Every January 22 since 1973 has marked the anniversary of the contentious Supreme Court decision known as Roe v. Wade, the key action responsible for legalizing abortion in all fifty United States.

While proponents of legal abortion called it a victory for women’s rights, facts show that abortion not only deprives more than one million unborn American children annually of the right to life, it does not help women: it has not decreased poverty or single motherhood, lowered the divorce rate, nor protected women from rape, incest and abuse.

―81 percent of Americans… support restrictions on abortion. A majority agree that ‘abortion ultimately does a woman more harm than good.”

(data via Marist poll)

In fact, despite liberal abortion laws in states such as Vermont, a growing majority of Americans oppose abortion. A Marist poll released last year found that 81 percent of Americans, including 66 percent of those who identify as pro-choice, support restrictions on abortion. A majority agree that “abortion ultimately does a woman more harm than good.”

Pro-life Catholics from Vermont will join others from around the nation in observing the Roe v. Wade anniversary with events calling for renewed legal protection of the unborn, including:

• On January 21, the annual Vermont Rally for Life, sponsored by the Vermont Right to Life Committee, starts with a Mass at St. Augustine Church in Montpelier, celebrated by Bishop Christopher Coyne, followed by a peaceful march down State Street to the Capitol, where there are speeches, prayer and a renewed call to end abortion.

• January 21 also began 9 Days for Life, which unites thousands nationwide in prayer for life. To join this effort, download a free, mobile app or sign up for daily email or text messages at 9daysforlife.com.

• On January 27, hundreds of thousands of Americans, including several dozen pilgrims from the Burlington Diocese, will gather at the nation’s capital for the annual March for Life, which begins at 12 p.m. on the National Mall and concludes on the steps of Congress.

To stay current with news about pro-life events taking place in our Diocese, “like” our Facebook page: Respect Life: Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington.

― Carrie Handy, Respect Life Coordinator
Addison County Catholic Youth Ministry presents Spark about Catholicism. The series began Nov. 15 and ran at St. Jude the Apostle Church is hosting a movie series DVD followed by group discussion. Hail Holy Queen. Each session will start with a 25-30 minute meal to be provided. Please bring a dessert to share. Addison County Catholic Youth Ministry’s Family Night, expressed in the Gospel that the followers of Christ might and St. Paul, January 18-25, in recognition of Jesus’ hope and state championships. Two seatings 5:30-6:30 & 6:30-7:30 Adults $18/under 12 $6. FOR MORE INFO: (802) 482-2290

01|21 K of C Annual Game Supper Holy Family-St. Lawrence, Essex Jct. 5:30-7:30 pm Two seatings 5:30-6:30 & 6:30-7:30 Adults $18/under 12 $6. FOR MORE INFO: Barry Corbin at (802) 878-8314

01|22 K of C Basketball Free-Throw Competition Ludlow Community Center, Ludlow 11 am The local Knights of Columbus council is sponsoring a Basketball Free-Throw Competition, open to any student ages 9 through 14. There will be boys’ division and a girls’ division. Winners here will move on to district and state championships. FOR MORE INFO: Bill Gavin, Director of Youth Ministry of the Diocese of Burlington.

01|22 Ecumenical Service for The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity St. Michael’s College, Colchester - 3 pm The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is traditionally observed in the octave of the Christian feasts of St. Peter and St. Paul, January 18-25, in recognition of Jesus’ hope expressed in the Gospel that the followers of Christ might all be one (John 17:21).

01|22 Family Night St. Peter, Vergennes 4-7 pm Addison County Catholic Youth Ministry’s Family Night, meal to be provided. Please bring a dessert to share.

01|22, 02|02, 09, 12, 16, 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. FOR MORE INFO: (802) 476-7290; stmonica11@gmail.com

01|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 on Nov. 22, 29, Dec. 6, Jan. 3, 10, 17. The remaining dates are Jan. 24 and Feb. 3. All are welcome. FOR MORE INFO: (802) 482-2290

01|25 Spark Youth Ministry St. Ambrose Parish Hall, Bristol 6-8 pm Addison County Catholic Youth Ministry presents Spark, a middle school youth ministry program.

01|26 Scripture Study on the Eucharist Holy Family-St. Lawrence, Essex Jct. 7-8 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 10-week study will be on Thursdays, January 26-March 30. FOR MORE INFO: Judy Defresne, (802) 825-8035 or judy.defresne@gmail.com

01|27 Our Lady of Rosary Makers Holy Family-St. Lawrence, Essex Jct. 3-5 pm Our Lady of 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 p.m. 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

01|29 Catholic Schools Week Mass Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales, Bennington - 9:30 am Kickoff Catholic Schools Week at The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales will Mass on Sunday, January 29.

01|29 Winter Worship All Saints Church, Richford 4 pm Come join us for an evening of Praise and Worship with our host, Bill Gavin, Director of Youth Ministry of the Diocese of Burlington. We will begin with the Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament by Father Karl Hahr where we will lift our hearts to Jesus in thanksgiving and adoration through silent prayer and singing worship songs from musicians such as Matt Maher and Chris Tomlin. There will be opportunity for Confession. Following the worship service, there will be a potluck meal at the Dorion Hall. Please bring a dish to share. FOR MORE INFO: Kelly Lagasse lagassekelly@yahoo.com or (802) 844-7741

02|01 Rice Memorial High School Prospective Parent Luncheon South Burlington - 12 to 1 pm Parents with students of all ages are invited to learn more about Rice by attending one of our Prospective Parent Luncheons. Gain a unique perspective by dining with a Rice student while hearing from a Rice parent and various administrators. A tour will also be offered after lunch for anyone with time to stay. Seating is limited. To reserve your spot, RSVP by Thursday, January 26. FOR MORE INFO: Christy Bahrenburg (802) 862-6521 or rmhsvt.org

02|04 Discovery of and Training in “Come Follow Me” Catechetical Series - Quebec City, Canada - 10 am “Come Follow Me” is a catechetical program designed by members of Notre Dame de Vie to lead children to experience God’s Love in the intimacy of silent prayer. It is Scripture-based. This day will be in French with English translation available on a limited basis. FOR MORE INFO: email@ourladyoflifeinstitute.org

02|04 Mass in Thanksgiving for Blessed Fr. Marie-Eugene Montreal, Canada - 10 am On the first Feast Day of Blessed Fr. Marie-Eugene (beatified on Nov. 19, 2016), this Mass will be celebrated by the Papal Nuncio, Msgr. Luigi Bonazzi. FOR MORE INFO: email@ourladyoflifeinstitute.org

02|05 World Marriage Day Mass St. Joseph Co-Cathedral, Burlington 10 am The celebration of World Marriage Day in the Diocese of Burlington will take place on Sunday, Feb. 5, at the 10 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Co-Cathedral.

02|15 Mater Christi Open House Mater Christi School, Burlington 8:30-11 am The public is invited to visit Mater Christi School for a tour of the school and to chat with staff members on Wednesday, Feb. 15, from 8:30-11:00 a.m. Visitors will be able to visit classes with 3-year-olds through students in grade eight. The school is known for its strong academic, values-centered program. It also has popular after school, sports and music programs. FOR MORE INFO: Melissa Senesac msenesac@materchristischool or (802) 658-3992

Mater Christi School, Burlington • 8:30-11 am

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