

**Offertory:** Aug. 18, 2013 OLM \$1,053, OLV \$535, COS \$261, Total \$1,849.  
 Aug. 17, 2014 OLM \$522, OLV \$364, COS \$579, Total \$1,465.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday Aug 30 OLM 4:00PM For Ott Tarantino, requested by Arlene Tarantino  
 Sunday Aug 31 OLM 8:30AM For a Special Intention, requested by John Nappi, Jr.  
 Sunday Aug 31 OLV 10:30AM For George E. Crombie, requested by Eleanor C. Crombie  
 Sunday Aug 31 COS 12:30PM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by John Nappi, Jr.  
 Saturday Sept 6 OLM 4:00PM For Amber Rose Sanpiere, requested by Theresa and Matthew Wajdowicz  
 Sunday Sept 7 OLM 8:30AM For All our Parishioners  
 Sunday Sept 7 OLV 10:30AM For All our Parishioners  
 Sunday Sept 7 COS 12:30PM For Dennis Hemming, Mike Fuchs and Graham Codd (all living), requested by Dorrie Codd

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

Sept. 3 Parish Council Meeting, 7 PM, OLV  
 Sept. 5 First Friday Mass, 5:30 PM, Church of St. Edmund of Canterbury, Saxton's River  
 Sept. 5 ADORATION, 3-4 PM, OLM  
 Sept. 12 ADORATION, 3-4 PM, OLM  
 Sept. 13 **SATURDAY, 12:00 NOON, MASS ON TOP OF STRATTON MOUNTAIN (BYO chair)**  
 Sept. 18 Finance Council Meeting, 4:30 PM, rectory  
 Sept. 21 **First CCD Class, OLV, 9:15 AM**

**CHRISTMAS CHOIR PRACTICE**

**OLM** - 1/2 hour before mass starts. Rehearsal will be for 15 minutes. You will still have time to meditate before mass.  
**OLV** - 1st 15 minutes after mass.



**CCD REGISTRATION at OLV is still open until August 31st.** Registration fee is also due on that date, so that we can order books.  
 For information, call **Ann Marie Scott, 802-874-7095.**



**Retreat for Women**

The Sisters of Mercy are offering two weekend Retreats for Women at **Mt. St. Mary in Burlington.** The first is **Sept. 5-7** and the second is **Sept. 12-14.** Presenter is Sr. Jules and the theme of the weekend is "Renewing your belief in the transformative power of love."  
 The cost of the retreat is \$125 for commuters and \$150 for those staying at St. Mary's.  
 For more information or to register, call Sr. Ruth Ravey at (802) 658-5494 or email her at <33mercyvt@gmail.com>



**RCIA 2014-2015**

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Program will begin on **September 10th, 2014** at 7 PM in the Parish Center, **St. Michael's Parish, Brattleboro.**  
 You may be interested in this program if you: *a) Seek to know more about the Catholic Church; b) Want to refresh your knowledge as a Catholic; c) Want to ask questions about Catholic teaching; or d) Wish to join the Church or return after many years.* RCIA is a spiritual journey through Catholicism. The Program includes informed discussions and faith-sharing with instruction on basic tenets of the Catholic faith.  
 To sign up, or for more information, please call the **Rectory at 257-5101.**



**Weekly Intention**

**For the grace this week to resist being conformed to the present age and to be transformed by the renewal of our minds.**



## From Fr. Fred:

There are some who say: "I believe in God. But I don't need a church. Jesus isn't God. And the Church is just a man-made institution." But St. John Chrysostom shows us, when we stop to think about it, how impossible that premise is.

From a homily on the first letter to the Corinthians by Saint John Chrysostom, bishop.

### *The weakness of God is stronger than men*

It was clear through unlearned men that the cross was persuasive, in fact, it persuaded the whole world. Their discourse was not of unimportant matters but of God and true religion, of the Gospel way of life and future judgment, yet it turned plain, uneducated men into philosophers. How the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and his weakness is stronger than men!

In what way is it stronger? It made its way throughout the world and overcame all men; countless men sought to eradicate the very name of the Crucified, but that name flourished and grew ever mightier. Its enemies lost out and perished; the living who waged war on a dead man proved helpless. Therefore, when a Greek tells me I am dead, he shows only that he is foolish indeed, for I, whom he thinks a fool, turn out to be wiser than those reputed wise. So too, in calling me weak, he but shows that he is weaker still. For the good deeds which tax-collectors and fishermen were able to accomplish by God's grace, the philosophers, the rulers, the countless multitudes cannot even imagine.

Paul had this in mind when he said: *The weakness of God is stronger than men*. That the preaching of these men was indeed divine is brought home to us in the same way. For how otherwise could twelve uneducated men, who lived on lakes and rivers and wastelands, get the idea for such an immense enterprise? How could men who perhaps had never been in a city or a public square think of setting out to do battle with the whole world? That they were fearful timid men, the evangelist makes clear; he did not reject the fact or try to hide their weaknesses. Indeed he turned these into a proof of the truth. What did he say of them? That when Christ was arrested, the others fled, despite all the miracles they had seen, while he who was leader of the others denied him!

How then account for the fact that these men, who in Christ's lifetime did not stand up to the attacks by the Jews, set forth to do battle with the whole world once Christ was dead—if, as you claim, Christ did not rise and speak to them and rouse their courage? Did they perhaps say to themselves: "What is this? He could not save himself but he will protect us? He did not help himself when he was alive, but now that he is dead he will extend a helping hand to us? In his lifetime he brought no nation under his banner, but by uttering his name we will win over the whole world?" Would it not be wholly irrational even to think such thoughts, much less to act upon them?

It is evident, then, that if they had not seen him risen and had proof of his power, they would not have risked so much.

## *Gifts for the Kingdom Adult Catechetical and Enrichment Conference:*

The annual *Gifts for the Kingdom Catechetical Conference* will take place on **Saturday, September 20, 2014**, at the **Hilton Hotel in Burlington**. The keynote speaker is **Dr. Edward Sri**, a theologian, speaker and author of several best-selling books including *A Biblical Walk through the Mass*, and his most recent publication, *Pope Francis and the Joy of the Gospel: Rediscovering the Heart of a Disciple*. Registration will open online July 1, 2014 at [www.vermontcatholic.org](http://www.vermontcatholic.org).



## Quote of the Week:

*"As you esteem yourself, so must you consider your neighbor. If you love yourself because you love God, you will have the same love for your neighbor. As for your enemies, esteem them not for what they are but for what they may one day become."*

- St. Bernard of Clairvaux

## Just for Fun:

The new pastor asked one of his parishioners: "I saw John walk out of the church during my sermon. Do you know why?" The parishioner answered: "Don't worry about that, Father. He often walks in his sleep."

