This is the second year that I write a “summer vacation” column for The Inland See. I do so with the full intention of urging others into complete surrender to peace and quiet …

“A vacation is having nothing to do all day and all day to do it in.”

— Robert Orben

I have been fortunate over the years to string the weeks together for a long summer vacation. I rent a cottage on the coast of Maine with priest friends. The only agenda is to relax and rest. There are no other plans save to pray and celebrate Mass together when we all have finally gotten out of bed. Some days this is later than others — some days, earlier. If someone wants to play golf, one can join them in a round — or not. A call to go for a walk on the beach may lead to a companion or two — or not. Feel like traveling into Portland for lunch, or taking off for a bike ride, or swimming in the surf? Go right ahead. Perhaps I might join you or, then again, perhaps I might just sit out here on the porch and enjoy the breeze off the bay.

We have no TV or cable in the cottage. At night, the downstairs living room seems more like a library reading room than anything else, everyone sprawled out with a book. My colleagues from out of state are tolerant enough to allow for the Red Sox broadcast on the radio: there is nothing better on a warm summer’s night. It’s good to have nothing to do and all day to do it.

“In summer, the song sings itself.”

— William Carlos Williams

I have a pair of Rosary beads that are a bit beat up, even rusted in the links. The beads used to be azure blue. The color was quite vivid. Perhaps that’s what attracted me to them. The beads are also quite big. But they are no longer blue. A few years ago, I took them with me on vacation and I used to pull them out of my pocket as I walked in the shallow water at the ocean’s edge. Within a day or two, I noticed that the blue of the beads was coming off on my fingers. Maybe, the salt water did not agree with the lacquer. Thankfully, it washed off with a little wet sand and water. By the end of the vacation, the blue was gone and the links were rusted but that didn’t matter. The prayer, the “song of praise” to the Virgin remained the same.

At times, I still pray with those beads. When I do, I am reminded of the ocean breeze, the sound of the surf, and the chill of Maine water. I am also reminded that when I pray the Rosary, the “song” often sings itself.

Yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Christopher J. Coyne
Bishop of Burlington
UPCOMING EVENTS

06/30 - 07/08
Visititation of the Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe
St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte • 12 pm
Mass to be celebrated by Burlington Bishop Christopher Coyne. After Mass visitors may picnic on the shrine grounds or on the shore of Lake Champlain or purchase a barbecue lunch at the shrine. Cost for the barbecue is $10.95 for adults, $6.95 for children 12 and under; and for families of four or more (two adults and two or more children) $35. The family event will take place rain or shine.

07/07 SATURDAY
Our Lady of Fatima Devotions
Holy Family, Essex Junction • 8 - 9 am
Rosary and reconciliation, followed by Mass.

07/08 SUNDAY
Diocesan Family Mass
St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte • 12 pm
Mass to be celebrated by Burlington Bishop Christopher Coyne. After Mass visitors may picnic on the shrine grounds or on the shore of Lake Champlain or purchase a barbecue lunch at the shrine. Cost for the barbecue is $10.95 for adults, $6.95 for children 12 and under; and for families of four or more (two adults and two or more children) $35. The family event will take place rain or shine.

07/08-13 SUNDAY-FRIDAY
Totus Tuus
Immaculate Conception, St. Albans
St. Monica, Barre
Join us for Totus Tuus 2018! Programs for high school and grade school students. For a complete list of hosting parishes please see vermontcatholic.org.

07/11 WEDNESDAY
Summer Reflection Series
St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte • 11:15 am - 2 pm
Father Lance Harlow presenting “Praying with the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary.” Mass, followed by presentation and lunch.

07/13, 14, 15
Steubenville East High School Youth Conference
Tsangas Center at UMass Lowell
Youth, grades 9-12, are invited to join teens from throughout the Northeast to gather for a weekend filled with presentations, music and spiritual enrichment. FOR MORE INFO: kalderman@vermontcatholic.org

07/14 SATURDAY
Padre Pio Mass
Holy Family, Essex Junction • 8 - 10 am
Rosary and Reconciliation at 8, Mass at 8:30, then adjourn to the parish hall for presentation and refreshments.

07/15-20 SUNDAY-FRIDAY
Totus Tuus
St. Ambrose, Bristol
St. Michael, Brattleboro
Join us for Totus Tuus 2018! Programs for high school and grade school students. For a complete list of hosting parishes please see vermontcatholic.org.

07/18 WEDNESDAY
Summer Reflection Series
St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte • 11:15 am - 2 pm
Edmundite Father Michael Carter presenting, “Praying with the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary.” Mass, followed by presentation and lunch.

07/21 SATURDAY
Catholic Daughters of the Americas Summer Sale
St. Anthony, Bethel • 9 am - 2 pm
Featuring crafts, baked goods, white elephant items, raffle. FOR MORE INFO: (802) 234-5605.

7/22-27 SUNDAY-FRIDAY
Totus Tuus
Christ the King, Burlington
Christ the King, Rutland
Join us for Totus Tuus 2018! Programs for high school and grade school students. For a complete list of hosting parishes please see vermontcatholic.org.

DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON CAREERS
- Administrative Assistant/Director of Religious Education/Youth Ministry Coordinator: St. Augustine, Montpelier
- Coordinator of Evangelization & Catechesis: St. Luke/Ascension Parish, Fairfax
- Executive Director of Human Resources
- Superintendent of Schools
- Vermont Catholic Charities: Counselor/Psychotherapist Position
- Youth Ministry: St. Peter, Vergennes and St. Ambrose, Bristol
FOR MORE INFO: vermontcatholic.org/careers

2018 BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL
In addition to monies distributed for charitable works, the Bishop’s Annual Appeal supports the Diocese as a valuable resource to all parishes. Thank you to all who have participated so far this year! Learn about your gift at work at bishopsappealvt.org.

Year of the Family Conference
August 25, 2018
9:30AM - 4PM
Capital Plaza Center, Montpelier
REGISTRATION AND INFO: vermontcatholic.org/YearoftheFamilyConference