

September 12, 2021

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Offertory: August 29, 2021 OLV \$412.00, COS \$395.00, OLG \$205.00 Total—\$1013.00
Offertory: September 5, 2021 OLV \$416.00, COS \$483.00, OLG \$543.00 Total—\$1442.00



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Daily Mass will be available W-Th-F at St. Charles, Bellows Falls 9 AM

Sunday September 12, 2021 RIP Pulaski, Dillistin, Ransom Families by Linda + Jim Cagney OLV
Sunday September 12, 2021 RIP James + Lola Nieto by Rick + Cris Lewis COS
Sunday September 19, 2021 RIP Shirley Sherman by Terry Finigan OLV
Sunday September 19, 2021 Poor Souls in Purgatory by Karen Shaw

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The Lord God is my help; who will prove me wrong? (Isaiah 50:5-9a).

Psalm — I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living (Psalm 116).

Second Reading — Faith, if it does not have works, is dead (James 2:14-18).

Gospel — Jesus asked his disciples, “Who do you say that I am?” (Mark 8:27-35).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8; Ps 28:2, 7-9; Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday: Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38;
Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16; Ps 111:1-6; Jn 19:25-27 or
Lk 2:33-35

Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16; Ps 111:7-10; Lk 7:36-50

Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12; Ps 49:6-10, 17-20; Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 8:4-15

Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20; Ps 54:3-8; Jas 3:16 — 4:3



Coming soon to a neighborhood near you.

St. Joseph's 5 K Run/Walk for Faith.

Keep tuned for more information and be sure to use the sign-up sheets at the entrance to the church.



Adoration Every first Friday of the Month at Our Lady of the Valley 3-4 P.M.

Cursillo Ultreya - 3rd Wednesday of Each Month @ 7pm.

Online Giving Please refer to our website, <https://ourladyofmercy.vermontcatholic.org/> for information regarding online giving, so that you may continue to support our church during this difficult time. Now online giving is easier than ever. Give online through our parish website or from the app.

To get the online Giving app, go to OLGApp.com. Register the app with our organization ID# 1345



Pope Francis Speaks to the Family Rediscover the Vocation to Love

Youth is a time of life when your desire for a love which is genuine, beautiful, and expansive begins to blossom in your hearts. How powerful is this ability to love and to be loved! Do not let this precious treasure be debased, destroyed, or spoiled. That is what happens when we start to use our neighbors for our own selfish ends, even as objects of pleasure. Hearts are broken and sadness follows upon these negative experiences, I urge you: do not be afraid of true love, the love that Jesus teaches us and which St. Paul describes as "patient and kind" (cf. 1 Corinthians 13:4-8) In encouraging you to discover the beauty of the human vocation to love, I also urge you to rebel against the widespread tendency to reduce love to something banal, reducing it to its sexual aspect alone, deprived of its essential characteristics of beauty, communion, fidelity, and responsibility...

You young people are brave adventurers! If you allow yourselves to discover the rich teachings of the Church on love, you will discover that Christianity does not consist of a series of prohibitions which stifle our desire for happiness, but rather a project for life capable of captivating our hearts.

Message for the 30th World Youth Day, January 31, 2015

IT'S ALL ABOUT CONTROL

From toddlerhood to old age, we grow in mastery of our own lives, our bodies, and our destiny. This mastery is hard won, and we don't let go of autonomy easily. Much of this self-mastery involves the avoidance of pain or discomfort, so when we hear things like "take up your cross" and "lose your life," we tend to resist the message.

James says that faith without works is dead. Ouch! That is really a direct message! One way to look at this, as well as the part about losing our life to find it, is that faith is a process of more and more openness to God's direction of our lives. It is very hard for us to give up control, but perhaps what we are being asked to do is not to become passive and babyish, but to allow God to direct where our self-mastery will lead and what it will accomplish. We are asked to relinquish the need to control the results of our efforts; to risk, as Jesus did, the loss of everything we are working to achieve. We are asked to let God take the lead and to control the results, even though we may never see those results.

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FEAST OF FAITH Offering and Intercessions

In this holy moment—with the consecrated bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Christ, upon the altar—we pray for a share in the fruits of Christ's sacrifice. We offer to God what God has given to us, and we intercede for the Church and the world. We pray for the pope and for all the bishops, and we mention the bishop of our local church by name. We pray for the clergy and for all the people of God. We pray in a special way for those who have died. And we pray for ourselves, that one day, with Mary and all the saints, we may come to that place where Jesus already reigns. These prayers of intercession, like the General Intercessions earlier in the Mass, broaden our focus and remind us that the Eucharist is offered not just for those gathered, but for the salvation of the entire world. The Eucharistic Prayer leads us from an intense focus on Christ, present in the consecrated host in the hands of the priest, to a loving sweep of prayer that embraces the world.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents Day
Monday:	St. John Chrysostom
Tuesday:	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Wednesday:	Our Lady of Sorrows; Yom Kippur (Jewish day of atonement) begins at sunset
Thursday:	Ss. Cornelius and Cyprian
Friday:	St. Robert Bellarmine; St. Hildegard of Bingen
Saturday:	Blessed Virgin Mary



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The Lord God is my help,
therefore I am not disgraced.
— Isaiah 50:7

The Wisdom of Fulton Sheen

It is not easy to explain why God permits evil but it is impossible for an atheist to explain the existence of goodness. How could a spiritless, soulless, cross-less universe become a center of faith, purity, sacrifice, and martyrdom? How can decency be the decent thing if there is no God? Since God is love, why should we be surprised that want of it should end in pain, hate, broken hearts, and war? September 11