

Offertory: March 26, 2016 OLM \$478, OLV \$1,206, COS \$1,453, Total \$3,137
March 25, 2017 OLM \$393, OLV \$697, COS \$1,171, Total \$2,261 (incl. online giving)

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 13, OLM 4:00 PM For Eveline Jennings, requested by Marie Lee
Sunday, May 14, OLM 8:30 AM For Julia Sanders, requested by Marianne and Frank Sanders
Sunday, May 14, OLV 10:30 AM For Michael Gal, requested by Carol Bemis
Sunday, May 14, COS 12:30 PM For Dean Robert Ziegler, requested by Anna Marie Neyzo
Saturday, May 20, OLM 4:00 PM For Eveline Jennings, requested by Marie Lee
Sunday, May 21, OLM 8:30 AM For Fr. Fred, requested by Karen Shaw
Sunday, May 21, OLV 10:30 AM For Margaret and William Schaefer, requested by Eleanor Crombie
Sunday, May 21, COS 12:30 PM For Joan Kopins, requested by Karen Shaw



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

May 13 & 14: Special Collection, Church in Eastern Europe

May 14: Mothers Day, May Crowning at OLM
May 17: Cursillo Ultreya, OLV, 7 PM at the Cagney's
May 18: Finance Council Meeting, 7 PM OLV
May 19: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, OLV 3-4 PM
May 21: **First Communion, OLV 10:30 AM**



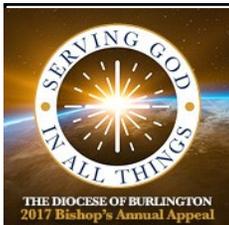
Spencer Claussen, Lily Klick, Luke Kramer, Ryan Kramer, Josanna Passino, Alexander Sullivan and Anna VanOdsol will be receiving First Holy Communion on May 21st at Our Lady of the Valley. Please pray for these students and their families at this special time.



-The Society of St. Edmund will be conducting a 5-day Silent Retreat in the Ignatian tradition from June 18th to June 23rd, 2017 at St. Anne's Shrine in Isle La Motte. Using principles from the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, retreatants will be invited to contemplate scripture passages, celebrate daily Eucharist and meet with a Spiritual Director each day. Spiritual Directors are specifically trained for this type of retreat and will serve as companions and co-discerners of the Spirit during the retreat. Applicants should be comfortable maintaining an atmosphere of silence and be able to share their prayer experience with a Spiritual Director in a daily meeting of about forty-five minutes. The retreat begins at 7:00 pm on Sunday, June 18th and concludes with lunch on Friday, June 23rd. The cost is \$500. Applications and further information can be obtained by calling the Shrine at 802-928-3362 or via email at fstanne@pshift.com. Space is limited due to single room accommodations.

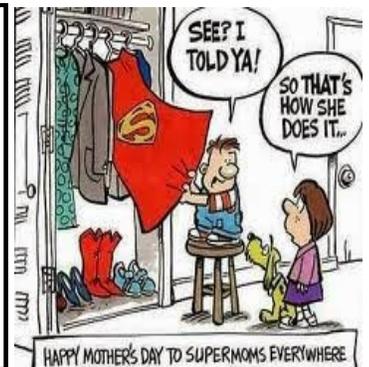
-This week, our second collection will be for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Your donation today helps **restore the Church and build the future** in 20 countries, many of which still struggle to recover in the aftermath of Soviet rule. Funds from this collection help support reconstruction, education, formation, and poverty outreach. For more information, please visit www.usccb.org/cee. Thank you for your generosity.

-CALLING A MARRIED COUPLE. Father Fred is seeking a married couple to help with marriage preparation for engaged couples in the West River Missions. This joy filled calling involves training with Father Fred and then several hours of contact with the engaged couple in the months prior to their wedding. Weddings in the WRM are generally one a year although the frequency is unpredictable. If you are interested in helping to bring a new Catholic couple into the joys of matrimony, please contact John Bohannon at 802-869-2961; Kristina Wright at 802-365-4962; or Doreen at the Rectory, 802-357-5861.



The Bishop's Annual Appeal provides an opportunity to reflect upon the fact that every Catholic is part of a local Church and of the Universal Church. Each of us is responsible not only for his or her parish, but also for the wellbeing of the Church throughout our diocese and throughout the world. Since we are one community of believers, members of all parish communities throughout the Diocese of Burlington are asked to give to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Next week, we'll have a second opportunity to pledge on behalf of our parish, in -pew, at Mass. Please be prepared to commit if you have yet to for the 2017 Appeal. This week, you will find information on the Administrative arm of the diocese that gives direct support to our parish.

Weekly Intention:
For the grace this week to unite ourselves deeply with Jesus.



From Fr. Fred:

May is the month dedicated to Mary. Here is a wonderful sermon by a lesser known saint praising Mary. All that he says is amazing and true. But her work is not over. Jesus gave her to us as our spiritual mother. Her greatest desire then is for us to live in such a way that we will join her in heaven some day, and help her to bring others there as well.

From a sermon by Saint Sophronius, bishop

Through Mary the Father's blessing has shone forth on mankind

"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you. What joy could surpass this, O Virgin Mother? What grace can excel that which God has granted to you alone? What could be imagined more dazzling or more delightful? Before the miracle we witness in you, all else pales; all else is inferior when compared with the grace you have been given. All else, even what is most desirable, must take second place and enjoy a lesser importance.

The Lord is with you. Who would dare challenge you? You are God's mother; who would not immediately defer to you and be glad to accord you a greater primacy and honor? For this reason, when I look upon the privilege you have above all creatures, I extol you with the highest praise: *Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you.* On your account joy has not only graced men, but is also granted to the powers of heaven.

Truly, *you are blessed among women.* For you have changed Eve's curse into a blessing; and Adam, who hitherto lay under a curse, has been blessed because of you.

Truly, you are blessed among women. Through you the Father's blessing has shone forth on mankind, setting them free of their ancient curse.

Truly, you are blessed among women, because through you your forebears have found salvation. For you were to give birth to

the Savior who was to win them salvation.

Truly, you are blessed among women, for without seed you have born, as your fruit, him who bestows blessings on the whole world and redeems it from that curse that made it sprout thorns.

Truly, you are blessed among women, because, though a woman by nature, you will become, in reality, God's mother. If he whom you are to bear is truly God made flesh, then rightly do we call you God's mother. For you have truly given birth to God.

Enclosed within your womb is God himself. He makes his abode in you and comes forth from you like a bridegroom, winning joy for all and bestowing God's light on all.

You, O Virgin, are like a clear and shining sky, in which God *has set his tent.* From you *he comes forth like a bridegroom leaving his chamber.* Like a giant running his course, he will run the course of his life which will bring salvation for all who will ever live, and extending from the highest heavens to the end of them, it will fill all things with divine warmth and with life-giving brightness."



Quote of the week: "Every moment and event of every person's life plants something in the soul. For just as the wind carries thousands of seeds, so each moment brings with it seeds of spiritual vitality that come to rest in the minds and wills of people. Most of these seeds perish because we are not prepared to receive them: for such seeds as these cannot spring up anywhere except in the good soil of freedom, spontaneity, and love." ~Thomas Merton

Just for Fun: After seeing the annual Financial Report a parishioner was chatting with the pastor after Mass. The parishioner said: "Father, it looks like the salary in your job is not very high." Smiling the priest replied, "That's true. But the fringe benefits are out of this world!"

