The first time I had a thought about a vocation was when I was a child. My sisters and I would play Mass in our home. Always on the search for the perfectly rounded Lay’s potato chip for the host, we enjoyed the idea of bringing something so sacred into something so familiar.

National Vocation Awareness Week begins this Sunday and continues throughout the week as a way to teach and encourage our young people about the gift and variety of different vocations in the Church. This week we celebrate two aspects of Vocation in the Church: the Universal and the Primary. The Universal call from God to each and every one of us is that we conform our lives to that of God’s Son, Jesus, and through our communion with Him we are sanctified, meaning we are made saints. The Primary, or what is commonly referred to as “the big ‘V’ vocation” in one’s life, is how we live that universal call to holiness.

By baptism we are consecrated to God, set apart for God’s purposes. As God’s life in us is strengthened by confirmation and nourished by the Eucharist and Reconciliation, one prayerfully begins to discern their state in life: ordained life, consecrated life, or the life of the laity. In the ordained state of life, one may hear the Lord calling him to serve the Church as a Deacon, Priest, or Bishop. Each of these offices has particular graces and particular responsibilities for the building up of God’s holy people. If someone is drawn to consecrated life, he or she may consider several different ways that God may be calling them: as a consecrated virgin living in the world; to apostolic religious life (sister or friar); as a member of a secular institute or a contemplative institute; as a diocesan hermit; or as part of a monastic community as a monk or a nun. In the lay state, a person would be discerning between married life and dedicated single life.

Although the focus of this week in our parishes or schools may highlight one vocation or another, the goal is to help raise awareness for our youth about the various possibilities within the Church for them to find how our Lord is asking them to make a gift of their lives and a gift of their love to others.

Together, let us build a culture of vocations where our youth are inspired by the idea of the sacred coming close to them and in which the guiding principle for their lives becomes this prayer of their hearts, “God, help me to want what you want for my life.”

— Fr. Jon Schnobrich, Director of Vocations

Check out a video featuring the priests of our Diocese, “What do you love most about being a priest?”
goo.gl/Z8FDmq

For more information and resources on National Vocation Awareness Week:
vocationawarenessweek.com
usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations/national-vocation-awareness-week.cfm
UPCOMING EVENTS

11|05
Knights of Columbus Country Breakfast
St. Thomas Parish Hall, Underhill
8 - 10:30 am
The buffet style breakfast will include juice, fruit, eggs, pancakes, sausage, bacon, home fries, and coffee or tea. Cost is by donation. (Hall is not handicap accessible.)

11|05
Pancake Breakfast
St. Mark Family Center, Burlington
8:30 - 10:30 am
Pancake breakfast held the first Sunday of each month for Vocations Scholarships by Bishop deGoetsbriand Knights of Columbus. Suggested donation $6.00

11|05
Mount St. Joseph Academy Open House
Mount St. Joseph Academy, Rutland
12 - 3 pm
All interested families and community members are welcome to the fall open house. Faculty, current students, coaches and administration will be available to answer any questions you may have and show you how to “ride the wave to success”. A light luncheon will be served. No RSVP is necessary to attend.
FOR MORE INFO: (802) 775-0151

11|05
Voices for All Seasons Sacred Music Concert
St. John the Evangelist Church, St. Johnsbury
2:30 pm
Please join Voices for All Seasons for an afternoon of sacred music. Voices for All Seasons is a community choir under the direction of Judith St. Aubin. The free will offering this afternoon will benefit victims of recent disasters.

11|05
Healing Service
St. Joseph Co-Cathedral, Burlington
3 pm
First Sunday of the month Healing Service: Divine Mercy Chaplet, Eucharistic Adoration and Charismatic laying-on of hands for physical, spiritual and psychological healing.

11|06
Gospel of Mark
Holy Family - St. Lawrence Parish Center, Essex Jct.
7 - 8 pm
Donna Bibby-Cayole has a Masters in Theology from St. Michael’s College. She has taught High School and adult education for many years. Presently, she is a Residential Counselor at the Lund Family Center. Reflections on the Gospel of Mark will pursue an understanding of Jesus as suffering savior, sensitive human being and light of the world in His Resurrection. The format will include teaching, group discussion and sharing of insights into the parables and miracle stories. Please bring a Bible and a notebook.

