

Offertory: March 11, 2018 OLM \$251, OLV \$557, COS \$917, Total \$1,725
March 12, 2017 OLM \$477, OLV \$659, COS \$1,767, Total \$2,903

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 26, OLM 4:00 PM For Wayne Weible, requested by Karen Shaw
Sunday, May 27, OLM 8:30 AM For a Special Intention, requested by John Nappi, Jr.
Sunday, May 27, OLV 10:30 AM For Eleanor Crombie, requested by Ruth Van Houten
Sunday, May 27, COS 12:30 PM For Lorraine Shaw, requested by Karen Shaw
Saturday, June 2, OLM 4:00 PM For a Special Intention, requested by John Nappi, Jr.
Sunday, June 3, OLM 8:30 AM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by John Nappi, Jr.
Sunday, June 3, OLV 10:30 AM For Sr. Margaret Schaefer, SND, requested by Eleanor Crombie
Sunday, June 3, COS 12:30 PM For Serena Shaw, requested by Karen Shaw



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

May 26 & 27: Special Collection, Fuel #2

June 1: First Friday Mass, 5:30 PM, St. Edmund's, Saxtons River

June 2 & 3: June 4 & 5: Special Collection, Catholic Communications

June 6: Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, 7 PM, OLV

June 15: Adoration, 3 PM, OLV

 **Weekly Intention:** For the grace this week to live each moment consciously united to God in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

“It’s your life, but only if you make it so. The standards by which you live must be your own standards, your own values, your own convictions in regard to what is right and wrong, what is true and false, what is important and what is trivial.”~ Eleanor Roosevelt, Activist

✦ Next week, our second collection is for the Catholic Communications Campaign. This campaign connects people with Christ, here and around the world in developing countries, through the internet, television, radio, and print media. And fifty percent of funds collected remain in our diocese to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the gospel message! To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/cc.

✦ **Pilgrimage To Canada**

(4 days, 3 nights) July 30, 31, August 1, 2, 2018—\$445 per person. Cost includes accommodations based upon double occupancy, two meals a day (full breakfast and dinner), Coach bus transportation. We will be visiting the Shrines of Sainte Anne-de-Beaupre in Quebec City, St. Joseph’s Oratory, Montreal, Shrine of the Sacred Hearts, Notre-Dame-du-Cap and more. Spiritual Director: Father Shawn Therrien, St. Mary’s Parish, Claremont, Departing from Plaistow, Manchester, Derry and Sacred Heart, Lebanon. For more information, contact Juanita Sweet at (603) 826-4486 or email juanitajoy@comcast.net

✦ **Monastic Experience Weekend**

Monastic Experience Weekend open to all young women aged 18 to 40 from June 8 – 10, at St. Scholasica Priory, 271 N. Main Street, Petersham, MA. There is no charge. Please contact Sr. Mary Frances Wynn at 978-724-3213.

✦ **Upcoming Ordinations**

Deacon Steven Marchand, a seminarian for the Diocese of Burlington, will be ordained to the priesthood June 16th at 10AM at St. Joseph Co-Cathedral in Burlington. Also, seminarians Robert Little and Kevin Chalifoux will be ordained to the transitional diaconate. The faithful of the Diocese of Burlington are invited and encouraged to attend to offer Vermont’s newest priest and transitional deacons their prayerful support. For questions please contact: Fr. Jon Schnobrich: vocations@vermontcatholic.org.

✦ **Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

“And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.” Is God present in your marriage? Bring Him in more fully by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Jun 9-10, 2018 in Medway, MA and Jul 6-8, 2018 in MANCHESTER, CT. For more information, call Gary & Lynn Root at 802-456-8114 or visit them at <https://wwmevt.org>.

From Fr. Fred *Spiritual Reading is something most of us plan to do "some day." This saint reminds us how important it is to "get around to it."*



From the Book of Maxims by Saint Isidore, bishop
(Lib. 3, 8-10: PL 83, 679-682)

The scholar who is learned about the kingdom of heaven

Prayer purifies us, reading instructs us. Both are good when both are possible. Otherwise, prayer is better than reading.

If a man wants to be always in God's company, he must pray regularly and read regularly. When we pray, we talk to God; when we read, God talks to us.

All spiritual growth comes from reading and reflection. By reading we learn what we did not know; by reflection we retain what we have learned.

Reading the holy Scriptures confers two benefits. It trains the mind to understand them; it turns man's attention from the follies of the world and leads him to the love of God.

Two kinds of study are called for here. We must first learn how the Scriptures are to be understood, and then see how to expound them with profit and in a manner worthy of them. A man must first be eager to understand what he is reading before he is fit to proclaim what he has learned.

The conscientious reader will be more concerned to carry out what he has read than merely to acquire knowledge of it. For it is a less serious fault to be ignorant of an objective than it is to fail to carry out what we do know. In reading we aim at knowing, but we must put into practice what we have learned in our course of study.

No one can understand holy Scripture without constant reading, according to the words: *Love her and she will exalt you. Embrace her and she will glorify you.*

The more you devote yourself to a study of the sacred utterances, the richer will be your understanding of them, just as the more the soil I tilled, the richer the harvest.

Some people have great mental powers but cannot be bothered with reading; what reading could have taught them is devalued by their neglect. Others have a desire to know but are hampered by their slow mental processes; yet application to reading will teach them things which the clever fail to learn through laziness.

The man who is slow to grasp things but who really tries hard is rewarded; equally he who does not cultivate his God-given intellectual ability is condemned for dismissing his gifts and sinning by sloth.

Learning unsupported by grace may get into our ears; it never reaches the heart. It makes a great noise outside but serves no inner purpose. But when God's grace touches our innermost minds to bring understanding, his word which has been received by the ear sinks deep into the heart.

Quote of the week: "The pain and the shame we feel at the sins of some members of the Church, and at our own, must never make us forget how many Christians are giving their lives in love."
~Pope Francis

Just for Fun:

A man and his wife were both sixty years old and celebrating their thirty-fifth wedding anniversary. He opened her gift to him. It was a beautiful green vase. On a whim he rubbed it, and sure enough a genie popped out and promised him one wish. The man whispered: "I'd like to have a woman twenty years younger than I am."
So the genie made him eighty.

