



e-News Report

Week of August 17, 2010

Report for Region - Northwest VT

Welcome to the Vermont Catholic e-News Report, produced by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington. This news report is designed to keep you informed of important news happening in your geographical location within the Diocese of Burlington and the Church at large.

From the Bishop

A Mass to honor and pray for Law Enforcement, Fire and Emergency Medical Service Personnel

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano, Bishop of Burlington, will be the main celebrant at a diocesan-wide "Blue Mass", to honor and pray for Law Enforcement, Fire and Emergency Medical Service Personnel who serve throughout the state of Vermont on Wed., Sept. 15, at 11:00 am at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Montpelier.

The "Blue Mass" has become an annual tradition in the United States, dating back to 1934, when the first Blue Mass was offered at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Washington, DC.

Prior to Mass, the law enforcement officers and public safety officials will gather outside the Montpelier fire house for the solemn processional into St. Augustine's Church.

The faithful of the Diocese are cordially invited to join the law enforcement officers, fire and emergency service personnel to pray for those who serve the common good, many times placing themselves in harm's way, and to remember those who have fallen in the line of duty.

Region - Northwest VT News

Lawn and bake sale

SOUTH HERO—On Saturday, Aug. 28, and Sunday, Aug. 29, St. Rose of Lima Parish Guild will host a lawn and bake sale from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Rental tables are available for \$10. For more information, call Bette at 372-4902.

Parish picnic

WATERBURY—On Sunday, Aug. 22, there will be an annual parish picnic for the parishioners of St. Andrew and Our Lady of the Snows/St. Patrick parishes. The day begins with an outside Mass at St. Andrew's at 11:15 a.m. followed by a picnic lunch prepared by the Knights of Columbus. (There will not be a 9 a.m. Mass at St. Andrew's or an 11 a.m. Mass at Patrick's that day). This free event is co-sponsored annually by the Knights of Columbus and the parishes.

Yard and rummage sale

UNDERHILL CENTER—The St. Thomas Church annual yard and rummage sale will take place Saturday, Aug. 28, 9-5 and Sunday, Aug. 29 9-5 on church property. Call 899-4632 for more information.

Homeschoolers gather for Mass to begin school year

ESSEX CENTER—Roman Catholic Homeschoolers will have its first monthly meeting of the 2010-2011 school year on Sept. 8 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at St. Pius X Church. Mass will be celebrated at 10 followed by activities for the students and lunch (please bring your own). All Catholic homeschooling families and those considering homeschooling are welcome. Mass is open to all community members. For more information, contact Laurie Rossi at 288-9490.

Mater Christi Camp Quest

BURLINGTON—Twenty-five youngsters ages 5-13 participated in a summer camp, Camp Quest, at Mater Christi School. They were offered activities that invited them to ask questions, to explore and to experiment.

Some of the activities in which the youngsters were involved during the 7-week session included creative cooking, pet care, computers and Power Points, dancing, art/design, archaeology and exploration. For the latter activity, the youngsters explored the "Hill Section" of Burlington, a fire station, the University of Vermont campus and buildings, Winooski Park and an organic garden, all within walking distance of the school.

The session on dancing, another popular activity, had the titles of Hip Hop over the Top, Shake, Rattle and Roll and Happy Days Dance-a-Thon Party.

The camp's director, JoAnne Rice, said that this type of camp "helps children develop self-confidence, self respect and an appreciation of their own special worth as individuals."

Running for a cure

UNDERHILL CENTER—Kathleen Bassett Cramer, as a member of Team in Training, is running the Adirondack Half Marathon in memory of Ross Perri, a deceased parishioner of St. Thomas Church. Her goal is to raise \$1,500 toward research for finding a cure for leukemia.

Contributions may be made through St. Thomas Parish. (Make checks payable to The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society) or online at her website, <http://pages.teamintraining.org/uny/adiron10/kcramerdjib>.

Spring Challenge at CKS

BURLINGTON—Students at Christ the King School in Burlington celebrated healthy living choices and helped to raise money for their school during the third annual Christ the King School "Spring Challenge" in June.

The day began with an assembly, presentation by the school's chapter of Vermont Kids against Tobacco and a parade down Locust Street from Christ the King School to Callahan Park led by the school's marching band and VKAT dragon.

