



SCHEDULES & MASS INTENTIONS

Week of February 17, 2019

Sat 4:00 PM Beatrice O. Leary by the Family
Sun 11:00 AM For the People
Wed 9:00 AM For the People
Thurs 9:00AM For the People
Sat 4:00 PM Sue Kagle by Robert Rojecki and Family
Sun 11:00 AM Deacon Gary Griffin by Jeannine Griffin

Parish Support

Offering for the weekend of February 10, 2019
 (Our Goal is \$1,250.00 each week)

Sunday Collection

Loose \$292.55
Envelopes \$780.00
Total \$1072.55
Church in Latin America \$203.00

Important Change: Checks: The Diocese has informed us that we are technically St. Mary Parish Charitable Trust in terms of financial matters and not Our Lady of Good Help. So please **make out checks to St. Mary Parish** from now on. Thank you.

GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER. - 2 Corinthians 9:7

Readings for the Week of February 17, 2019

Sunday: Jer 17:5-8/1 Cor 15:12, 16-20/Lk 6:17, 20-26
Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22/Mk 8:22-26
Thursday: Gn 9:1-13/Mk 8:27-33
Friday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Mt 16:13-19
Saturday: Heb 11:1-7/Mk 9:2-13
Next Sunday: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/1 Cor 15:45-49

Pray for
The safety of our service men and women working as peacekeepers in today's trying times and for all who are ill, especially Lindsey Layn, Linda Bunn, Richard Barra, Mary McManus, Virginia Wolf, Carlita La Porte, Joel Rivera, Betty Ferraro, Joseph Duprey, Charlotte Swain, Marilyn Morris, Mary Doherty, David Philipsen, Katherine Bryant, Gloria Peduto, Rene Hendricks, Brendan Holbritter, Rosa Santos, Brian Kilpeck (Wanda Murray's son), Alison Walter, Emilie Rasmussen, Ann Marie Ford and Laura Begnoche.

Ministry Schedule



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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>Eucharistic Ministers</u> | <u>Lectors</u> |
| 02/16 Donna Swingleton | Laurie Bertrand |
| 02/17 Jeannine Griffin | Bernie Carr |
| 02/23 Jerry Flint | Diane Benware |
| 02/24 Guy Beck | Trish Bertino |
| <u>Gift Bearers</u> | <u>Altar Servers</u> |
| 02/16 T. Howland Family | David Bertrand |
| 02/17 R. Doty Family | B. Thornton & A. Hayes |
| 02/23 L. O'Brien Family | Brooke Bertrand |
| 02/10 T. Depatie Family | Nathan & Olivia Depatie |

Collection Counters



02/17 Carolyn Walker & Paula Bizon
 02/24 Tina Wiles & Glenda Gearwar
 03/03 Bob Gearwar & Katherine Bryant

St. Mary's Cemetery



Location: R1T 73 E. Forest Dale Rd, Brandon
 Contact Information - Please call St. Mary's Rectory. The cemetery is closed for the winter.

PARISH WEBSITE

Please visit our parish website: www.saintmaryagnes.org for updates, news, activities, schedules of liturgical ministries and various resources to help you. For suggestions on our website, send your ideas to: gale@ottercreekmedia.com.

Office is open on Wednesday
10:00 am—3:00 pm
Thursday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

2nd Collection for weekends in Feb./Mar.:

02/24 Utility Fund (Goal \$500)
03/03 Bldgs. & Maint. (Goal \$600)
03/06 Vermont Catholic Charities

Office Hours: Next week the office will be open on Monday, February 18th from 9:00-4:00 and the following week will be open on Tuesday, February 26th from 10:00-1:00 and Wednesday, February 27th from 10:00- 3:00. Thank you

Winter Potluck Supper: Saturday, February 23 at 5:00 PM in the Parish Hall. The theme is” **Comfort Food !**” Sign-up sheets will be in the back of the church. Please join us! Cure your cabin fever and warm your hearts with friends and great food!

HELP WANTED: Painting the kitchen in the rectory. It will take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays following the 9:00 am Mass beginning February 13th. No experience is necessary. May bring your own materials or it will be provided. Any little way you can help will lighten the work. If more information is needed feel free to contact Jeannine Griffin at 247-3432

Loretto Home and St. Joseph Kervick Residence, Rutland, VT : Make Our Home, Your Home . Private rooms and suites are available at the Loretto Home and St. Joseph Kervick Residence for individuals who require mild to moderate supervision and oversight with daily activities. The exceptional staff provides individualized care that you or your loved one requires to maintain the ultimate level of independence. For more information or to schedule a tour of the Homes, please call (802)773-8840.

