



SCHEDULES & MASS INTENTIONS

Week of September 3, 2017

Sat 4:00 PM *Beatrice Leary* by Keith & Swingleton
Sun 8:00 AM *St. Agnes— Pro Populo*
Sun 10:00 AM *Lorraine M. Muncil* by Jeannine Griffin
Mon 9:00 AM No Mass
Wed 9:00 AM No Mass
Thurs 9:00 AM No Mass
Fri 9:00 AM *Rose and Reginald Festa* by Angela & D.
Sat 4:00 PM *Steven Jester* by Joe Flynn
Sun 8:00 AM *St. Agnes— Laurence Denis* by S. Denis
Sun 10:00 AM *Pro Populo*

Parish Support

Offering for the weekend of August 27, 2017
 (Our Goal is \$1,800.00 each week)

Sunday Collection

Loose	\$ 383.00
Envelopes	\$ 1169.00
Total	\$1552.00

The Parish of St. Mary /St Agnes depends mainly on each parishioner's contribution of his or her fair share. A suggested minimum contribution for each working adult is one hour's wage per week. Many thanks to those who have contributed to the collection this past week. Your gifts are really essential to our parish. Please, let us continue supporting our parish!

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

Readings for the Week of September 3, 2017

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27
Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: Col 1:1-8/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: Col 1:9-14/Lk 5:1-11
Friday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23
Saturday: Col 1:21-23/Lk 6:1-5
Next Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

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, Patricia Ward, Mary McManus, Virginia Wolf, Francine Leary, Carlita La Porte, Joel Rivera, Ginger Stearns, Betty Ferraro, Joseph Duprey, Charlotte Swain, Marilyn Morris, Mary Doherty, Ann-Marie Ford, David Philipsen, Katherine Bryant, Gloria Peduto, Rene Hendricks, and Brendan Holbriiter.

Ministry Schedule



<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>
9/2 Jerry Flint	Pike Mitchell
9/3 Jeannine Griffin	Wanda Murray
9/9 Jerry Flint	Jerry Flint
9/10 R. Rojecki	Laura O'Brien
<u>Gift Bearers</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
09/2 Scott & Marge Munger	Brooke Bertrand
09/3 Russell Doty Fam.	A. Depatie & O. Depatie
09/9 T. Howland Family	Jordan Bertrand
09/10 Shawn Quелlette Family	N. Depatie/A. Hayes

Collection Counters



09/03 Carolyn Walker & Bob Gearwar
 09/10 M. Frankiewicz & Carol Bertrand
 09/27 D. Swingleton & Paula Bizon



St. Mary's Cemetery

Location: RT 73 E. Forest Dale Rd, Brandon
 Contact Information - Please call St. Mary's Rectory.

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.

Reminders !

St. Mary's Church is officially named Our Lady of Good Help. If you are writing out a check, please write Our Lady of Good Help or O.L.G.H. Thank you!

**Office is open on Wednesday & Thursday
 9:30 am—4:00 pm**

2nd Collection for weekends in Sept.:

09/03 Restoration Fund
09/10 Vermont Catholic Magazine
09/17 Utility Fund

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Religious Education classes will begin on Sunday, September 10, 2017. Classes for Grades 1/2, 3/4, and 5/6 will be held before Mass Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m. at the Church Hall. Classes for 7/8, and 9/10 will be held at 6:00 p.m. Sunday evenings at the Church Hall. Please remember that completion of 1st Grade is required for those planning to receive the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist in Grade 2. Also, Confirmation is a 2-year program for Grades 9 and 10. Registration forms can be found on the tables at the back of the Church, and the registration fee is \$25.00 for one (1) child or \$40.00 per family. Please make all checks payable to Our Lady of Good Help or O.L.G.H. Completed registration forms with the registration fee may be mailed to St. Mary's Church, 38 Carver Street, Brandon, VT 05733, or placed in the collection basket at Mass. No child should be deprived of Religious Education because of money. If you should find it difficult to pay the registration fee, please contact Father Vincent or myself. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (802) 247-6937 or by e-mail at wanda-murray66@comcast.net. Thank you and God Bless!! Wanda Murray, Director of Religious Education.

ANNUAL RAFFLE NEWS! We appreciate all and any help you have given us so far and could use a little more. Tickets are available at the back of the church before and after each Mass. If you have tickets out please return them and the money in at Saturday's 4 pm Mass on 9/2 would be greatly appreciated. Again, Thanks You!

9/3 –Drawing of the Annual Raffle after 10am Mass.

SATURDAY NITE DINNER—Sept. 9th 5 PM: Menu: Meat Loaf/baked potato, corn/coleslaw/Dessert Rolls/Coffee/cold drink. Cost: \$8.00 per person, \$5.00-children 6-12, Free-Children 5 & under. Tickets available before & after each Mass on Saturday & Sunday at the back of the Church. Thank You for your Support.