In preparation for "Spring Challenge" all students learned about healthy living in physical education class and set goals for how many times they would run around Callahan Park. The students ran a combined distance of more than 500 miles. They were joined by Deputy Chief Andi Higbee of the Burlington Police Department who ran several laps, teaching the students the importance of physical fitness. They were cheered on by University of Vermont mascot "Rally Cat."

After the run and stations of fun games, everyone returned to the school for a barbecue lunch. Comedy Juggler Evan Young entertained the students before they went back to the gym for awards and a slide show.

Not only was the day a fun community event, it helped to raise money for the Catholic school. Students wrote to friends and family to ask them to sponsor their run and raised more than \$14,000 for the needs and programs of the school.

Christ the King School is a Catholic educational institution maintained and sponsored by Christ the King-St. Anthony Parish. The faculty, staff and administration strive to provide students with the knowledge and experiences that will stimulate the growth of the intellectual, spiritual, physical and emotional qualities inherent in each student.

For more information call 862-6696 or visit www.cksvt.org.



Eighth graders at Christ the King School in Burlington relax in the bouncy house. They are (left to right) Lindsay Swanson, Ellen Zuk, Sean Healey, Brandon Salimi, Michael Morrissey and Connor Trieb.

Knights of Columbus

WINOOSKI—The Winooski Knights of Columbus meets the second Monday of each month at the Winooski Senior Center at 7 p.m. Any man 18 years of age or older wishing to join the Knights should contact Grand Knight Brian Senecal at 893-4998 or Deputy Grand Knight Roger Bell at 655-1032.

For additional information about the Knights of Columbus visit www.wkofc.org.

Mass of Life and Love

SHELBURNE—St. Catherine of Siena Parish will have a Mass of Life and Love on Tuesday, Aug. 31, at 7 p.m. This is an opportunity to pray in a special way for loved ones.

Campbell's Soup labels fundraiser for Bishop Marshall School

MORRISVILLE—Campbell's Soup can labels are being collected for the Bishop John A. Marshall School to acquire school and athletic supplies. Call 244-5619 for more information.

School donation

BURLINGTON—At the close of this school year, Mater Christi School parents were invited by school personnel to suggest to their children that they leave behind any unused paper, gently used folders, pens, pencils magic markers, crayons and rulers. They told the children that these items would be sent to a school in Afghanistan. The children responded generously, filling nine cartons with these learning tools.

The school to which these materials will be sent is located in Kabul and is a combination orphanage and day school. There are 75 girls in the orphanage and 150 boys and girls in the day school, ages 5-15 years.

The Afghan school has few resources; the children barely have the necessities of life. Materials to help them learn are not available.

In addition to learning materials, the children need shoes. Weather in Afghanistan is wet (muddy), hot and cold. Few of the youngsters have proper footwear; going barefoot is not unusual even though the climate tends to be formidable.

Members of the Sisters of Mercy Association were invited to participate in this project, and they are collecting shoes, boots and sneakers as well as donating money to help pay the postage needed to ship the boxes.

Daughters of Isabella

WINOOSKI—Madonna Circle #730 meets the third Wednesday of each month at the Winooski Senior Center at 7 p.m. Any women wishing to join the Daughters may call 893-4998.

Beautification Days at Mater Christi School



A student helps Paul Jette, principal of Mater Christi School.

BURLINGTON — Mater Christi School parents, teachers and even some students took a day off from their summer break to gather at the school in mid-July. They came armed with wheel barrows, rakes and shovels and were greeted with big piles of cedar chips and top soil.

The group pulled weeds, raked stones and added more crushed white stones to what were there, planted flowers and bushes, mulched and did some minor repairs.

Jette was so impressed with the results that he quickly suggested a second Beautification Day scheduled for Aug. 7.

Stowe Days to Save

STOWE—On Sunday, Aug. 29, Blessed Sacrament Parish will have a parish barbecue and mortgage burning party following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. And on Friday, Sept. 24, and Saturday, Sept. 25, there will be a Parish Mission, given this year by Father Dwight Longenecker, a convert from Anglicanism who is now a married Catholic priest with five children, a school chaplain, parish priest and author of more than 10 books.

