

Offertory: February 2, 2020 OLM \$547, OLV \$525, COS \$858, Total \$1,930
 February 3, 2019 OLM \$474, OLV \$593, COS \$1,492, Total \$2,559



SCHEDULE AND MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Saturday, February 29:

OLM 4:00 PM For Fr. Frank McMahon, by Jeffrey F. Larson

COS 4:30 PM For the Waskevick family, living and deceased, by Paul and Mary Pustorino

Sunday, March 1: First Sunday of Lent

OLM 8:30 AM For a Special Intention, by John Nappi, Jr.

OLV 10:30 AM For Thomas Scacciaferro and Elsie Eggleston and their families, by Linda Scacciaferro

COS 12:30 PM For Mario DiFabio, by Frank J. and Rosa Cannella

Monday, March 2: Julian Calendar Lent begins

Tuesday, March 3: St. Katharine Drexel

Wednesday, March 4: St. Casimir

Rectory Chapel 9:00 AM For Fr. Frank McMahon, by Jeffrey F. Larson

Thursday, March 5:

Rectory Chapel 9:00 AM For Joan Engel, by Bill Engel

Friday, March 6: World Day of Prayer; Abstinence; First

Friday

Rectory Chapel 9:00 AM For Fr. Frank McMahon, by Jeffrey F. Larson

Saturday, March 7: Ss. Perpetua and Felicity; First Saturday

Rectory Chapel 9:00 AM For Ben Schwarz, by Kerry Morton

Next weekend

Saturday, March 7: Ss. Perpetua and Felicity; First Saturday

OLM 4:00 PM For a Special Intention, by John Nappi, Jr.

COS 4:30 PM For Frank and Billy Zimmermann, by the Zimmermann family

Sunday, March 8: Second Sunday of Lent; Daylight

Saving Time begins; International Women's Day

OLM 8:30 AM For the Souls in Purgatory, by John

Nappi, Jr.

OLV 10:30 AM For Carron Scaplen and the Scaplen family, by William Scaplen

COS 12:30 PM For a Special Intention, by John Nappi, Jr.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 1: Special Collection: Black and Indian Missions

March 6: Adoration and Rosary, St. Edmund's of Canterbury Church, Saxtons River, 4:30 PM

March 7: First Saturday Mass, Rectory Chapel, 9:00 AM

Our Lady of Mercy and the West River Missions Annual Appeal 2019-2020:

Goal \$42,000.00 Contributions to Date: \$26,115.00 Balance Remaining \$15,885.00.

Thank you to all who have made a contribution. There are envelopes in the back of the church if you did not receive one in the mail. Donations can be sent to: Our Lady of Mercy Rectory, PO Box 246, Putney, VT 05346

"At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil." If the devil tempted Jesus, who was God, how much more will he tempt us into sin. Bring the Father, Son and Holy Spirit into your marriage to help you resist temptations by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Mar 13-15, 2020 in Duxbury, MA and Mar 27-29, 2020 in Albany, NY. For more information, call John & Diane Forcier at 802-657-3083 or visit them at <https://wwmewtw.org/>.



Please join us on Thursday, March 12th at St. Michael Parish in Brattleboro, VT for songs, faith sharing, and a time of Adoration led by Father Justin and MJM7. MJM7 is a Catholic family group comprised of Michael James Mette and 4 of his daughters: Gabriella (15), Trinity (14), Charity (12), and Cecilia (11). The Mette's gifts of music, joy, & family life offer the boldness and innocence of youth with the wisdom and depth of lived experiences. Bring a friend! You won't want to miss this unique event. The evening is free, donations are accepted.

I'm excited to announce that starting next month our parish will be taking part in the **Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church** campaign. The campaign will build up our diocese through vibrant parishes, strengthening faith formation efforts and serving the poor.

We will kick off the campaign next month. We are still looking for people to serve on the campaign team to help spread the message and follow up on gift requests. If you are interested, please call the parish office and ask for ((contact person)).

We'll be sharing more information with you as we get closer to the kickoff date. Also, be sure to read the Vermont Catholic and Inland See for more information about the campaign.

"One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God." Natural desires of food, power and worldly recognition will never satisfy our true longing. Our call is to be united to the Bread of Life, the Word of the Lord, the Kingdom of God.

Pope Francis Speaks to Families

Mothers and Fathers

A Mother Knows How to Balance Things

A mother...thinks of the health of her children, teaching them also to face the difficulties of life. You do not teach, you do not take care of health by avoiding problems, as though life were a motorway with no obstacles. The mother helps her children to see the problems of life realistically and not to get lost in them, but to confront them with courage; not to be weak, and to know how to overcome them, in a healthy balance that a mother “senses” between the area of security and the area of risk. And a mother can do this! She does not always take the child along the safe road, because in that way the child cannot develop, but neither does she leave the child only on the risky path, because that is dangerous. A mother knows how to balance things. A life without challenges does not exist, and a boy or a girl who cannot face or tackle them is a boy or girl with no backbone!

—Address at the Recitation of the Rosary, Papal Basilica of St. Mary Major, May 4, 2013

The Holy Mass

Closing Rite

When we receive the Eucharist, we are welcoming Christ into our hearts and so it is an important moment. The priest and Deacon are the ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and Lay Eucharistic Ministers are the Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, authorized by the Church-authorities. Some have scrupulous thought that it is better to receive the Body of Christ only from the priest or deacon. Such people must believe that the Lay Eucharistic Ministers distribute the same Body of Christ as the Priest or Deacon.

At the end of the distribution of the Holy Communion, the remaining Consecrated Hosts are taken to the Tabernacle for private adoration and for the use of the sick and the homebound, who are unable to participate in the Mass with the community. After receiving the Communion, there is a time for meditation whether silent or singing a song.

To be continued....

SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL (1858-1955)

March 3

Born into Philadelphia society, Katharine was an infant when she lost her mother. Her father remarried and the couple taught their daughters that their wealth was a “gift on loan” to be shared with the poor, whom they fed and cared for in their home. Invited by priest friends to witness firsthand the destitution on Native American reservations, Katharine resolved to devote her inheritance to this apostolate and enter a contemplative order. When, however, in private audience, she begged Leo XIII to send missionaries to staff the schools she was building, the pope replied, “My child, why not become a missionary yourself?” Katharine renounced a twenty-million-dollar fortune and founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, adoring Christ present in the Eucharist and ministering to Christ suffering in victims of racial discrimination. Her Sisters established over sixty schools nationwide, including Xavier University, New Orleans, the first dedicated to professional education for African Americans. In 2000, John Paul II canonized “Mother Drexel,” praising her “excellent example of practical charity and generous solidarity with the less fortunate, long the distinguishing mark of American Catholics.”—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15;
Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19;
Lk 11:29-32
Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8;
Mt 7:7-12
Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8;
Mt 5:43-48
Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22;
2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

TEMPTATION

Every conquered temptation represents a new fund of moral energy. Every trial endured and weathered in the right spirit makes a soul nobler and stronger than it was before.—
William Butler Yeats

PRAYER

The value of persistent prayer is not that God will hear us, but that we will finally hear God.
—William McGill

March 1, 2020

“The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.”
— *Matthew 4:10*

