

April 29, 2018

Fifth Sunday of Easter



Offertory: Dec. 17, 2017 OLM \$476, OLV \$550, COS \$913, Total \$1,939  
Dec. 18, 2016 OLM \$157, OLV \$502, COS \$816, Total \$1,475

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday, April 28, OLM 4:00 PM For all *FRIENDS Missionaries*, requested by Jacob Schroeder  
Sunday, April 29, OLM 8:30 AM For Tom Rowley, requested by Fr. Francis McMahon  
Sunday, April 29, OLV 10:30 AM For Terese Heard, requested by Eleanor Crombie  
Sunday, April 29, COS 12:30 PM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by John Nappi, Jr.  
Saturday, May 5, OLM 4:00 PM For Grace Donohue, requested by Tom Donohue  
Sunday, May 6, OLM 8:30 AM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by John Nappi, Jr.  
Sunday, May 6, OLV 10:30 AM For Edward Gay, requested by Martin and Carol Bemis  
Sunday, May 6, COS 12:30 PM For Tom Rowley, requested by Fr. Francis McMahon

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**April 28 & 29: Special Collection: Catholic Home Missions, Black and Indian Missions**  
April 29: Confirmation, 2:00 PM St. Michael's, Brattleboro  
May 2: Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, 7 PM, OLV  
May 4: First Friday Mass, 5:30 PM, St. Edmund's, Saxtons River  
**May 10: The Ascension of our Lord, Holy Day of Obligation, OLM-5:30 PM, OLV-7:30 PM**

**APRIL**  
National Child Abuse  
Prevention Month



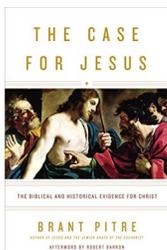
“Life is really simple, but we insist on making it complicated.”  
~Confucius



**Weekly Intention:** For the grace this week to face the trials and difficulties of life with the confidence and certainty that come from the Resurrection .

Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal today! Right now, over 40% of dioceses in the United States are considered home mission territory because they are unable to fund the essential pastoral work needed in their communities. Your support funds programs, such as religious education, seminary formation, and lay ministry training, to build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. Please be generous. More information can be found at [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions)

**Did you know? The Diocese of Burlington keeps children safe through adult trainings and background screenings...**As part of the Diocese of Burlington's continuing commitment to protect young people, adults who have direct contact with minors at our parishes and Catholic schools must complete all safe environment requirements. These requirements include: participation in annual child abuse prevention training; submission of background check paperwork; reading of the Diocesan *Policies on Ethics and Integrity in Ministry*; AND signing of an annual Code of Conduct. All of these requirements can be completed through the Diocese of Burlington's online adult training program called *Safe and Sacred* by Proud to Protect, Inc. To get started with the program, visit [www.vermontcatholic.org](http://www.vermontcatholic.org). Contact your parish office, Catholic school, or the Office of Safe Environment Programs for more information.



**Parish Book Club Announcement:** Our May book club selection is *The Case for Jesus: The Biblical and Historical Evidence for Christ* by Brant Pitre. Father Fred presented each parish family with this book during Lent.

BRANT PITRE is a Professor of Sacred Scripture at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, Louisiana, and the bestselling author of *Jesus, the Tribulation, and the End of Exile* and *Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist*, among others.

We live in deeply challenging times. Spring is a time of sweeping off and greening up. Let's sweep away the cobwebs of our minds about our Lord and our faith and take on Brant Pitre's groundbreaking challenge that dispels the skeptics and makes an iron-clad case—through the Gospels—for Jesus Christ. Please consider reading this transformational book. Then, join us for an hour of sharing and discussion on Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 7-8pm at Our Lady of the Valley. Contact Carol Bemis (802-779-6412) with any questions. Hope to see many of you at our club meeting!!!

**From Fr. Fred** From a sermon on the beatitudes by Saint Leo the Great, pope

*Blessed are the poor in spirit*

It cannot be doubted that the poor can more easily attain the blessing of humility than those who are rich. In the case of the poor, the lack of worldly goods is often accompanied by a quiet gentleness, whereas the rich are more prone to arrogance. Nevertheless, many wealthy people are disposed to use their abundance not to swell their own pride but to perform works of benevolence. They consider their greatest gain what they spend to alleviate the distress of others.

This virtue is open to all men, no matter what their class or condition, because all can be equal in their willingness to give, however unequal they may be in earthly fortune. Indeed, their inequality in regard to worldly means is unimportant, provided they are found equal in spiritual possessions. Blessed, therefore, is that poverty which is not trapped by the love of temporal things and does not seek to be enriched by worldly wealth, but desires rather to grow rich in heavenly goods.

The apostles were the first after the Lord himself to provide us with an example of this generous poverty, when they all equally left their belongings at the call of the heavenly master. By an immediate conversion they were turned from the catching of fish to become fishers of men, and by their own example they won many others to the imitation of their own faith. In these first sons of the Church there was but one heart and one soul among all who believed. Abandoning all their worldly property and possessions in their

dedicated poverty, they were enriched with eternal goods, and in accordance with the apostolic preaching, they rejoiced to have nothing of this world and to possess all things with Christ.

Therefore, when the apostle Peter was on his way up to the temple and was asked for alms by the lame man, he replied: *Silver and gold I have not; but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, arise and walk.* What is more sublime than this humility? And what could be richer than this poverty? Though Peter cannot assist with money, he can confer gifts of nature. With a word Peter brought healing to the man who had been lame from birth; he who did not give a coin with the emperor's image refashioned the image of Jesus in this man.

And by the riches of this treasure, not only did he help the man who recovered the power to walk, but also five thousand others who believed the preaching of the apostle because of this miraculous cure. Thus Peter, who in his poverty had no money to give to the beggar, bestowed such a bounty of divine grace that in restoring to health the feet of one man, he healed the hearts of many thousands of believers. He had found all of them lame; but he made them leap for joy in Christ.



**Just for Fun:** A phone call came into the elementary school at 8AM.

PRINCIPAL: "Green Mountain Elementary School. Good morning. How may I help you?"

CALLER: "Mary Jones won't be in school today. She's sick."

PRINCIPAL: "Thank you for calling. Who is this?"

CALLER: "This is my mother."



**Quote of the week:**

"We do not cease praying so long as we continue to do good. The prayer of the heart and of good deeds has more value than the prayer of the lips." ~St. Augustine of Hippo