Catholic Cursillo Weekends

KILLINGTON—Cursillo weekends will take place:

- Men's Weekend: Thursday, Oct. 21, to Sunday, Oct. 24.
- Women's Weekend: Thursday, Nov. 11 to Sunday, Nov. 14.

Both will take place at Mountain Meadows in Killington. For more information contact your parish office or visit website at <http://www.vtcursillo.org>

News Around the Diocese

Prepare to Vote!

In the Catholic Tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation. The U.S. Catholic Bishops, in their 2007 Statement, "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship," wrote, "The Catholic community brings important assets to the political dialogue about our nation's future. We bring a consistent moral framework.... one shaped by the moral convictions of well-formed consciences and focused on the dignity of every human being, the pursuit of the common good, and the protection of the weak and the vulnerable."

Register to Vote!

If you are not yet registered to vote, please do so! Forms can be obtained from your Town or City Clerk. For complete registration information, call 1-800-439-VOTE or go online: <http://www.vermont-elections.org/elections1/register tovote.html>.

Inform Yourself!

With election time fast approaching, please take some time to acquaint yourself with the candidates and their positions. It can be difficult to know a given candidate's stance on a particular issue. The best way to find out? Ask! Candidate names and email contact information is readily available at <http://www.vermont-elections.org/>.

The Christian Action Ministry polls candidates and publishes the results of their candidate questionnaire, which covers a range of issues. It is available at www.christianactionministry.net.

The Respect Life Office offers speakers on "Forming Your Conscience for Voting." Consider sponsoring a speaker at your parish or group!

Pray!

Pray for the outcome of the elections, that leaders emerge who will stand for the dignity of all persons, from conception until natural death.

Useful websites:

On Faithful Citizenship: <http://www.faithfulcitizenship.org>

On specific pro-life issues: <http://www.usccb.org/prolife/>

From Priests for Life: <http://politicalresponsibility.com>

On Catholic Social Teaching: <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/projects/socialteaching/excerpt.shtml>

Learn more about Marriage, Family and Respect Life Ministries

'One in Christ' Offers Enrichment Opportunity for Married Couples

Married Catholic couples interested in learning more about this faith-enriching course, guidelines for becoming a pre-cana teaching couple, and the opportunity to be part of their parish pre-cana team should contact their pastor for more information.

Birthright

Birthright, a pregnancy service for any woman distressed by an unplanned pregnancy, offers life-affirming options, confidential pregnancy tests, assistance, friendship and support. For help call 865-0056; for information visit www.birthright.org.

Respect Life Speakers Bureau Up and Running

Are you interested in learning the facts about embryonic stem cell research? Is your parish youth group in need of a speaker on Catholic teaching on abortion and pro-life culture? Do parents in your area want to hear tips for speaking to their kids about chastity?

The Diocesan Respect Life Speakers Bureau has just the speakers for you! Seven experienced speakers are available to bring these topics and many more to your parish, religious education class or community group. Topics ranging from "Vermont Catholic Advance Directives" and "Physician Assisted Suicide: Bad Public Policy," to "Forming Your Conscience for Voting" and "Talking to Teens About Why Abortion is Not a Right," are targeted to engage audiences and educate the public about important pro-life issues.

Call the Respect Life Office today (802 658-6111) or visit our website (www.vermontcatholic.org/respectlife) to receive a copy of the complete brochure and find out how you can arrange a speaker for your next meeting or class.

Project Rachel Offers Hope and Healing

Abortion hurts women. Research shows that abortion harms women in ways spiritual, physical and psychological. Project Rachel is a post-abortion healing ministry that focuses on one-on-one pastoral care, with particular attention to the importance of spiritual healing and sacramental reconciliation. Priests and Catholic mental health professionals with specialized training in this important ministry are available to work with both men and women who are suffering as a result of an abortion. There are also retreats which offer more in-depth pastoral care. If you or someone you know is suffering as a result of abortion, find healing! Call 456-HOPE or write: projectrachel@vermontcatholic.org

Blue Army Pilgrimage

A pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the World Apostolate of Fatima (Blue Army), Washington, NJ. October 30th and 31st.

For information phone Stan (482-3609) or Clairette (878-3214). Reservations by Sept. 5th.

