



Attention to all those whose faith is fostered by sharing it with others, the parish is inviting you to be a catechist. The 1st and 4th grade classes need a catechist on Tuesday evening. Special catechists are needed to work with older children who are preparing for First Sacraments. A catechist is needed to participate in the Confirmation program.

Catechist meeting for catechists kindergarten through fifth grades will meet on August 26th after the 11 a.m. Mass.

If you wish to register your child for Religious Education Classes, please call Sr. Helen, 864-3584.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM: This year, St. Mark, St. Joseph and St. Anthony/Christ the King parishes will provide a common Confirmation Program for the youth of our parishes. The newly designed program will begin with a retreat for all high school Freshmen and Sophomores preparing to receive the sacrament. This retreat will be held on Sunday, September 30th from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm. at St. Mark's. The Confirmation Program itself will also meet at St. Mark's with monthly classes. Watch for dates and further details in this bulletin.

AWESOME NEW PROGRAM FOR TEENS! Together, Christ the King/St. Anthony, St. Joseph and St. Mark's will be offering Life Teen, an awesome program for high school youth! This program is taking off around the country and in Vermont! All Masses and Life Nights will be organized by teens from each parish. An evening Life Teen mass will occur monthly, as well as a Life Night at Christ the King. For more information please feel free to call Monica Morano at 878-6861. Continue to check the bulletin for updates and opportunities to be a part of this dynamic Deanery program!

Readings for the Week of August 26, 2007

Sunday:	Is 66:18-21/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30
Monday:	1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday:	1 Thes 2:1-8/Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday:	1 Thes 2:9-13 (427)/Mk 6:17-29
Thursday:	1 Thes 3:7-13/Mt 24:42-51
Friday:	1 Thes 4:1-8/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday:	1 Thes 4:9-11/Mt 25:14-30
Next Sunday:	Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14

R.I.C.A. (Rite of Christian Imitation of Adults), is the Church's program to welcome new members to the Catholic Church or to complete the Sacraments of Initiation (First communion and confirmation) for those adult Catholics who have not received them.

R.C.I.A. is open to adults who have never been baptized, who have belonged to a non-Christian church and are interested in becoming Catholic, who were baptized in another Christian faith tradition and are interested in joining the Catholic Church, who are baptized Catholics who wish to prepare to receive First communion and/or Confirmation, Non-Catholics who want to learn more about the Catholic Church and Catholics who may have been away from the Church for a period of time.

R.C.I.A. will be held on Wednesday evenings at St. Joseph Co-Cathedral Parish Hall from 7 to 8:30 p.m. beginning September 26th. Classes are held most Wednesday evenings until the middle of April. If you are interested, please call Father Bill, 864-7686.

PARISH DIRECTORY: Sign up sheets are now out for the parish directory scheduling. You can also sign-up on line at www.signup.olanmills.com. (St. Mark's Parish # is 20180) Sign up today to get the best choice of times. Family portraits will be taken from Sept. 5-8 and Sept. 25-29th. For family photos with college kids gone in September, contact Patrick Henry at 865-2651 or pfhenry@aol.com.

CHITTENDEN EMERGENCY FOOD SHELF: Next weekend is our opportunity to bring non-perishable food items for the Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf. Last month St. Mark's donated 125 lbs of food and \$20 cash. Please be as generous as possible for those less fortunate. Thank you.

2007 BISHOP'S FUND

The 2007 Bishop's Fund is reaching completion. Our parish has raised \$61,371.40 towards our goal of \$61,600. This wonderful response is the result of pledge commitments from 322 families. This is nearly 100% of our parish goal with an average pledge of \$190.59. Please fill out a pledge card and mail it, using the envelope provided, directly to the Bishop's Fund Office.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for the safety of our service men and women and support personnel working as peace-keepers throughout the world, and for those who are seriously ill, especially Father Joseph McCarthy, Daniel Ahern, Tom Duval, John Fleury, Shirley Fuller, Jimmy Giroux, Julia Auer Hamiwka, Lisa Jodoin, Diane Lehneman, Vickie O'Kane, Maureen Piontek, Ray Riling, Mikaela Sienkiewicz and for the repose of the soul of Bruce Levee.

To have someone from your family enrolled in this list, please call the Rectory Office at 864-7686. Names will be listed for one month unless the office is notified that the condition continues and prayers are still requested



Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY-VIGIL FOR SUNDAY-August 25

4:00 P.M. **Collective:** Father Edward Moore, Joseph & Rose Pasha, Katherine Trzeciak, In thanksgiving for prayers answered, Joseph Miranowicz, In Honor of the 50th Anniversary of Phil & Kay Lavoie

SUNDAY-August 26

8:30 A.M. Marcello Todisco

11:00 A.M. For the Parishioners of St. Mark's Parish

MONDAY-August 27 – St. Monica

9:00 A.M. Mary Wheel

3:00 P.M. Birchwood Nursing Home Mass

TUESDAY-August 28 – St. Augustine

9:00 A.M. Leota Brown

WEDNESDAY-August 29 – Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist

9:00 A.M. **Collective:** Leola Blais, Gail Haley, Katherine Trzeciak, Leo Campbell

