

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.

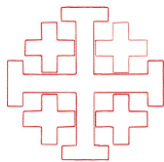
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St. Bridget Catholic Church



Whistler, Alabama
Est. 1867

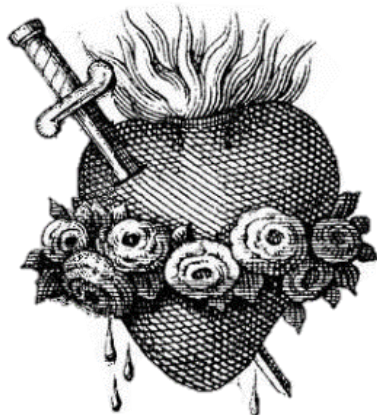
August 2022

The month of August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Since the 16th century Catholic piety has assigned entire months to special devotions. The month of August is traditionally dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The physical heart of Mary is venerated (and not adored as the Sacred Heart of Jesus is) because it is united to her person and is the seat of her love (especially for her divine Son), virtue and inner life. Such devotion is an incentive to a similar love and virtue. Just as the Sacred Heart represents Christ's love for mankind, the Immaculate Heart represents the desire of the Blessed Virgin to bring all people to her Son.

This devotion has received new emphasis in this century from the visions given to Lucy Dos Santos, oldest of the visionaries of Fatima, in her convent in Tuy, in Spain, in 1925 and 1926. In the visions Our Lady asked for the practice of the Five First Saturdays to help make amends for the offenses committed against her heart by the blasphemies and ingratitude of men. The practice parallels the devotion of the Nine First Fridays in honour of the Sacred Heart.

(Excerpted from *The Prayer Book* by Reverend John P. O'Connell, M.A., S.T.D. and Jex Martin, M.A.)



"The Immaculate alone has from God the promise of victory over Satan. She seeks souls that will consecrate themselves entirely to her, that will become in her hands forceful instruments for the defeat of Satan and the spread of God's kingdom."

- St. Maximilian Kolbe

Join The Gregorian Chant Study Group.

Their meetings at St. Thomas the Apostle Church every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month starting at 5:30pm. Please contact LeRon Harrison at leronjh@gmail.com for more information.

Become a part of the Purgatorial Society.

We meet on the first Fridays at noon for an hour of vocal prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament (currently at St. Mary's). If you would like to have deceased loved ones' names added to the book (we pray for all the deceased listed in the book at our meetings) or for more info, contact catholicinmobile@gmail.com

Volunteer and Service Hours Opportunity.

We are tirelessly working to clean and beautify the grounds of the older section of the Catholic Cemetery on MLK Avenue in Mobile. We meet every Saturday morning and would love some help! For more info and to find out what to bring etc. please contact us at catholicinmobile@gmail.com

Have You Heard of These Sites?

- *Mass of the Ages*: an introductory resource and film series. Can be watched from the website latinmass.com
- PrayLatin.com sells Latin prayer cards to learn and share Catholic prayers in the sacred language.