

## Our Lady of Good Help/ St. Agnes



### SCHEDULES & MASS INTENTIONS Week of July 14, 2019

**Sat 4:00 PM** Mr. & Mrs. Francis J. Leary, Sr. by the Family  
**Sun 7:30 AM St Agnes** Joseph Bartlett by his granddaughter, Turner  
**Sun 11:00 AM** For the People  
**Wed 9:00 AM** Fr. Ruel-Birthday by Jeannine Griffin  
**Thurs 9:00 AM** For the People  
**Sat 4:00 PM** Francis J. Leary, Sr. by the Family  
**Sun 7:30 AM St. Agnes** For the People  
**Sun 11:00 AM** For the People

### Parish Support

Offering for the weekend of July 7, 2019  
(Our Goal is \$1,250.00 each week)

### Sunday Collection

Loose	\$583.00
Envelopes	\$812.00
Total	\$1395.00
Peter's Pence	\$331.00

**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 July 14, 2019

**Sunday:** Dt 30:10-14/Col 1:15-20/Lk 10:25-37  
**Monday:** Ex 1:8-14, 22/Mt 10:34—11:1  
**Tuesday:** Ex 2:1-15a/Mt 11:20-24  
**Wednesday:** Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Mt 11:25-27  
**Thursday:** Ex 3:13-20/Mt 11:28-30  
**Friday:** Ex 11:10—12:14/Mt 12:1-8  
**Saturday:** Ex 12:37-42/Mt 12:14-21

**Next Sunday:** Gn 18:1-10a/Col 1:24-28/Lk 10:38-42



### 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, Rene Hendricks, Brendan Holbritter, Rosa Santos, Alison Walter, Emilie Rasmussen, Ann Marie Ford, Laura Begnoche, Bertha Dolan, Jim Lofland, Peter Giancola, Fella Molina, Stanley Delorm, Phyllis Aitchson and Elaine Parmelee.

### Ministry Schedule



#### Eucharistic Ministers

07/13 Joe Flynn  
 07/14 Robert Gearwar  
 07/20 Robert Rojecki  
 07/21 Jean Lamarre

#### Lectors

Pike Mitchell  
 Wanda Murray  
 Joe Flynn  
 Bernie Carr

#### Gift Bearers

07/13 Thomas Howland Family  
 07/14 Russell Doty Family B. Stanley & B. Thornton  
 07/20 L. O'Brien Family  
 07/21 T. Depatie Family A. Hayes & M. Harding

#### Altar Servers

### Collection Counters



07/14 Donna Swington & Bob Gaerwar  
 07/21 Helen Williams & Glenda Gearwar  
 07/28 Mike Frankiewicz & Carol Bertrand



### 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](http://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](mailto: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 July/ Aug:

**07/14 Bldgs. & Maint. (Goal \$600)**  
**07/21 Utility Fund (Goal \$500)**  
**08/04 Bldgs. & Maint. (Goal \$600)**

## Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Annual Raffle:** It's time for our Annual Raffle. We need your help selling tickets! If you sell at least 18 tickets, you will receive a free ticket at the raffle. We will start selling tickets the weekend of Mother's Day, May 11th at the back of the church. Tickets will be available in the church for you to buy and pick up to sell in May. Please continue to sell tickets throughout the summer as the success of the raffle depends on all of you. The prizes and drawing date are as follows: **Drawing** September 8, 2019 after the 11:00 AM Mass  
**1st Prize:** 15" laptop computer w/HD  
**2nd Prize:** 32" LED Color TV  
**3rd Prize:** \$50 Gift Certificate to Brandon Motor Lodge  
**4th Prize:** \$20 Gift Certificate to Mae's Place  
**5th Prize:** \$20 Gift Certificate to Café Provence  
 Winner need not be present.  
**Tickets are \$10 each or 6 for \$50.** Any questions or concerns, please call Jean Lamarre at 353-7881.

**Bishop's Annual Appeal 2019:** "Communication is part of God's plan for us and an essential way to experience fellowship." – Pope Francis. Improving communication was a key Diocesan Synod priority and an important evangelization tool. The Bishop's Annual Appeal supports the award winning Vermont Catholic magazine, online news, ENews and other communication efforts. Please help us sustain these vital programs by contributing to the 2019 annual appeal. Please consider a donation. Please visit: [bishopsappealvt.org](http://bishopsappealvt.org)  
 We are currently at 50.50% of our goal for the parish.

