

January 2, 2022

The Epiphany of the Lord

Offertory: December 26, 2021 OLV \$844.00, COS \$1860.00, OLG \$115.00 Total \$2819.00
Offertory: December 19, 2021 OLV \$283.00, COS \$ 568.00, OLG \$100.00 Total \$ 951 .00



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

January 2, 2022 RIP Fr. Remi Bukuru by Dcn. Richard and Daisy Anderberg OLV
January 1, 2022 RIP Steve Jennings by Karen Shaw COS
January 2, 2022 RIP Hank Vosswinkel by Margaret Vosswinkel COS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30
Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Ps 104:1b-4, 24-25, 27-30;
Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



Bishop's Annual Appeal - Please consider a gift to the Bishop's Appeal.

To learn more visit: bishopsappealvt.org. Please choose Our Lady of Mercy.

As of 12/22/2021 Our Lady of Mercy and the W.R. Missions is at 47% of our goal.



Christ Our Hope—Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!

Thanks to your generosity, we have reached 64% of our goal. Donations may be made using the online giving app or by returning your donation in the envelope provided.

Diocesan Synod for a Synodal Church

Pope Francis has asked dioceses around the world to take part in the celebration of the 2021-2023 "Synod for a Synodal Church."

The theme for a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission.

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



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

Let Us Salute Grandparents

How important grandparents are for family life, for passing on the human and religious heritage which is so essential for each and every society! How important it is to have intergenerational exchanges and dialogue, especially within the context of the family. The *Aparecida* document says, "Children and the elderly build the future of peoples: children because they lead history forward, the elderly because they transmit the experience and wisdom of their lives" (447). This relationship and this dialogue between generations is a treasure to be preserved and strengthened! Grandparents: let us salute grandparents. Young people salute their grandparents with great affection, and they thank them for the ongoing witness of their wisdom.

Saint of the Week

Saint André Bessette's Story

At 25, André applied for entrance into the Congregation of Holy Cross. After a year's novitiate, he was not admitted because of his weak health. But with an extension and the urging of Bishop Bourget, he was finally received. He was given the humble job of doorkeeper at Notre Dame College in Montreal, with additional duties as sacristan, laundry worker and messenger. "When I joined this community, the superiors showed me the door, and I remained 40 years," he said.

In his little room near the door, he spent much of the night on his knees. On his windowsill, facing Mount Royal, was a small statue of Saint Joseph, to whom he had been devoted since childhood. When asked about it he said, "Some day, Saint Joseph is going to be honored in a very special way on Mount Royal!"

When he heard someone was ill, he visited to bring cheer and to pray with the sick person. He would rub the sick person lightly with oil taken from a lamp burning in the college chapel. Word of healing powers began to spread.

When an epidemic broke out at a nearby college, André volunteered to nurse. Not one person died. The trickle of sick people to his door became a flood. His superiors were uneasy; diocesan authorities were suspicious; doctors called him a quack. "I do not cure," he said again and again. "Saint Joseph cures." In the end he needed four secretaries to handle the 80,000 letters he received each year.

Wisdom of Fulton Sheen

The basic reason for loneliness is that man today has divorced himself from both love of God and love of neighbor. January 1

Prayer of the Synod:

Adsumus Sancte Spiritus

We stand before You, Holy Spirit
as we gather together in your name.

With you alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance
lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity
and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right.

All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father
and the Son, forever and ever. Amen

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: Epiphany of the Lord;
National Migration Week
Monday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Tuesday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Wednesday: St. John Neumann
Thursday: St. André Bessette
Friday: St. Raymond of Penyafort; First Friday
Julian Calendar Christmas

Do Something Beautiful For God

The Essential Teachings of Mother Teresa

Live simply so others may simply live. January 1

We need to find God, and He cannot be found in noise and restlessness. God is the friend of silence. See how nature-trees, flowers, grass-grow in silence; see the stars, the moon and the sun, how they move in silence...We need silence to be able to touch souls.

January 4

Everybody today seems to be in such a terrible rush, anxious for greater developments and greater riches and so on, so that children have very little time for their parents. Parents have very little time for each other, and in the home begins the disruption of peace of the world.

January 5