

# St Brigid Ministries

Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA

An Old Catholic Church

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**Fr. Richard A. Conrad**  
Director

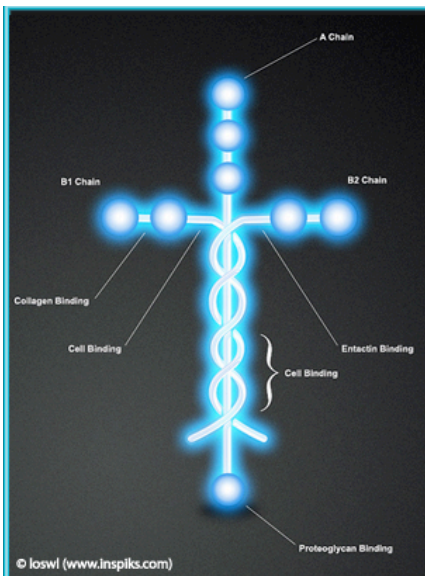
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On the web: [www.ecc-usa.org](http://www.ecc-usa.org)

## Newsletter

### Triduum & Laminin

### Holy Week 2011



*Pastoral Services*  
(708) 253-7138

To arrange for Baptisms, Marriages, (including blessing of existing civil marriages), First Communion and Confirmation instructions, Funerals, house blessings and home Masses, visits to the sick or any other spiritual need, please call the number above, which serves as both Church and personal cell number. If no answer, leave a message. I'll respond as soon as possible.

*Triduum? Laminin?* Are those words? And what do they have to do with Holy Week? The answer is "yes," both are words: one is religious; one is scientific. The religious word *Triduum* comes from Latin and means "the three days." *Laminin*, a medical word, also comes from a Latin root (lamina), meaning layer or stratum. These two words are of great importance for us this week.

At long last our Lenten season is ended, and we enter the shortest of the Church's liturgical seasons: the Easter Triduum. These are the three days that run from sunset on Holy Thursday, through sunrise on Easter Sunday. Most people think of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday as part of Lent, but actually, they form a separate, transitional season that bridges Lent to the Easter Season.

Thanks to my friends Karen Opyd and Tammy Burns for forwarding the following info on Laminins:

Laminins are a family of proteins that are an integral part of the structural scaffolding of "basement" membranes in almost every animal tissue. Laminins are what hold us together... LITERALLY! They are cell adhesion molecules. They are what hold one cell of our bodies to the next cell. Without them, we would literally fall apart. The drawing on page 1 above shows what a laminin looks like. Although they appear more distorted under a microscope, they are inescapably in the shape of a cross.

While the cross is a common shape found throughout the natural world, isn't it most appropriate in this "mini" season of Triduum, with Good Friday at its center, to contemplate that the glue that holds us together is the Cross?

***He is before all things, and in him all things HOLD TOGETHER.***

*-- Colossians 1:17*

Blessed Triduum and a most Happy Easter!

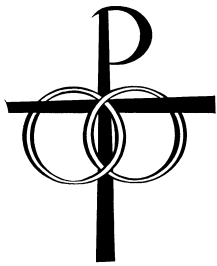
***Welcome to St. Brigid Ministries of the Ecumenical Catholic Church!***

St. Brigid's is an open, loving, non-judgmental, contemporary Catholic ministry that provides everyone an opportunity to grow, to heal, and to worship and return to and celebrate the sacraments. Everyone is welcome! St. Brigid's primary ministry is to administer the sacraments, especially Marriage, Baptism, Eucharist and Anointing of the Sick.

As a ministry of the Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA (An Old Catholic Church) St. Brigid's is not affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church in structure, laws or governing rules, but does enjoy an affinity with all churches in Catholicism. We believe in the same Triune God, profess the same Creed, celebrate the same Seven Sacraments, worship God through the same Eucharistic Liturgy and practice the same moral

theology. Most importantly, we enjoy the same Apostolic Succession of Holy Orders (necessary for sacramental validity) and seek to minister the same spiritual tradition as all other Catholic churches. **Holy Communion is open to all baptized Christians who believe that Christ is present in the Eucharistic bread and wine.**

St. Brigid's welcomes you with open minds, open hearts and open arms!



## *St. Brigid Wedding Ministry*

Not having a traditional "parish" as such, weddings (and baptisms) are our primary ministries. Saint Brigid is the patroness of both babies and brides (she is often referred to as "St Bride"), so we take special delight in helping couples get ready for marriage, presiding at their wedding ceremonies, praying for them as they prepare to enter this marvelous sacrament, and keeping in touch with them throughout their married lives and welcoming their children into the Church.

It is truly a blessing in our secular society, that so many couples are seeking a Christian Marriage rather than just a civil ceremony. Since these couples recognize the importance of Christ and faith to their lives together, we hold them in our hearts and in our prayers. All friends and members of Saint Brigid's are part of our ministries through prayer. You are asked to keep the following couples in your prayers now through their wedding days:

Mark Erdman and Melissa Lukasuk	June 25, 2011
Jeremy Haile and Lauren Calvert	July 3, 2011
David Rothermel and Bethany Reinhardt	July 16, 2011
John Donovan and Michelle Cieslak	July 31, 2011
Kevin Oman & Melissa Van Auken	Aug 27, 2011
Benjamin Bradford and Melissa Rutten	Sept 4, 2011
Anthony Matarrese and Kristin Morgan	Sept 24, 2011
Michael Gettes and Amanda Butler	Oct 8, 2011

### **Please remember in your prayers:**

Rick Biezewski, Robert Catlett, Sr., Karen Cole, The Raymond Connors Family,  
Norman Conrad, Fr. Jeremiah Donohue, Richard Harbers, Rita Kreutz, Belen Michael,  
Roger Miller, Michael Wolf O'Connor, Gene Rathgeb, Evelyn Rutkowski and  
Patricia Siwec

And in a special way, please pray for the repose of the soul of  
Father Peter Bowman

### **Want to add someone to the St. Brigid Prayer List?**

Just email their names to us and they will be added. Persons on our prayer list are remembered at all Masses and prayer services at St Brigid's for one year or until they have recovered. There is no cost or obligation to add someone to the Prayer List.

If you would like to have a Mass said for a deceased relative or friend (or any other intention), please send an email to: [RevRichard@juno.com](mailto:RevRichard@juno.com)

**For more information on the Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA,**  
visit us on the web at [www.ecc-usa.org](http://www.ecc-usa.org)