

Embracing integral ecology this Lent

As we enter into this Year of Creation around the diocese, we begin our observance with prayer as we invite everyone to Stations of the Cross: On the Path to Ecological Conversion on March 3 at 7:00 pm at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. So, what does prayer have to do with caring for the environment?

The call to care for creation is rooted in the call to care for the human person; indeed, the call to care for creation "takes us to the heart of what it means to be human" (Laudato Si' 11). To authentically and fully care for a human person, however, means acknowledging and addressing not only the physical and emotional needs of that person, but his or her spiritual needs. When we look interiorly, we recognize our need for conversion and reconciliation with God and with others. In addition, we recognize our own interactions with God's creation. Pope Francis recognizes this spiritual connection and

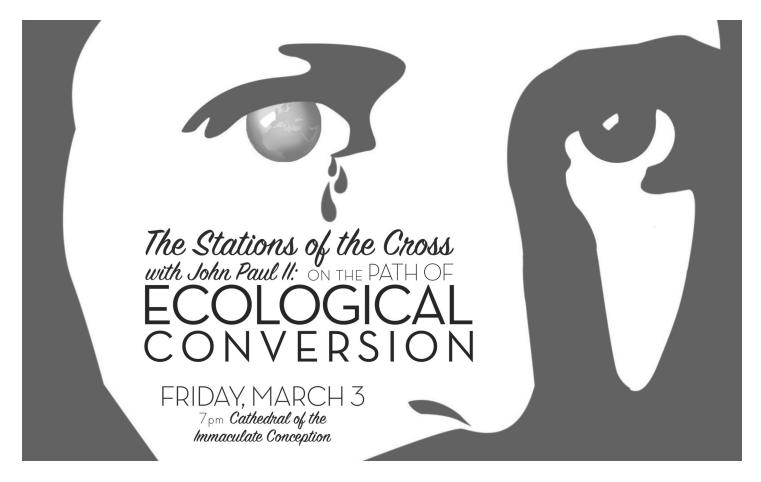
need for conversion in quoting Pope Benedict XVI: "The external deserts in the world are growing because the internal deserts have become so vast" (LS 217).

"The external deserts in the world are growing because the internal deserts have become so vast."

—Pope Benedict XVI

Lent, with its three-fold practice of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, is a time of heightened spiritual renewal which can reorient us in caring for our brothers and sisters, and in turn, caring for our common home. May our encounter with Jesus this Lent become evident in our relationship with the world around us.

- Josh Perry, Director of Worship



UPCOMING EVENTS



02|18 Spaghetti dinner St. Leo Hall, Waterbury 5-8 pm

Join us for the annual, gourmet, homemade spaghetti dinner, hosted by Our Lady of the Snows/St. Patrick Parish. Take-out dinners will be available, "cookie walk" after dinner, raffle drawing at 7:30 pm.



02|18 **Italian dinner** St. Edward Parish, Derby Line 5:30-7:30 pm

Join us for the Italian dinner fundraiser for Newport Knights of Columbus Charity Fund.

FOR MORE INFO: (802) 334-5066



02|19

Winter Blast: Middle School St. Monica , Barre • 10:45 am - 4:30 pm

Join us for the Barre Winter Blast winter youth rally for middle school students.

FOR MORE INFO: (802) 658-6110 x1240



02|19, 26, 03|05, 16, 19, 26, 04|09 The Bible and the Virgin Mary Saint Monica Parish, Barre • 6:30-8 pm This twelve session series is based on Scott

Hahn's book: Hail Holy Queen. Each session will start with a 25-30 minute DVD followed by group discussion. This series ran on Jan. 22, Feb 2, 9, 12 and 16. The remaining dates are Feb. 19, 26, Mar. 5, 16, 19, 26, and April 9. FOR MORE INFO: (802) 476-7290; stmonicalift@gmail.com



02|20,27

A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY: The Christian Mystical Tradition Christ the King, Rutland • 6:30 pm

Father Jim Lawrence will facilitate this 10-part video series, presented by Boston College professor Father Harvey Egan, S.J. Fr. Egan, S.J., is a highly respected teacher and expert on Mysticism. This is a great opportunity for Catholics to learn about insights and riches of which they may not be aware. Free will offering.

