

February 26, 2017

The bulletin is also available online at olmvt.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—8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?" The anti-anxiety message Jesus gives us today is not just ancient pop psychology. The point of this passage isn't to give us a "strategy" for coping with our fears. Jesus is proposing something much more profound. He is teaching us how to eliminate our fears altogether. To put it simply, he tells us to get our priorities straight. This whole reflection on worrying culminates in the instruction to "seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." That's where our freedom lies. When we concern ourselves with being in right relationship with God, our other concerns melt away.

Deep down, we know that this life isn't about bodily health or comfort. Those things don't last anyway. But freedom from fretting is more than simply thinking about how it'll all work out--eventually--in heaven. No. Jesus offers us more. He insists that our heavenly Father will provide for us, here and now. We only need to take him at his word. That means sticking to our part of the bargain by putting God first.

What does this look like, this seeking God and not worrying about the rest? It looks like Mother Teresa giving up every material possession, living amongst the poor without any dependable income, and watching truckloads of food appear at her doorstep unannounced. It looks like a check showing up in the mailbox of two struggling parents to cover the medical bills for their sick baby. It looks like the couple that tithes to its parish month after month, and still finds it has plenty to cover its expenses. In a word, it looks like trust. Trust in the divine providence of a Father who loves his children.

Liturgical Publications

ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:

Sun. Feb. 26 8:00 a.m.

Sun. Feb. 26 11:00 a.m. For Mona Clarke requested by the Landler Family.

Sun. Mar. 5 8:00 a.m.

Sun. Mar. 5 11:00 a.m. For Shirley Marshall requested by Beverly and Wayne Burleigh.

Offertory Last Week: \$1,639.00

Maintenance: \$105.00

VT Catholic Magazine: \$48.00

Church in Latin America: \$55.00

Electronic Giving: \$175.00

Second Collection Next Week for Maintenance

Pray for Vocations

Schedule of Counters: Monday, February 27, 2017

Trina Bianchi
Margaret Titus
Marie Cookson

Schedule of Ministries: March 5, 2017

8:00 a.m.	Altar Server:	Angelina Seidita Anthony Seidita
	Lector:	Mary Tierney
	Extraordinary Min.:	Judy Laberge Mary Tierney

11:00 a.m.	Greeters:	Kyle & Katie Franko
	Altar Server:	
	Lector:	Ray Curtis
	Extraordinary Min.:	Eileen Curtis Ray Curtis

Calendar of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Events

-3/12 CCD at CCS at 9:00 a.m.

-3/12 1st Year Confirmation at St. Jude's at 10:30 a.m.

-3/16 Parish Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Question of the Week What practical commitment—to which charity or person—can I make before Lent begins this Wednesday so that my prayer, fasting, and almsgiving will reflect Jesus' radical call to trust?

Daily Mass: There will be **NO** 5:15 p.m. daily Mass on Thursday, March 2 at OLMC and **NO** 8:00 a.m. daily Mass on Friday, March 3 at St. Jude's due to Father Cray being at St. Michael's.

Stations of the Cross: Stations of the Cross will be held at St. Jude's every Friday at 7:00 p.m. during Lent beginning on March 3. All are welcome.

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 February 28 and March 14 and 28 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Serving begins at 12:00 noon.

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 dqcray@gmail.com.

OLMC Financial Statement Summary for the Six Months Ended 12/31/16:

- Total Offertory Income for the six months ended 12/31/16 was 62,177 versus \$60,001 for the prior year comparable period, an increase of \$2,176 or 3.6%.
- The annual Christmas Collection was \$4,343 for 2016 compared to \$3,106 for the prior Christmas, an increase of \$1,328.
- Net Income for the six months ended 12/31/16 was \$10,850 versus \$9,964 for the prior year comparable period, an increase of \$886 or 8.8%.
- Total Cash balance at 12/31/16 was \$153,267 compared to \$130,556 at 12/31/15.

Ash Wednesday: Lent begins **Wednesday, March 1**. Mass and distributions of the ashes will be held at OLMC at 7:00 a.m. and at St. Jude's at 7:00 p.m. This is a great way to begin the Lenten season. The Church's Lenten practices include:

--Abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays in Lent is required by Church law for those who are 14 years and older.

