

Offertory: December 7, 2014 OLM \$344, OLV \$507, COS \$763, Total \$1,614
December 6, 2015 OLM \$522, OLV \$697, COS \$482, Total \$1,701 (does not incl. online giving).

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Dec. 31, OLM 4:00 PM For All Parishioners
Saturday, Dec. 31, COS 4:30 PM For All Parishioners
Saturday, Dec. 31, COS 6:00 PM For All Parishioners
Saturday, Dec. 31, OLV 6:00 PM For All Parishioners
Sunday, Jan. 1, OLM 8:30 AM For All Parishioners
Sunday, Jan. 1, OLV 10:30 AM For All Parishioners
Sunday, Jan. 1, COS 12:30 PM For All Parishioners
Saturday, Jan. 7, OLM 4:00 PM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by John Nappi, Jr.
Saturday, Jan. 7, COS 4:30 PM For Chuck McMahon, second anniversary, requested from The Family
Saturday, Jan. 7, COS 6:00 PM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by John Nappi, Jr.
Sunday, Jan. 8, OLM 8:30 AM For Lauren Airoidi, requested by David Airoidi
Sunday, Jan. 8, OLV 10:30 AM For Fred Warren, requested by Deacon Richard and Daisy Anderberg
Sunday, Jan. 8, COS 12:30 PM For Janet Plantin, requested from the Jamaicans



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Dec. 31, 2016 & Jan 1, 2017: Special Collection: New Year's Day, Mary Mother of God

Jan. 4, Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, 7 PM, Our Lady of the Valley
Jan. 6: First Friday Mass, 5:30PM, St. Edmund of Canterbury, Saxtons River
Jan. 7 & 8: Special Collection: Vermont Catholic Magazine
Jan. 18: Cursillo Ultreya, 7 PM, at the Anderbergs
Jan. 19: Finance Council Meeting, 6 PM, Rectory
Jan. 20: Adoration, 3:00 PM, OLV

 **Did you know?** Chapel of the Snows at Stratton Mountain, VT is the only ski area in Vermont to offer a Catholic Mass right at the mountain.

-6-Day Pilgrimage to Mexico including **Our Lady of Guadalupe** and other religious and cultural sites (**April 24-29, 2017**): Join Father Dwight Baker, UVM Chaplain and Vermont Cursillo Spiritual Advisor, departing from Boston. Daily Mass at all Holy Sites. Brochures available at the church entrance.

-Vermont Catholics represent the largest pro-life community in the State. Help show the strength of this movement by attending the annual Rally for Life Events in Montpelier on Saturday, January 21, beginning with Mass at 9:30 a.m. at St. Augustine Church in Montpelier, to be celebrated by Bishop Coyne. Following Mass, there will be a peaceful march down State Street, ending at the State House. A rally will take place in the House Chamber, with opening remarks by Bishop Coyne, followed by speakers arranged by the Vermont Right to Life Committee.

-The Diocese of Burlington will celebrate 2017 as a "Year of Creation," with an intentional, heightened focus on ecological justice. Various events, initiatives, and resources will be made available to better educate on and encourage embracement of Pope Francis' message in his 2015 encyclical, *Laudato Si'*: On Care for Our Common Home. A Year of Creation Committee, comprised of scientists, activists, and people of faith has been formed to assist with this initiative.

-Do you work or volunteer with youth in the Church? Please read the following: As part of the Diocese of Burlington's continuing commitment to protect children and young people, all adults who work with children and youth are required to participate in child abuse prevention training, submit background check paperwork, read the Diocesan Policies on Ethics and Integrity in Ministry, and sign a Code of Conduct. The training program for adults currently used within the Diocese of Burlington is Safe and Sacred by Proud to Protect, Inc. To learn more, or to participate in the program, visit the "Child Safety" section of www.vermontcatholic.org.



Weekly Intention:
For the grace this week to deepen our devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

"The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today."
~H. Jackson Brown, Jr.



From Fr. Fred:

The puppy

A farmer had some puppies he needed to sell. He painted a sign advertising the 20 pups, and set about nailing it to a post on the edge of his yard.



As he was driving the last nail into the post, he felt a tug on his overalls. He looked down into the eyes of a little boy. "Mister," he said, "I want to buy one of your puppies."

"Well," said the farmer, as he rubbed the sweat off the back of his neck, "These puppies come from fine parents and cost a good deal of money." The boy dropped his head for a moment. Then, reaching deep into his pocket, he pulled out a handful of change and held it up to the farmer. "I've got thirty-nine cents. Is that enough to take a look?" "Sure," said the farmer.

And with that he let out a whistle "Here, Dolly!" he called. Out from the doghouse and down the ramp ran Dolly followed by four little balls of fur. The little boy pressed his face against the chain link fence. His eyes danced with delight. As the dogs made their way to the fence, the little boy noticed something else stirring inside the doghouse. Slowly another little ball appeared, this one noticeably smaller. Down the ramp it slid. Then in a somewhat awkward manner, the little pup began hobbling toward the others, doing its best to catch up.

"I want that one," the little boy said, pointing to the runt. The farmer knelt down at the boy's side and said, "Son, you don't want that puppy. He will never be able to run and play with you like these other dogs would."



With that the little boy stepped back from the fence, reached down, and began rolling up one leg of his trousers. In doing so he revealed a steel brace running down both sides of his leg attaching itself to a specially made shoe. Looking back up at the farmer, he said, "You see sir, I don't run too well myself and he will need someone who understands."

Just for Fun:

A man and his wife are sitting in the living room and he says to her: "Just so you know, I never want to live in a vegetative state dependent on some machine. If that were to happen, just pull the plug." His wife gets up and unplugs the TV.



Quote of the week:

"As a mother takes upon herself the burdens and weariness of her children, so, too, does God take upon himself our sins and troubles—He wants to take us in his arms, protect us and free us from harm and evil."

Pope Francis



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