

January 15, 2017

The bulletin is also available online at olmcvt.org

We are a Welcoming Community of Believers, Hoppers and Lovers. We are One Family in Baptism and the Holy Spirit, nourished with the Word of God and the Body and Blood of Christ. All are Welcome in this place.

Cycles of Faith—2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God." John the Baptist had an important message to impart. He was called by God to prepare the people of Israel to recognize Jesus' true identity. In a sense, he helped establish credibility for Christ by confirming that he was in fact the Messiah. Jesus didn't just have to claim it on his own; John also "testified" to the fact. We, of course, also benefit from the witness of John the Baptist recorded for us in the Gospels. And we have additional witnesses from the rest of the people throughout the Gospels who knew and recognized Jesus as the Son of God. But we also have the benefit of two thousand years of Church history! We have countless testimonies of saints and believers throughout the centuries who have known Jesus in their own lives and acted accordingly.

This raises two questions. First, are we willing to believe these testimonies from those who have gone before us? Consider how much credence we give to the experiences and the stories of our forefathers and foremothers in the faith-- whether they are blood relatives or members of the larger communion of saints. Sometimes these personal accounts of coming to know the Lord are much more powerful than any "proof" or intellectual proposal about Christianity. They do require a degree of faith and trust, but they nonetheless provide us with real evidence about the impact of being close to Christ.

Secondly, let us consider whether or not we are willing to give testimony to who Christ is to us? It's one thing to believe in Jesus; it's another thing to share that faith with others. But like John the Baptist, we are called to share the truth so that others may come to believe.

Liturgical Publications

ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:

Sun. Jan. 15 8:00 a.m. For Lou Laberge requested by Paul and Diane Laberge.

Sun. Jan. 15 11:00 a.m. For the Parishioners of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Jude Parishes.

Sun. Jan. 22 8:00 a.m. For the Parishioners of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Jude Parishes.

Sun. Jan. 22 11:00 a.m. For Gerald C. Nolan requested by Catherine Nolan and Family.

Offertory Last Week: \$1,419.00 Maintenance: \$541.00
Initial Offering: \$60.00 Solemnity of Mary: \$35.00
VT Catholic: \$48.00 Fuel: \$130.00
Electronic Giving: \$425.00

Second Collection This Week for Fuel
Second Collection Next Week for VT Catholic

Pray for Vocations

Schedule of Counters: Monday, January 16, 2017

Trina Bianchi
Sue Haselton
Marie Cookson

Schedule of Ministries: January 22, 2017

8:00 a.m. Altar Server: Devan Lussier
Lector: David Duffy
Extraordinary Min.: Rose Bernier
Sheila Duffy

11:00 a.m. Greeters: Kyle & Katie Franko
Altar Server:
Lector: Colleen Armstrong
Extraordinary Min.: Susan Zahn
Tricia Sulva

Calendar of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Events

-1/19 Parish Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
-1/22 Second Year Confirmation at 10:30 a.m.
-1/26 Liturgy Committee Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Question of the Week To whom and how am I being called to be the servant of God's "raising and restoring" Jesus?

New Parishioners: If you are new to the parish or have never registered, won't you please fill out a parish registration form found on the table in the back? We are trying to update our parish records and have incomplete info on some families.

Rosary: The Rosary is being said each Saturday at St. Jude's before the 4:30 p.m. Mass beginning at 4:10 p.m.

Senior Meals: St. Jude Parish offers lunches to area seniors on the 2nd and 4th **Tuesday** of each month. The next senior meals are scheduled for January 24 and February 14 and 21 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Serving begins at 12:00 noon. All Seniors and Caretakers welcome.

Collection Envelopes: The collection envelopes for 2017 are available in the back of the church. Envelopes are in alphabetical order. If you have not used the collection envelopes in the past but would like to do so now, please take a box without a name on them.

****Please be sure to write your name and address on the envelopes for the first few weeks you are using them. Also, please do not use leftover envelopes from previous years. Some of the numbers have been changed due to the fact that we ordered less this year in order to not have so many leftover and thrown out. Thank you.**

Faith In Action: There will be a FIA meeting today, Sunday, January 15, following the 11:00 a.m. Mass. All are welcome.

