

Offertory: June 10, 2018 OLM \$512, OLV \$620, COS \$471, Total \$1,603  
June 11, 2017 OLM \$503, OLV \$609, COS \$252, Total \$1,364

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday, Sept. 15, OLM 4:00 PM For a Special Intention, requested by John Nappi, Jr.  
Sunday, Sept. 16, OLM 8:30 AM For Tom Rowley, requested by Fr. Francis McMahon  
Sunday, Sept 16, OLV 10:30 AM For Liz and Steve Funk, requested by Karen Shaw  
Sunday, Sept. 16, COS 12:30 PM For substance abuse to be lifted, requested by Karen Shaw  
Saturday, Sept. 22, OLM 4:00 PM For Tom Rowley, requested by Fr. Francis McMahon  
Sunday, Sept. 23, OLM 8:30 AM For Tom Rowley, requested by Fr. Francis McMahon  
Sunday, Sept. 23, OLV 10:30 AM For Roneta Gal, requested by Carol and Martin Bemis  
Sunday, Sept. 23, COS 12:30 PM For all Suicide victims and their families, requested by Karen Shaw



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

Sept. 19: Cursillo Ultreya, at the Anderberg's, 7 PM  
Sept. 20: Finance Council Meeting, 6:30PM, OLV  
Sept. 21 Adoration, 3 PM, OLV  
**Sept. 29 & 30: Special Collection: Catholic University of America**

**Helpful tip on charitable giving by Mike Adrian:**

Once a person reaches age 70 1/2 they are required to annually withdraw some money from their retirement accounts, IRA's, 401-k's etc. if they have them. This is known as Required Minimum Distributions and, generally, all the money withdrawn is taxable income.

Many people will also make charitable contributions during the year to support their church, hospital, schools, etc. Previously, these contributions were potentially tax deductible, as Itemized Deductions on Schedule A. Due to the increase in the Standard Deduction, thanks to the Trump Tax Act, these contributions are much less likely to provide a deduction over the Standard Deduction. For example, in 2018 the Standard Deduction for a couple that is Married, Filing Jointly both over 65 years old, is \$26,600. You have to exceed that to get a direct additional benefit from charitable contributions.

There is, however, an option in the tax law that lets you direct some or all of your Required Minimum Distribution directly to a charity and avoid taking it as taxable income. This can have a very significant tax impact on federal, state and Vermont property taxes. In addition, in many cases, less IRA income means less of your Social Security will be subject to income taxes by IRS and by VT.

If you can't get an additional tax benefit from Itemized Deductions and you are making regular charitable contributions, like the weekly collections at Mass, anticipate what amount you might contribute in a year and have the bank or investment company that holds the IRA send a check directly to the church rather than to you. If you are feeling moved by the Spirit, you might even increase the contribution, sharing the tax savings you will receive!

**Weekly Intention:** For the grace this week to take up our cross and follow Christ.



**"No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another."**  
— Charles Dickens



**Worldwide Marriage Encounter**  
Have faith that God can increase the blessings in your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Dec 7-9, 2018 in Isle La Motte, VT and Mar 15-17, 2019 in Isle La Motte, VT. For more information, call Gary & Lynn Root at 802-456-8114 or visit them at <https://wwmevt.org>

**Youth Lead Weekend**  
September 28 @ 4:00 pm - September 30 @ 5:00 pm Cost: \$70 Youth Lead is a leadership training weekend for the high school youth of the Diocese of Burlington and the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Located on beautiful Lower Saranac Lake, you will enjoy the gorgeous fall colors, be surrounded by other amazing teens and learn and grow in being a leader for today and tomorrow. Open to all high school teens. For more information or to register please contact: Bill Gavin 802-658-6110 x1240| [wgavin@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:wgavin@vermontcatholic.org)

## **From Fr. Fred**

## **Shipwrecked**



A voyaging ship was wrecked during a storm at sea and only two of the men on it were able to swim to a small, desert like island. The two survivors, not knowing what else to do, agreed that they had no other recourse but to pray to God.

However, to find out whose prayer was more powerful, they agreed to divide the territory between them and stay on opposite sides of the island.

The first thing they prayed for was food. The next morning, the first man saw a fruit-bearing tree on his side of the land, and he was able to eat its fruit. The other man's parcel of land remained barren.

Soon the first man prayed for a house, clothes and more food. The next day, like magic, all of these were given to him. However, the second man still had nothing.

Finally, the first man prayed for a ship, so that he would leave the island. In the morning, he found a ship docked at his side of the island.

The first man boarded the ship and decided to leave the second man on the island. He considered the other man unworthy to receive God's blessings, since none of his prayers had been answered.

As the ship was about to leave, the first man heard a voice from heaven booming, "Why are you leaving your companion on the island?"

"My blessings are mine alone, since I was the one who prayed for them", the first man answered. "His prayers were all unanswered and so he does not deserve anything."

"You are mistaken!" the voice rebuked him. "He had only one prayer, which I answered. If not for that, you would not have received any of my blessings."

"Tell me," the first man asked the voice, "what did he pray for that I should owe him anything?"

"He prayed that all your prayers be answered."

For all we know, our blessings are not the fruits of our prayers alone, but those of another praying for us.

### **Just for Fun:**

An old Vermont man was stopped recently by a game warden in Northern Vermont as he was returning to his Roadtrek motorhome with a bucket full of still-alive fish. "Do you have a license to catch those fish?" the game warden asked. The man replied, "No, sir. These are my pet fish."

"Pet fish?" the warden asked. "Yes, sir. Every night I take these fish down to the lake where I'm camped and let them swim around for a while. When they hear my whistle, they jump right back into the bucket and I take them back to the motorhome."

"That's a bunch of baloney," the game warden said as he reached for his pad of citations. The man looked at the game warden for a moment and then said, "If you don't believe me, then follow me back to the lake to see how it works."

Still suspicious, but curious, the game warden agreed. And so they walked to the lake. There, the man poured the fish into the water, where they disappeared. "Okay," said the game warden. "Call them back."

"Call who back?"

"The fish," replied the warden.

"What fish?" asked the man.



**Quote of the week:** "I invite you to come to the heart of Jesus with me, for it is there that I wish to dwell, and where, if you wish it, we shall never be separated." ~Bl. Marie-Rose Durocher