



SCHEDULES & MASS INTENTIONS

Week of August 27, 2017

Sat 4:00 PM *Mary Swington by D. Swington*
Sun 8:00 AM *St. Agnes— Pro Populo*
Sun 10:00 AM *Pauline McDuff by Depatie Family*
Mon 9:00 AM *Carlita LaPorte by Helen Williams*
Wed 9:00 AM *Anna Anair by Janet Disorder*
Thurs 9:00 AM *Sophie Bugnacki Mary Bugnacki*
Fri 1-3 PM *Adoration*
Sat 4:00 PM *Beatrice Leary by Keith & Swington*
Sun 8:00 AM *St. Agnes— Pro Populo*
Sun 10:00 AM *Lorraine M. Muncil by Jeannine Griffin*

Parish Support

Offering for the weekend of August 20, 2017
(Our Goal is \$1,800.00 each week)

Sunday Collection

Loose	\$ 495.25
Envelopes	\$ 743.00
Total	\$1238.25
Utility Fund	\$443.75

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 August 27, 2017

Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28
Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8 (426)/Mk 6:17-29
Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Mt 25:14-30
Next Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27



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, Patricia Ward, 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>
8/26 Joe Flynn	Joe Flynn
8/27 C. Frankiewicz	Terry Zimmer
9/2 Jerry Flint	Pike Mitchell
9/3 Jeannine Griffin	Wanda Murray
<u>Gift Bearers</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
08/26 L. Bertrand Family	Jordan Bertrand
08/27 G. & B. Gearwar	B. Thornton & B. Stanley
09/2 Scott & Marge Munger	Brooke Bertrand
09/3 Russell Doty Fam.	A. Depatie & O. Depatie

Collection Counters



08/27 Tina Wiles & Glenda Gearwar
 09/03 Carolyn Walker & Bob Gearwar
 09/10 M. 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 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 & Thursday
9:30 am—4:00 pm

2nd Collection for weekends in Sept.:

09/03 Restoration Fund
 09/10 Vermont Catholic Magazine
 09/17 Utility Fund

Parish Secretary: Our Lady of Good Help is looking for a part time Parish Secretary. Basic computer skills a must. For further information, please send a letter of interest, and a resume to olghcc@comcast.net or contact Fr. Vincent at 802-247-6351.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Religious Education classes will begin on Sunday, September 10, 2017. Classes for Grades 1/2, 3/4, and 5/6 will be held before Mass Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m. at the Church Hall. Classes for 7/8, and 9/10 will be held at 6:00 p.m. Sunday evenings at the Church Hall. Please remember that completion of 1st Grade is required for those planning to receive the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist in Grade 2. Also, Confirmation is a 2-year program for Grades 9 and 10. Registration forms can be found on the tables at the back of the Church, and the registration fee is \$25.00 for one (1) child or \$40.00 per family. Please make all checks payable to Our Lady of Good Help or O.L.G.H. Completed registration forms with the registration fee may be mailed to St. Mary's Church, 38 Carver Street, Brandon, VT 05733, or placed in the collection basket at Mass. No child should be deprived of Religious Education because of money. If you should find it difficult to pay the registration fee, please contact Father Vincent or myself. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (802) 247-6937 or by e-mail at wanda-murray66@comcast.net. Thank you and God Bless!! Wanda Murray, Director of Religious Education.

ANNUAL RAFFLE NEWS! Only 2 more weeks left for our sale. We really need to sell more tickets and need a big rush to push the sales during these last 2 weeks. We appreciate all and any help you have given us so far and could use a little more. Tickets are available at the back of the church before and after each Mass. If you have tickets out please return them and the money in at Saturday's 4 pm Mass on 9/2 would be greatly appreciated. Again, Thanks You!!!

SATURDAY NITE DINNER—Sept. 9th 5 PM: Menu: Meat Loaf/baked potato, corn/coleslaw/Dessert Rolls/Coffee/cold drink. Cost: \$8.00 per person, \$5.00-children 6-12, Free-Children 5 & under. Tickets available before & after each Mass on Saturday & Sunday at the back of the Church. Thank You for your Support.

Diocesan News: Understanding Our Young Former Catholics:

The numbers are bleak. Roughly half of Catholic teenagers lose their Catholic identity by their late 20's and of those who still self-identify as "Catholic," very few have any connection with the Church. While this is something I think most of us have realized or experienced for quite a while, it is rather stark to see the statistics in plain black and white. It is worrisome, worrisome for the Church and worrisome for them. In my travels around Vermont over the past two and half years, when I ask people "What are some of the concerns you have?" the top two are almost always, "What is going to happen to our small parishes?" and, "What can we do to keep young people and families in the Church?" Both of these are serious topics that will obviously be discussed in the upcoming preparations for and convening of next year's Diocesan Synod. In keeping with this, I thought over the next few months I might offer some information and statistics that will help educate us about some of the substantial issues involved around these areas of concern. I recently received a report from Notre Dame University that summarizes an extensive survey of young people who have left the Catholic Church. The report seeks to understand first the reasons for their leaving the Church, second who these young people are now, and finally, some implications for forming committed Catholic youth. It does so through the use of six significant findings, the first one of which I will mention today: They are still believers. Former Catholic young adults still (mostly) believe in and interact with (some version of) God. Only 19% no longer believe in God. While the practice of prayer is less common, "57% of former Catholic emerging adults still pray at least sometimes." Implications and opportunity: "Leaving the Catholic Church rarely means becoming an atheist. Many former Catholics still believe in God or some other divine force.... This is not fundamentally different from emerging adults who are raised in other faiths. It demonstrates a widespread trend in this generation of moving away from organized religion but retaining a belief in and connection with the divine. These youths (and emerging adults) may be open to discussions about the nature of God that are more sophisticated and inviting than some may imagine." So they are "spiritual," but not "religious." *The Most Reverend Christopher J. Coyne, Bishop of Burlington.*

Reflections for the Week:

Quite a supporting cast Christ picked for his ministry, those apostles. There were days when Jesus had to wonder. Like when James and John, the sons of Zebedee, request the places of honor at his sides when the moment of triumph arrives (Mark 10:35ff.). Matthew's account has their *mother* making the proposition. Either way, Christ had to heave a sigh. Slow to understand, if not clueless. At times they seem more a drag on the ministry than a help. So when Christ selects Peter in today's gospel, one is pulled into reflection on it. How could he be so sure? Meanwhile, other passages surface. My favorite story of the call of the disciples in the first chapter of John. Having had Jesus pointed out to them by John the Baptist, a pair begin to shadow him. After noticing this, Jesus asks them what they would like. "Uh, where do you stay?" The Baptist's recommendation spurs their curiosity. They follow Christ without being fully sure why. Perhaps he can assuage those hungers gnawing at their hearts. If only. Jesus sees the possibilities and replies simply, "Come and see." Christ could see their best selves. He knew where they were at, individually--but also what they could become. That's a consoling thought when one doesn't feel up to the job at hand. It's helpful when counseling others who are doubting their own call and feel immobilized by their own frailties. Christ calls us anyway.

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