

Bishop's LEGACIES



— Diocese of Burlington archive photos



NAMED IN HONOR OF OUR BISHOPS

The first eight bishops of the Diocese of Burlington have been remembered in Vermont communities like Derby Line, Colchester and Burlington because buildings and a park have been named after them.

VTC • Cori Fugere Urban



Bishop Louis deGoesbriand

First Bishop of Burlington
1853–1899

"the founding bishop"

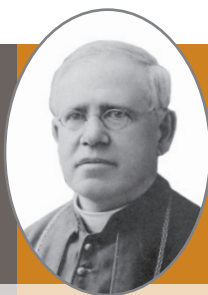
Bishop Louis deGoesbriand was the first bishop of the Diocese of Burlington, which was founded in 1853. When he died in 1899, he left behind a Church that had grown in number of Catholics, number of churches and number of Catholic schools. By 1891, there were eight academies and 16 parochial schools in the Diocese with seven congregations of women religious to staff them. Five priests had awaited his arrival, and the number of Vermont priests grew to 52 in 1892 thanks to his efforts to foster vocations in Vermont and recruit priests from France, Canada and Ireland. The number of churches increased from 10 to 78 during his episcopacy, and the number of Catholics grew from less than 20,000 to more than 46,000 — most Irish or French-speaking Canadians. "There is no nook, no corner, no hamlet, no village, no town, no city of this Diocese which has not been repeatedly blessed by his presence and his labors," said a bishop during Bishop deGoesbriand's funeral.

DEGOESBRIAND HOSPITAL

Bishop Louis deGoesbriand personally purchased property at the corner of Pearl and Green streets (now South Prospect Street) in Burlington and established the first orphanage in Vermont. Eventually, the orphanage moved and the building was torn down; the property was empty for an extended period. Bishop deGoesbriand's land in Burlington, located near the University of Vermont medical school, was chosen as the site for a needed hospital. Bishop Joseph J. Rice, third bishop of Burlington, named the hospital in 1916 for Bishop deGoesbriand. The DeGoesbriand Memorial Hospital opened in 1924, initially staffed by 15 nuns from Fanny Allen Hospital in nearby Colchester. The first merger of the deGoesbriand Hospital was with the Mary Fletcher Hospital in 1967. The facility became the deGoesbriand unit of the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont. The second



merger was in 1995 when the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont became Fletcher Allen Health Care. The former deGoesbriand Hospital then became the University of Vermont Health Center, an outpatient facility with multiple medical services.



Bishop John Stephen Michaud

Second Bishop of Burlington
1899–1908

"the builder bishop"

The first native-born priest ordained for the Diocese of Burlington, Bishop John S. Michaud began his building initiatives in Newport, his first assignment after his 1873 ordination to the priesthood. St. Mary Star of the Sea Church was the first of many construction projects he would oversee in his life. In 1879, Bishop deGoesbriand summoned him back to Burlington to oversee the building of St. Joseph's Providence Orphan Asylum. Later, he oversaw the building of St. Francis de Sales Church in Bennington before being named coadjutor bishop of the Diocese. His building efforts continued with Fanny Allen Hospital in Colchester and a hospital in St. Johnsbury. It was Bishop Michaud who advocated a bill passed by the Vermont Legislature to make the Diocese of Burlington a legal corporation. By the end of his tenure, there were 100 churches and missions serving 75,000 Catholics.

MICHAUD MANOR

Michaud Manor, an elder care home operated by Vermont Catholic Charities Inc., opened in 1969 in the former Triple L Motel in Derby Line, within sight of the Canadian border. It was named for the second bishop of Burlington, Bishop John S. Michaud, the founding pastor of St. Mary Star of the Sea Church in nearby Newport.

Licensed for 34 beds, Michaud Manor is a Level III residential care home. An addition to the former motel includes a priest's apartment and a chapel where Mass is celebrated each week. The resident rooms are all private — no shared occupancy unless a married couple shares a room. The majority of the rooms are large with private bathrooms. The dining room includes a large activity area/living room with a fireplace.