11|06
Mass in Spanish (last one this semester)
St. Michael’s College Chapel, Colchester • 7:30 pm
Se les envía este mensaje para recordarles que la última misa en español para este semestre se celebrará en la capilla de Saint Michael’s College, a las 7:30 PM. (19h30). Por favor notar el día: 6 de noviembre, 2017.

11|06
The Wild Goose
Holy Cross, Colchester • 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Three-part series on discovering a Deeper Relationship with the Holy Spirit. Learn how the Holy Spirit can enrich your life, give you strength and power over the things that hold you back from the true freedom, peace and joy that God wants for you. First session was on October 25. FOR MORE INFO: parishoffice@holycrossvt.org (802) 863-3002.

11|11
Padre Pio Prayer Group
Holy Family, Essex Junction
8 - 10:30 am
We begin with the Rosary and Confessions at 8 am followed by Mass and intercessory prayers to Padre Pio. After Mass we will gather in the Hoehl Room in the Parish Hall for refreshments and a presentation on Padre Pio. All are invited.

11|11
Day-Retreat
Our Lady of Life Center, Quebec
9:30 am - 7 pm
St. Teresa of Jesus, the 16th century Spanish reformer of the Carmelite Order, sparked a deep spiritual renewal in troubled times. Brother Stephane, from the Discalced Carmelite Friars of the Carmelite Order, will help us learn more about Teresa’s family background and role as a spiritual guide. In addition to the two talks, the day will include personal time to spend with Christ! Keynote speaker will be Mother Mary Catherine, founder of the Missionaries of the Word. Registration fee $30.

11|18
All-You-Can-Eat Hunter’s Breakfast
St. Isidore Parish Hall, Montgomery Center
6 am - 12 pm
Complete breakfast buffet. Adults $10, Children 12 and under $8. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Council 2610.

11|18
Annual Women’s Retreat
Holy Family - St. Lawrence Parish Center, Essex Jct.
9 am - 4 pm
Come and join Catholic women of all ages as we celebrate the gift of our faith, develop a greater understanding of God’s everlasting Mercy, and ultimately deepen our relationship with Christ! Keynote speaker will be Mother Mary Catherine, founder of the Missionaries of the Word. Registration fee $30.

12|05
Mass of Thanksgiving
St. Anthony, Bethel
6 pm
Fr. Harlow will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving in honor of his Silver Jubilee of Priestly Ordination. Everyone is invited.

The Diocese of Burlington
CAREERS

- Human Resources Generalist

FOR MORE INFO: vermontcatholic.org/careers

CRAFT FAIR & MARKET DIRECTORY

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>11/11</td>
<td>Christmas Bazaar</td>
<td>St. Elizabeth, Lyndonville</td>
<td>8:30 am to 1 pm</td>
<td>INFO: (802) 467-3019</td>
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<td>11/11</td>
<td>Craft Festival</td>
<td>Holy Family Parish Center, Essex</td>
<td>9 am to 3 pm</td>
<td>INFO: (802) 876-8407</td>
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<td>11/11</td>
<td>Holiday Craft Fair</td>
<td>St. Andrew, Waterbury</td>
<td>9 am to 3 pm</td>
<td>INFO: (802) 244-7734</td>
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<td>11/18</td>
<td>Holiday Bazaar</td>
<td>St. John the Baptist, Castleton</td>
<td>9 am to 2 pm</td>
<td>INFO: (802) 468-2446</td>
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<td>11/18</td>
<td>Christmas Fair</td>
<td>St. Alphonse Liguori, Pittsford</td>
<td>9 am to 2 pm</td>
<td>INFO: <a href="mailto:cowtchr@together.net">cowtchr@together.net</a></td>
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<td>12/02</td>
<td>Christmas Bazaar</td>
<td>St. Patrick, Wallingford</td>
<td>9 am to 2 pm</td>
<td>INFO: (802) 446-2500</td>
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<td>12/02</td>
<td>Christmas Bazaar</td>
<td>St. Ann, Milton</td>
<td>9 am to 2 pm</td>
<td>INFO: (802) 893-4012 or (802) 893-2487</td>
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