



SCHEDULES & MASS INTENTIONS

Week of November 19, 2017

Sat	4:00 PM	All Souls
Sun	10:00 AM	Pauline McDuff by McDuff & Griffin Families
Mon	9:00 AM	No Mass
Wed	9:00 AM	All Souls
Thurs	9:00 AM	All Souls
Fri	9:00 AM	Rose Festa by Angela and Dean
Sat	4:00 PM	Lucille Sprague by Donna Swingleton-
Sun	10:00 AM	Deacon Gary Griffin 2nd year Anniversary by Jeannine Griffin

Parish Support

**Offering for the weekend of November 12, 2017
(Our Goal is \$1,800.00 each week)**

Sunday Collection

Loose	\$279.12
Envelopes	\$668.00
Total	\$947.12
Utility Fund	\$450.87

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 November 19, 2017

- Sunday:** Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/1 Thes 5:1-6
Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/Lk 18:35-43
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 (500),
Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/Lk 19:45-48
Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13/Lk 20:27-40
Next Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt



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, and Brendan Holbriiter.

Ministry Schedule



<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>	<u>Lectors</u>
11/18 Joe Flynn	Laurie Bertrand
11/19 Robert Rojecki	Bernie Carr
11/25 Jerry Flint	Jerry Flint
11/26 Charlotte Frankiewicz	Katie Murray
<u>Gift Bearers</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
11/18 T. Howland Family	Jordan Bertrand
11/19 T. Depatie Family	B. Thorton & A. Hayes
11/25 R. Howland Family	Brooke Bertrand
11/26 Glenda & Bob Gearwar	N. & O. Depatie

Collection Counters



- 11/26 Tina Wiles & Glenda Gearwar
- 12/03 Carolyn Walker & Bob Gearwar
- 12/10 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 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 Nov./Dec.:

- 11/19 Catholic Campaign for Human Development**
- 12/03 Restoration Fund**
- 12/10 Retirement Fund for Religious**

Surprise Raffle: Drawing: Sunday, November 26, 2017 after the 10 am mass at St. Mary's; Tickets \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00 . Tickets available before and after each mass on Saturday and Sunday.

St. Mary's Religious Education classes Thanksgiving food drive: If anyone would like to participate by contributing non-perishable food items or cash, please contact Wanda Murray after Mass on Sundays or at 247-6937 wandamurray66@comcast.net. Any food contributions can be left in the barrel in the back of the Church. Thanks.

Social Concerns Meeting: Monday, November 20 at 6 PM

Parish Potluck Dinner: On Saturday, December 9th, we will be holding our second annual Christmas potluck dinner for all parishioners at the Church Hall following the 4:00 p.m. Mass. Sign-up sheets will be at the back of the Church for those who are able to bring a dish to share (appetizer, main dish, dessert). Any questions, contact Wanda Murray at 247-6937 or e-mail at wandamurray66@comcast.net. Please join us for a delicious meal while celebrating Christmas together as a church family!

Diocesan Synod: Bishop Coyne wants your help in planning the Diocese of Burlington's 2018 Synod. We want ALL CATHOLICS to be part of the conversation as we seek to discern God's will for the Church in Vermont. First, I ask you to pray for the success of the Synod, including praying the official Synod Prayer: Almighty and ever living God, you continually guide and sustain your pilgrim Church, which you established as "the universal sacrament of salvation." Direct the Church in Vermont during this time of preparation for the Diocesan Synod. Help us to discern the signs of the time wisely, that we may joyfully proclaim the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ. May we never fail to trust that "with God, all things are possible." We ask this, with the help of the Holy Spirit, through Christ our Lord. Amen. Mary, Mother of the Church, Pray for Us. Second, you are invited to share your views during a parish listening session. Do you have an insightful response to any of these questions put forth by the bishop?

1. As the Catholic Church in Vermont, what are we doing well?
2. What are we doing that we should be doing better?
3. What are we not doing that we should be doing?

