



Offertory: February 3, 2019 OLM \$474, OLV \$563, COS \$1,492, Total \$2,529
February 2, 2018 OLM \$624, OLV \$3,083, COS \$1,345, Total \$5,052

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 30, OLM 4:00 PM For the Nyweide family, requested by Karen Shaw
Saturday, March 30, COS 4:30 PM In memory of Kathy Quirk, requested by Mike and Joyce Quirk
Sunday, March 31, OLM 8:30 AM For unity of our Democratic and Republican, requested by Karen Shaw
Sunday, March 31, OLV 10:30 AM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by John Nappi, Jr.
Sunday, March 31, COS 12:30 PM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by John Nappi, Jr.
Saturday, April 6, OLM 4:00 PM For Ruth Gorius, requested by her family
Saturday, April 6, COS 4:30 PM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by Karen Shaw
Sunday, April 7, OLM 8:30 AM For a Special Intention, requested by John Nappi, Jr.
Sunday, April 7, OLV 10:30 AM For Walter Meyer, requested by Raymond and Claire Sorrentino
Sunday, April 7, COS 12:30 PM For World Peace, requested by Karen Shaw

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 30 & 31: Special Collection: Catholic Relief Services

April 5: First Friday Mass, 5:30 PM, OLM, Putney- with Lenten Penance Service to follow at 6:30pm
April 5: Stations of the Cross, OLV 5:00 PM, Every Friday night through Lent
April 11: Lenten Penance Service, 6:00 PM, OLV

Lenten Penance Service: Friday, April 5th, 6:30PM, Our Lady of Mercy, Putney — (following First Friday Mass, 5:30PM OLM, Putney)
Thursday, April 11th, 6:00 PM Our Lady of the Valley, Townshend

There are two ways to spread the light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it. ~Edith Wharton

Farewell to Co-Founder and Leader Fr. Simon Taabu
Our dear Co-Founder, Fr. Simon, will be departing the United States permanently, for his beloved home in Biharamulo, Tanzania by the end of the year. He will have completed his doctorate in Education Administration from Illinois State University, which was his goal and primary reason for staying. Fr. Simon has blessed our Logan County Catholic Community with his ministry for the past 8 1/2 years and he is going to be sorely missed. His easy smile, joyful presence, and contagious laughter is well known and welcomed throughout Logan County. That welcome is not limited to the churches either. Local restaurants and other business establishments have come to know him as well, and he has many friends amongst the communities he has so unselfishly served. His "CB Ministry," a.k.a. Cracker Barrel ministry, resulted in the development of many friendships and people coming back to the church just because of his presence, not because of any preaching. As St. Francis said, "Preach the gospel at all times and when necessary, use words". Fr. Simon has been a great example of that for everyone who has had the pleasure of knowing him. He has been instrumental in the lives of all he has touched in these past years and we have been greatly blessed by his presence. I believe that even though Fr. Simon will not be present in our parishes in person, he will not be far from our hearts. Thank you Fr. Simon for everything. www.loverepeated.org

Weekly Intention: For the grace this week to return to the Father in true contrition and confession of our sins.

Survey Reminder: Don't forget to share your feedback on the Disciple Maker Index! The survey is LIVE and will be open until March 31, 2019. You can visit www.disciplemakerindex.com. Please note that you will be asked to choose your primary church, please mark down Our Lady of Mercy, Putney. You may also pick up a paper copy in the back of the Church. We really need your help in making this a success, so please participate.

Global Catholic Climate Movement's "Eating Simply: Lent 2019" commitment. This Lent, protect creation. Add a day of plant-based meals to your diet this Lent, or strive to eat only plant-based meals throughout the Lenten season. Learn more and sign the commitment at catholicclimatemovement.global/lent-2019, join their Facebook group "Eating Simply," and find family resources, community resources, communication resources, and articles on their Lent 2019 resource page.

Annual Appeal 2018-2019: Annual Appeal Goal \$42,000.00. Contributions to Date: \$36,310.00. Balance Remaining \$5,690.00. Thank you to all who have made a contribution. There are envelopes in the back of the church if you did not receive one in the mail. Donations can be sent to: Our Lady of Mercy Rectory, PO Box 246, Putney, Vt. 05346

**From Fr. Fred:** *In the western Catholic Church the Holy Spirit is sometimes called the "forgotten God." Here is a wonderful passage on the Holy Spirit written by St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi.*

### Come, Holy Spirit

"You, the Word, are most wonderful, working through the Holy Spirit to fill the soul with yourself, so that it is joined to God, grasps God, tastes God and absorbs nothing but God.

The Holy Spirit comes into the soul signed with the precious seal of the blood of the Word and of the slain Lamb; or rather that very blood urges it to come, although the Spirit moves itself and desires to come.

This Spirit which moves in itself is the substance of the Father and of the Word, and it proceeds from the essence of the Father and the good will of the Word; it comes into the soul like a fountain, and the soul is immersed in it. Just as two rushing rivers intermingle in such a way that the smaller loses its name and is absorbed into the larger, so the divine Spirit acts upon the soul and absorbs it. It is proper that the soul, which is lesser, should lose its name and surrender to the Spirit, as it will if it turns entirely toward the Spirit and is united.

This Spirit, dispenser of the treasures which lay in the lap of the Father, and guardian of the deliberations which pass between the Father and the Son, flows into the soul so sweetly and imperceptibly that few esteem its greatness.

It moves itself by its own weight and lightness into all places that are fitting and disposed to receive it. Its word is heard by all in the most attentive silence; through the impetus of love, the unmoved yet most perfect mover infuses itself into all.

You do not, O Holy Spirit, stand still in the unmoved Father or in the Word, and yet you are always in the Father and in the Word and in yourself and in blessed spirits and creatures. You are the friend of the created because of the blood shed by the only-begotten Word, who in the greatness of his love made himself the friend of the created. You find rest in creatures who are prepared to receive you, so that in the transmission of your gifts they take on, through purity, their own particular likeness to you. You find rest in those creatures who absorb the effects of the blood of the Word and make themselves a worthy dwelling place for you.

Come, Holy Spirit. Let the precious pearl of the Father and the Word's delight come, Spirit of truth, you are the reward of the saints, the comforter of souls, light in the darkness, riches to the poor, treasure to lovers, food for the hungry, comfort to those who are wandering; to sum up, you are the one in whom all treasures are contained.

Come! As you descended upon Mary that the Word might become flesh, work in us through grace as you worked in her through nature and grace.

Come! Food of every chaste thought, fountain of all mercy, sum of all purity.

Come! Consume in us whatever prevents us from being consumed in you.

**Quote of the week:** "When a nation goes down, or a society perishes, one condition may always be found; they forgot where they came from. They lost sight of what had brought them along." ~Carl Sandburg, American poet

**Just for Fun:** There is a story told about St. Francis of Assisi that I believe is a true story. One Day St. Francis was teaching a group of people about prayer. He was talking specifically about how to deal with distractions when we are praying. One farmer interrupted and said that he didn't have any distractions in his prayers. St. Francis gently replied that everyone has distractions in prayer. "Well, I don't!" insisted the farmer. St. Francis smiled and said: "I'll tell you what. If you can say one Our Father without a distraction I'll give you my mule." The farmer said: "That's a deal!" He closed his eyes and began: "Our Father, who art in ..... Do I get the saddle too?"