

Season of Epiphany



## St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

### THE FEAST OF BRIGID OF KILDARE

*Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.*

*From Wikipedia*



**Saint Brigid of Kildare or Brigid of Ireland** (Irish: *Naomh Bríd*; **Classical Gaelic**: *Brighid*; **Latin**: *Brigida*; c. 451 – 525) is the **patroness saint** (or 'mother saint') of Ireland, and one of its three national saints along with **Patrick** and **Columba**. According to medieval Irish **hagiographies**, she was an **abbess** who founded the important abbey of **Kildare** (*Cill Dara*),<sup>[4]</sup> as well as several other **convents** of nuns. There are few historical facts about her, and her hagiographies are mainly anecdotes and miracle tales, some of which are rooted in **pagan** folklore.<sup>[3]</sup> They say Brigid was the daughter of a chieftain and a slave woman, and was raised in a **druid**'s household before becoming a **consecrated virgin**. She is patroness of many things, including poetry, learning, healing, protection, blacksmithing, livestock and dairy production. In her

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Wednesday, 1 Feb 2023 9:30am

Welcome and Announcements

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Rev Allison Cornell

## **Salutation:**

**Leader:** Blessed be our God.

**People:** For ever and ever. Amen.

**Priest:** Let us pray the Collect for Purity together:

**All:** Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your Holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **The Gloria                      Canticle 13                      Hymnal 1982 #S236**

**Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; \***

**you are worthy of praise; glory to you.**

**Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; \***

**we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; \***

**on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.**

**Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; \***

**we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you, beholding the depths; \***

**in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.**

**Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \***

**we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Presider:** The Lord be with you

**People:** And also with you.

**Presider:** Let us pray

## **Collect for the day:**

**O God, whose servant Brigid, kindled with the flame of your love, became a shining light in your church: Grant that we also may be aflame with the spirit of love and discipline, and walk before you as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.                      Amen.**

## **The Readings:** *(Please be seated)*

### **First Reading: A reading from the (1 Corinthians 1:26-31):**

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 138** *(Read aloud in unison)*

- 1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; \*  
before the gods I will sing your praise.**
- 2 I will bow down toward your holy temple  
and praise your Name, \*  
because of your love and faithfulness;**
- 3 For you have glorified your Name \*  
and your word above all things.**
- 4 When I called, you answered me; \*  
you increased my strength within me.**
- 5 All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord, \*  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**
- 6 They will sing of the ways of the Lord, \*  
that great is the glory of the Lord.**
- 7 Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; \*  
he perceives the haughty from afar.**
- 8 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; \*  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;  
your right hand shall save me.**
- 9 The Lord will make good his purpose for me; \*  
O Lord, your love endures for ever;  
do not abandon the works of your hands.**

**Gospel Reading: Matthew (6:19-24)**

**Reader:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**People:** **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

**Reader** The Gospel of the Lord

**People** **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**SERMON/HOMILY**

**CONTEMPORARY NICENE CREED:** *(please stand as you are able)*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen**

## **Prayers of the People:**

Leader: Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers. God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation.

**People: We praise and thank you, O Lord.**

Leader: God the Son, you came that we might have life and have it more abundantly

**People: We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

Leader: God the Holy Spirit, you inhabit our bodies as a temple of your presence.

**People: We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

Leader: Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence.

**People: Hear us, Lord.**

Leader: Grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled that they may be made whole.

**People: Hear us, Lord.**

Leader: Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit.

**People: Hear us, Lord.**

Leader: Return to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin in our lives, in our nation, and in our world.

**People: Hear us, Lord.**

Leader: Bless all who attend to the suffering and needy, granting them wisdom, skill, sympathy, and patience.

**People: Hear us, Lord.**

Leader: Give to the dying peace and a holy death and uphold by your grace and consolation those who are bereaved.

**People: Hear us Lord**

Leader: In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer pray for *The Diocese of Pelotas – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil*

**People: May God bless and keep them.**

Leader: In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for *St. Francis-in-the-Valley, Green Valley.*

**People: May God bless and keep them.**

Leader: We pray for the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and Tahona Odum peoples who called this area home.

**People: May God bless and keep them.**

**Presider:** Lord our God, accept the sincere prayers of your people, in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help, for you are gracious O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen.

**The Peace:**

**Presider:** May the peace of the Lord be always with you!

**People:** **And Also with you.**

*(The people exchange greetings of peace)*

**Presider** Let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe.

**Offertory Hymn**

Doxology #380 vs 3 *(Peoples' offerings are brought to the altar)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise him all creatures here below  
Praise him, above, ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## **The Lord's Supper:** The Great Thanksgiving - EOW 3

Presider *The Lord be with you.*

People **And also with you.**

Presider *Lift up your hearts.*

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.

You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

**Sanctus**

**Hymnal 1982 # S124**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:



“Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying, you destroyed our death.**

**Rising, you restored our life.**

**Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us (+) and upon these gifts (+) of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you, our God and Creator, in voices of unending praise:

**Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.**

Presider: And now as Jesus has taught us, we pray:

*CONTEMPORARY LORD’S PRAYER:*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven, Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**The Breaking of the Bread:** *(Presider breaks the consecrated bread)*

Fraction Anthem

#S171

*[Ant]* **Be Known to us Lord Jesus in the Breaking of the bread.** *[Ant]*

**The bread which we break,, Alleluia,**

**Is the communion of the body of Christ** *[Ant]*

**One body are we alleluia**

**For though many we share one bread** *[Ant]*

## **Invitation to Communion:**

Presider: *This is not my table, this is not St. Stephen's church's table. This is Christ's Table. Jesus invites you to come forward and receive the bread and the wine in this place.*

## **Communion Hymn "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" #135**

*Please come forward to the rail and stand or kneel. Put out your hand to receive the bread, hold onto the bread if you also would like wine from the chalice. Please dip/intinct the bread into the wine and then consume it. If you do not wish to have the wine, you may eat your bread when you receive it. You may instead of receiving the bread and wine, receive a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest. After receiving communion or blessing, return to your seat.*

## **Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travel, Gratitude**

### **Post Communion Prayer:**

Presider: *Let us pray:*

**All: God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### **Benediction:**

Presider: *The Wisdom of God the Love of God and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, in the name of the Holy Trinity. Amen.*

### **Dismissal:**

Deacon: People of St. Stephen's, what does God call us to do?

