

Catholic Communities of Waterbury, Waitsfield, and Moretown

Rev. Matthew J. L. Rensch, Parish Administrator

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St. Andrew's Church, Waterbury



Our Lady of the Snows, Waitsfield



St. Patrick's Church, Moretown

Saturday Masses

4:00 PM, St. Andrew's Church, Waterbury

6:00 PM, Our Lady of the Snows Church, Waitsfield

Sunday Masses

9:00 AM, St. Andrew's Church, Waterbury • 11:00 AM, St. Patrick's Church, Moretown

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays from 3:15 to 3:45 PM at St. Andrew's Church or by appointment.

Weekday Masses

Consult the Liturgy Schedule inside this bulletin for this week's daily Masses.

Sacrament of Baptism

Please contact the rectory to schedule baptisms.

Sacrament of Marriage

Those intending to marry are asked to contact the Pastor at least six months in advance.

January 31, 2021 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Liturgy Schedule

Saturday, January 30, 4:00 pm/St. A – All Parishioners and Visitors
Saturday, January 30, 6:00 pm/OLS – Paul J. Conti by Sharon Conti
Sunday, January 31, 9:00 am/St. A – Amanda Jean Dennis by Dianne Bilodeau
Sunday, January 31, 11:00 am/St. P – Sean McLeod and Alanna Jenkins by Gio Susini
Monday, February 1, 8:00 am/St A – All Souls in Purgatory
Tuesday, February 2: NO MASS
Wednesday, February 3, 8:00 am/St A – Angelino Grazzini by Gio Susini
Thursday, February 4, 8:00 am/St A – Tom Bagley and Jolene Oliver by Gio Susini
Friday, February 5, 8:00 am/St A – Marc Hovingh by Gio Susini
Saturday, February 6, 4:00 pm/St A – Alice Marie & Joseph David Bishop
by Gianna & Gabriella Fraser
Saturday, February 6, 6:00 pm/OLS – Myron Bartlett by Curt and Cathy Schibli
Sunday, February 7, 9:00 am/St A – Steve Rensch by Bill and Midge Rensch
Sunday, February 7, 11:00 am/St. P – All Parishioners and Visitors

Readings for the Week

Sunday: Deuteronomy 18:15-20 / Psalm 95 / 1 Corinthians 7:32-35 / Mark 1:21-28
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: Hebrews 11:32-40 / Psalm 31 / Mark 5:1-20
Saint Ansgar

Tuesday: Malachi 3:1-4 / Psalm 24 / Hebrews 2:14-28 / Luke 2:22-40
Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Wednesday: Hebrews 12:4-15 / Psalm 103 / Mark 6:1-6
Saint Blaise

Thursday: Hebrews 12:18-24 / Psalm 48 / Mark 6:7-13
Saint Joseph of Leonissa

Friday: Hebrews 13:1-8 / Psalm 27 / Mark 6:14-29
Saint Agatha

Saturday: Hebrews 13:15-21 / Psalm 23 / Mark 6:30-34
Saint Paul Miki and Companions

Next Sunday: Job 7:1-7 / Psalm 147 / 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 / Mark 1:29-39
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekly Offertory Donations: January 11-17, 2021

St. Andrew's: Offertory \$681; Catholic Education \$6; The Church in Latin America \$55; Insurance \$6; Online Giving \$245. *OLS/St. Patrick's*: Offertory \$620; Online Giving \$485
Thank you for your support, whether it be through online giving, the mail, or at Mass!

Remember to check out the parish website (rccwwm.org) for additional items of interest.

Prayers for the Sick

We pray for Isaiah Callan, Daniel Caplinger, Heidi Cervantes, Chandler, Suzie Clark, Janet DiBlasi, Sue Ellsasser, Jason Fowler, Raven Fowler, Jan Gendreau, Alison Henry, Pauline Hodgdon, John Hofmann, Brian Kellett, Wayne Lacaillade, Ann Lamarch, Grace Lee, Bernard Mahan, Patrick McNamara, Frank Miller, Scott Miller, Sidnia Orton, Joan Potter, Jim Pratt, Rob Scharges, Annette Schultz, Robert Shortridge, Bernard Sweet, and Nasaiah Torres. If you know of anyone who would like a Communion visit, please let us know.

NOW HIRING Totus Tuus Summer Missionaries!

