



SCHEDULES & MASS INTENTIONS

Week of March 11, 2018

Sat 4:00 PM Aline Godin by Erica Godin
Sun 10:00 AM Locke Family by Wand & Marc Larrivee
Mon 9:00 AM Jack Frathel by Beck Family
Wed 9:00 AM Leslie Forguites by Anonymous
Thurs 9:00 AM Deacon Gary Griffin by Jeannine Griffin
Fri 9:00 AM Albert Betournyl by Anonymous
Sat 4:00 PM Joseph Sprague by his Family
Sun 10:00 AM Gil, Ellie, & Mike Kupfer by Laura & Pam

Parish Support

Offering for the weekend of March 4, 2018
(Our Goal is \$1,800.00 each week)

Sunday Collection

Loose	\$292.00
Envelopes	\$744.00
Total	\$1036.00
Restoration Fund	\$377.96

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 March 11, 2018

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21
Monday: Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Jn 5:17-30
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53
Next Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33



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 Holbriiter, Rosa Santos and Jean Pfenning.

Ministry Schedule



<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>
03/10 Jerry Flint	Laurie Bertrand
03/11 Jeannine Griffin	CCD Students
Tom Giblin	Tom Giblin
<u>Gift Bearers</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
03/10 Karen Decker	Jordan Bertrand
03/11 Russell Doty Family	A. Depatie & M. Harding
03/17 Thomas Howland Family	Brooke Bertrand
03/18 S. Ouellette Family	N. Depatie & A. Hayes

Collection Counters



03/11 Mike Frankiewicz & Carol Bertrand
 03/18 Donna Swington & Paula Bizon
 03/25 Glenda Gearwar & Tina Wiles



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 March:

03/11 Catholic Relief Services
03/18 Utility Fund
03/29 Holy Thursday

Saturday Night Dinner : March 10th at 5PM. Baked stuffed chicken/Mashed potatoes/Corn/Cole Slaw/Rolls/Dessert. \$8.00 per person/ 6-12 yrs. \$5.00/ Under 5 Free. Tickets are available before and after Mass on Saturdays and Sundays.

NEW MINISTRY LISTS for the months of April, May, and June are being created. If you are a Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Altar Server, or Gift Bearer, please check your calendars, and if there are dates you know you will be away or unable to serve, please contact Melly Flynn at 247-6482. Thanks so much for your willingness to serve our church community.

Stations of the Cross will be on Wednesdays at 7 PM in the chapel

Parish Finance Committee: Wednesday, March 14 at 6PM

Parish Council Meeting : Thursday, March 15 at 7 PM

The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held March 16th-18th at St. Anne's Shrine. This is an opportunity for couples and priests/religious to get away from the distractions of daily life and just focus on their relationship. It emphasizes the expression of one's feelings, new communication techniques, and the importance of community. Finally, it helps couples celebrate their marriage and priests celebrate their priesthood, while acknowledging the value of the Sacraments of Matrimony and Holy Orders. For More information please call 802-456-8114 or email: doc@gr123.powweb.com

Easter Church Flowers: Anyone interested in purchasing flowers to decorate the Church for Easter, in memory of their loved ones, should contact Bernie at 247-3744 and order them through him. The last date to order will be March 28th.

Lenten Penance Service: There will be a Lenten Penance Service for all Parishioners on Wednesday, March 21st at 7 PM.

The Chrism Mass: will be celebrated by Bishop J. Coyne on Tuesday, March 27 @ 11: 00 AM at St. Joseph's Co-Cathedral in Burlington.

