contains many other stories and pictures, including advertisements announcing the St. Bridget Rodeos between 1922 and 1932 under Father Twomey. Order your copy today while supplies last. Will mail single copy for a additional packaging / shipping cost of \$2.50.

Minutes of Annual Meeting 25th Meeting - May 29, 1994

The 25th annual meeting of the St. Bridget Historical Society was called to order by President William Sunneberg at 2:40 p.m. with eighteen members present. The *minutes of the previous general meeting* were read by Secretary Leo Glynn. They were *approved as read* with no discussion. *Leo gave the financial report for the cemetery and the Historical Society.*

Mary Kuckelman asked about *tuck pointing bricks on outside of church*. It needs to be done, but is very expensive. Father Tom Dolezal published in first newsletter that if anyone would donate their time and talent, we would furnish supplies. It was noted that tuck pointing the Pawnee City school is going to cost approximately \$45,000.00. Father Tom suggested that if we get listed on the National Register of Historical places and get a grant, then tuck pointing could be done.

Leo mentioned that we have *cemetery and Historical funds available for new investing*. Rates were discussed. Father Tom made motion to let Board decide where and how to invest funds. Vince Buessing seconded. Motion carried. Mention was made that the *roof of church still needs to be repaired on west side*.

Terry Stallbaumer reported work accomplishments on 1993 work day and since — cleaned main altar, got statues down, refinished and put back up, painted repaired places on walls and ceiling to match existing paint better, and painted pink walls below board before Kris Sunneberg wedding (April 23rd). Also, Terry rewired the altar lights so that each statue can be lit. Stain glass window in sacristy was repaired. Vince and Tillie Buessing furnished new carpet for vestibule and altar.

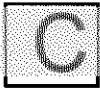
Mary Kuckelman and Mary Carroll *inquired about putting names on statues of original donors*. Leo Carroll made motion to put list in vestibule of church of people who originally donated statues, etc. Norma Stallbaumer seconded. Motion carried.

Chari Johnson-Reynolds is preparing preliminary site information questionnaire for National Register listing. Father Tom noted if we are listed by the National Register, you are accepted by the State Register.

NEW BUSINESS - Cemetery mowing: Stallbaumers will continue. Several comments were made on how nice it looks. *Work day is set for Saturday, July 16th* to do cemetery work and roof repairs and other outside work at church. Notices will be sent out. **Nominations for Secretary - Treasurer:** Vince Buessing nominated Leo Glynn. Galen Runnebaum seconded. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m. with 27 member present.
Leo Glynn, Sec.

Did You Know?



olumba is the **other** saint on the main altar. St. Bridget is in the middle and St. Patrick stands on the right side. Most people know who Sts. Bridget and Patrick are, but *who is St. Columba?* Is Columba a man or a woman? Well, Columba was a man. He was born in Ireland (Garten, Donegal, Ireland in 521 A.D.) about four years before Bridget died. He was educated at Moville, studied further at Leinster and was ordained a priest at probably Clonard in Ireland. When a plague struck Ireland, he returned to Ulster and spent the next 15 years preaching and establishing monasteries all over Ireland. Because of a feud with King Diarmaid, Columba was censured and he decided to leave Ireland. In 563 A.D., with 12 relatives, Columba went to Iona, off the coast of Scotland, and built on that island a monastery that grew into the greatest monastery in Christendom. Columba devoted himself to converting the Picts of Scotland and eventually converted their king, Brude.

He returned briefly to Ireland in 585 but by 587 he was back at Iona, which as a monastery had become famous all over Europe. Columba's holiness, austerity and reputation for miracles attracted all manner of visitors

to the monastery. Columba died at Iona on June 9, 597 A.D.

His influence on Western Christianity was enormous. He is considered one of Ireland's greatest saints and is buried at Downpatrick, Ireland with St. Bridget and St. Patrick. His feast day is June 9th. **Now you know!**

Join Us Sunday, November 6
At St. Bridget Church - 2:00 pm
Mass for Deceased of Parish and Society
Dress Warm - Church not heated