Catholicism Series: Please join us at St. Jude's in Hinesburg for another evening of "Catholicism-The Journey of a Lifetime". This week's episode will be "**A Vast Company Of Witnesses: The Communion Of Saints**". The story of the Church is told in the examples of those men and women who dedicated their lives to knowing and serving Jesus Christ. The Catholic Faith is made visible in real human lives. Bishop Barron gives consideration to some of the Church's greatest heroes, and demonstrates how their extraordinary examples display both the passion and creative potential of the Catholic Church. Highlighting Katharine Drexel, Therese of Lisieux, Edith Stein, and Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Bishop Barron tells the story of the Church as a vast company of witness who are called by Christ to be a Communion of Saints. It is not necessary to have viewed the previous episodes to be inspired by this week's DVD. We look forward to many more spiritually enriching evenings. Please join us this Tuesday, January 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Family Mass and Pancake Breakfast: There will be a Family Mass and Pancake Breakfast today, Sunday, January 15 at St. Jude's. The cost of the breakfast is \$8/adults; \$5/child; \$23/family (2 adults and 2 or more children). All are welcome.

Parish Contributions for 2016: If you use offertory envelopes or are enrolled in online giving, a record of your 2016 donations to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish will be mailed to you later this month.

Red Cross Blood Drive: There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Jude's on Thursday, January 19 from 12:30 to 6:00 p.m. There is an urgent need for blood. Please bring a friend and be sure to have your Blood Donor Card, Photo ID or two forms of ID.

Counters Needed: We are in need of help on Monday mornings at 8:30 a.m. to count the weekly collection. Many of our regular counters are no longer available to count especially since many go south for the winter. With enough people, you would only have to count every 4 to 6 weeks. It really isn't difficult and it's a chance for you to meet your fellow parishioners and those from St. Jude's. Counting is done in the St. Jude rectory. If you are willing to help out, please contact Marie at 425-2637 or email at marietcookson@aol.com. Thank you.

Adult Confirmation Program: A new Adult Confirmation Program is being implemented in the Diocese. This is a 7 session process designed for those adults who received their First Communion/Reconciliation but were never confirmed. This program will run during Lent and Easter Seasons, leading to the reception of Confirmation on Pentecost from Bishop Coyne. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Fr. David Cray at 425-2253 or email at dgcray@gmail.com.

Free Domestic Violence Workshop: The Diocese of Burlington is presenting a free workshop aiding in developing tools to reach out and help victims of domestic violence. This workshop is open to everyone. It will be held on Wednesday, February 22 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Holy Family Parish Center, Essex Junction. Lunch is included. Please call 658-6110 ext 1453 or vermontcatholic.org to register.

World Marriage Day 2017: The celebration of World Marriage Day in the Diocese of Burlington will take place on Sunday, February 5 at the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass at St. Joseph's Co-Cathedral in Burlington with recognition being given to those couples celebrating their Milestone Anniversaries in 2017 (5, 10, 15, 20, etc.). The form to sign up to attend this Mass or to request a special certificate is in the back of the church.



John testified further, saying, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God." — Jn 1:32-34

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC

Parish Council Meeting: There will be a Parish Council Meeting this Thursday, January 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. All are welcome.

Annual Rally for Life: The annual Rally for Life will kick off in Montpelier on Saturday, January 21 at 10:45 a.m. as participants need to line up behind City Hall. Signs and banners will be provided. The march down State Street to the steps of the Capitol will begin at 11:00 a.m. and those who wish to attend but cannot participate in the outdoor portion of the event can find their way to House Chambers and wait for the group to join them. This year, the Rally for Life will feature women's voices, featuring Jewels Green of Philadelphia, Sarah Zagurski of Colorado and Amy Cochran of Vermont.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: Married Couples—"Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." No matter how strong the winds, Jesus is there to take our hands and guide our marriage. Restore, renew and rekindle your marriage on the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on March 17 through March 19 at St. Anne's Shrine in Isle LaMotte. For information or to apply, contact Gary and Lynn Root at vtroot@together.net or call 802-456-8114 or go online at www.wmmevt.org. Note that the application deadline is February 24, 2017.

Theology of Tap-Young Adult Group: Young adults between the ages of 21 and 35 are invited to Theology on Tap at Switchback Brewing Company in Burlington beginning at 7:00 p.m. on January 19. PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF LOCATION. This month's speaker will be Fr. Dallas St. Peter. For more info on this and other events that this group hosts, email burlingtonareayoungadults@gmail.com.

Story Hour at Mater Christi School: Story hour for youngsters 3-5 years of age will take place monthly in the Mater Christi School library starting on January 23 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Mater Christi's pre-school teacher will be the reader and the school's art teacher will lead a craft for the youngsters relative to the reading. There is no cost for this event. A snack will be provided. One or both parents are asked to stay with their youngster(s). If interested or for more info, email Melissa at msenesac@materchristischool.net or call 658-3992.