



Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

10/24/2020 - 11/01/2020

Welcome to Mater Dei Parish!



Love God as He deserves to be loved: love Him as He loves us

As we approach Advent, the attacks on Jesus by the elites of Israelite society increase in frequency, taking on an undercurrent of desperation. Last week the Sadducees – who denied the resurrection to new life and the accepted only the first five books of the Hebrew scriptures – led the attack. Their attack took the form of a long story/question about a woman who marries seven times. Having survived all seven, they ask, to whom will she be wife in the next life?

Jesus replies that their theological premises are faulty because they “do not know the scriptures or the power of God” (Mt. 22:29).

Taking these points in reverse order, Jesus first taught – by His own authority – that the resurrection is no mere return to this life. Rather, it is a rebirth to a new kind of life, wherein there will be no marriage at all, because its purposes will have already been fulfilled. Finally, He proves that God Himself declared the reality of the resurrection to *new* life in Exodus 3:6. In speaking with Moses, God referred to Himself as “the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” Jesus points out that God cannot be *their* God if they ceased to exist at their moment of death, as the Sadducees held.

With all that in mind, let us look at this week’s Gospel, which follows directly on last week’s reading. Asked by a law scholar of the Pharisee party which of the Ten Commandments “is the greatest,” Jesus again shows his sovereign knowledge of and authority over the Scriptures. Rather than merely answering the question, our Lord explains in just four sentences what the life of the true follower of the one God ought to look like.

The “true believer” loves God first, foremost, and in a certain sense, exclusively. To love God as He deserves is to love Him as He loves us. To love as God does means to the point where He is more important to me than I am to myself. (Only by doing this may I love my neighbor as God does.) In addition, to claim that I am a true believer is to say that I love my neighbor as much as I love myself. Jesus will explain this in the parable of the Good Samaritan. In short, status as “my neighbor” must extend to everyone. This includes even those people I would naturally wish to despise. Okay, but what does this mean for us Catholics here in Vermont in the year 2020 AD?

It means the same as it always did. God never changes. He loves because He is love itself. This is how He loves us. This also how He wants us to love one another.

Does this sound like an impossible command? It should because it really is.

No one, not even one of the great saints, has ever succeeded at this except by the grace of God.

The spiritual life is not about succeeding. The spiritual life is about trying even though we know we will always fail. The spiritual life is about failing, and failing again, and again ... and again ... and again. The spiritual life is also about turning to God after every failure, and apologizing for not trying hard enough, for giving up halfway through, for giving in to sin, for lukewarmness. It is about asking His help, dragging myself to my feet to try yet again.

Remember: Our Lord has said in that we cannot do anything – anything at all – without His constant outpouring of Grace. He has also shown us by His own actions that He wants nothing more than to pour more and more grace upon us so that we can recover from our failures and sins and move on toward sanctity.

Thank You for Your Generosity to our Mater Dei Parish Churches



Week of October 18, 2020

Envelopes:	\$ 4,638.00
Loose:	\$ 1,530.00
Online:	\$ 765.00
TOTAL:	\$ 6,933.00
Budget:	\$10,439.00
Surplus/Deficit:	\$- 3,506.00

FOOD SHELF NEEDS

Mater Dei's Food Pantry is looking for the following items this week:



Soups & Toilet Paper

Thank you for your continued support of our Food Shelf. May God bless you all!

St. Mary's Cemetery Notice St. Edward's Cemetery Notice

This is the last week to remove any flowers or ornaments from your loved one's grave at St. Edward's & St. Mary's Cemeteries. Any decorations remaining after October 31st will be discarded.



There will be no interments at St. Mary's Cemetery after November 1st until spring.

Thank you for your cooperation.



PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

THE NEXT PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27TH AT 5:00 PM AT ST. MARY'S RECTORY. YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US IN PERSON OR REMOTELY BY QUERYING MATERDEIVERMONT.COM AND CLICKING ONTO THE FACEBOOK PAGE. UNDER QUICK LINKS ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE PAGE, CLICK ONLINE PARISH MINISTRIES, THEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING. PLEASE JOIN US!

**St. Mary's
Tabernacle Light**
burns this week in
loving memory of
Evelyn Vallee



**St. Mary's
Chapel Light**
burns this week in
loving memory of
Annie Bushaw

Please pray for the repose of
the souls of † **Madeleine Molinari**
& † **Virginia June Desrochers**
and for their grieving families.