PRESBYTERAL DAYS: The diocesan Bishop will be meeting with all the priests of the diocese of Burlington first week of September at Lake Morey in Fair lee, Vt. The meeting ends on Thursday being the 7th of September. Office will be closed.

Emergency National Collection to Assist Dioceses Affected by Hurricane Harvey will be on the weekend of 7 & 8 of October.

Diocesan News: Changing Hearts and Minds: You can help!

Have you ever driven by an abortion clinic and noticed people standing in front praying? What was your reaction? Curiosity? Approval? Discomfort? It is understandable that some who remember the divisive days of violent clashes in front of abortion clinics may at first be uncomfortable with any public demonstration, however peaceful, at sites where abortions take place. However, attitudes have changed, and "comfort zones" around public witness against abortion have expanded, thanks in part to an annual, nationwide campaign known as 40 Days for Life that is helping to transform hearts and minds about abortion. 40 Days for Life adopts a 3-pronged approach of prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a constant, peaceful vigil at abortion clinic sites over a span of 40 days, a timeframe chosen deliberately because it is one "God uses consistently throughout salvation history to transform His people," according to the organization's website. Discomfort has given way to acceptance and even approval as the sight becomes more commonplace and as more and more people — especially young people —join the ranks of those at prayer. Why do they do it? "It saves lives," say leaders, who affirm that prayer and public witness often help change the minds of women scheduled to have abortions. Beyond that, it helps normalize and promote "pro-life" as a mainstream ideology supported by men, women and children of all ages. 40 Days for Life was the brainchild of a small group of Texans who began the first 40-day vigil in 2004. By 2007, they had expanded to become a national campaign spanning 89 cities in 33 states. They have grown to include hosts in all 50 states and dozens of countries across six continents. 40 Days or Life came to Vermont in 2009, and has continued every autumn since then in the Burlington area, expanding to include a host site in Rutland last year. Again this year, Catholics are expected to form the largest block of supporters of the 2017 40 Days for Life Campaign in Vermont. Individual participants and service groups are encouraged to sign up online to participate in one or more vigil hours of prayer at one of the host sites. Visit 40daysforlife.com for more information.

Reflections for the Week:

The readings for today are very powerful. There are accusations and even an argumentative tone about them. In Matthew's gospel reading I imagine myself in the shoes of one of the disciples. I see Peter take Jesus aside and speak to him very strongly. But, Jesus fires right back with an even more forceful tone. It is then that the message of the story becomes clear. It is then that we can start to relate to the exchange between Peter and Jesus in our own lives. Peter was afraid. He was acting out of fear in a way that I sometimes do. Sometimes my initial reaction as a parent, spouse, friend, or coworker is reactionary so as to avoid danger or hardship that I can see coming. This seems to happen more often than not in my role as a parent of four children. Over the last 21 years there have been countless times when one of the kids was about to do something dangerous and I overreacted in an effort to keep them safe – "don't run with scissors!", "don't drive so fast!", and "don't go out with that boy!" (That one is the most difficult.) I believe this type of reaction is very human-like and is motivated by fear in an effort to protect. I imagine this was a similar feeling that Peter had when his beloved friend started talking about his impending suffering and death. Can you blame Peter? His reaction and spirited words to Jesus were very consistent with a human-like reaction. However, Jesus said in reply, "You are not thinking as God does, but as human beings do." What a wake-up call for Peter. Jesus is reminding Peter and the other disciples of the reason for his life on earth, and more importantly, to trust in God's plan. I think this is the larger message from today's reading and one that is consistently provided throughout many of the gospel readings. God has a plan – don't let your human-based fears come between you and God and his plan. And, as Jesus says to Peter – "Get behind me Satan!" – especially don't let the dark spirit be the origins of these fears and, thereby, have the dark spirit come between you and God. Through his words in the second paragraph, Jesus is trying to get us to realize that we must get past our own humanity and trust God in order to gain life. To do this, it may seem like the more we can control the situation, the better we will feel. It is natural for us as humans to feel less stress when we are control of a situation. We tend to want to control (or over control) when we parent or do anything in which we care about the outcome. Peter was likely trying to feel more control when he was speaking to Jesus. However, today's gospel is a bit paradoxical. Jesus is once again telling us to give up this control to God in order to achieve life. I believe Jesus is telling us to listen to the Holy Spirit and the continual messages and guidance he is sending us, and then to trust that this guidance is right. Be aware of the messages from the dark spirit that stir up feelings of fear and stress. Resist them, give up control to God, and life (peace) will follow. So, the more I think about it, the paradox is – the more we give up control to God, the less stress we will feel (rather than thinking about it the other way around – "as human beings do"). onlineministries.creighton.edu