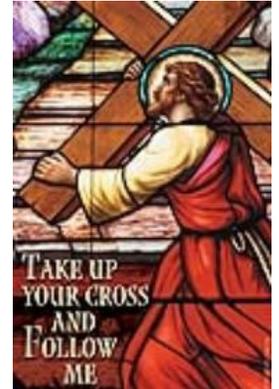


Offertory: June 25, 2017 OLM \$485, OLV \$489, COS \$542, Total \$1,516
 June 26, 2016 OLM \$477, OLV \$594, COS \$253, Total \$1,324 (incl. online giving)

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Sept. 2, OLM 4:00 PM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by John Nappi, Jr.
 Sunday, Sept. 3, OLM 8:30 AM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by John Nappi, Jr.
 Sunday, Sept. 3, OLV 10:30 AM For a Special Intention, requested by John Nappi, Jr.
 Sunday, Sept. 3, COS 12:30 PM For Matteo Aquilino, requested by Scotty Aquilino
 Saturday, Sept. 9, OLM 4:00 PM For a Special Intention, requested by John Nappi, Jr.
 Sunday, Sept. 10, OLM 8:30 AM For Stan Golec, requested by Pauline Golec
 Sunday, Sept. 10, OLV 10:30 AM For Irene Viana (3rd anniversary), requested by Eleanor C. Crombie
 Sunday, Sept. 10, COS 12:30 PM For the Souls in Purgatory, requested by John Nappi, Jr.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sept. 15: Adoration, 3 PM, OLV
 Sept. 20: Cursillo Ultreya, 7 PM, at the Anderbergs
 Sept. 21: Finance Council Meeting, 6:30 PM, OLV

REGISTRATION is open for the 2017-2018 year of Religious Education at Our Lady of the Valley for grades K- 8. Classes start September 17, 2017 and will meet two times each month until May. Forms are available at the church, or contact the Rectory at 802-387-5861 or email us at olmercy@myfairpoint.net. **WE NEED YOU!!!** Our Religious Education program is in need of volunteer catechists. You may contact the Rectory at 802-387-5861 or email us at: olmercy@myfairpoint.net.

All parishioners are invited to the 6th tour destination, a spiritual journey, which started from May through October 2017, in fulfilling the prophetic message from Jesus through Mary's apparition in Fatima: "He wishes to establish devotion to my Immaculate Heart throughout the world". For peace and end of the persecution of Christians in the world. The devotion of Rosary with procession, Confession and Mass with the blessing of the brown scapular of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, at St. John the Evangelist, St. Johnsbury, VT, Saturday, September 9th. Starting from 10 AM to 12 PM. Address: 49 Winter Street, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819. For more information, please contact: Rick Gravelin at rickgravelin@gmail.com or [802.862.2240](tel:802.862.2240) (please leave a message).

Weekly Intention: For the grace this week to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Jesus. 

 This September issue is the first of Vermont Catholic magazine's new distribution system. All who have donated \$24 or more to the 2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal should have received a copy of the magazine delivered to their home address the first weekend of September. Additional copies are available in the back of the church to be shared with family and friends. We will continue to collect donations to help pay for these free magazine copies for friends and neighbors who may not be able to afford to contribute at this time.

Action for Ecological Justice: Celebrating a Year of Creation
September 30, 2017 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, St. Michael's College.
 \$35.00 per person, Students: FREE , breakfast & lunch included. Registration & Info: vermontcatholic.org/actionforecojustice.
 Join Bishop Coyne at this one-day conference hosted by the Catholic Church of Vermont as part of the Year of Creation, which will explore, reflect upon and respond to the message of Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical, *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*. With a keynote address by Dr. Carolyn Woo (former CEO & President of Catholic Relief Services) and perspectives from scientists, politicians, activists, economists, professionals, academics and people of faith, the day promises dynamic conversations about the state of creation and how we can work together for a sustainable future.



From Fr. Fred: We have all heard about the St Vincent de Paul Society and the wonderful work they do for the poor. Here is an excerpt from the saint who inspired them and so many others to help the poor.



From a writing by Saint Vincent de Paul, priest

Serving the poor is to be our first preference

Even though the poor are often rough and unrefined, we must not judge them from external appearances nor from the mental gifts they seem to have received. On the contrary, if you consider the poor in the light of faith, then you will observe that they are taking the place of the Son of God who chose to be poor. Although in his passion he almost lost the appearance of a man and was considered a fool by the Gentiles and a stumbling block by the Jews, he showed them that his mission was to preach to the poor: *He sent me to preach the good news to the poor.* We also ought to have this same spirit and imitate Christ's actions, that is, we must take care of the poor, console them, help them, support their cause.

Since Christ willed to be born poor, he chose for himself disciples who were poor. He made himself the servant of the poor and shared their poverty. He went so far as to say that he would consider every deed which either helps or harms the poor as done for or against himself. Since God surely loves the poor, he also loves those who love the poor. For when one person holds another dear, he also includes in his affection anyone who loves or serves the one he loves. That is why we hope that God will love us for the sake of the poor. So when we visit the poor and needy, we try to be understanding where they are concerned. We sympathize with them so fully that we can echo Paul's words: *I have become all things to all men.* Therefore, we must try to be stirred by our neighbors' worries and distress. We must beg God to pour into our hearts sentiments of pity and compassion and to fill them again and again with these dispositions.

It is our duty to prefer the service of the poor to everything else and to offer such service as quickly as possible. If a needy person requires medicine or other help during prayer time, do whatever has to be done with peace of mind. Offer the deed to God as your prayer. Do not become upset or feel guilty because you interrupted your prayer to serve the poor. God is not neglected if you leave him for such service. One of God's works is merely interrupted to that another can be carried out. So when you leave prayer to serve some poor person, remember that this very service is performed for God. Charity is certainly greater than any rule. Moreover, all rules must lead to charity. Since she is a noble mistress, we must do whatever she commands. With renewed devotion, then, we must serve the poor, especially outcasts and beggars.

Just for Fun: A man was driving home from work one day. He stopped to watch a local Little League baseball game that was being played in a park near his home. As he sat down behind the bench on the first-base line, he asked one of the boys what the score was. "We're behind 14 to nothing," he answered with a smile. "Really", the man said. "I have to say you don't look very discouraged." "Discouraged?" the boy asked with a puzzled look on his face. "Why should we be discouraged? We haven't been up to bat yet."



Quote of the week:

"Hope is a little like leaven that expands our soul. There are difficult moments in life, but with hope the soul goes forward and looks ahead to what awaits us."

~ Pope Francis