BURLINGTON'S BISHOPS

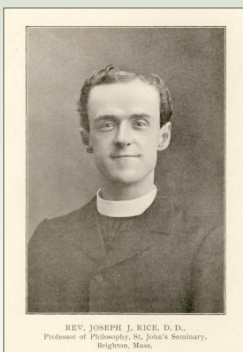


Bishop Joseph John Rice

Third Bishop of Burlington
1910–1938

"the education bishop"

Through the turbulent years that included World War I, a Spanish influenza epidemic, anti-Catholicism and the Great Depression, the third bishop of Burlington, Bishop Joseph J. Rice, oversaw the expansion of Catholic education as well as the opening of the deGoesbriand Hospital in Burlington, increased social services and the building of new churches in rural areas of the statewide Diocese. Several Catholic high schools opened during his episcopacy including Cathedral High School in Burlington. In 1925, the Sisters of Mercy opened Trinity College in Burlington. And during the war, the bishop educated his flock about the need for peace. "We are now face to face with the stern realities of war," he said in a pastoral letter. "Let us now implore the God of mercy and goodness that the scourge of war may cease and that its dreadful but salutary lessons may teach mankind."



Bishop Matthew Francis Brady

Fourth Bishop of Burlington
1938–1944

"the short-term bishop"

The fourth bishop of Burlington was the first to be transferred out of the Diocese. Before Bishop Matthew F. Brady became bishop of the neighboring Diocese of Manchester, N.H., he used his six years in Vermont to reorganize Vermont Catholic Charities, organized a Diocesan Schools Office and organized the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. He had been a Navy chaplain during World War I, and after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor in 1941, he offered his prayers and support for the "boys" overseas fighting World War II. He lent his support to the labor union movement. "Let it be clearly understood that the position of the Catholic Church ... is unquestionably and unalterably on the side of the laboring man until such time as he does injustice to employers," he once wrote. He died in Vermont during a congress of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine as the bishop of Manchester in 1959.

RICE MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL



— Diocese of Burlington photo

Under the direction of Bishop Joseph J. Rice, third bishop of Burlington, Cathedral High School opened in 1917 on the corner of Pearl and St. Paul streets in downtown Burlington to serve the high school students of Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Parish. The school was mostly staffed by Sisters of Mercy and diocesan priests. In the 1950s, Father Raymond Adams, principal of Cathedral, was directed to build a new school on Proctor Avenue in South Burlington, which Cathedral Parish had purchased decades earlier for a cemetery. The new school was to be more regional in its approach. Bishop Robert F. Joyce, sixth bishop of Burlington and a former principal of Cathedral, named the school Rice Memorial, in honor of Bishop Rice, who founded Cathedral High School. On Jan. 30, 1959, Father Adams led 880 students, 26 religious and eight lay faculty members on a 2.6-mile walk from Cathedral to the new Rice Memorial High School.

BISHOP BRADY CENTER

A 20th-century brick addition to a complex once used for an orphanage at 351 North Ave. in Burlington became headquarters for the Diocese of Burlington and was known as the Bishop Brady Center after the fourth bishop of Burlington, Matthew F. Brady. The Diocese sold the 32-acre property in 2010

to the now-defunct Burlington College; the site is currently being developed for housing and other uses. The current diocesan headquarters — an office building at 55 Joy Drive in South Burlington — has been designated as the new Bishop Brady Center.



— Diocese of Burlington photo



Bishop Edward Francis Ryan

Fifth Bishop of Burlington
1944 – 1956

"champion of rural churches"

Among the accomplishments of the fifth bishop of Burlington, Bishop Edward F. Ryan, were the reorganizing of societies, establishment of a Vermont edition of the *Our Sunday Visitor* national Catholic newspaper, encouragement of the development of Catholic youth organizations, bringing religious congregations to Vermont and building more rural churches. A champion of the rural Church, he convened at Camp Holy Cross in Colchester the first Catholic Rural Life Institute in the eastern United States. "The future of the Church in Vermont, as well as in other states, lies not in the urban population but in the rural areas," he said. At the time, the Diocese invested \$300,000 in 14 mission churches and chapels in Vermont. In less than eight years he oversaw the building of 23 churches in rural areas. He also invited religious orders and priests from his native Massachusetts to Vermont to help staff rural parishes.



