The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Justice for Immigrants campaign is currently working on behalf of the Bishops, including our own Bishop Coyne, to promote humane migration policies towards refugees and immigrants that reflects our Catholic values.

Join the U.S. Catholic bishops in support of protecting immigrants and refugees by sending an electronic postcard to Washington, DC asking that lawmakers ensure humane treatment towards migrants and refugees. The postcards may be sent from Justice for Immigrants’ homepage at justiceforimmigrants.org. More information about the Catholic bishops’ JFI campaign may also be found on the JFI website. Again, that website is justiceforimmigrants.org. “Closeness to the poor, the refugee, the immigrant, the sick, the exploited, the elderly living alone, prisoners and all God’s other poor, will teach us a different way of resting, one which is more Christian and generous.” — Pope Francis

National Migration Week Petitions for Migrants

For all bishops in our Church, that he may be encouraged by our prayers and support to lead God’s people in building a culture that respects the human dignity of all migrants, we pray to the Lord,

For all Catholics, that God inspire them to take action in their local communities to support and protect migrants and to advocate on their behalf, we pray to the Lord,

For our neighbors, coworkers, friends, fellow Christians, and all people, that they may grow in their awareness of the issue of migration and become a voice in the public square calling for greater protections for these populations, we pray to the Lord,

For migrants, refugees, and all other strangers in our midst, that they may find strength in our concern for justice and feel the warmth of our love, we pray to the Lord.

For the bishops, that they will continue in their commitment to refugee resettlement and provide in their communities a place of welcome, we pray to the Lord.

For all refugees who are forced to flee from their homes, that God bring peace to them and their country of origin, we pray to the Lord.

For refugees in Africa, the Middle East, and elsewhere who are experiencing great suffering, that God might bring them to a place of peace and safety, we pray to the Lord.

— USCCB
UPCOMING EVENTS

01|08-14
National Migration Week
The theme for the 2017 National Migration Week is “Creating a Culture of Encounter.”
FOR MORE INFO: goo.gl/wP0hU0

01|09
Steubenville East
Sign-Up Deadline
Join YOUTH from the Diocese of Burlington as they travel to the 2017 ELEVATE Steubenville East Conference. Sign-up for this weekend filled with great presentations, music and spiritual enrichment with teens from around the NorthEast. Over 3,000 were in attendance during last year’s conference, 130 from our diocese! FOR MORE INFO: goo.gl/B1mQ4V or (802) 658-6110 x1130

01|10
“Why Ordinary Time”
Holy Family Parish Center
7 - 8 pm
This is an introduction to the new season of the Liturgical Year, Ordinary Time. An extraordinary time to encounter the Risen Christ in the Sacraments of the Church. Presented by Josh Perry (Director of the Diocesan Worship Office).

01|10, 17, 24, 02|03
Catholicism Series
10 DVD Series
St. Jude, Hinesburg • 7 pm
St. Jude the Apostle Church is hosting a movie series about Catholicism. The series began Nov. 15 and ran the 22, 29, Dec. 6, Jan. 3 the remaining dates are Jan. 10, 17, 24, and concludes on Feb. 3. All are welcome.
FOR MORE INFO: (802) 482-2290

01|21
Rally for Life Mass
St. Augustine Church, Montpelier
9:30 am
The Annual Rally for Life Mass will be celebrated at 9:30 a.m., not 9 a.m. as previously advertised. The Mass will be celebrated by Burlington Bishop Christopher Coyne and will be followed by the march down State Street and the Rally for Life at the Statehouse, sponsored by the Vermont Right to Life Committee and featuring the theme of “Women’s Voices.” Speakers will include Jewels Green of Philadelphia, Sarah Zagurski of Colorado and Amy Cochran of Vermont.

02|22
Domestic Violence Workshop
Holy Family Parish Center, Essex Junction
10 am - 2 pm
The Diocese of Burlington is hosting a free workshop titled, “Responding to Domestic Violence in Our Communities.” The 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

MARCH FOR LIFE | 2017
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON BUS TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26
6:45PM DEPART FROM SOUTH BURLINGTON
55 JOY DRIVE. ADDITIONAL PICKUPS: SEVEN RIVERS AND FAIRHAVEN

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27
MORNING RALLY FOR LIFE
1PM MARCH FOR LIFE
DEPART FROM SOUTH BURLINGTON
DROP-OFFS BEGIN AT 1PM. SEVEN RIVERS, FERRISBURG AND SOUTH BURLINGTON

COST: $75 PER PERSON. DOES NOT INCLUDE MEALS
REGISTER ONLINE: goo.gl/716ivO AFTER NOVEMBER 1
A YOUTH PILGRIMAGE WILL BE OFFERED SEPARATELY. VISITING 3 NATIONAL SHRINES IN THE AREA. FOR MORE INFORMATION goo.gl/1gka2o

For more information: goo.gl/wP0hU0

MERCIFUL AND LOVING FATHER,
We beseech you, open our hearts so that we may provide hospitality and refuge to migrants who are lonely, afraid, and far from their homes. Give us the courage to welcome every stranger as Christ in our midst, to invite them into our communities as a demonstration of Christ’s love for us. We pray that when we encounter the other, we see in her the face of your Son, when we meet a stranger, that we take his hand in welcome. Help us to live in solidarity with one another, to seek justice for those who are persecuted and comfort for those who are suffering. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

For more information: goo.gl/wP0hU0