



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, Joel Rivera, Betty Ferraro, Joseph Duprey, Charlotte Swain, Marilyn Morris, Mary Doherty, David Philipsen, Rene Hendricks, Brendan Holbriiter, Rosa Santos, Laura Begnoche, Bertha Dolan, Jim Lofland, Peter Giancola, Fella Molina, and Stanley Delorm.

SCHEDULES & MASS INTENTIONS
Week of November 17, 2019



Ministry Schedule

Eucharistic Ministers

11/16 Joe Flynn
11/17 Jeannine Griffin
11/23 Robert Rojecki
11/24 Jean Lamarre

Lectors

Pike Mitchell
Terry Zimmer
Marge Munger
Abigail Hayes

Gift Bearers

11/16 K. Decker & C. Mitchell
11/17 R. Doty Family
11/23 L. O'Brien Family
11/24 S. Ouelette Family

Altar Servers

David Bertrand
A. & O. Depatie
Brooke Bertrand
B. Thornton & M. Harding

Collection Counters



11/17 Helen Williams & Glenda Gearwar
11/24 Bob Gearwar & Carolyn Walker
12/01 Carolyn Walker & Helen Williams

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 Nov./Dec:
11/24 Human Development
12/01 Bldgs. & Maint. (Goal \$600)
12/08 Retirement Fund for Religious

Thanksgiving Food Drive: Our Lady of Good Help will be participating in a food drive for Thanksgiving. As part of the food drive, the religious education classes will be preparing food baskets for those in our community who are in need. We are asking the children to each contribute a non-perishable food item and also to each bring in \$1 so that we can purchase turkeys for the baskets, which will be delivered the week of Thanksgiving. Any food items not used for the baskets will be donated to the Brandon Food Shelf. If anyone in our Parish would like to also participate in this food drive by contributing non-perishable food items, please bring the items to Mass and leave them in the barrels in the back of the Church. If you would like to contribute money toward the purchase of the turkeys, please contact Wanda Murray after Mass on Sundays or at 247-6937 (wandamurray66@comcast.net).

Social Concerns: Meeting, Thursday, November 21st at 6:30 PM

Parish Council: Meeting Thursday, November 21st at 7 PM

Pot Luck Supper: Sunday, December 1, 2019, to celebrate Fr. Moe's 60th Birthday! 5:00 PM at St. Alphonsus Parish Hall. Please join us! No gifts please.

St. Alphonsus Christmas Craft Fair & Basket Raffle: Saturday, November 23, 9 am—2 pm. Come shop with us! Craft vendors, basket raffle, Silent Auction, Vermont Goods, Knitted items, Delicious food, Woodware, jewelry, and much, much more!!

St. Mary's Cemetery: Reminder that the cemetery is closed as of November 12th and will reopen in the spring. Thank you.

Otter Valley Catholic Community Events!

Sun Nov 17: Family Catechesis at Saint Alphonsus Parish Hall from 5-7 PM. Starts with pot luck, then the theme for this month is *Jesus Christ*. Required for Grades 6 and up, but all parishioners are invited.

Mon Nov 18: Otter Valley RCIA at Our Lady of Good Help Rectory at 7 PM.

Thu Nov 21: Combined Folk Group Practice for the Thanksgiving Mass at Our Lady of Good Help at 6:30 PM. Any member of either parish may join them for these practices and Mass.

Mon Nov 25: Thanksgiving Mass at Our Lady of Good Help at 7 PM. This Mass will have members of each church serving in various ministries. Please join us!

Catholic Campaign for Human Development: Next week our special collection will support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. More than 46 million people in the United States live in poverty today. This collection supports programs that empower people to identify and address obstacles as they work to make permanent and positive changes for their communities. Learn more about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development at www.usccb.org/cchd/collection.

Reflections for the Week

As we come to the end of the liturgical year, these end-times readings invite me sit with the questions: What does God's justice look like? What does God's justice feel like, to me? In scripture, over and over, God's justice is often upside-down to my sense of fairness. God seems most unfair when I fall into looking at my actions like an ethical business exchange: I did "A" for God / my fellow humans / the earth, so God owes me "B." (Often I find I have decided what I am owed without talking much to God.) If God doesn't give me "B," it feels as though God is unjust. If I lose "C," it feels even worse. That's not how God's justice works, Jesus tells us. God's justice lifts up the poor; holds servants in highest esteem; forgives the unforgiveable; loves when it hurts most to love. Both the first reading and Gospel describe God's justice as one experience from different perspectives. Justice is a sun: it destroys with a blazing heat *and* heals with rays of light. Justice is witness to God: it leads to martyrdom *and* eternal life. With end-times readings I always come back to C.S. Lewis' *The Great Divorce*, my favorite allegory of the afterlife. In it, when people arrive in heaven, even the softest grass in heaven feels like knives to their feet: it is more real than they are. Those who let go of what is not real (that is, not of God) enter fully into God's reality, and the grass feels soft. In the same way, perhaps the "sun of justice" burns away what is not of God. I would feel destroyed if my entire identity were wrapped up in something that is not of God, even in something beautiful that I seek to own (like the temple in the Gospel). But, if my identity were wrapped up in a relationship with God, I would feel healed with the removal of whatever distracted from that relationship. Jesus reminds us similarly in the Gospel: don't get too attached to the present state of the world - even the beautiful parts, even your life here - because it all pales in comparison to the life God has in mind. How, then, can I cultivate a disposition from which to meet God's justice and feel healed rather than destroyed? I'd need to align my identity with God's idea of justice, rather than my own. I'd need to practice mercy, to forgive others and myself. I'd need to practice love, to choose the good of another. I'd need to practice service, to meet people who awaken my compassion and grow in kinship with them. As my own ability to empathize and feel compassion grows, I will begin to see people as precious, the way God does. I will come to know that others' healing is my healing, too. Maybe then the sun of justice will feel like healing rays. I wish I could share the song "Hearts on Fire" by M.D. Ridge and Timothy Smith, but a recording is not publicly available. Instead, please enjoy ["Find Us Ready"](#) by Tom Booth. We're singing both at St. John's this weekend. onlineministries.creighton.edu

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Sat 4:00 PM * Nathan Denno by Scott & Marge Munger
Sun 11:00 AM + Mr. & Mrs. Francis Leary, Sr. by the Swington Family
Wed 9:00 AM All Souls
Thurs 9:00 AM + Gilbert Rossa by the Depatie Family
Sat 4:00 PM + Robert Forguites by his Family
Sun 11:00 AM + Karen Rouse by the Swington Family

+ indicates deceased
* indicates living

Parish Support

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

Sunday Collection

Loose	\$ 327.81
Envelopes	\$ 867.00
Total	\$ 1194.81
Utility	\$404.48

Please Note:

Please **make out all checks to St. Mary Parish**. Thank you.

Readings for the Week of November 17, 2019

Sunday: Mal 3:19-20a/2 Thes 3:7-12/Lk 21:5-19
Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63
Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31/Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Lk 19:11-28
Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29/Lk 19:41-44
Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/Lk 19:45-48
Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13/Lk 20:27-40
Next Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3/Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43