— Diocese of Burlington archive photos



Bishop Robert Francis Joyce

Sixth Bishop of Burlington
1956 – 1971

"the Vatican II bishop"

Proctor native and sixth bishop of Burlington Bishop Robert F. Joyce participated in the Second Vatican Council — convened by Pope John XXIII in 1962 — and presided over the changes in the Church that resulted from it. Bishop Joyce attended every session of the council. Through his correspondence with his chancellor, Msgr. Louis Gelineau, he kept abreast of what was happening at home and continued to issue orders about the running of the Diocese. When the council ended in 1965, he began implementing changes like the celebration of Mass in the vernacular. He celebrated the first television Mass here, and Vermont became the third Diocese in the country to institute the celebration of Saturday Vigil Masses. An advocate of interfaith dialogue, Bishop Joyce promoted the reception of the Diocese as an affiliate member of the Vermont Ecumenical Council and Bible Society. "All of the things which the Vatican Council recommended I have tried to establish," he said. "I call myself a liberal in that measure. I am, however, strongly against changing anything the Church does not recommend." During his tenure, Bishop Joyce also faced issues relating to the Vietnam War, declining enrollment in parish schools and legalized abortion.

RYAN HALL

This dormitory on the campus of St. Michael's College in Colchester was constructed between 1949 and 1950 and was dedicated Sept. 29, 1951. Named for Bishop Edward F. Ryan, fifth bishop of Burlington, it was the first of the

Quadrangle dorms built and the first solitary purpose dormitory on the campus.

It was designed by Freeman, French and Freeman.



— Photo courtesy of St. Michael's College

JOYCE HALL

Joyce Hall, another dormitory on the campus of St. Michael's College in Colchester, was completed in 1961 and dedicated May 12, 1961. It was named for Bishop Robert F. Joyce, sixth bishop of the Diocese of Burlington. It was the final of the four Quadrangle dorms and was designed by the architects Freeman, French and Freeman.



— Photo courtesy of St. Michael's College

BURLINGTON'S BISHOPS



Bishop John Aloysius Marshall

Seventh Bishop of Burlington
1972 – 1991

"the quintessential teacher-bishop"

When Bishop John A. Marshall — once a Catholic high school headmaster in his native Massachusetts — became seventh bishop of Burlington in 1972, the Church was still feeling the effects of the Second Vatican Council, and it was up to him to see that directives from Rome were implemented and Catholic lay roles and ministries were clarified. In addition, he addressed cultural changes that affected the Church and the Green Mountain State. He taught and spoke out repeatedly and vehemently against abortion, he championed traditional family values, and he endorsed ecumenical efforts. Other topics he addressed included capital punishment, sexuality, homosexuality, gay rights legislation and the availability of condoms to inmates in Vermont correctional centers. Vermont Catholics were concerned about a myriad of justice issues during the Marshall years: poverty, hunger, homelessness, refugee resettlement, the nuclear arms race and U.S. policy in Central America, to name a few. "Only ... trust that God loves us can cast out fear and make us strong enough to set aside defensiveness in order to work for peace, to set aside self interest to work for justice, to set aside anger to work for mercy," he once said. Austere by nature, he taught simplicity of life by his example. He oversaw the sale of the grand brick bishop's residence, and he moved his quarters to a small, simple apartment in the remodeled Bishop Brady Center, the Diocesan headquarters located in a former orphanage in Burlington.