THURSDAY-August 30

9:00 A.M. Michael Hanley

FRIDAY-August 31

No Mass Today

SATURDAY-VIGIL FOR SUNDAY-September 1

4:00 P.M. Theresa Curley

SUNDAY-September 2

8:30 A.M. Marie Benoit (13th Anniversary)

11:00 A.M. For the Parishioners of St. Mark's Parish



This past Friday marked two years since I came to St. Mark's. It hardly seems possible. Time flies, as they say! It has been a good two years and I look forward to being with you for many more years, but with our personnel situation, you never know. Please continue to pray for all of our priests who work so very hard, for our seminarians preparing for priesthood, and for our young people discerning a vocation, that some may choose the priesthood or religious life. Have a good week, and I'll see you in Church.

- Father Bill

WOMEN'S RETREATS: Two retreats for women sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy will be held at Camp Tara Holy Cross during the weekends of September 7-9, 2007 and September 14-16, 2007. The theme "God's Presence Fills Our Lives" will be presented by Maryellen Sullivan who is a staff member of Mercy Connections. Rev. Tim Sullivan SA, a chaplain at the Fletcher Allen Hospital will also participate in the retreat. For information call Sr. Ruth Ravey at 802-863-6835 or write to her at 100 Mansfield Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401.

LIFE LINE SCREENING: Life Line Screening is America's leading provider of quality health screenings. These tests quickly detect arterial abnormalities which can cause disrupted blood flow. Our screenings are fast, accurate, and available at an affordable rate.

The screening will be held here at St. Mark's on Thursday, October 11th. There are pink informational flyers at the entrances to the church. If interested, please pick one up and make your appointment today.

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL



Could you fill one of the following hours?

- Midnight Friday to 1 a.m. Saturday
- 1 to 2 a.m. Wednesday
- 3 to 4 a.m. Thursday
- 4 to 5 a.m. Thursday
- 5 to 6 a.m. Wednesday
- 8 to 9 a.m. Monday
- 8 to 9 a.m. Friday (May through September)
- 4 to 5 p.m. Monday (January through May)
- 11 p.m. To Midnight Tuesday

Please call Marge at 658-0228 or Winnie at 862-9598 to sign up to commit to spend an hour a week with our Lord.

Dear Friends,



August 12 Attendance at Mass.....	538
August 12 (193 envelopes).....	\$5,419.50
August 19 Attendance at Mass.....	753
August 19 (189 envelopes).....	\$6,862.50
Weekly Average since July 1 st (8 weeks).....	\$5,680.00
Weekly Goal.....	\$5,834.00

Second collection next weekend – Capital Improvements

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THIS BULLETIN is brought to you through the generosity of the merchants listed on the back.
Please show your appreciation by patronizing them.

RESPECT LIFE

The 2007 Minimum Wage Increase: On January 8 2007, the US bishops wrote Congress urging it to increase the minimum wage. Four months later, President Bush signed the first minimum wage increase since 1997 into law. Workers will get an incremental pay raise over two years, from \$5.15 to \$7.25 an hour. The law also provides \$4.8 billion dollars in tax breaks to help small businesses pay for the raise. This is a perfect example of Catholics making a difference by raising our voice for justice, not for the agenda of any political party.

Church Teaching: The bishops' letter summarizes Church teaching: *Work has a special place in Catholic social thought. Work is more than just a job; it is a reflection of human dignity and a way to contribute to the common good. Most importantly, it is the ordinary way people meet their material needs and community obligations. In Catholic teaching, the principle of a just wage is integral to our understanding of human work. Wages must be adequate for workers to provide for themselves and their families in dignity.*

Church teaching on work, like all Catholic morality, is founded on the unfathomable love of God, a love so great that He Himself, in the person of Christ, freely gave His life for us. Such love demands that we respond by acting with the very same love. According to the first letter of John, "If anyone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen." Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical Deus Caritas Est makes it clear that love of brother begins within the Church community, where "... there can never be room for a poverty that denies anyone what is needed for a dignified life." The love we have for other Christians flows into the rest of the world, causing us to act in ways that look very foolish to a culture that makes its decisions on purely practical grounds. According to Pope John Paul II's encyclical, *Laborem Exercens*, we must consider the worker before his work. Though some work is more valuable than other work, workers as human beings have equal value and rights to share the earth's goods. In this light, "...a just wage is the concrete means of *verifying the justice* of the whole socioeconomic system ...checking that it is functioning justly." The encyclical also says health insurance, vacations, and pensions are workers' rights.

An Examination of Conscience: In the light of Church teaching, is the 2007 wage increase just? Should we ask more of our whole nation by urging legislators to enact a larger raise? Should Catholic employers freely pay more than the law requires? As consumers, are we willing to make sacrifices to choose the life and dignity of workers over cheap goods and services?

AUGUST 26, 2007
