



Bishop's Fund:

Thank you for all of your support of the 2016 Bishop's Fund Annual Appeal. To date, at St. Patrick's, we have pledged 83% toward our goal of \$12,785. At St. Anthony-St. George, we have pledged 62% toward our goal of \$3,800. We are answering Pope Francis' call in this Jubilee Year of Mercy to go out to every family and bring them the goodness and mercy of God. Your generous gifts help to strengthen our collective mission of mercy, charity, hope and love. Please visit www.bishopsfund.org to see why your contributions matter.

Pledge cards may be found on the tables at church entrances for those who have not yet and wish to make their pledges to the Bishop's Fund.

Sunday Music: We welcome Bob Begley who is playing the organ at some of the 9:00 am Sunday Masses during July and August. Bob is the Director of Martha's Kitchen in St. Albans, where he works with others who prepare and serve meals on a daily basis for those who need them.

Fiscal Year Ends: Our fiscal year ended on Thursday, June 30. We will soon be giving you *Year End Financial Reports*. Also, we will be working on budgets for the new 2016 - 2017 fiscal year. Once the budgets have been finalized we will be able to post new weekly goals for our Sunday Offertory in the bulletin.

St. Francis Xavier School Open House: Saint Francis Xavier School will hold the second of its Summer Open Houses on Sunday, July 10, from noon to 1:30 p.m. Families with children entering pre-school (age 3) to grade 8 are invited to meet with school administrators, teachers and current parents and tour the campus. For more information, please call 655-2600, e-mail info@sfxvt.org, or visit us online at www.sfxvt.org.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:

Saturday: Ricky Burselson **Sunday:** Briana Berry, Annette Clowes
Monday: Mary Ovitt **Tuesday:** Robyn Williams **Wednesday:** Louis Olave **Friday:** Robert Branon **Saturday:** Stacey Clark, Margaret Tiffany



Back to God: Everybody recognizes that our society which we thought was so wonderful and nearly ideal, and which once deserved this judgment in considerable degree, is now suffering from very serious and deeply rooted maladies. We do not seem able to cope with them, and they increase daily in their ravages instead of being cured, or even alleviated. We know only too well what is happening to family life, we are faced daily with an increase of crimes, of violence against persons and property, we find many of our youth alienated and following false prophets to what seems their inevitable doom.

And we talk and act as if there were no obvious cure, no set of standards, no guidelines, no ultimate truth, no fixed principles to which all of us must conform if we are to live together peaceably, and have internal tranquility of soul. Many social welfare agencies, many governmental and private organizations, with excellent motives and with great devotion oftentimes, try to face and alleviate the crisis. But they themselves frequently act on false principles, using expedient methods to solve a momentary problem or crisis, and teaching standards which undermine the character, integrity, stability and conscience of individuals, and of society as a whole.

So vice is made a virtue, human weakness is pictured as strength, self-indulgence is extolled as something to be developed and praised, self-control is despised as degrading, old-fashioned, out-of-date. Sexual freedom is promoted openly, helped and encouraged not only by those who profit from it, not only by those who thereby excuse and justify their own immorality and indecency, but also by well-intentioned people who yield to passing moods and fads, to changing and fickle standards, forgetting the divine and natural law, as well as the history of mankind.

No wonder family life is undermined when human life is not respected but treated as a cheap commodity. No wonder there are crimes when people are told to do anything they think is good and expedient at the moment, and it immediately becomes good. No wonder so many of our youth seem to wander aimlessly, without purpose or stability or goals, when they find the moral principles to direct our lives mocked and derided and flaunted by those who should teach and guide them.

Please God our country and the world will find its way back to God, to Christ, to divine truth, to the moral law, that we may have life.

-Robert F. Joyce, Bishop of Burlington, 1957- 1972