



Mass Intentions
Third Sunday of Easter
April 25th & 26th, 2020

4/25 SATURDAY VIGIL:

Third Sunday of Easter
Robert Darwak

4/26 Third Sunday of Easter

The People of the Parish
Robert Potter

4/27 MONDAY

John H. Smith

4/28 TUESDAY

Intentions of Pat Yoder

4/29 WEDNESDAY

Poor Souls in Purgatory

4/30 THURSDAY

Robert McEleney

5/1 FRIDAY

Martha & Ben Munson

If you wish to continue to keep up with your weekly offertory during the church closure, you can mail it to Blessed Sacrament Church, P.O. Box 27, Stowe, VT 05672

Also, you can make a one time donation or monthly offertory on E-Giving, just contact Phyllis via email (blessedsacrament@vermontcatholic.org) to sign up or call the parish office (messages are checked frequently). On our website (bscv.com) you can also donate through paypal. Thank you so much for your generosity!

Please check our Facebook page for updated information and resources.

Dear Parishioners,

As crazy as this is to write, the month of May begins this week – a month that usually brings with it the warmth of sun, mother’s day, flowers, first Holy Communion, Confirmation, and hopefully this year, it will bring an end to the pandemic too. It is notably in Catholicism one of the two months each year that we honor the Blessed Mother (May and October). Statues are crowns and flowers are placed before images of Mary to remind us of her critical role in God’s plan of Salvation.

Too often the world wrongly believes that the Catholic Church is down on women, usually because Christ instituted an all-male priesthood. However, to hold this perspective completely undercuts the reality of our Blessed Mother, who not only is the model for every disciple of Christ (men and women), but also holds the highest authority that a human creature can hold: She is Queen of heaven and earth. You will see statues and images of her in every Catholic Church on planet earth. We sing her hymns and praise the glory of what God accomplished in and through Mary. While Catholics DO NOT worship Mary – as worship and adoration are reserved strictly to God – we do venerate and honor her, as she is, in the words of St. John Paul II, “God’s Masterpiece.” She is the personification of the Church, and what can rightly be said about Mary in particular can be said about the Church in general. But why this fascination with the Mother of God?

“No Mary...No Jesus. Know Mary, Know Jesus.” This fun play on words captures the essence of why Catholicism holds the Blessed Mother with such reverence. “No Mary...No Jesus.” Remember it was Mary’s free yes to the will of God at the Annunciation that allowed the Holy Spirit to overshadow her and the Word of God to become flesh in her womb; flesh that the Son of God took to himself and redeemed us by. Without His flesh, we could not be saved – and Mary is the one who gave Him flesh.

“Know Mary...Know Jesus.” There is no one who knows more intimately the heart of Jesus than Mary, because it was literally under her beating Immaculate Heart that beating His Sacred Heart was formed. What a great meditation – to ponder the beating of their hearts together in rhythm! If we come to know Mary, to know her from the inside – who she is, what her faith journey was like, how she suffered, and what caused her to rejoice...then we can come to know Jesus so much more personally.

During this month of May, a month of Mary, find a way to honor and reverence her in your home. Place some flowers by an image of her; read a book about her; pray the rosary; but open your heart and your home to her, because through her we enter more deeply into the mystery of her Son.

We miss you; stay healthy and well. God bless and have a grace-filled week!

With Mary
In Jesus,

Fr. Jon

Msgr. John McDermott, vicar general of the

Diocese of Burlington, offered this weekly message of hope to diocesan staff.

What are you most looking forward to doing when the quarantine and Stay Home-Stay Safe order is eased/lifted? For some it may be the ability to come back to the office each day to work, but I imagine for most of us it will be the ability to get together again with family and friends without the worry of maintaining a safe distance or the need to wear masks and gloves. If there is one thing that this time has taught us, as well as the rest of the state and country, we should never take the simple things for granted again. There have been far too many stories of people passing away without the comfort of family being by their side because of the coronavirus, and far too many instances of people only being able to meet via the internet or through a glass window or door. We are by nature social beings. This is lived out in family life, community life, work life and church life. Community and social interaction allows us to live full and joy-filled lives. So, it is essential that we keep supporting one another through prayer, regular communication and gestures of fellowship especially when we can't be together physically.

Let's never forget that during this Easter season, when we are celebrating Christ's victory over sin and death that, it is our faith in the risen Christ that strengthens our hope and sustains us while apart. May St. Paul's to the Romans words encourage us:

What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ [Jesus] who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?...No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord

— Msgr. John McDermott, Vicar General
of the Diocese of Burlington

Lynn Altadonna would like to share this series of the Chosen, a wonderful film with our parish family. Here is a link. However, best way to find the series is:

On your computer, go to youtube.com and type "The Chosen" in the "search" box.

The link -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vyv1W-hsmx8&list=PLwjoqDa8kUBL_trCMU-TzEFE1Sm7kYuP6

Prayer for Protection in Time of Pandemic

O Mary,
you always brighten our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain while
remaining steadfast in faith.
O loving Mother,
you know what we need,
and we are confident you will provide for us as at
Cana in Galilee.
Intercede for us with your Son Jesus,
the Divine Physician,
for those who have fallen ill,
for those who are vulnerable,
and for those who have died.
Intercede also for those charged with protecting
the health and safety of others
and for those who are tending to the sick
and seeking a cure.
Help us, O Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who took upon himself our
sufferings and carried our sorrows,
so as to lead us, through the Cross,
to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

**Under thy protection we seek refuge,
O Holy Mother of God.
In our needs, despise not our petitions,
but deliver us always from all dangers,
O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.**