

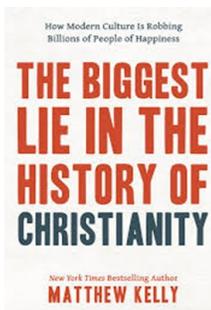
Offertory: November 4, 2018 OLM \$439, OLV \$333, COS \$603, Total \$1,375
November 5, 2017 OLM \$643, OLV \$579, COS \$507, Total \$1,729

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Feb. 2, OLM 4:00 PM For Rolando Calino, requested by Lolita Palmer
Saturday, Feb. 2, COS 4:30 PM For Robert (Bob) Idarola, requested by Paula Idarola
Sunday, Feb. 3, OLM 8:30 AM For our young people to know Jesus, requested by Karen Shaw
Sunday, Feb. 3, OLV 10:30 AM For Justine and Stephen Martin, requested by Cindy Rahmlow
Sunday, Feb. 3, COS 12:30 PM For the Shaw Family, requested by Karen Shaw
Saturday, Feb. 9, OLM 4:00 PM For our youth to love Jesus, requested by Karen Shaw
Saturday, Feb. 9, COS 4:30 PM For Peter, Anna May and Maureen Herron, requested by Catherine and Robert Zimmerman
Sunday, Feb. 10, OLM 8:30 AM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by John Nappi, Jr.
Sunday, Feb. 10, OLV 10:30 AM For Greg Gerwig, requested by Karen Shaw
Sunday, Feb. 10, COS 12:30 PM For my saintly friends, Cindy Russo, Frank Kelly, Roy Showman and all priests, requested by Karen Shaw

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Feb. 6: Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, 7 PM, OLV
Feb. 9 & 10: **Special Collection: Church in Latin America**
Feb. 15, Adoration, 3 PM, OLV
Feb. 17 & 18: **Special Collection: The Church in Eastern Europe**



Parish Book Club Announcement:
Our March book club selection is the book gifted us all by Father Fred: THE BIGGEST LIE IN THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY by Matthew Kelly.
Clear, insightful, bold, and practical this little book is packed with the ideas Christianity needs now—and going forward—in a deeply challenging world. Kelly is a *New York Times* bestselling author known for his strong faith, brilliantly executed ideas, and accessible writing style.

All reasons that Father Fred bought this book for his flock—that's US!

This is a 115-page book. Yet it is a life-changer. Please consider reading it with our parish community. Then, if you can make it (which would be grand), join us for an hour of sharing and discussion on Wednesday, March 20th, 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!!!

Cursilistas of Windham and Windsor counties: If, for any reason, your small group or Ultreya is no longer meeting, consider coming to ours, which is less than an hour away. Our Lady of Mercy and the West River Missions Ultreya meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30p.m. The location varies between two churches and some parishioners' homes. For information contact Daisy Anderberg at anderbergdr092571@gmail.com or 802-365-4012. Give it a try, You'll be very welcome.

A second collection will take place this weekend to support families affected by the government shutdown. Money from the collection will be directed towards our local Catholic and charitable foodbanks to help support families or individuals affected by any impact of the shutdown on the 3SquaresVT, a benefit program of the Vermont Department for Children and Families. Bishop Christopher Coyne has directed that additional funding be given to the Emergency Aid program at Vermont Catholic Charities (VCC) to assist any federal employees and their families that are in need because of the shutdown. Any parishioners who need such help should contact VCC, www.vermontcatholic.org or 802-658-6110 ext. 1312

Weekly Intention:
For the grace this week of greater humility, and to be more focused on Jesus in our daily life



EXTRA EXTRA GOOD NEWS!
Our Bishop, Christopher Coyne is going to visit our parish on Sunday, March 24th. He will be at the 8:30am Mass at Our Lady of Mercy in Putney and the 10:30am Mass at Our Lady of the Valley in Townshend. He is also eager to talk with you **BEFORE** the 8:30am Putney Mass and **AFTER** the 10:30am Townshend Mass. Please mark your calendars and invite your friends.

“When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us.” ~Helen Keller

From Fr. Fred: *This quote clearly shows us our call. You and I must boldly proclaim the mystery of Christ.*

“Every disciple of Christ is responsible in his own measure for the spread of the faith, but Christ the Lord is always calling from among his followers those whom he wills, so that they may be with him and be sent by him to preach to the nations.

Through the Holy Spirit, who distributes gifts as he wills for the good of all, Christ implants in the hearts of individuals the vocation to be a missionary, and at the same time he raises up in the Church institutes which make their own the task of spreading the Gospel that belongs to the whole Church.

A special vocation marks out those priests, religious and lay people who are prepared to undertake the missionary task in their own country or abroad, and have the right natural disposition for it, with suitable gifts and talents. Sent by lawful authority, they go out in obedience and faith to those who are far from Christ. They have been set apart for the task to which they have been called as ministers of the Gospel, *to make the Gentiles an acceptable offering, sanctified in the Holy Spirit.*

Those whom God calls must answer his call in such a way that, without regard for purely human counsel, they may devote themselves wholly to the work of the Gospel. This response cannot be given except with the inspiration and strength of the Holy Spirit.

The person who is sent enters into the life and mission of him who *emptied himself, taking the nature of a slave.* He must be ready therefore to be true to his vocation for life, to deny himself, renouncing all that he had before, and to become all things to all men.

In preaching the Gospel to the nations he must boldly proclaim the mystery of Christ, whose ambassador he is, so that in Christ he may have the courage to speak as he ought, and not be ashamed of the scandal of the cross. He must follow in the footsteps of his Master, who was gentle and humble of heart, and reveal to others that his yoke is easy and his burden is light.

By a life that is truly according to the Gospel, by much endurance, by forbearance, by kindness and sincere love, he must bear witness to his Lord, even, if need be, by the shedding of his blood.

He will pray to God for strength and courage, so that he may come to see that for one who experiences great hardship and extreme poverty there can be abundant joy.”

(From the decree on the missionary activity of the Church of the Second Vatican Council)

Quote of the week:

“In Mary’s womb God’s hope took flesh.”

~Pope Francis

Just for Fun:

A man called a residence and a little girl answered: She was whispering.

(Hello?)

Hello. Is your father home?

(Yes.)

May I speak with him?”

(No.)

Why not?

(He’s busy.)

Okay. Well, is your mother there?

(Yes.)

May I speak with her?

(No.)

Why not?

(She’s busy.)

Any of your brothers or sisters there?

(Yes.)

May I speak with one of them?

(No. They’re busy.)

Well, look. Is there anyone else there?

(The Policeman.)

There’s a policeman there?

(Yes.)

May I speak with him?

(No. He’s busy.)

Well, what’s going on there? What’s everybody so busy about? What are they doing?

(They’re looking for me.)

