



**SCHEDULES & MASS INTENTIONS**  
**Week of January 21, 2018**

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, Brendan Holbritter, Rosa Santos and Jean Pfenning.*

**Ministry Schedule**



<b><u>Eucharistic Ministers</u></b>	<b><u>Lectors</u></b>
01/20 Jerry Flint	Laurie Bertrand
01/21 Joe Flynn	Guy Beck
01/27 Joe Flynn	Joe Flynn
01/28 Guy Beck	Wanda Murray
<b><u>Gift Bearers</u></b>	<b><u>Altar Servers</u></b>
01/20 T. Howland Family	David Bertrand
01/21 Glenda & Bob Gearwar	B. Stanley & B. Thornton
01/27	Jordan Bertrand
01/28 Russell Doty Family	A. & O. Depatie

**Collection Counters**



01/21 D. Swington & Carolyn Walker
01/28 Tina Wiles & Paula Bizon
02/04 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).

**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 Jan./Feb.:**

- 01/21 Utility Fund**
- 01/28 Catholic Education Collection**
- 02/04 Restoration Fund**

**Contribution Envelopes and Calendars for 2018** will be available for pick-up at the back of the church after mass. Please remember to get yours or sign up for one if you are not already on the list. Thank you

**Annual Financial Contribution Statements** for 2017 taxes will be provided upon request. You may sign up at back table after masses or stop by the office, phone, or email if you would like one. Thank you.

**Fr. Vincent will be on vacation from January 22nd to February 22nd.** For emergencies such as funerals, anointing of the sick— Fr. Richard Tinney— Tel: 802-773-7648(Rutland) or our deanery priests Fr. Yvon Royer— 802-334-6810 (Vergennes) or Fr. Luke Austin- 802-388-2943 (Middlebury).

The Parish Office will be open on Wednesdays and Thursdays. There will be no adoration on First Friday of February. Please pray for my safe travels.

**Annual Winter Open Houses at MSJ and CKS during Catholic Schools Week** All interested families are welcome to visit Mount Saint Joseph Academy and Christ the King School during the schools' upcoming winter open houses. **Mount Saint Joseph Academy** will hold its **Open House on Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.** MSJ welcomes new students and transfer students to apply for its college preparatory program. Come and see how being a student at MSJ can benefit you in so many ways! **Christ the King School** will hold its **Open House on Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 7 pm.** These are great opportunities for families to learn more about various programs at CKS! *CKS also offers both before-school and after-school care programs.* The schools provide exceptional academics, small classes, opportunities to thrive in sports and the arts, and a caring, family-type atmosphere. Financial programs are available. For more information, please contact MSJ at (802) 775-0151 or CKS at (802) 773-0500.

**Vermont Ecumenical Council Invites you to an Ecumenical Service for The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:** Sunday January 21, 2018, **3:00 p.m.** Catholic Center, University of Vermont, 309 S. Prospect St., Burlington, Vermont (On-campus parking available at and nearby the Center). Everyone is welcome.  
Guest Preacher: The Rev. Dr. John Armstrong, ACT3 Network

