



SCHEDULES & MASS INTENTIONS

Week of November 12, 2017

Sat 4:00 PM Howard Goulette by Mike and Charlotte Frankiewicz
Sun 10:00 AM Gil, Ellie and Mike Kupfer by Laura and Pam
Mon 9:00 AM All Souls
Wed 9:00 AM All Souls
Thurs 9:00 AM All Souls
Fri 9:00 AM Reginald Festa by Angela and Dean
Sat 4:00 PM All Souls
Sun 10:00 AM Pauline McDuff by McDuff & Griffin Families

Parish Support

Offering for the weekend of November 5, 2017
(Our Goal is \$1,800.00 each week)

Sunday Collection

Loose \$295.88
Envelopes \$767.00
Total \$1062.88
Restoration Fund \$475.00
All Saints Day \$143.37

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 November 12, 2017

Sunday: Wis 6:12-16/1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14/Mt 25:1-13

Monday: Wis 1:1-7/Lk 17:1-6

Tuesday: Wis 2:23—3:9/Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday: Wis 6:1-11/Lk 17:11-19

Thursday: Wis 7:22b—8:1/Lk 17:20-25

Friday: Wis 13:1-9/Lk 17:26-37

Saturday: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9/Lk 18:1-8

Next Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30



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, 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>
11/11 Marge Munger	Joe Flynn
11/12 Jeannine Griffin	Laura O'Brien
11/18 Joe Flynn	Laurie Bertrand
11/19 Robert Rojecki	Bernie Carr
<u>Gift Bearers</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
11/11 Scott & Marge Munger	Brooke Bertrand
11/12 Shawn Oulette Family	B.Stanley & M.Harding
11/18 T. Howland Family	Jordan Bertrand
11/19 T. Depatie Family	B. Thorton & A. Hayes

Collection Counters



11/19 Donna Swingleton & Carolyn Walker
 11/26 Tina Wiles & Glenda Gearwar
 12/03 Carolyn Walker & Bob Gearwar



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

10:00 am—3:00 pm

Thursday 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

2nd Collection for weekends in Nov./Dec.:

11/12 Utility Fund
11/19 Catholic Campaign for Human Development
12/03 Restoration Fund

Surprise Raffle: Drawing: Sunday, November 26, 2017 after the 10 am mass at St. Mary's; Tickets \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00 . Tickets available before and after each mass on Saturday and Sunday.

Next week, the second collection will be for the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development**. This collection supports programs to empower people to identify and address the obstacles they face as they work to lift themselves out of poverty. Learn more about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development at www.usccb.org/cchd/collection.

St. Mary's Religious Education classes will be participating in a food drive for Thanksgiving. If anyone in our Parish would like to also participate in this food drive by contributing non-perishable food items or cash, please contact Wanda Murray after Mass on Sundays or at 247-6937 wandamurray66@comcast.net. Any food contributions can be left in the barrel in the back of the Church. Thanks.

Parish Council Meeting: Thursday, November 16 at 7 PM
Social Concerns Meeting: Monday, November 20 at 6 PM

Diocesan Synod: Bishop Christopher Coyne and the Diocese of Burlington has called for a Diocesan Synod to take place in Vermont throughout the next year. The first step of this important process is a meeting which is going to take place in most of our parishes. At these meetings we will be addressing three questions: 1) What are we doing well as a Diocese? 2) What are we doing that we could improve on? and 3) What do we need to do that we are not doing? It is our hope that the information gathered at these meetings will help give focus to the Pastoral Needs of the Diocese and the people of Vermont. We desire to hear all of your voices and we encourage all of you to join us in one of the meetings listed :

St. Ambrose 11 School Street ,Bristol Sunday, Nov.19 6:30 – 8:00pm
Our Lady of Good Help Monday, November 27th 6:30 – 8:00pm
 St. Peter's 85 South Maple Street ,Vergennes – Saturday, December 2nd 2:30 – 4:00pm
 St. Mary's 326 College Street ,Middlebury – Sunday, December 3rd from 1:30 – 3:00pm
 St. Bernadette/St. Genevieve 3275 Rte. 22A , Shoreham – Tuesday, December 5th 6:30 – 8:00pm