Third, please save the date of **November 27th**, which our parish Pastoral Council chose to invite everyone to our listening session in the parish hall 6.30pm – 8.00pm. Finally, if our date is not possible for you, there will be other means of participating in the synod conversation, including a regional listening session hosted by the bishop, and electronic means to sending responses. Thank you. Fr. Vincent

Diocesan News: Are We Listening, People Of God? I have a confession to make. I'm an introvert. It's extremely difficult for me to go into what I call "uncontrolled" social situations — large or even smaller gatherings of strangers where I am to "mingle" or make "small talk." Just typing those words make me sweat and want to run. Back in my seminary days, we were asked to serve the poor through work in soup kitchens. "Okay," I thought to myself, "this won't be so bad. I'll stay in the kitchen preparing the food. Maybe I'll even help in the serving line." But I soon found out that those who were volunteering were expected to sit with those that came through the line and engage in conversation. I worried about this for days before going yet I still went. There was a little talk, but it was mostly what I thought was terribly awkward silence. Some other people sat around us and thankfully started conversing. I mostly listened. After that night, I promised to myself not to do that again. I'd find an excuse not to go. I did end up going a few times more, but it was more of the same experience. I eventually just stayed in the kitchen helping where I could. A funny thing happened that summer though, that I can describe only as a Holy Spirit moment. I was with a friend spending the day in downtown Chicago. In the late afternoon, we were talking about getting dinner when a man approached asking for money. I couldn't believe what came out of my mouth. "I'm sorry, I don't have any cash I can spare, but my friend and I were just going to grab a bite to eat before taking the train home. Why don't you join us?" My friend's eyes widened. I thought "what did I just do?" The man said, "sure..." We spent the next hour sitting at McDonalds eating burgers. There was no lack of conversation. I don't remember everything we talked about — but I do remember asking "what's your story?" Here, in this moment, we were "breaking bread" and sharing stories. And in that short span of time — we were strangers no longer. I recall this as we come upon the first "World Day of the Poor" promulgated by Pope Francis to be celebrated on the Sunday before the feast of Christ the King. The pope calls us to seek out encounters with the poor among us. At the same time, I am reminded of the advice Bishop Coyne gave to all the confirmation students this past year as he went around the diocese celebrating the Sacrament: don't stifle the Spirit. I recognize that I'm still an introvert and don't make small talk very easily. If I serve the poor at shelters or soup kitchens, you'll probably still find me in the kitchen — behind the scenes. But maybe not. Maybe the Holy Spirit will help me once again think outside the box — even a little bit. Who knows. Maybe I'll be making small talk in the serving line. Are we listening to the Holy Spirit, People of God? Can we let the Spirit move us to serve in ways we never thought possible? — *Josh Perry is the Director of Worship and Liturgy for the Diocese of Burlington.*

Reflections for the Week

In today's Gospel an important man has invested in his servants. He gives them money to care for while he is away. Two of the servants invest the money and can give back more than they were given when their master returns. One servant, afraid of losing the money, buried it to protect it and so was able to give the master exactly what he had been entrusted with. The two with a good return on the investment are understandably rewarded. Their master praises their resourcefulness and trusts them with greater responsibility after their good job. The servant who returns his coin intact, however, is not praised. He is reprimanded for not increasing his wealth. The others doubled the money, and this guy didn't. He thought he would be praised for not losing the money, but that was the base line. Returning the coins was the least he could do. He didn't show any initiative. He didn't go above and beyond. The others took a risk. If their investments had not paid off, they might have ended up with less money, or even none of the money they were given. That would be bad. The third servant was afraid of such a situation and chose to take the safer route and preserve the money so he wouldn't have to explain a potential loss to his boss. If he got in trouble for returning the exact amount, what would have happened if he had lost the money? And of course we are those servants. What will we do with what God has given us? Will we hide our light under a bushel, or will we make the best use of our talents and give back more than we have been given. Preserving our lives is the least we can do. The best we can do is to appreciate and take advantage of what has been entrusted to us. We can use our hearts and minds to give glory to god and to help each other. We can be like the wife in the first reading who takes her husband's love and gives back even more. We should be like the enterprising servants who take a risk, but return even more than they were given. Life is risky and uncertain, but we need to actively do our very best. And we have to act now. We can't hide our light. We can't bury our talents. We don't know when the master will return and when we will be held to account. Will we waste our lives, or use our talents to make a greater return to God?

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