For Parishioners:

Bishop Coyne wants your help in planning the Diocese of Burlington’s 2018 Synod. All are invited to be part of the conversation as we seek to discern God’s will for the Church in Vermont.

**FIRST**

Pray for the success of the Synod with the official Synod Prayer:

Almighty and ever-living God,
You continually guide and sustain your pilgrim Church, which you established as “the universal sacrament of salvation.”
Direct the Church in Vermont during this time of preparation for the diocesan synod.
Help us to discern the signs of the time wisely, that we may joyfully proclaim the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ.
May we never fail to trust that “with God, all things are possible.”
We ask this, with the help of the Holy Spirit, through Christ our Lord. Amen.
Mary, Mother of the Church, Pray for Us.

**SECOND**

Share your views during your parish listening session. Following the instructions of the moderator, offer a response to one of these three questions:
1. As the Catholic Church in Vermont, what are we doing well?
2. What are we doing that we should be doing better?
3. What are we not doing that we should be doing?

**THIRD**

Attend one of the regional listening sessions that Bishop Coyne will hold around the diocese (locations and dates to be announced). There will also be further parish sessions in 2018.

Finally, if you can’t attend a listening session or have more to say, give your input online at www.vermontcatholic.org/synod with the digital survey link. If you don’t have access to the internet, you can send a response to the three questions, typed or neatly hand-written, to Diocesan Synod, 55 Joy Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403.

*Check with your pastor for the date of your parish’s listening session.*
Eucharistic Adoration and Charismatic laying-on of hands for present. The concert is free and open to the public, but has sung more than 125 concerts, liturgies and synagogue (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas. Children and families in Haiti. Through the evening. Suggested donations are $10 per whole family. There will be desserts and beverages offered of fun, harmonies and hope, lyrics and love, and fun for the family. The Jericho Road Crew’s music is always full of fun, harmonies and hope, lyrics and love, and fun for the whole family. There will be desserts and beverages offered throughout the evening. Suggested donations are $10 per person. Every dollar raised in donation goes to helping children and families in Haiti.

Matthew: The King and His Kingdom is a Catholic Bible study with Jeff Calvin that brings the personhood and kingship of Christ to life through Matthew’s Gospel. You are welcome to join this online self-study which uses a study guide and one hour videos for a chapter by chapter examination of the literal and spiritual senses of the text in the context of the Old and New Testaments. The study covers approximately one lecture a week starting with the first Sunday of Advent, December 3, 2017 and concluding after Pentecost on June 5, 2018. You may either join us at St. Mary’s School in Fair Haven on January 9 at 6 pm, when we will discuss the first 4 talks OR organize your own parish discussion group.

12/06 Haiti Benefit Concert — Jericho Road Crew Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Jct. • 7 - 9 pm The Jericho Road Crew’s music is always full of fun, harmonies and hope, lyrics and love, and fun for the whole family. There will be desserts and beverages offered throughout the evening. Suggested donations are $10 per person. Every dollar raised in donation goes to helping children and families in Haiti.

12/03 First Day of Advent Beginning the Church’s liturgical year, Advent is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

12/03 Christmas Concert St. Michael’s College, Colchester • 3 pm The 16-voice Schola is in residence at St. Michael’s College. Since its founding in 2000, the Schola has sung more than 125 concerts, liturgies and synagogue presentations. The concert is free and open to the public, but a free-will offering will be accepted.

12/03 Healing Service St. Joseph Co-Cathedral, Burlington • 3pm Service includes Divine Mercy Chaplet, Eucharistic Adoration and Charismatic laying-on of hands for physical, spiritual and psychological healing.

12/03 Matthew: The King and His Kingdom Catholic Bible Study St. Mary’s, Fair Haven or Your Parish Join us for this concert by St. Paul School students.

12/04 Transforming Parishes and Making Missionary Disciples Christ the King, Rutland • 1 - 2:30 pm Diocesan Offices, Burlington • 6:30 - 8 pm A new movement of parish revitalization is seeking to implement “The Joy of the Gospel” in parishes and dioceses around the world. The New East Parish Revitalization Conference, diocesan peer learning networks, and trainings are available to focus on a “game plan” for parish revitalization and making missionary disciples. What does this look like in a diocese and a parish? What tools and experiences are available?

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.

12/08 Lessons and Carols St. Michael’s College, Colchester 7:30 pm Held in the Chapel of St. Michael the Archangel. The St. Michael’s College Chorale will be joined by local professional vocal ensemble Counterpoint for a celebration of music and scriptural readings. Admission is free. A festive reception will follow in the Alliot Student Center lobby.

FOR MORE INFO: (802) 654-2284

12/10 Christmas Party for People with Developmental Disabilities St. John Vianney, S. Burlington 1 - 3 pm This Christmas party is designed for people with intellectual challenges or developmental disabilities. All ages are encouraged to attend. The party will consist of a Holiday Safe Foods Buffet, live music by the Gravelin Brothers Band and even a visit from Santa! Each partygoer will receive, while supplies last, a gift to take home. This event is free and open to all area special needs people. Reservations are a must!

FOR MORE INFO: (802) 777-8181, sbknights7525@gmail.com

12/11 St. Paul School Christmas Concert St. Paul, Barton • 6 pm Join us for this concert by St. Paul School students.

12/12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Unborn Catholics throughout the world pray for intercession on behalf of the unborn to Our Lady of Guadalupe.

FOR MORE INFO: respectlife@vermontcatholic.org

To see more events or to submit your event to the diocesan calendar: vermontcatholic.org/calendar

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**11/27**
St. Amadeus Parish 4th Annual Memory Tree Lighting
St. Amadeus, Alburgh • 6:30 pm
‘Purchase’ a light for a loved one (living or deceased) to help us light up the night and light up the holidays! The cost is $5 per person commemorated. The tree will be lighting up the St. Amadeus Church/Rectory lawn throughout the season! The ceremony is both inside and outside with refreshments to follow.

FOR MORE INFO: Connie (802) 796-3425, Maurice (802) 796-4418 or Laura at the rectory office (802) 796-3481

**11/28**
Giving Tuesday
The Bishop’s Annual Appeal is 96% of the way to reaching goal! An anonymous matching grant will match dollar-for-dollar any gift received by the end of December. Consider a gift of any size to support many ministries, schools and charitable outreach efforts impacting every parish in Vermont. Donate online bishopsappealvt.org, by mail Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington, Bishop’s Appeal, 55 Joy Dr., South Burlington, VT, 05403, or by phone (802) 658-6110 x1102.

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**12/02**
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FOR MORE INFO: Dcn. Phil Lawson plawson@vermontcatholic.org

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St. Paul, Barton • 6 pm
Join us for this concert by St. Paul School students.

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**12/12**
Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Unborn
Catholics throughout the world pray for intercession on behalf of the unborn to Our Lady of Guadalupe.

FOR MORE INFO: respectlife@vermontcatholic.org

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**CRAFT FAIR & MARKET DIRECTORY**

Christmas Marketplace, St. Ambrose, Bristol, 9 am to 5 pm, INFO: (802) 453-2488

Christmas Bazaar, St. Ann, Milton, 9 am to 2 pm, INFO: (802) 893-4012 or (802) 893-2487

Christmas Bazaar, All Saints, Richford, 9 am to 2 pm, INFO: (802) 848-7741

Christmas Bazaar, Our Lady of the Lake, S. Hero, 9 am to 2 pm, INFO: (802) 372-4092

Christmas Bazaar, St. Patrick, Wallingford, 9 am to 2 pm, INFO: (802) 446-2500

Craft Fair, St. Jude the Apostle, Hinesburg, 9 am to 3 pm