### Reflections for the Week

In our First Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy, Moses is completing his presenting of all the laws, customs and ordinances which the people of Israel are bound, covenanted, to observe. Then the Lord will delight in the resulting prosperity of their fields, their cattle, and their fruitful bodies. What we hear in today's First Reading are verses of comfort. Though the laws are many and detailed, they are not strange or disorienting to their minds and hearts. Moses has said that the Lord will continue to circumcise their hearts so that they all will know to whom they belong. These words of the Law are clear when thought about and comforting when experienced as a way of God's loving them and their responding lovingly to God. Many Jews have the Word of God affixed to doorposts in a little box called a mezuzah, and can wear the Word of God in little cloth or leather pouches over their hearts and foreheads. These are called "Tefilin" emphasis on the second syllable. Moses declares that these Laws will keep them close to God as God is close to them. They are not unreasonable, or violent to the human spirit. The Gospel contains a beautiful and equally threatening parable. A scholar of the law asks Jesus a question, meant more as a beginning of a discussion than a simple request for information. Jesus, in his usual manner, answers a question with a question. The man knows well the dictates of the Law and responds correctly. According to the Book of Leviticus: 19, 18, loving one's neighbor is a sacred responsibility of the faithful Jewish person. So to extend the discussion and perhaps get the upper hand, the scholar asks the obvious question and Jesus takes it out of the scholar's hand and lays it on his heart. A foreigner becomes the hero by placing himself in the vulnerable position of not being anybody's neighbor. The beaten man sets up the tension. The two religious figures, who do not tend to the man, heighten the heroism of the despised Samaritan. Jesus is telling this story to move from the Law to the Good News. The good news of the parable has several aspects. Perhaps the two who pass by on the "opposite side" have their religious reasons. Their being faithful to their understanding of the laws of physical purity are righteous in their eyes. The good news of Jesus expressed in the parable is that "unlawful" love of the injured is the new and complete righteousness. Keeping our eyes and hearts open to the robbed is more blessed than keeping our eyes on keeping legal strictures. A foreigner is moved with compassion flowing from his head and heart. Jesus is the compassionate stranger to our fallen, robbed-of-innocence humanity. Jesus is on "our side" and takes us in to the "inn" of his embrace after tending to our wounds through the Sacraments. "Oil" and "wine" are the healing "bandages" of his touch. The good news is that we are relieved from our wondering what exactly we are to do when healed and sent back on our journeys. We are to "Go and do likewise." Selfishness in its various forms of protection, personal image, and indulgence, are very close to our minds and hearts. This interior law is not so far away or high above us. We do not need anybody to teach us how to be greedy, egocentric, or lazy. Nobody had to teach me on the day my mother put the frosting bowl between my sister and me, that if I smacked her with my spoon she would run crying to my mother and I could quickly scoop up all my unjust, but delightful desserts. There are two forms of "good news". One is the selfishly good news that each of us can, by our own determination, walk on the "opposite" side. We can talk ourselves into not ignoring the wounded, the needy, the immigrant, but render our concern from a safe, distance. The other "good news" which we keep hearing and making the center of our lives invites, attracts and frees us is the selfless law of Jesus which is warming to the heart when we hear it. The other "good news" of our ignoring-selves still remains in effect and is also seductive and operative. So again, the Gospel of Jesus puts us in tension. We ask also about just who is our neighbor whom we should care for and whom can we pass by and with whom not have to share our frosting. We would say that our neighbor is the one who will appreciate our gestures of generosity. Our neighbors are those whom we know. Our neighbors are those who are similar to us; think the way we do, act in accordance with our values. This is natural and warming to the heart and mind. Jesus' teaching is his whole life of including, embracing, and saving us in our being stripped, beaten by the ways of the world within and around us. He has brought us from our own being half-dead back to full life. As my mother had to do, Jesus keeps teaching us to share, to extend His compassion, and work to heal. In doing this, he lives through our stoppings and we really do put ourselves in position to receiving truly our just desserts. When we hear or read such a parable we would, at times, want to pass by on the other side of Jesus pretending we haven't heard or haven't understood. This is one of those parables about which Mark Twain once commented about the whole New Testament, "That is one of those books you hope everybody else reads." "The sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest for her young; by your altar, o Lord of host, my king and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in Your house, for ever singing Your praise." [onlineministries.creighton.edu](http://onlineministries.creighton.edu)

## July 14, 2019

**Diocesan News: Vermont Catholic Professionals Networking Breakfast :** You're invited to a networking event with Vermont Catholic Professionals on Wednesday, July 24, from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at the Pomerleau Alumni Center at St. Michael's College in Colchester. This free event will include networking, refreshments and professional development speaker Dr. Marta Kokoszynska, clinician researcher at the University of Vermont Medical Center and clinical instructor at the Larner College of Medicine at The University of Vermont. A first-generation immigrant from Poland, Dr. Kokoszynska will share how her early childhood growing up in political unrest and immigration to an unfamiliar place taught her the values of perseverance and faith and how the people that surround us every day can be a source and example of holiness, leadership and strength. Dr. Kokoszynska has joined her passion of medicine with her love of the faith by being an active member of the Catholic Medical Association (CMA). Hoping to bring this national association closer to home, she is working on starting a guild of the CMA here in Vermont to help other Catholic healthcare professionals to embrace and strengthen their faith within their profession. Read more about the Catholic Medical Association forming in Vermont at: [vermontcatholic.org/vermont/catholic-medical-association-forming](http://vermontcatholic.org/vermont/catholic-medical-association-forming). Register to hear more from Dr. Kokoszynska and meet other Catholic professionals during the July networking event at: [vermontcatholic.org/vcp](http://vermontcatholic.org/vcp).