

Offertory: March 4, 2018 OLM \$338, OLV \$553, COS \$1,068, Total \$1,959  
March 5, 2017 OLM \$407, OLV \$656, COS \$1,440, Total \$2,503

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday, May 12, OLM 4:00 PM For a Special Intention, requested by John Nappi, Jr.  
Sunday, May 13, OLM 8:30 AM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by John Nappi, Jr.  
Sunday, May 13, OLV 10:30 AM For Michael Gal, requested by Carol and Martin Bemis  
Sunday, May 13, COS 12:30 PM For Maverick Shaw, requested by Karen Shaw  
Saturday, May 19, OLM 4:00 PM For Ben and Rina Sofka, requested by Karen Shaw.  
Sunday, May 20, OLM 8:30 AM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by John Nappi, Jr.  
Sunday, May 20, OLV 10:30 AM For Margaret and William A. Schaefer, requested by Eleanor Crombie  
Sunday, May 20, COS 12:30 PM For Joan Kopins, requested by Karen Shaw

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**May 12 & 13: Special Collection: The Church in Eastern Europe**  
May 16: Cursillo Ultreya, 7:00 PM, at The Anderbergs  
May 17: Finance Council Meeting, 7:00 PM, at the Rectory  
May 18: Adoration, OLV, 3 PM  
May 18: First Reconciliation, 7:00PM, OLV  
**May 20: Pentecost (don't forget to wear red!)**  
May 20: First Communion, 10:30AM OLV



Congratulations to the following who will receive Holy First Communion on May 20<sup>th</sup>: Charles Cyr, Hanna Cyr, Hilary Cyr, Brooke Weber, Morgan Weber



**Weekly Intention:** For the grace this week to embrace the love with which the Father loves the Son. .

Services for Dr. Terry L. Kauffman will be held at 11:00AM on Saturday, May, 26th at ST. Michael's Catholic Church, in Brattleboro, VT. A reception will follow.

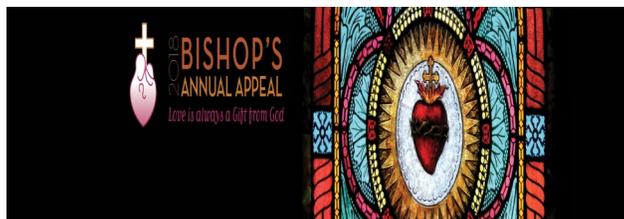


“CHARITY is the root of all good works.” ~ Saint Augustine



**Branches**  
-Pregnancy Resource Center-

Happy Mother's Day!!! Join us today in blessing moms, babies and families as we kick off: BLESSINGS IN A BOTTLE annual baby bottle campaign. Take a bottle home today. Fill it with coins, cash or a check. Then return your bottle to church on Father's Day. It's really that easy! Or, you may simply text the word "Blessings" to 802-242-2500 OR go to: [www.branchesprc.com/support-us](http://www.branchesprc.com/support-us).



Thanks to the generosity of many of our parishioners to the Bishop's Annual Appeal, we have been able to move from maintenance to mission and engage many more lay people in the work of the Church. We are spreading the Good News of our faith not by increasing program budgets but by moving resources to priority ministries. A few new initiatives include:

- Revitalization of our Pre-Cana program better assists couples to put Christ at the center of their relationship as they prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage.
- A new Lay Formation Program and a worship commission are now in place to offer greater engagement opportunities and diocesan services to families and parishes.
- New Parish Staff and Volunteer Lenten Retreats were offered by the Diocese in both the northern and southern parts of the state.

Please consider a gift during the In-Pew Phase which saves resources by reducing our mailings. Any gift, no matter the size, counts!

**From Fr. Fred** *May is the month of Mary, the mother of Jesus. This is from an amazing sermon by St. Augustine that should make us all stop and think.*



Stretching out his hand over his disciples, the Lord Christ declared: *Here are my mother and my brothers; anyone who does the will of my Father who sent me is my brother and my sister and my mother. I would urge you to ponder these words.* Did the Virgin Mary, who believed by faith and conceived by faith, who was the chosen one from whom our Savior was born among men, who was created by Christ before Christ was created in her—did she not do the will of the Father? Indeed the blessed Mary certainly did the Father’s will, and so it was for her a greater thing to have been Christ’s disciple than to have been his mother, and she was more blessed in her discipleship than in her motherhood. Hers was the happiness of first bearing in her womb him whom she would obey as her master.

Now listen and see if the words of Scripture do not agree with what I have said. The Lord was passing by and crowds were following him. His miracles gave proof of divine power, and a woman cried out: *Happy is the womb that bore you, blessed is that womb!* But the Lord, not wishing people to seek happiness in a purely physical relationship, replied: *More blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it.* Mary heard God’s word and kept it, and so she is blessed. She kept God’s truth in her mind, a nobler thing than carrying his body in her womb. The truth and the body were both Christ: he was kept in Mary’s mind insofar as he is truth, he was carried in her womb insofar as he is man; but what is kept in the mind is of a higher order than what is carried in the womb.

The Virgin Mary is both holy and blessed, and yet the Church is greater than she. Mary is part of the Church, a member of the Church, a holy, an eminent—the most eminent—member, but still only a member of the entire body. The body undoubtedly is greater than she, one of its members. This body has the Lord for its head, and head and body together make up the whole Christ. In other words, our head is divine—our head is God.

Now, beloved, give me your whole attention, for you also are members of Christ; you also are the body of Christ. Consider how you yourselves can be among those of whom the Lord said: *Here are my mother and my brothers.* Do you wonder how you can be the mother of Christ? He himself said: *Whoever hears and fulfills the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and my sister and my mother.* As for our being the brothers and sisters of Christ, we can understand this because although there is only one inheritance and Christ is the only Son, his mercy would not allow him to remain alone. It was his wish that we too should be heirs of the Father, and coheirs with himself.

Now having said that all of you are brothers of Christ, shall I not dare to call you his mother? Much less would I dare to deny his own words. Tell me how Mary became the mother of Christ, if it was not by giving birth to the members of Christ? You, to whom were you born? “Of Mother Church,” I hear the reply of your hearts. You became sons of this mother at your baptism, you came to birth then as members of Christ. Now you in your turn must draw to the font of baptism as many as you possibly can. You became sons when you were born there yourselves, and now by bringing others to birth in the same way, you have it in your power to become the mothers of Christ.

**Quote of the week:** “Love is a fruit in season at all times, and within reach of every hand.”  
~St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

**Just for Fun:** Q: If the devil ever lost his tail where would he go to get a new one?

A: To the liquor store—where they retail evil spirits.