**Diocesan News: Pursuing justice, respecting life:** Both the responsibilities to respect life and pursue justice are founded on the basic principle of the dignity of the human person, created in the image and likeness of God. People sometimes disagree about how to handle pro-life and social justice issues, particularly when it comes to public policy when there are competing interests at play. "This can lead to a false assumption that social justice and pro-life are somehow at odds. They are not," said Carrie Handy, respect life coordinator for the Diocese of Burlington. "Acknowledging the inherent worth and dignity of all human beings compels us to be particularly attentive to those who may not be able to care for themselves — the most vulnerable among us," said Handy. Vermont Catholic Charities Inc. supports life and justice ministries through its partnership with the Diocese to support Project Rachel (a ministry to those affected by abortion), through caring for residents at residential care homes and through deGoesbriand Grants to agencies supporting life and justice initiatives. "Human life is sacred, and Vermont Catholic Charities is committed to the dignity of the human person," emphasized Mary Beth Pinard, executive director. "We do ourselves a disservice when we speak of social justice and protection of life as two separate issues," said Stephanie Clary, manager of mission outreach and communication for the Diocese. "Protecting life is an issue of social justice and social justice is always an issue of protecting life." "In both arenas, the weaker and relatively defenseless are pitted against the more powerful," said Deacon Peter Gummere, director of the Permanent Diaconate for the Diocese. "In abortion, a tiny human is threatened by a big, powerful human. In assisted suicide, a weak person is invited to die earlier than they would otherwise for the convenience of society." Pro-life convictions lead Catholics not only to advocate for the unborn and the terminally disabled but also for others who are weak and marginalized. "It should include sensitivity for the single mom, reaching out to her with a supportive network," he said. "It should include helping to ensure the wellbeing of the disabled, the sick and others who are marginalized. It should include working to eliminate barbaric practices like excessively harsh conditions in prisons and capital punishment. And we should work toward more ecologically sustainable practices in order to protect our planet." "To authentically work for justice in one area we must consider the connectedness of that issue with other aspects of reality," Clary said. "When we work toward clean water, we quench someone's thirst. When we reduce carbon emissions and prevent a crop-killing drought, we feed someone's hunger. When we demand breathable air, we decrease the likelihood of birth defects and increase the life expectancy of elders." As Pope Francis points out, "we need to be attentive to the relationships that exist among creation if we truly wish to address injustices and protect life," she added. "What the Catholic Church means when it identifies as prolife is pro all life, not only because all life is connected, but more importantly because all life is of God. It was created with intention, purpose and love and it gives glory to God by its very existence," Clary said. "We each have our own passions, areas of interest and expertise. The important thing is that we're always considering the big picture and working together with those of different passions, interests and expertise to collectively pursue justice, the protection of life in our world." — Cori Fugere Urban, Vermont Catholic

**Reflections for the week**

In the first reading from the book of Jonah, God called Jonah and sent him to Nineveh to announce repentance and faith in God or they would all be destroyed. Jonah did as God said and within a day, the whole city repented, "believed God; they proclaimed a fast and all of them, great and small, put on sackcloth." V. 5 According to the text, God changes his mind and does not destroy the city or its inhabitants. In the gospel reading Jesus himself is the message, God with us, and the messenger. He announces that the kingdom of God is at hand and he urges us to repent and believe in the good news that his is bringing (cf. v. 15). It strikes me that these are only two examples among many throughout Scripture where God invites us to repent and change our ways. God invites us towards Godself and the Life that only God can give. This invitation seems to be always open, God is faithful; and at the same time it seems to be continually coming to us and inviting a response from us. In the passage from the gospel according to Mark, we see how Jesus invites his first disciples. Very often when reading commentaries or hearing preaching about this passage we are invited to reflect upon and contemplate our own calling to follow Jesus and to announce the kingdom of God. Today, I would like to invite us to reflect on God's faithfulness to us in his unconditional love that keeps constantly, but gently inviting us towards Godself, the only requirement: "repent, believe and embrace this good news of my unconditional love for you."  
*onlineministries.creighton.edu*

<b>Sat 4:00 PM</b>	Intentions of Fr. Vincent by Angela & Dean
<b>Sun 10:00 AM</b>	Benware Family by Diane Benware
<b>Mon 9:00 AM</b>	No Mass
<b>Wed 9:00 AM</b>	No Mass
<b>Thurs 9:00 AM</b>	No Mass
<b>Fri 9:00 AM</b>	No Mass
<b>Sat 4:00 PM</b>	Pro Populo
<b>Sun 10:00 AM</b>	Pro Populo

**Parish Support**

Offering for the weekend of **January 14, 2018**  
(Our Goal is \$1,800.00 each week)

**Sunday Collection**

<b>Loose</b>	<b>\$163.15</b>
<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$751.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$914.15</b>
<b>Restoration Fund</b>	<b>\$312.00</b>

*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 January 21, 2018**

**Sunday:** Jon 3:1-5, 10/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20

**Monday:** 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Mk 3:22-30

**Tuesday:** 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Mk 3:31-35

**Wednesday:** 2 Sm 7:4-17/Mk 4:1-20

**Thursday:** Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Mk 16:15-18

**Friday:** 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5 /Mk 4:26-34

**Saturday:** 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Mk 4:35-41

**Next Sunday:** Dt 18:15-20/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28