****PLEASE NOTE:** In consideration that St. Patrick is the secondary patron of the Diocese of Burlington, Bishop Coyne is granting a dispensation from the precept of abstaining from meat on Friday, March 17. If you take advantage of this dispensation, you should add some other sacrifice/penance to your Lenten observances.

-- Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting. Those between 18 and 59 may have one full meal and two minor meals on these days.

--Throughout Lent all are encouraged to intensify their prayer life, to do penance and to contribute to charities.

Ash Wednesday Almsgiving Collection: There will be a special collection on Ash Wednesday to support Vermont Catholic Charities. This agency provides financial and emotional support to individuals and families throughout Vermont through the programs offered which include counseling, Emergency Aid, Prison Ministry, Project Rachel and Residential Care Homes. Envelopes are available in the lobby or in your envelope box set. Please know that every gift—whatever the size—makes a difference. Thank you for your generosity.

Stations of the Cross: Join Bishop Coyne on **Friday, March 3** at 7:00 p.m. at **The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception** in Burlington for The Stations of the Cross with John Paul II: On the path of ecological conversion, followed by a sustainable soup supper and discussion of the Lenten practice of fasting. Learn about the Global Catholic Climate Movement's Lenten Fast for Climate Justice and how fasting from certain foods, especially meat, positively effects the planet and the poor.

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.

Why Lent?: Join Josh Perry, Director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese, as he unpacks the liturgical year with his presentation **Why Lent?**. Learn how Lent came to be a time of intense preparation for those being initiated into the church as well as a time of spiritual renewal for the faithful. We'll consider anew the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving as ways to make your Lenten observance more meaningful this year. This presentation will be held on **Tuesday, February 28** at Holy Family Parish Center in Essex Jct from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and again from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Please RSVP by calling 878-5331.



“So do not worry and say, ‘What are we to eat?’ or ‘What are we to drink?’ or ‘What are we to wear?’ Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness.” — Mt 6:31, 32b-33a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Missionary Discipleship Today: A Joyful Witness: Holy Family Parish in Essex Junction welcomes everyone to attend either the 8:30 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. Mass on Monday through Wednesday, **March 6th, 7th and 8th**. Each Mass will include an extended homily focused on what Pope Francis has called us to be as “missionary disciples” in today’s world. Confessions will be available before and after Mass each day. The guest speaker will be Deacon Phil Lawson, MTS.

Presentation on Immigration: The Sisters of Mercy and Mercy Associates invite you to a presentation given by Sr. Kathleen Erickson, RSM, on Immigration and the Detention of Mothers and Children on **Sunday, March 19 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.** at the Mount St. Mary's Chapel, 100 Mansfield Avenue in Burlington. Sr. Kathleen will lead a presentation/reflection on how our broken immigration system calls us to go deeper as we examine what it means to be human beings in a polarized world. No cost for the event. Parking is available in the Mater Christi School parking lot.

Best Lent Ever: We all know the things that make us happy, but we don't always do them. Lent is an opportunity to change that. This year you are invited to do something different. Join Dynamic Catholic for Best Lent Ever, a free, video-based email program featuring Matthew Kelly. From Ash Wednesday to Easter, Matthew will help you identify what stands between you and happiness...and what to do about it. To sign up, visit BestLentEver.com.

Theology on Tap-Young Adult Group: Young adults between the ages of 21 and 35 are invited to join in for Theology on Tap at Switchback Brewing Company in Burlington starting at 7:00 p.m. on March 16. This month's speaker will be Jordan Easley. For more info on this and other events that this group hosts, email burlingtonareayoungadults@gmail.com or search Burlington Area Catholic Young Adults on Facebook.

St. Peter's K of C Lenten Fish Fry: Come to St. Peter's K of C Lenten Fish Fry at 85 South Maple Street, Vergennes on Fridays, March 3, 17, 31. Serving from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at St. Peter's Parish Hall. Join them for Battered Baked Haddock, fries, macaroni & cheese, green beans, coleslaw, rolls, punch, milk, coffee. Adults/\$12, Children under 12/\$6; Children under 6/free. Immediate family (only)/\$35. Please bring a dessert to share. For more info please call 877-2367.