

Offertory: March 31, 2019 OLM \$466, OLV \$501, COS \$1,102, Total \$2,069
March 30, 2018 OLM \$596, OLV \$781, COS \$2,193, Total \$3,570

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 25, OLM 4:00 PM For Florence Agnes (Meehan) West, requested by Arlene Tarantino
Sunday, May 26, OLM 8:30 AM For a Special Intention, requested by John Nappi, Jr.
Sunday, May 26, OLV 10:30 AM For Walter Meyer, requested by Shirley Sherman
Sunday, May 26, COS 12:30 PM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by Karen Shaw
Saturday, June 1, OLM 4:00 PM For a Special Intention, requested by, Karen Shaw
Sunday, June 2, OLM 8:30 AM For Joyce and Bill Scheuerman, requested by Sheila Scheuerman and Jeff Karlin
Sunday, June 2, OLV 10:30 AM For Louis Pellino, requested by Rocco Pellino
Sunday, June 2, COS 12:30 PM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by John Nappi, Jr.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May 25 & 26: Special Collection: Fuel #2
May 30: The Ascension of our Lord, Holy Day of Obligation, OLM-5:30 PM, OLV-7:30 PM
June 1 & 2: Special Collection, Catholic Communications

<p>Weekly Intention: For the grace this week to rejoice in the firm belief that Jesus will never abandon us .</p> 
<p>"The virtue of patience is the essence of successful relationships." - Matthew Kelly</p>

Evening prayer and reception for healthcare professionals

Saturday, June 1 • 5:30 to 7 p.m.
Evening prayer
St. Joseph Cathedral, Burlington
Reception
Cathedral rectory
Register:

vermontcatholic.org/CMAeveningprayer

Upcoming Ordinations:

Deacons Robert Little and Kevin Chalifoux will be ordained to the priesthood June 15th at 10AM at St. Joseph Co-Cathedral in Burlington. The faithful of the Diocese of Burlington are invited to attend. Please pray for them.

5-Day Silent Retreat

The Society of St. Edmund will be conducting a 5-Day Silent Retreat in the Ignatian tradition from June 23rd to June 28th, 2019 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 23rd and concludes with lunch on Friday, June 28th. 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.



"The life of Jesus is a life for others. It is a life of service."—Pope Francis

Thank you to all those who have been able to make a gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Your gift helps families like "Amber" who found housing through Vermont Catholic Charities' Emergency Aid program after being homeless for 10 months. Each year an average of 2,000 people in financial crisis receive emergency aid, and those that cannot afford tuition at our Catholic schools receive \$340,000 in subsidizes. 2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal Goal for Our Lady of Mercy Parish is \$22,789. We ask that you prayerfully consider donating to the appeal to support the Catholic Church in Vermont. Visit bishopsappealvt.org for more information about your gift at work.

Totus Tuus

Totus Tuus is a fun and energetic parish-based summer catechetical program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting Catholicism through catechesis, Sacraments, and Eucharistic worship. The week-long program meets with grade school (1-8) children during the day and high school age children in the evening. St. Michael Parish will be hosting Totus Tuus from Sunday, July 7th through Friday, July 12th. For more information, please contact Tina at (413) 896-8576.

Blessings In A Bottle, runs from Mother's Day to Father's Day. This one fundraiser provides so many blessings to the moms, dads and little ones our ministry serves. Or you can text the word "Blessings" to 802-242-2500 OR go to www.branchesprc.com/support.

From Fr. Fred:

A sobbing little girl stood near a small church from which she had been turned away because it was “too crowded.” “I can’t go to Sunday School,” she sobbed to the pastor as he walked by. Seeing her shabby, unkempt appearance, the pastor guessed the reason and, taking her by the hand, took her inside and found a place for her in the Sunday school class. The child was so happy that they found room for her, and she went to bed that night thinking of the children who have no place to worship Jesus.

Some two years later, this child lay dead in one of the poor tenement buildings. Her parents called for the kindhearted pastor who had befriended their daughter to handle the final arrangements. As her poor little body was being moved, a worn and crumpled red purse was found which seemed to have been rummaged from some trash dump. Inside was found 57 cents and a note, scribbled in childish handwriting, which read: “This is to help build the little church bigger so more children can go to Sunday School.” For two years she had saved for this offering of love.

When the pastor tearfully read that note, he knew instantly what he would do. Carrying this note and the cracked, red pocketbook to the pulpit, he told the story of her unselfish love and devotion. He challenged his deacons to get busy and raise enough money for this larger building.

But the story does not end there....

A newspaper learned of the story and published it. It was read by a wealthy realtor who offered them a parcel of land worth many thousands. When told that the church could not pay so much, he offered to sell it to the little church for 57 cents. Church members made large donations. Checks came from far and wide. Within five years the little girl’s gift had increased to \$250,000.00—a huge sum for that time (near the turn of the century). Her unselfish love had paid large dividends.

When you are in the city of Philadelphia, look up Temple Baptist Church, with a seating capacity of 3,300. And be sure to visit Temple University, where thousands of students are educated. Have a look, too, at the Good Samaritan Hospital and at a Sunday School building which houses hundreds of beautiful children, built so that no child in the area will ever need to be left outside during Sunday School time. In one of the rooms of this building may be seen the picture of the sweet face of the little girl whose 57 cents, so sacrificially saved, made such remarkable history. Alongside of it is a portrait of her kind pastor, Dr. Russel H. Conwell, author of the book, “Acres of Diamonds”.

This is a true story, which goes to show WHAT GOD CAN DO WITH 57 CENTS.

Quote of the week: “A church that does not join the poor in order to speak out from the side of the poor against the injustices committed against them is not the true Church of Jesus Christ.”
~Bl. Oscar Romero

Just for Fun:

A flea was riding on the back of an elephant. The elephant went across a bridge, and the flea was all excited. He exclaimed: “Boy, did we ever make that bridge shake!”