Bishop Kenneth Anthony Angell

Eighth Bishop of Burlington
1992 – 2005

"the respect life bishop"

Perhaps nothing defines Bishop Kenneth A. Angell's respect-life attitude as well as his forgiveness of the terrorists whose actions on Sept. 11, 2001, took the lives of his brother and sister-in-law. He celebrated a Mass the next day for all the victims and said he forgave the perpetrators because as a Christian he was told to forgive so he did. Though not unique in his respect-life stance, the eighth bishop of Burlington was often called upon to speak up for the vulnerable. He stood firmly against mandated abortion coverage in health care, began a Diocesan respect life phone tree to encourage lobbying of state and national leaders and dedicated himself to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' efforts to "Confront a Culture of Violence." At his request, the Vermont Knights of Columbus circulated a petition to aid the U.S. Campaign to Ban Landmines. He opposed the death penalty and launched a fax campaign to protest the execution of a Vermont native on death row. Another concern he faced was the growing shortage of priests in Vermont; he was instrumental in establishing a House of (vocation) Discernment at the Catholic Center at the University of Vermont and stressed the role of the laity in the life of the Church. In 1996, he oversaw the establishment of a Diocesan Sexual Misconduct Policy, and he dealt with the clergy abuse scandal.

BISHOP JOHN A. MARSHALL SCHOOL

The Bishop John A. Marshall School opened in 1998, operating at Holy Cross Church in Morrisville and St. Teresa Church in Hyde Park for two years before officially moving into a new building in Morrisville. The school offers prekindergarten through grade eight. The building — in the shape of a cross — is just less than 20,000 square feet and sits on about 50 acres, complete with athletic fields, playgrounds and a nature trail.



BISHOP KENNETH A. ANGELL PARK

Angell Park was part of the 2001 Capital Campaign of St. Joseph Co-Cathedral in Burlington. Bishop Kenneth A. Angell, eighth bishop of Burlington, was bishop at the time of the capital campaign, and the park recognizes his support for it and honors him. The park — made possible by a gift from the Angell Foundation — includes a playground, a bronze sculpture of two children sitting on a bench, a walkway, trees and a sitting area.





Bishop Salvatore Ronald Matano

Ninth Bishop of Burlington
2005 – 2013

"bishop of authenticity"

The ninth bishop of Burlington, Bishop Salvatore R. Matano, faced unprecedented challenges as he dealt with the fallout of the priest sex abuse scandal, declining Mass attendance, fewer children in Catholic schools and an ever-increasing clergy shortage. But as



— Diocese of Burlington archive photos

he dealt with these issues, he remained steadfast in his devotion to authentic Church teaching. A strong and effective communicator,

his priorities were to foster increased participation in the sacraments — especially the Eucharist — and to uphold firmly the teachings of the Church. He promulgated Guidelines for the Administration of the Sacraments in the Diocese of Burlington to guide both clergy and laity in the necessary preparations for and proper reception of the seven sacraments and oversaw the implementation of initiatives from Rome such as the Year of Faith and the implementation of a new translation of the Roman Missal. He invited outside priests to serve the Church in Vermont, advocated for the right to life of all persons and worked to uphold the dignity of marriage as the union of one man and one woman. He oversaw programs to protect children and vulnerable adults and the closing and merger of parishes as well as the settlement of lawsuits dealing with allegations of clergy sexual abuse.



Bishop Christopher James Coyne

Tenth Bishop of Burlington
2015 – present

"the blogging bishop"

A former auxiliary bishop in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Bishop Christopher J. Coyne already had become known as "the blogging bishop" when he arrived as the 10th bishop of Burlington. Adept at using all forms of social media to educate, inform and inspire, he has strengthened the communications efforts of the Diocese while also increasing staff to work in the areas of evangelization, catechesis, worship and youth and young adult ministry. He instituted the Diocese's Year of Creation, an intentional, heightened focus on ecological justice featuring various events, initiatives and resources to better educate Vermont Catholics and others and encourage the embracing of Pope Francis' message in his 2015 encyclical, "Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home." Bishop Coyne has convened the first diocesan synod since the 1960s to establish a pastoral plan for the immediate future of the Catholic Church in Vermont and to establish particular laws and policies to do so. Only two and half years into his leadership role, Bishop Coyne is laying the foundation for a stronger, more engaged Church in Vermont.