**People: We are called to love and serve.**

Deacon: Let us go forth in the power of God's Spirit, Alleluia, alleluia!

**People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

honour, a [perpetual fire](#) was kept burning at Kildare for centuries.

Some historians suggest that Brigid is a Christianization of [the Celtic goddess](#). St Brigid's [feast day](#) is 1 February, and traditionally it involves weaving [Brigid's crosses](#) and many other folk customs. It was originally a pre-Christian festival called [Imbolc](#), marking the beginning of spring. From 2023 it will be a [public holiday in the Republic of Ireland](#), the first named after a woman.<sup>[5]</sup> This feast day is shared by [Dar Lugdach](#), who tradition says was her student, close companion, and successor.

## **Name**

The saint has the same name as the goddess [Brigid](#), derived from the [Proto-Celtic](#) *\*Brigantī* "high, exalted" and ultimately originating with [Proto-Indo-European](#) *\*b<sup>h</sup>erǵʰ-*. In [Old Irish](#) her name was spelled *Brigit*<sup>[6]</sup> and pronounced [ˈbr̪iːʲidʲ]. In [Modern Irish](#) she is also called *Brid*.<sup>[6]</sup> In [Welsh](#) she is called *Ffraid* (sometimes [mutated](#) to *Fraid*), such as in several places called [Llansanffraid](#), "St. Brigid's church". She is also referred to as "the Mary of the [Gael](#)"<sup>[7]</sup> and the "Mother Saint of Ireland".<sup>[8]</sup>

## **Historicity**

There is debate over whether Brigid was a real person. There are few historical facts about her, and early [hagiographies](#) "are mainly anecdotes and miracle stories, some of which are deeply rooted in Irish pagan folklore".<sup>[3]</sup> She has the same name and many of the same attributes as the Celtic goddess [Brigid](#), and there are many supernatural events and folk customs associated with her.<sup>[9]</sup> Like the saint, the goddess in Irish myth is associated with poetry, healing, protection, smithcraft, and domestic animals, according to [Sanas Cormaic](#) and [Lebor Gabála Érenn](#). Furthermore, the saint's feast day falls on the Gaelic traditional festival of [Imbolc](#).<sup>[10]:60–61</sup> Some scholars suggest that the saint is a [Christianisation](#) of the goddess; others that she was a real person whose mythos took on the goddess's attributes. Medieval art historian Pamela Berger argues that Christian monks "took the ancient figure of the [mother goddess](#) and grafted her name and functions onto her Christian counterpart".<sup>[11]</sup> [Dáithí Ó hÓgáin](#) and others suggest that the saint had been chief [druid](#) at the temple of the goddess Brigid, was responsible for converting it into a Christian monastery, and that after her death, the name and characteristics of the goddess became attached to the saint.<sup>[10][12][13]</sup> Noel Kissane, in a piece in [The Catholic Historical Review](#), argues she was a historical figure.<sup>[14][15]</sup>

## **Life: Sources**

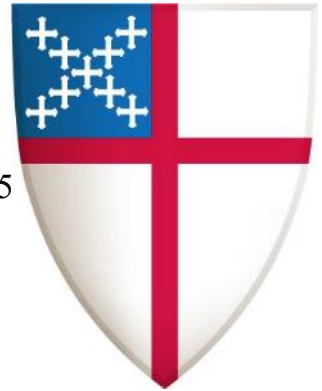
Among the most ancient accounts of St Brigid are two [Old Irish](#) hymns; the first by St [Ultan of Ardbraccan](#) (died c. 657), *Brigit Bé Bithmaith* ('Brigid ever-excellent woman') also known as "Ultan's hymn",<sup>[16]</sup> and the second is "Broccán's hymn", composed by St [Broccán Clóen](#) (died c. 650) at the request of Ultan who was his tutor.<sup>[17]</sup> Two early Lives of St Brigid in [Hiberno-Latin](#) prose, the *Vita Sanctae Brigitae* I and II, were written in the 7th–8th centuries, the first one possibly by [St Aleran](#) (died in 665), lector of Clonard, the second by [Cogitosus](#), a monk of Kildare.<sup>[18]</sup> An Old Irish prose Life, *Bethu Brigitte*, was composed in the 9th century.<sup>[19]</sup> Several later Latin and Irish Lives of the saint were composed. The *Vita* III, in hexameter verse, is sometimes attributed to St Coelan of [Inishcaltra](#) of the 7th–8th centuries,<sup>[20]</sup> but appears more likely to have been written by St [Donatus](#), an Irish monk who became Bishop of [Fiesole](#) in 824.<sup>[21]</sup> In Donatus' prolog, it refers to the earlier Lives by St Ultan (see before for his hymn), St. Aleran (see "Vita

[Cont. online Wikipedia](#)

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### Welcome Visitor!!!

Please leave your name and contact info below. If you'd like to speak with someone, please check here

Or you can also use the QRC here to fill this out online.



Info Update    Giving Envelopes     Mail News Letter   

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(first) (Mid.) (Last)

Hm: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Anv. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Adrs: \_\_\_\_\_ BrthDate \_\_\_\_\_

City, St., Zip: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_