This has been a busy year for the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Burlington. In November of 2017, Josh Perry, Director of the Office of Worship, completed weekend visits to all of the Catholic churches in the Diocese — 119 churches visited over a period of 49 weeks. Josh attended one of the weekend Masses at each church and then often had an opportunity to meet with those involved in liturgy — clergy, liturgical ministers, and musicians — as well as other parishioners to hear about their experiences of liturgy in the Diocese and some of their hopes and dreams for liturgy. The visits served not as evaluations of individual parishes but as a way to get a sense of general practices that were happening in Vermont. It was important for the Director of Liturgy that the information that comes from the Office of Worship be pertinent to the reality of the local Church, and that any future guidelines or directives issued by the Office on behalf of the Bishop of Burlington respond to the actual needs in the local Church. Such work of the Office should grow organically from the celebration of liturgy as it is experienced in the local Church and be shaped by their own vision for liturgy.

A report of observations and recommendations based on these visits was shared with the Bishop, the Presbyteral Council, and the Diocesan Pastoral Council. This report serves as an “initial roadmap” for the Office of Worship which helped to formulate some of the initiatives and projects that were undertaken this year.

The visits also were an opportunity for the Director of Worship to meet with those on the “front-lines” so to speak in planning and celebrating the liturgy, and from these connections — the Diocesan Worship Commission was re-established and met for the first time in January, 2018. The Commission consists of clergy and laity from throughout the state who are committed to the on-going renewal of liturgy in the state of Vermont. They provide counsel on liturgical matters pertaining to the Diocese including the construction or renovation of liturgical spaces, the implementation of directives, and other matters in which the Bishop or the Office of Worship seeks their advice. Currently, the Commission is reviewing the report of observations and recommendations and is in the initial stages of updating guidelines for liturgical ministers and musicians.

Throughout the year, the Office of Worship has been a resource to parishes to provide faith formation opportunities for parishioners as well as liturgical ministry training. Over 200 people have attended training for lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion from January — March, and more training workshops are being planned in various parts of the state in the coming months. Two regional workshops for musicians — one in Bennington and one in Stowe — took place in May. Featuring local presenters from area parishes — musicians learned more about the role of the cantor at Mass, selecting music for Mass, building and maintaining a music program — and skill-building sessions for keyboardists and guitarists were held. In addition to these, presentations on preparing a wedding liturgy were given for engaged couples at the three Pre-Cana retreat days in the spring. Other topics covered throughout the year include hospitality at liturgy, an overview of the Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and engaging children (and adults) in liturgy through ritual.

All of this would not be possible without the support from those who donate to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal. With your continued support, we look forward to continuing the work of supporting parishes in their liturgical celebrations.

— Josh Perry, Director of Liturgy and Worship
06|06 Wednesday
Vermonters Helping Vermonters
St. Michael’s College, Colchester • 6:30 pm
Help us to continue to fill the gaps for the most vulnerable Vermonters. An evening of music and products tastings from Vermont vendors.
vermontcatholic.org/vermontershelpingvermonters

06|09 Saturday
Padre Pio Mass
Holy Family, Essex Junction • 8 - 10 am
Rosary and Reconciliation at 8 am, Mass at 8:30, followed by presentation and refreshments at 9 am.

06|09 Saturday
BLESSED – Vocation Ministry Workshop
Our Lady of the Angels, Randolph 9 am - 2:30 pm
This is a follow-up event to Rhonda Gruenewald’s workshop last November. Anyone who attended, along with new comers, interested in promoting vocations, within the parishes is invited to attend. The workshop will allow our parishes and Diocese to continue to foster the work of cultivating a culture of vocations. This workshop is FREE!
FOR MORE INFO: (802) 658-6110 x1334 or vocations@vermontcatholic.org

06|16 Saturday
Italian Night Dinner
St. Amadeus, Alburgh • 5 - 7 pm
Serving pasta, a variety of sauces, garlic bread.
Adults $10, children 7-12 $5, children 6 and under free.
FOR MORE INFO: (802) 796-3481 or stamadeus@fairpoint.net

06|17-22
Totus Tuus
St. Paul, Barton
Holy Cross, Colchester
Join us for Totus Tuus 2018! Programs for high school and grade school students. For a complete list of hosting Parishes please see our Totus Tuus 2018 Schedule.

06|22, 23, 24 Friday
Vermont Catholic Youth Serve
UVM, Burlington
VCYS is an opportunity for youth to show Christ’s love and mercy to the people of Vermont. Youth (rising ninth graders, current high school teens and graduating seniors) will stay at the University of Vermont. They will participate in community service projects throughout the area as well as develop their personal spirituality through group activities, praise and worship, free time, Adoration, confession and Mass. Weekend concludes with Mass at the Catholic Center (parents and guardians are encouraged to attend) followed by a cookout. Cost is $95 per participant.
FOR MORE INFO: (802) 658-6110 x1130.

06|22 Friday
Rice-Cathedral Alumni Association
18th Annual Golf Tournament
Rocky Ridge Golf Course, St. George 9 am - 2 pm
Cost is $125, or $500 for a foursome. All proceeds benefit Rice’s tuition assistance program.
FOR MORE INFO: or becoming a hole sponsor, call the Rice Advancement Office at (802) 862-6521 x230 or for more information go to rmhsvt.org.

06|22 Friday
St. Paul School’s Annual Dinner
Eastside Restaurant, Newport • 6 pm
Tickets $100, for two dinners and raffle tickets.
FOR MORE INFO: or make a reservation, (802) 525-6578.

06|23 Saturday
Troy Family Retreat Day
Sacred Heart of Jesus, Troy • 9 am - 8 pm
Pre-registration requested by June 17. $30 per family, $10 per person, $6 for seniors.

Vermonters helping Vermonters
Taste the Best Vermont Has to Offer
✓ Wednesday, June 6, 6:30 PM
✓ Saint Michael’s College
✓ $50 per person
✓ Music by the Cassarinos
✓ Local food and breweries!
vermontcatholic.org/vermontershelpingvermonters

BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL
2018
As the Catholic Church in Vermont moves from maintenance to mission, the Diocese is able to offer new opportunities for lay engagement. The Lay Formation Program and Worship Commission are two ways in which the laity support the Vermont Catholic community. Consider supporting these ministries with a gift at bishopsappealvt.org.

DIocese of Burlington
CAREERS
• Executive Director of Human Resources
• Superintendent of Schools
• Vermont Catholic Charities: Administrator, Level III Residential Care Home
• Vermont Catholic Charities: Counselor/Psychotherapist Position
• Administrative Assistant/Director of Religious Education/Youth Ministry Coordinator
FOR MORE INFO: vermontcatholic.org/careers