DAILY & WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

DAILY MASSES

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY:
9:00 AM & 4:00 PM AT ST. MARY'S
SATURDAY MORNING AT 9:00 AM

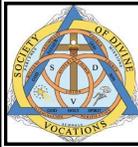
WEEKEND MASSES

SATURDAY: 4:00 PM @ ST. MARY'S
5:30 PM @ ST. BENEDICT'S
SUNDAY: 8:30 AM @ ST. EDWARD'S
9:30 AM & 11:00 AM @ ST. MARY'S
10:30 AM @ ST. JAMES



VOCATIONIST'S CORNER

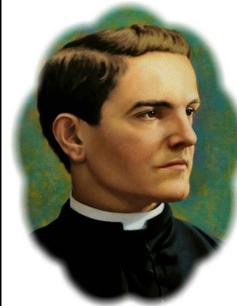
Congratulations to Rev. Fr. Ignacio Cogollodo, Jr., SDV who was ordained to the priesthood on October 17th. May God bless him in his vocation.



Knights of Columbus Founder to Be

Beatified on October 31st

Fr. Michael McGivney, the founder of the Knights of Columbus Fraternal Organization, will be beatified on October 31, 2020 in his native Connecticut.



A miracle credited to the intercession of Fr. McGivney was approved by the Vatican and announced by Pope Francis on May 27th. A child who was diagnosed as terminally ill in the womb was miraculously healed following prayers for the intercession of Fr. McGivney.

Fr. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in New Haven, CT in 1882. Initially, the organization was intended to assist widows and their families upon the deaths of their husbands. It has grown into a worldwide Catholic fraternal order with more than 2 million members carrying out works of charity and evangelization across the globe.

Between 2017 and 2018, the Knights raised and delivered \$2 million for the Iraqi town of Karamles. The Knights have helped Christian survivors of the ISIS genocide in that town resettle in their homes and rebuild for the future. In 2018, the Knights' 16,000 councils worldwide donated more than \$185 thousand to charity and gave over 76 million hours of hands-on service.

Their volunteer work included support for the Special Olympics, coat drives, and food drives for needy families.

Beatification, being declared "blessed" by the Catholic Church, is the final step of recognition before a person can be declared a saint. Fr. McGivney will become the 4th U.S. born man to be beatified, joining Blessed Stanley Rother, Blessed James Miller and Blessed Solanus Casey.

While the Church has recognized three women born in the United States as saints - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Katherine Drexel, and St. Kateri Tekawitha - as of now there have been no U.S. born canonized men.

YOUR LIFE HIS CALL



"You turned from idols to serve the living and true God."

Destroy the false gods in your life which prevent you from serving the one true God.

If you want to talk about your discernment, please contact Fr. James Dodson, Director of Vocations, at the Vocation Office at **(802) 658-6110 X 2275** or visit vocations.vermontcatholic.org for more information.

Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church

Parish campaign volunteers have begun calling parishioners to invite them to join in support of the *Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church* campaign.

Thanks to their hard work and the generosity of our parishioners, members of our faith community have begun to make commitments to the campaign.

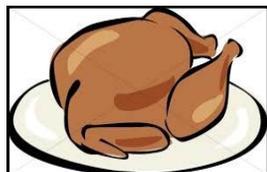
We thank our volunteers and offer our sincere gratitude to our donors for their sacrifice. For those who have yet to commit, please spend time in prayer to define your gift. Remember that every dollar donated brings us closer to our goal, and no contribution is too small to make a difference. Your sacrifice will help us to build a vibrant parish for today and well into the future.

To stay current with all campaign news, please visit <https://www.christourhopevt.org/>.



Win a Thanksgiving Turkey!

Orleans Council Knights of Columbus is having a **Turkey Raffle** for a chance to win **one of 30 turkeys**. Drawing is **November 11th**. Tickets are **5 for \$3.00**.



Contact Maurice Brasseur at (802) 334-5501 for tickets to help out the Orleans Council.



James Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 1157 invites all 4th Degree Knights of Columbus members to join us for our monthly meeting on **Wednesday, October 28th at 7:00 pm at St. Theresa - St. John Parish Hall in Orleans**. A light social will be provided after the meeting. Social distancing and the wearing of face masks remain in place.