Diocesan News: Understanding Our Young Former Catholics Part III

I offer this final column on engaging and understanding young people who have left the Catholic Church on a positive note: studies have shown that young people who do remain in the Catholic Church often do so because of the examples of faithful discipleship they saw in their parents lives. "Young Catholics whose parents regularly attend Mass, are involved in their parishes, and who talk with their children about religious faith are more likely to remain Catholic themselves, compared to those whose parents are less involved in Church and who talk less about religious matters."¹ In another study, a significant number of young Catholics who have remained in the Church have done so because they were raised by parents who were not just members of the Church, but "disciples," people who practiced their Catholic faith in all aspects of their lives.² Their parents were people of prayer and Scripture in the home. They lived out the call to serve others in active social ministries and volunteerism. They participated in the Church's sacramental and liturgical life. They lived the summation of Jesus' teaching to treat others as they would wish to be treated. They lived ethical and moral lives based on the fullness of the Church's teaching. And they encouraged their children to do all of these things as well. Pope Francis in his recent apostolic exhortation on the family and marriage, *Amoris Laetitia*, stated unequivocally that the "welfare of the family is decisive for the future of the world and that of the Church." This is absolutely clear for the life of the Church. This is why it is so important for us to be supportive and encouraging of our families within our churches. We need to recognize that while the best scenario for children to be nurtured and raised is within a two-parent household of a father and a mother, many of our families are dealing with a different reality. A significant number of our children are being raised by single parents, most often the mother. We have also seen a large increase in the number of children who are being raised by grandparents, aunts and uncles, often as a result of the wreckage of opioid addiction. We need to support all of our families and offer insight and encouragement to all of them to be domestic churches, helping "parents to adopt consistent small habits expressing faith, and making religious practice a fixture"¹ in their everyday lives. I would also ask us to consider how each of us are called to be disciples and how our example within the church and community can serve as an example of "intentional discipleship" to children and young people." Who knows, perhaps some young person may see in us someone who is of Christ and his Church and seek to do the same in his or her own life. Remember, we just plant seeds of faith and allow God's grace to do the rest. The Most Reverend Christopher J. Coyne , Bishop of Burlington

Reflections for the Week

In this world where good and evil can occupy the same space, we must be wise and vigilant. In this world where stately roses and disruptive weeds can share the same garden, we must be wise and vigilant. In this world where the foolish and the wise can sit together at the same table, we must be the wise and prudent ones. The question is: how often are we prepared to be the wise one? The idea of being unprepared is almost strange to me, because I am one of those students — the over achiever — who buys and reads textbooks before the start of the school term or semester, just so that I can be one step ahead. I am also that person who shows up at meetings with every document already in hand along with additional research, just in case. I have my shoulders high and ready for whatever comes my way that day. I have always been that way and never gave it a second thought. Having said that, I don't think I can sincerely brag about my spiritual preparedness. Growing up, my grandmother would tell us stories to explain why it wasn't right to tell a lie, or why it was wrong to steal, and so on. I used to hear her stories and say to myself, "why can't grandma just say what she means? Why does she have to tell us these stories?" As I got older, it occurred to me that not only did she just enjoy using stories to convey life lessons, but the life lessons made more sense once digested, and became nourishment for my soul. Today's Gospel reminds me of my grandmother's stories — a little esoteric, thought-provoking, with moments that make you want to ask a question, but hold back, and in a way, open to interpretation. Like any parable, the reader is invited to do more than just read it. The reader is invited to chew slowly, let the words digest, and relish the total mind and soul effect at the moment when we realize that we have being enriched, and awakened by the words; by the parable; by the story. This Gospel prompts us to stay spiritually awake, and to be prepared to bring light to the darkness. As Christians, it seems we are always waiting for Jesus to reveal himself to us; we tell ourselves that we will see him at the end of our lives. It also seems that in our anticipation to be part of the Kingdom of God, we forget what is necessary; we forget that we need the light of Christ. We need the light that we get when we are baptized, the light that we get when we are compassionate, the light that exudes from us when we live out the Gospel. The light that is fueled by our faith, perseverance, and good works. This light illuminates our path to see and experience the Kingdom of God. We don't need to wait for the end of our lives to prepare ourselves, the Kingdom of God is with us everyday, but, we need the light. The light that shows the way, and lights the path for a stranger, for a friend, or an outcast. The light that is also a guiding compass for those seeking mercy and understanding. Brothers and sisters, let us stay spiritually awake and be prepared with our light. Let's not forget what is necessary to fully experience the Kingdom of God. onlineministries.creighton.edu