When I was six years old, I was helping my mother to plant our garden. We tilled a small plot of soil for the welcoming of the hopeful seeds of flowers and vegetables. I was excited to plant two rows of seeds on my own. Unsure of how these tiny little dots of life in the mounds of soil might fare, I turned to my mother and asked, “These seeds are so little, how will they grow?” She replied patiently, “We need to take care of them, water them, and make sure they have room to grow, and one day, you’ll see a beautiful plant emerge in our garden.” I waited and watched for what felt like eternity. One morning, I went out to look at the rows of seeds and, to my amazement, they had emerged into tiny sprouts of greening life. Delighted, I ran to share the news. The creative emerging of plants from seeds is just as miraculous for me today!

We are called to live creative, fruitful, loving and joyous lives guided by the teachings of Christ in communion with each other and all creation. We are invited to co-create in our lives the gifts of beauty, possibility, hope and healing for ourselves and for each other.

When our creativity is thwarted by discouragement or impediments to engaging a creative response to God’s call in our lives, that is precisely the moment to turn to God in prayer, take time in silence and listen for the spark of God’s inspiration in the stillness. In this way, God reminds us that what the Holy Spirit calls forth is sustained by the grace of God (John 14:26; Luke 3:16).

The Resurrected Christ is a Christ of creativity who participates daily in the creation of the universe (John 1:1-3). Courageous creation is what is needed in response to Christ’s great commissioning to all of us in this time (John: 17).

Accompanied by the teachings of Pope Francis in Laudato Si’: On Care for Our Common Home along with the Christian Mystics, spark your creative engagement with your faith and environment in the beauty of our natural landscape at Saint Anne’s Shrine and other Vermont locations.

Join others inspired by their faith and the beauty of God’s Creation at one or all of the Contemplating Creation — Care for Our Common Home events.

— Carol A. Fournier,
Director, Silver Dove Institute

AUGUST 15, 2017
Contemplating Creation Pilgrimage & Retreat
Saint Anne’s Shrine,
Isle La Motte, VT, 1–5 pm,
Register (FREE) by August 8:
ow.ly/gqyF30dzXrN

ACTION FOR ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE
Celebrating a Year of Creation
September 30 • 10 AM – 5 PM • St. Michael’s College
Register at: vermontcatholic.org/actionforecojustice
UPCOMING EVENTS

07/30
St John Bosco
75th Anniversary Celebration
St John Bosco, Stamford - 11:45 am
Mass at 11:45 am with a picnic to follow immediately afterward. Father Charles Delnottor, who opened this mission church, was a student of John Bosco in Italy.
FOR MORE INFO: Jim Bushika (802) 694-1483, jimbushika10@yahoo.com

07/30 - 08/11
Camp Guggenheim
Lower Saranac Lake, NY
This summer the Diocese of Burlington is partnering with the Diocese of Ogdensburg, NY, with their summer camp series at Camp Guggenheim, located just two and a half hours from Burlington in the Adirondack Mountains on Lower Saranac Lake. The diocese will provide transportation from Burlington for the weeks of July 30-Aug. 4 (13-15-year-olds) and August 6-11 (16-18 year-olds).
FOR MORE INFO: rcdony.org/youth/guggy.html

08/02
Summer Reflection Series
Saint Anne’s Shrine, Isle La Motte - 11:15 am

08/05
Bingo
All Saints Parish Hall, Richmond - 1 pm
Sponsored by the Richford Knights of Columbus Council #2610. Doors will open at 11:30. Refreshments will be available, and pull tickets will also be sold.

08/08, 22
Senior Meals
Saint Jude, Hinesburg - 12 - 2 pm
Served on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

08/09
Summer Reflection Series
Saint Anne’s Shrine, Isle La Motte - 11:15 am
Part of the Summer Reflection Series featuring Diocesan and Edmundite Clergy. Rev. Stanley Deresienski, S.S.E. will present, “Blessed are the Peacemakers”. Program begins with Mass at 11:15 am, followed by topic presentation and lunch.

08/12
Fatima Centennial Vermont Tour for Peace — Sign of the Cross
Saint Mary’s Star of the Sea, Newport - 3 - 5 pm
Event #5 for the reparation for Sin and Conversion of Sinners. With the coordination from the Diocese of Burlington and the WAF-Our Lady’s Blue Army Vermont, parishioners throughout Vermont will be able to take part of World’s celebration of the Centennial of Grace which will happen at 7 selected churches in Vermont from May through October.

08/13
Spanish Mass & Confessions
La Salette Shrine, Enfield, NH - 2:30 - 4 pm
Fr. John Patrick Sullivan, M.S., who served as a missionary in Argentina for many years, is available for Confessions in Spanish before and after the Spanish Mass. There will be refreshments after Mass.
FOR MORE INFO: http://www.lasaletteofenfield.org/

08/15
175th Anniversary of the Society of St. Edmund
Saint Anne’s Shrine, Isle La Motte - 11:15 am
This is the Opening Celebration for the 175th Anniversary of the Society of St. Edmund, and also the Feast of the Assumption. Additional Mass at 7:00 p.m. followed by the traditional candlelight procession.

08/15
Contemplating Creation: A Pilgrimage and Retreat
St. Anne’s Shrine, Isle La Motte - 1 - 5 pm
This pilgrimage retreat is inspired by the writings of Pope Francis in “Laudato Si’: Care for Our Common Home.” Join Bishop Coyne at this main event for the Year of Creation.

08/16
Summer Reflection Series
Saint Anne’s Shrine, Isle La Motte - 11:15 am

08/19
Vermont Gregorian Chant Schola
Saint Anne’s Shrine, Isle La Motte - 7 pm
The Vermont Gregorian Chant Schola from Saint Michael’s College, under the direction of Dr. William Tortolano will provide music for the 7:00 pm Mass.

09/01 — 10/04
Season of Creation
Christians around the world are invited to pray and care for creation between September 1, the World Day of Prayer for Creation, and October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

09/30
Action for Ecological Justice: Celebrating a Year of Creation
Saint Michael’s College, Colchester - 10 am - 5 pm
Join Bishop Coyne at this main event for the Year of Creation. A keynote address by Dr. Carolyn Woo (former CEO & president of Catholic Relief Services) will be followed by sessions on local and global issues related to Pope Francis’ encyclical, “Laudato Si’: On Care for Our Common Home.”
FOR MORE INFO: vermontcatholic.org/actionforecojustice

2017 BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL REPORT

DID YOU KNOW that the Diocesan Archives store a large collection of relics that are available on loan to parishes for veneration? Diocesan archivist, Kathleen Messier, shares about these and many other historical, sacred, and sacramental items the diocese is able to preserve because of your donations to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal at bishopsannualappealvt.org

ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON
Submit your event to the diocesan calendar!
vermontcatholic.org/calendar