FOR MORE INFO: Fr. Jim Lawrence (802) 282-7277



Domestic Violence Workshop Holy Family-St.Lawrence, Essex Jct. 10 am-2 pm

This is a free workshop hosted by the Diocese of Burlington. Event is directed to priests, parish secretaries, parish staff, directors of religious education, youth ministers, lay people and the wider counseling and medical community. Lunch will be included. FOR MORE INFO: (802) 658-6110 x1453



02|23,03|02,09,16,23,30 **Scripture Study on the Eucharist** Holy Family-St. Lawrence, Essex Jct. 7-8:30 pm

Why does the Church call the Eucharist the "source and summit" of the Christian life? Deepen your understanding of

the mystery and wonder that is the Eucharist — and how it will transform our lives! This series ran on Jan. 26. Feb 2 and 9. The remaining dates are Feb. 16, 23, Mar. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30. FOR MORE INFO: Judy (802) 825-8035



02|24 **Our Lady's Rosary Makers** Holy Family-St.Lawrence, Essex Jct. 3-5 pm

Our Lady's Rosary Makers would like to invite anyone interested in making rosaries to come join this rewarding ministry. We meet on the fourth Friday, 3-5 pm. No experience necessary, instruction and material provided. These rosaries will be delivered to missionaries around the world. FOR MORE INFO: Jean Rabner (802) 598-7724



02|25 **Buffet Breakfast** St. Rose of Lima, South Hero

FOR MORE INFO: Bette Grenon (802) 372-4092



02|25

7:30 am

Pizza & Movie Night St. Norbert, Hardwick • 5 pm

Join us for a pizza and movie night following the 4 pm Mass. There will be free pizza, salad and desserts followed by a movie. The event is co-sponsored by Mary Queen of All Saints Parish Faith Formation and Catholic Financial Life Chapter St. Jean N443.



Scout Mass St. Joseph Co-Cathedral, Burlington 10 am

There will be a Scout Mass celebrated by Burlington Bishop Christopher J. Coyne at St. Joseph Co-Cathedral.

FOR MORE INFO: Marcia A. Ely (802) 318-7340 or marciaaely@gmail.com



"Why Lent" by Josh Perry Holy Family Parish Center, Essex Jct. 11 am and 7:30 pm

Join Josh Perry, director of the Office of Worship, as he continues to unpack the liturgical year with his presentation "Why Lent." This one hour presentation will be offered at 11 am and again at 7:30 pm. Hospitality provided.

FOR MORE INFO: and to RSVP (802) 878-5331



Ash Wednesday Almsgiving Collection

Diocese of Burlington

There will be a special collection on Ash Wednesday to support Vermont Catholic Charities. VCC provides financial and emotional support to individuals and families throughout Vermont through the programs offered, including counseling, emergency aid, prison ministry, Project Rachel, and residential care homes. Envelopes will be available in the churches. Please know that every gift—whatever the size—makes a difference. Thank you for your generosity.



03|03

On the Path of Ecological Conversion

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Burlington • 7 pm

Join Bishop Coyne for "The Stations of the Cross with John Paul II: On the path of ecological conversion," followed by a sustainable soup supper and discussion of the Lenten practice of fasting. Learn about the Global Catholic Climate Movement's Lenten Fast for Climate Justice and how fasting from certain foods, especially meat, positively effects the planet and the poor. FOR MORE INFO: Stephanie Clary (802) 846-5822 or sclary@vermontcatholic.org



"Fatima A Message of Hope" Holy Family-St.Lawrence, Essex Jct. 8-10:30 am

Come and join the WAF — Our Lady's Blue Army for a 52 minutes of DVD presentation to celebrate Fatima Centennial 100th Anniversary. Breakfast refreshments will be served. All are welcome for the 1st Saturday Devotion prior to the movie, beginning with Rosary and Confession 8 am, Mass 8:30 am.



03|04

Retreat for Family Healing St. Francis de Sales, Bennington 10:30 am - 5 pm

Holy Cross Father Pinto will guide participants through a one-day parish mission that will look at the interactions of family life. He currently works as the special assistant to the president of Holy Cross Family Ministries while pursuing a doctorate in educational leadership from Lesley University.



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