

Brief History of St. Bridget Catholic Church

Long before the turn of the 18th Century, when the town of Whistler was still young, the Jesuit priests came from Spring Hill College to say mass in the homes of the parishioners in the area.

On August 25, 1864, Jacob & Mary Magee deeded a parcel of land on Engine Street (now Main Street) to Bishop John Quinlan, to be used as a place of worship by the Catholics of the area. The church of St. Bridget of Ireland was dedicated three years later.

The original church and rectory at were built by Rev. Edward Kirwin, St. Bridget's first pastor, and was dedicated in 1867 but was destroyed by a storm. It was then rebuilt in 1874.

The last big renovation to St. Bridget's buildings occurred about 20 years ago.

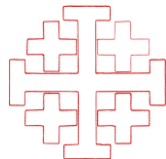
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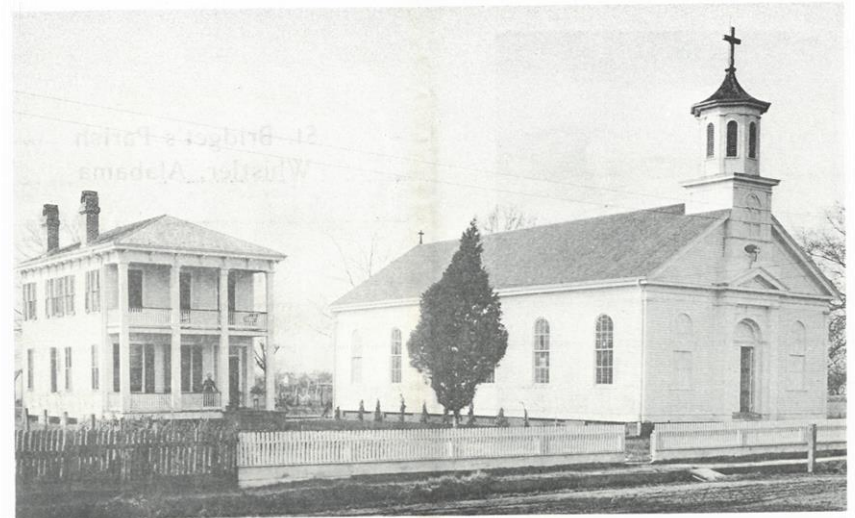
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St. Bridget Catholic Church



Whistler, Alabama
Est. 1867

June 2022

June – The Month of Octaves

June is thought of as a month of ancient octaves. Prior to the liturgical reforms of 1955, the church celebrated many octaves. In fact, June would not only have the octave of Pentecost (if Easter/Ascension occurred late enough), but also commemorated the octaves of Corpus Christi; Sacred Heart; and of Ss. Peter and Paul – each for eight days. Occasionally, this would affect a saint's feast day which was placed on the liturgical calendar only after an octave concluded. An example would be St. Isabel of Portugal who died on July 4th (during the Octave of Ss. Peter & Paul); thus, her feast day was fixed to July 8th. The same occurred with St. Thomas More, he was martyred on July 6th (octave day of Ss. Peter and Paul) and is celebrated in the Traditional Rite on July 9th.

Pentecost & Its Octave: On Pentecost during its octave, kneel at the *Veni, Sancte Spiritus* of the *Alleluia* verse.

Plenary Indulgence: Praying the *Veni, Creator* on Pentecost Sunday is an occasion for a plenary indulgence under the usual conditions (*Handbook of Indulgences, 4th revised edition of the Enchiridion of Indulgences, 26, §1, 1°*)

Indulgences

The *Code of Canon Law* (can. 992) and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (n. 1472) state: “An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints.” Thus, for a Catholic to gain an indulgence, he must fulfill the conditions given by the Church, and perform certain prescribed works.

To gain an indulgence (plenary or partial), the baptized Catholic, in communion with the Pope, and not excommunicated and not in schism, must be in the state of grace at least by the time the indulgenced work is completed. The faithful may gain one plenary indulgence daily. In order to obtain it, the faithful who are in the state of grace must: a) have the interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, even venial sin; b) have sacramentally confessed their sins within several days; c) receive the Holy Eucharist (it is certainly better to receive it while participating in Holy Mass, but for the indulgence only Holy Communion is required), and d) pray for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff.

While it is not necessary, it is most fitting that the sacramental Confession, Holy Communion and the prayer for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff take place on the same day that the indulgenced work is performed; but it is sufficient that these sacred rites and prayers be carried out within several days (about 20) before or after the indulgenced act. The prayer for the Pope's intentions is left to the choice of the faithful, but an “Our Father,” a “Hail Mary,” and a “Glory Be” are suggested. Indulgences can always be applied either to oneself or to the souls in purgatory, but they cannot be applied to other persons living on earth.

(2022 Ordo for use with the 1962 Missale Romanum: Forma Extrordinara)

Announcement:

The Gregorian Chant Study Group will hold its first meeting on Thursday July 7 from 5:30-6:30pm at St. Thomas Church.

Please contact LeRon Harrison at leronjh@gmail.com if you are interested in attending but have yet to reach out or if you aren't able to attend at that time but are interested in Gregorian Chant.