



**SCHEDULES & MASS INTENTIONS**

**Week of March 4, 2018**

<b>Sat 4:00 PM</b>	Unice Flynn by Paul Quesnel
<b>Sun 10:00 AM</b>	Raymond Larose by Diane Benware
<b>Mon 9:00 AM</b>	Larrivee Family by Wanda & Marc Larrivee
<b>Wed 9:00 AM</b>	Locke Family by Wanda & Marc Larrivee
<b>Thurs 9:00 AM</b>	Crowley Family by Wanda & Marc Larrivee
<b>Fri 1-3 PM</b>	Larrivee Family by Wanda & Marc Larrivee
<b>Sat 4:00 PM</b>	Aline Godin by Erica Godin
<b>Sun 10:00 AM</b>	Locke Family by Wand & Marc Larrivee

**Parish Support**

**Offering for the weekend of February 25, 2018  
(Our Goal is \$1,800.00 each week)**

**Sunday Collection**

<b>Loose</b>	<b>\$218.50</b>
<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$668.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$886.50</b>
<b>Utility Fund</b>	<b>\$285.75</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 March 4, 2018**

**Sunday:** Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/1 Cor 1:22-25

**Monday:** 2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Lk 4:24-30

**Tuesday:** Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35

**Wednesday:** Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19

**Thursday:** Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23

**Friday:** Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34

**Saturday:** Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14

**Next Sunday:** 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21



*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>
03/03 Joe Flynn	Joe Flynn
03/04 Charlotte Frankiewicz	Guy Beck
03/10 Jerry Flint	Laurie Bertrand
03/11 Jeannine Griffin	CCD Students
<b><u>Gift Bearers</u></b>	<b><u>Altar Servers</u></b>
03/03 E.Parmalee & S.Munger	David Bertrand
03/04 CCD Students	B. Thornton & B. Stanley
03/10 Karen Decker	Jordan Bertrand
03/11 Russell Doty Family	A.Depatie & M. Harding

**Collection Counters**



03/04 Bob Gearwar & Kathryn Bryant
03/11 Mike Frankiewicz & Carol Bertrand
03/18 Donna Swington & Paula Bizon



**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 March:**

- 03/04 Restoration Fund**
- 03/11 Catholic Relief Services**
- 03/18 Utility Fund**

**Annual Financial Contribution Statements** for 2017 taxes that were requested are available on the back table.

**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.

**Parish Council Meeting :** Thursday, March 15 at 7 PM

**Parish Finance Committee:** Wednesday, March 14 at 6PM

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

**CRS RICEBOWL - THIRD WEEK OF LENT: ENCOUNTER SAFIATA.** In Burkina Faso, we encounter Safiata, a mother, grandmother and farmer who relies on the money she makes from her crops to put her children through school. How can our purchases this Lent support farmers and artisans? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) for more. If you haven't already done so, please pick up a rice bowl from the back tables. Thank you.

**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

**Reflections for the week**

There are several pairs of words floating around in my head from these readings: foolishness and wisdom; weakness and strength; divinity and humanity; building and body; law and gift. They bring up questions for me about human and divine nature, about the importance of space, and about fasting. Jesus' outburst in anger has always tripped me up in this Gospel story. Jesus is never angry in the rest of the Gospels. He is celebrating, or troubled, or tired, or moved with pity. He weeps for people, he heals people, he feeds people, and he is present to people. He calmly answers the Pharisees when he knows they are trying to goad him. Even at the prospect of death, when he prays so fervently that he sweats blood, he is not described as being angry; in fact, he begs forgiveness for those who hurt him. This display of frustration and anger, even righteous anger, disrupts my image of Christ just as he literally disrupts the tables. Probably, that is exactly the point: I am not allowed to be complacent in my image of Christ, just as the people there that day were not allowed to be complacent in their understanding of the law. Jesus seems particularly human to me because of this story. Perhaps this is ironic since, in the Old Testament, righteous anger seemed to be God's normal mood. It is especially interesting to consider in light of the second reading's reflection on the crucifixion, that "the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength." God overturns my expectations of what wisdom and strength look like. I continue to ponder whether the righteous anger of God is somehow more peaceful than human peace, or perhaps more peaceful than human complacency. What is God telling me about the nature of divinity and humanity here? I think Jesus reveals the reason for his anger in the analogy between the temple building and his body. The space that was meant to be reserved for being with God, for encountering God, had been repurposed for carrying out the letter of the law (through sacrifice). God gave the Law to help the people grow closer to God through practicing it. The Law was a gift, as the psalm says, more precious than a heap of purest gold and sweeter than honey from the comb. But in the Gospel story, the people were caught up in material, even the material they used to worship God, rather than being caught up in God. Jesus refers to his own body as the temple. I can assume that, in Christ's image, my body is also a temple. What is God telling me about how important it is to keep my "inner room" free to encounter God? One of the songs we use at St. John's during Lent, "O Beauty Ever Ancient," is based on St. Augustine's *Confessions*. One line says, "This created world is glorious, yet I could not see within, see your loveliness behind all, find the Giver in the gift." I think Augustine hits upon the reason behind our Lenten fast and upon Jesus' desire for the people in the temple: to remember that the gifts we receive are meant to draw us closer to God, both individually and communally, and not to get caught up in the gifts themselves. [onlineministries.creighton.edu](http://onlineministries.creighton.edu)

**Diocesan News: STATEMENT OF Bishop Christopher Coyne On Abortion Issues :** As Catholics, we believe abortion is gravely contrary to the moral law and that procured abortion is a moral evil. Over the past month, two significant events have taken place — one national, one local — both connected with the promotion of abortion. On Jan. 29, the U.S. Senate rejected a bill to ban most abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy. The 20-week ban, named the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, was a particularly important piece of legislation for all those who seek to protect human life because more and more children born as early as 20 weeks into gestation are now surviving into full and healthy lives. It is a sad reflection on the state of the issue that the rights of one human being (the mother) supplant the rights of another human life (the child), one that can at that gestational age exist outside of the womb. The second incident involves the decision of the University of Vermont Medical Center in Burlington now to provide services for elective abortions. With other abortion providers throughout Vermont, why is it even necessary for the state's largest medical facility to offer this service? There was no public discussion of this change to a long-standing public policy, and there was no consultation with many of the doctors, nurses, caregivers and staff of the medical center about the impact this decision would have on them. At the very least, Covenant Health, the Catholic healthcare system that owns the Fanny Allen Campus (formerly the Catholic Fanny Allen Hospital), which is leased to the UVM Medical Center, should have been made aware of this change given that its lease agreement with UVM prohibits procedures such as abortion. Covenant Health had no knowledge of any change in policy regarding abortions. It was only after my office asked Covenant Health to make an inquiry that we were told elective abortions are now being performed at UVM but none are taking place on the Fanny Allen campus. If abortion were just one more medical procedure — as pro-choice proponents contend — then it need not require any further administrative action to be offered within the hospital or in a Senate vote than any other procedure. But abortion is not merely a medical procedure. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states: "Human life is sacred because from its beginning it involves the creative action of God and it remains forever in a special relationship with the Creator, who is its sole end. God alone is the Lord of life from its beginning until its end: no one can under any circumstance claim for himself the right directly to destroy an innocent human being." That is why I was shocked and saddened by the news that the UVM Medical Center is now offering elective abortions. That is why this decision deserved the careful consideration of input given by those who work at and are served by this hospital. We take this to heart, and we take this to our lawmakers and policymakers. We continue to raise our voices and be heard as we pray and act to defend life.