

July 6, 2014

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Offertory: June 23, 2013 OLM \$547, OLV \$950, COS \$239, Total \$1,736.
June 22, 2014 OLM \$455, OLV \$679, COS \$473, Total \$1,607.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday July 5 OLM 4:00PM For Terry Tyler, requested by Mary Tyler
Sunday July 6 OLM 8:30AM For Jane Engel, requested by Bill Engel
Sunday July 6 OLV 10:30AM For Margaret and William A. Schaefer, requested by Eleanor C. Crombie
Sunday July 6 COS 12:30PM For All Our Parishioners
Saturday July 12 OLM 4:00PM **OPEN FOR YOUR REQUEST**
Sunday July 13 OLM 8:30AM For Alex C. Raymond, requested by the Raymond family
Sunday July 13 OLV 10:30AM For the soul of Anthony Capone, requested by Kathy LaTaille
Sunday July 13 COS 12:30PM **OPEN FOR YOUR REQUEST**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

July 11 Adoration, OLM 3PM
July 16 Ultreya, OLV, 7PM
July 17 Finance Council Meeting, 4 PM, rectory
July 18 Adoration, OLV 3PM
July 25 Adoration, OLM 3PM
July 26 CHURCH PICNIC AT TOWNSHEND DAM, 10 AM—3PM
Aug. 2 First Friday Mass, Saxtons River, 5:30 PM
Aug. 2 Adoration, OLM 3PM



FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF THE ATONEMENT
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The Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement, who appealed to you last weekend on behalf of their missions at home and abroad, wish to thank you for your very warm welcome and generous response.

As the Psalmist sings, “The Lord is good and his mercy endures forever.”

The Sisters are confident that, in gratitude, God’s love and mercy will bless each of you in your daily life.

Be assured of the continued prayer of the Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement for this and for all your intentions.



We would like to offer our heartfelt thank you to all our parishioners for a substantial offering to Sr. Leila’s mission appeal - \$1,108.21.



The next Spanish Mass at St. Joseph in Chester is July 13th, at 12:30 PM.



Weekly Intention

For the grace this week to live our faith as fervent witnesses of the Gospel.



From Fr. Fred:

Today is the feast day of a 12 year old martyr, who absolutely refused to give in to her attacker even when he threatened to kill her. She is one of our youngest saints.

July 6

MARIA GORETTI, VIRGIN AND MARTYR

Saint Maria was born of a poor family at Corinaldi, Italy in 1890. Near Nettuno she spent a difficult childhood assisting her mother in domestic duties. She was of a pious nature and often at prayer. In 1902 she was stabbed to death, preferring to die rather than be raped.

From a homily at the canonization of Saint Maria Goretti by Pope Pius XII:

I have no fear, for you are with me

It is well known how this young girl had to face a bitter struggle with no way to defend herself. Without warning a vicious stranger burst upon her, bent on raping her and destroying her childlike purity. In that moment of crisis she could have spoken to her Redeemer in the words of that classic, *The Imitation of Christ*: “Though tested and plagued by a host of misfortunes, I have no fear so long as your grace is with me. It is my strength, stronger than any adversary; it helps me and gives me guidance.” With splendid courage she surrendered herself to God and his grace and so gave her life to protect her virginity.

The life of this simple girl—I shall concern myself only with highlights—we can see as worthy of heaven. Even today people can look upon it with admiration and respect. Parents can learn from her story how to raise their God-given children in virtue, courage and holiness; they can learn to train them in the Catholic faith so that, when put to the test, God’s grace will support them and they will come through undefeated, unscathed and untarnished.

From Maria’s story carefree children and young people with their zest for life can learn not to be led astray by attractive pleasures which are not only ephemeral and empty but also sinful. Instead they can fix their sights on achieving Christian moral perfection, however difficult and hazardous that course may prove. With determination and God’s help all of us can attain that goal by persistent effort and prayer.

Not all of us are expected to die a martyr’s death, but we are all called to the pursuit of Christian virtue. This demands strength of character though it may not match that of this innocent girl. Still, a constant, persistent and relentless effort is asked of us right up to the moment of our death. This may be conceived as a slow steady martyrdom which Christ urged upon us when he said: *The kingdom of heaven is set upon and laid waste by violent forces.*

So let us all, with God’s grace, strive to reach the goal that the example of the virgin martyr Saint Maria Goretti, sets before us. Through her prayers to the Redeemer may all of us, each in his own way, joyfully try to follow the inspiring example of Maria Goretti who now enjoys eternal happiness in heaven.



Prayer for the Selection of a New Bishop for Vermont

O God, Eternal Shepherd, who govern your flock with unfailing care, grant in your boundless fatherly love, a pastor for the Diocese of Burlington who will please you by his holiness and to us show watchful care. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

Quote of the Week

“The Church is a lot like a family, often not pretty, sometimes dysfunctional, even the cause of anger. And yet we still identify with it, claim membership in it, and how dare anyone try to say otherwise. The Church family always holds out hope that members, or others in general, will change for the better.” (Author Unknown)

TOTUS TUUS

Our week long camp will begin at St. Michael’s in Brattleboro, VT on Monday, July 14th from 9-3 for grades 1-9 and on Sunday night, July 13th from 7:30 to 9:30 for High School students. It is not too late to sign up! The cost for the grade school program is \$50. per student and the cost for high schoolers is \$25. per student or \$75 per family. For more info, contact Peter and Judith Nero at 802-254-4818 or at <neros75@comcast.net>. Registration forms can be downloaded at www.vermontcatholic.org. Completed forms should be returned to St. Michael’s Church, 47 Walnut St., Brattleboro, VT 05301. See you there!

Just for Fun

Reading backwards can sometimes be amusing. The other day, I saw a Tacoma parked next to a Subaru * and it said: “I’m a cat. You’re a bus.”

* (SUBARU TACOMA)