Bereavement Group: Grief, Loss and Transformation. Free 8 week support group. Wednesday Evenings: March 6 - April 24, 2019 Time: 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Registration required: 802-388-4111. E-mail: molson@hospicevs.org *End of Life Services*

Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers: The Diocese is asking those that currently serve churches in Rutland County attend a ministry formation workshop which will be held in two different locations..

Lector Workshops:

Tuesday, March 5 from 1:00-3:00 pm at Christ the King, Rutland
 Tuesday, March 5 from 5:30-7:30 pm at Christ the King , Rutland
 Wednesday, March 20 from 5:30-7:30 pm at St. John the Baptist, Castleton

Eucharistic Ministers:

Wednesday, March 20 from 1:00-3:00 pm at St. John the Baptist in Castleton
 Monday, April 1 from 1:00-3:00 pm at Christ the King Church, Rutland
 Monday, April 1 from 5:30-7:30 at Christ the King, Rutland
 *You are asked to RSVP by filling out the form that will be available at the back of the church.

Installation of Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist : will take place on March 2nd and 3rd at both masses. You will be called forth after the homily for a small ritual and blessing.

Annual Contribution Statements: Almost all have been mailed out. There were a few glitches with the Diocese conversion to a new system as well as my computer being down last week. I am working to resolve the few issues. Please be patient and you should have it soon. Thank you, Trish.

Reflections for the Week

Today's readings present vivid imagery for comparison: barren bushes vs. verdant trees; parched lava vs. moist fertile soil; withering death vs. fruitful life; hunger and thirst vs. satisfaction; curses vs. blessings; mourning vs. comfort; rejection vs. approval; grieving vs. laughter. We naturally desire the latter categories, which contribute toward sustaining and enriching our lives. But desires are often unfulfilled. Sometimes we choose not to fulfill a desire to achieve a greater good. For example, I might desire athletic or musical skills, but I am not willing to sacrifice other goods to practice regularly. (Of course, we also face natural limits, as giftedness is not distributed equally.) In choosing good things, such as work or family life, we may sacrifice other desires that are licit. We are created in freedom to make these choices, hopefully choosing the greater and higher goods as best we can. Admittedly, we also cause great trouble for ourselves because we choose to sin. Perhaps we may think we are pursuing some good, but we are deceived into using the wrong means to attain it. Sin can seem like the easy path, but it is never the right path. It also does not lead to the contentment we desire. (I'm sorry to say, been there, done that.) Whether we are choosing the higher good or avoiding sin, our journey often requires that we climb uphill and swim against the current. Vigilance and courage are needed. The counsel of the wicked may be all around us, coming from media, popular culture, and even from our friends who have lost their way. Going along may gain us approval and acceptance, but it leads to perdition, not blessing. The company of the insolent can be consoling or even entertaining for a time, but it drains away joy and gratitude required for faithful living. (Examine the grievance culture that seems to be ascending in our society and you will witness the paucity of joy and gratitude, but ample fruits of envy, vengeance, bitterness, and destruction.) Today's gospel might sound perplexing, but it makes perfect sense when placed in this context: we must discern by reference to fidelity to eternal truths, not immediate consequences. External signs like prosperity and accolades that we prefer may instead be warning signs on the road to perdition. Suffering, frustration, and derision from others may instead be signs of blessing when they are the consequence of holding on to the truth. The power to do evil and afflict the righteous is temporary; justice will come because Jesus, himself, will return to bring it. Today's Gospel is reinforced by Paul's teaching that tells us to hold on to the deeper truth that our Lord's resurrection and triumph over death, sin, and evil, which means we will triumph, too. Who or what do we trust to sustain us? To whom do we go for counsel and advice? Are we willing to experience distress and loss because we choose to hold on to truths that are unpopular? Can joy and blessedness come in the midst of trials, which mean more than the fleeting delights of our waywardness? These are important questions for us to ponder. Pray that this truth of the resurrection will become more real to us, and that we will have the wisdom and courage to embrace it more fully, no matter where it leads. We know that He who leads us is faithful. Thanks be to God. onlineministries.creighton.edu