Diocesan News: This Lent, step outside your comfort zone: It's no secret that Catholics oppose abortion. While people of goodwill can disagree on the best means to end abortion and what role public policy plays, we Catholics are a "people of life" who believe that all human life is of equal worth and dignity, deserving of protection from conception until death. And yet, our quest to make abortion unthinkable has become increasingly elusive, especially here in Vermont, where abortions are legal without restrictions throughout all 9 months of pregnancy. Recently, the State's largest hospital joined Planned Parenthood in providing elective abortions. An infant born at 23 weeks gestation will be resuscitated and sent to the neonatal ICU, while in an operating room in the same hospital, one that is 22 weeks, 6 days, can be aborted. While this is legal, it is not right. One might ask what has happened in the 45 years since Roe v Wade that such a "new normal" is even possible. We were promised, "Safe, legal and rare" and now we are living in a culture where abortion is increasingly described as, "Just another medical procedure." What has happened? It has been said that all it takes for evil to triumph is for good people to say nothing. And yet when it comes to talking about abortion, we often squirm. This must change if we are to reverse the cultural mindset. We can learn to talk about abortion with charity and compassion, reflecting that we are pro all-life, not just against abortion. But we also must be firmly anti-abortion, because it is wrong. Not everyone is suited to pro-life activism, but that doesn't mean there aren't ways everyone can help restore the culture of life. This Lent, why not make a goal of stepping outside your comfort zone and adding some positive, pro-life energy to your world in some small way? Here are some ideas to get started: 1 Post a pro-life meme or article on social media. 2 Follow the "Respect Life: Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington" Facebook page and invite at least one other person to do so. 3 Give up something extra for Lent for a pro-life intention. 4 Learn the facts. Science supports what Catholic moral teaching affirms: life begins at conception. Data about abortion can be eye opening. Many people aren't aware that help and alternatives exist for women with unexpected pregnancies. There are many links available on the Diocesan website's respect life page with talking points and information. 5 Share the facts. The next time the topic arises, don't remain silent. With charity, help correct the myths and errors. Don't be afraid to say, "I'm pro-life." 6 Donate to a pro-life organization or a pregnancy-care center. 7 Join a prayer group like 9 Days for Life or start a pro-life novena with your friends. Use your imagination; together, we can make a difference! For more ideas and information, visit the Respect Life link at www.vermontcatholic.org
Carrie Handy, Respect Life Coordinator

Reflections for the week

Today's readings move us forward in our Lenten journey through instruction about repentance and mercy. The first reading in the Chronicles recounts a period of infidelity and judgment upon God's people. The people had not merely erred, but they had added "infidelity upon infidelity." "Early and often" did they receive warnings from the prophets. But like a child who covers his ears when being instructed, they persisted in their wrongful choices. A drastic remedy was required. Conquest and captivity brought the humiliation of defeat and the remorse that comes from recognizing the goodness they had lost. Today's Psalm reminds us of this remorse — longing for home and its beauty -- even its music -- which was beyond their reach. In this story, mercy came through the motivation of an outsider-king, who grants a reprieve from this captivity and allows these people to return to their land and rebuild their temple. Query – who do you think motivated that king? Sometimes mercy comes from unlikely sources. Stories with second chances encourage us, as we know that we often need them. Many of us know firsthand about going our own way when it is not the right way. Perhaps we did not deliberately start out with the wrong path in mind, but we made some bad choices. And when we added more bad choices, we may have found ourselves further from home than we had anticipated. We found it hard to return to the good path, perhaps even doubting whether we belonged there at all. But no matter how far we might stray, beauty and truth call out to us like a beacon in the storm. Their deep imprints upon our soul allow us to recognize that our own ways are not working; we need God and we cannot sustain ourselves without Him. These deep imprints keep reminding us that there is hope – and that we can go home after all. Today's gospel reading contains a famous passage from John's gospel — John 3:16 — which many know by heart. It is part of a larger narrative in which Jesus tells Nicodemus about his saving mission. I once read this passage as validation of the prominent role of faith in our salvation, but I now see that works matter, too. Indeed, this gospel warns those who think they can believe but persist in doing wrong. Our faith should not stay in our head. It should be reflected in our hearts, arms, legs, fingers, and toes as we do works that proceed from love of God and love of neighbor, which St. Augustine described as medicine that we need from the Church. The Church is indeed a hospital for sinners, and we must come with a desire to become well, not merely to reflect on our symptoms. *Lord, we need your mercy. Grant that we might heed your warnings when we leave the path, and return promptly. Let us remember always the goodness and beauty that we can only find in you, and not in the cheap substitutes that we sometimes choose. Open our hearts and minds to be receptive to your instruction, so that we can live worthily as your people. Kindle true faith that draws us to your Church, where we can find the medicine we need to be well and the home where we truly belong. Thanks be to God.* onlineministries.creighton.edu