College students: looking for an amazing, challenging summer job? Spread the Gospel, travel Vermont, and teach children about the Catholic faith! For more information contact Michael Hagan at mhagan@vermontcatholic.org.

Christ our Hope Campaign and Bishop's Annual Appeal Update

The *Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church* campaign is 44% to goal as of January 22, 2021. Many parishioners have asked us to follow-up with them in the new year, and the Diocese is developing a strategy to follow up with those requests over the next several months. The first campaign distribution to parishes will be made in February. For an update on the 2020 Bishop's Annual Appeal parish progress report, please go to our parish website's online bulletin at www.rccwwm.org

Wisdom of the Saints

“Simeon gave back Jesus to His Mother; he was only suffered to keep Him for one moment. But we are far happier than Simenon. We may keep Him always if we will. In Communion He comes not only into our arms but into our hearts.” ~ *St. John Vianney*

“With his inspired words, Simeon, a man of the Old Covenant, a man of the temple of Jerusalem, expresses his conviction that this Light is meant not only for Israel, but also for pagans and all the peoples of the earth. With him, the ‘aged’ world receives in its arms the splendor of God’s eternal ‘youth’. However, the shadow of the Cross already looms in the background, because the darkness will reject that Light. Indeed, turning to Mary, Simeon prophesies: ‘This child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed’” (*Lk 2:34-35*). ~ *Pope St. John Paul II*

“The glorious St. Simeon also was very happy...to carry Him as did Our Lady...we do this when we endure with love the labors and pains He sends us, that is to say, when the love which we bear to the Law of God makes us find His yoke easy and pleasing, so that we love these pains and labors, and gather sweetness in the midst of bitterness. This is nothing else but to carry Our Lord in our arms. Now if we carry Him in this way, He will, without doubt, Himself carry us.” ~ *St. Francis de Sales*

Dear Parishioners,

I recalled that recently someone had mentioned that before Vatican II there had been a period a time before Lent with a special name and focus. And I knew that it would have to be coming up soon. Originally my hunch was that the period was known as the *Ember Days*, but it turns out that is something different that I know nothing about. The Pre-Lenten season (that used to be observed) was called **Shrovetide**. What is a shrove? Well, an old verb for forgiving sin was *to shrive*. The past participle is *shriven*, and the simple past, *shrove*. So Catholics would go to confession to be shriven of their sins. This was a common practice in the days leading up to Lent. Hence, *shrovetide*.

So, when does shrovetide begin? Turns out I looked into it just in time! It would have started this very Sunday! When it was observed, shrovetide started on “Septuagesima Sunday,” the third Sunday before Ash Wednesday. The name *Septuagesima* stems from the Latin word for 70, and is linked to the third Sunday before Ash Wednesday being 70 days or so until Easter. (As it turns out, the calculation is off quite a bit, but it’s the general idea.) Anyway, besides an emphasis on confession during shrovetide, Catholics also started to consider the sacrifices they would make during Lent – perhaps determining some of their culinary choices in those weeks!

A final note on random Catholic history. The feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the temple (also known as Candlemas) occurs this week, on February 2nd, and it’s actually one of the rare times that the Presentation falls within shrovetide. Why? Because Easter is especially early this year, so Lent is early, and so shrovetide is early. I’ll spare you the details on Easter mobility for now!

In local news, the Food Shelf in the Valley wanted me to announce that they are changing their name. They announced their name change from Food Shelf to MRV Community Pantry earlier this week.

I mentioned this in a Wednesday email, but would note here that the Fr Galligan Council of the Knights of Columbus are offering their *Father Logue Scholars Gift Award* scholarship. These awards are made to high school seniors who are members of St. Andrew’s Church (Waterbury), Our Lady of the Snows Church, (Waitsfield) and St. Patrick’s Church (Moretown), Vermont and who are qualifying to graduate in June, to assist in furthering their education at an accredited school or college of their choice. Merit awards of \$1000 each will be awarded to two applicants who, in the opinion of the Awards Committee, are most deserving. Applications must be returned to James Whitney at whitney067@comcast.net, on or before May 31, 2021 to be considered for an award.

The Faith series continues on Thursday evenings, **7pm - 8pm**; <https://tinyurl.com/fides-series>.

In His Heart,
Fr. Matthew