This weekend marks the half-way point of the two-year “Share the Journey” campaign launched by Pope Francis last September.

“Share the Journey” puts into action his call for a “culture of encounter” as a common goal, encouraging people to be fearless in the ways they look beyond themselves to the needs of others. “Faith is an encounter with Jesus, and we must do what Jesus does: encounter others,” he said.

Sponsored internationally by Caritas Internationalis and in the United States by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the campaign aims to build empathy toward migrants and refugees by changing people’s hearts and minds about migrants, mobilizing the time and talent of Catholics throughout the United States and inspiring people to advocate for better policies.

During the first year of “Share the Journey,” more than 100 Dioceses throughout the United States participated in launching the campaign in their parishes and schools and on social media. The Sept. 27, 2017, launch was followed in the United States by a Week of Prayer and Action (Oct. 7–13) when parishes, schools, universities and other institutions and individuals throughout the country joined in prayer, education and sharing of information about migrants and refugees to support them locally and throughout the world.

The campaign also was integrated into existing efforts such as: National Migration Week; World Refugee Day; advocacy outreach from Justice for Immigrants, CCUSA and Catholics Confront Global Poverty; and CRS Rice Bowl.

During the second year of the “Share the Journey” campaign, consider incorporating one of the following efforts into your parish. For more resources and ideas, visit sharejourney.org.

✦ Encourage education. Invite your community to learn about migration, especially through classes and groups that are already meeting in your community throughout the week. Encourage spending time learning about why people leave their home countries, common myths surrounding migrants and refugees and what the Church teaches about it.

✦ Help people put themselves in our brothers’ and sisters’ shoes. Hold a simulation experience that helps people explore why migrants and refugees feel forced to leave their homes using resources and tools available at sharejourney.org.

✦ Invite people to learn and share their own stories. Host a potluck “cultural night” for members of your community, including recent migrants and refugees. Sign people up in advance who can share something of their cultural heritage (food, music, dance, art, etc.), whether by presenting, teaching and/or involving other attendees. For those who may not be familiar with their family history, encourage them to do some research and sign up to be one of those to share what they’ve learned. By learning about the heritage of our own families, as well as that of others in the community — both long-established and new residents — we can better relate to the experience of being a newcomer and to appreciate the experiences of those whose backgrounds differ from ours.

✦ Assess how welcoming your community currently is. Use this quiz as a checklist of goals that will make your community more welcoming toward migrants and refugees: cliniclegal.org/resources/how-welcoming-my-community-pop-quiz.

✦ Learn about racism and work for racial justice.

✦ Facilitate a USCCB training on Building Intercultural Competence for Ministers (BICM) through the Subcommittee on Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees and Travelers to empower seminarians, religious and lay leaders to serve migrants and refugees in the United States.

You can find resources and information to support these suggestions at sharejourney.org/get-involved/#learn.
10|02 WEDNESDAY
Youth Ministry Training — Contemporary Moral Issues
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Williston
6:30 - 8:30 pm
This workshop will include ‘hot topic’ issues in the world today, including abortion, euthanasia and same sex marriage and how to effectively transmit the Church’s teachings on these subjects. Presented by Father Matthew Rensch, parochial vicar at Christ the King in Rutland. This presentation is part of the Deeper Waters Youth Ministry training series. RSVP: wgavin@vermontcatholic.org

10|05, 06 FRIDAY & SATURDAY
CDA Fall Rummage Sale
Holy Family Parish Center, Essex Junction
Sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of Court Fanny Allen 1060. Sale Day on Friday from 9am — 5pm. Bag Day on Saturday from 9am — 1pm.

10|06 SATURDAY
Our Lady of Fatima Devotions
Holy Family, Essex Junction, 8 - 9 am
Rosary and reconciliation at 8 am followed by Mass.

10|06 SATURDAY
Catechist Formation Day
Christ the King, Rutland
8:30 am – 1:30 pm
Join us for a day of Enrichment, Fellowship, and Prayer! Open to all Catechists, Classroom/Program Aides, DRE/PCL’s, and other interested individuals.
FOR MORE INFO: www.vermontcatholic.org/event/catechist-formation-day-rutland/

10|06 SATURDAY
Sisters of Mercy Annual Canned Goods and Lawn Sale
22 Mary Street, South Burlington
9 am - 2 pm
Home grown/home canned goods including many varieties of pickles, relish, jams, jelly, horseradish will be available. There will also be knit goods, housewares, books, decorations and much more. Rain date is Sunday, October 7. Proceeds benefit the works of the Sisters of Mercy. Please mark this event on your calendar.

10|06 SATURDAY
Fall Youth Rally
St. Edward, Derby Line
10:30 am - 5:30 pm
All 7–12 graders, along with parents, are welcome to join us for a faith-filled, fun day at St. Edwards in Derby Line. We will be joined again by national singer Ben Walther. Ben is a singer, songwriter, worship leader, husband and a father. Sharing his message that “there is always hope for redemption.” We will have a separate parent track as part of this day. Cost is $10 for individuals, and $25 per family. Day includes Sunday vigil Mass, as well as lunch.

10|06 SATURDAY
K of C Bingo
All Saints, Richford - 11 am
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council #2610; proceeds go to charity. Doors open at 11 am, calling begins at 1 pm.

10|06 SATURDAY
Project 177 Praise and Worship
St. Michael, Brattleboro
6:30 - 9 pm
The 177 Project is an initiative from Adoration Artists designed to help spark a renewal in parishes across the country. The two artists for this event are Taylor Tripodi and Ben Wagner. For the whole family! All are welcome! FOR MORE INFO: Vermontcatholic.org/event/project-177-raise-and-worship/

10|07 SUNDAY
Annual St. Anne’s Shrine Harvest Dinner
Saint Anne’s Shrine, Isle La Motte
12 pm
This event marks the official closing of the 2018 Pilgrimage Season. Turkey with all the trimmings and homemade pies will be served! Adults $11, children 6 and under, $6. Mass will be celebrated at 10:30 am.

10|07 SUNDAY
Fall Youth Rally
Christ the King, Burlington
12:30 - 7 pm
All 7 - 12 graders and parents are welcome to join us for an exciting day with national presenter Ben Walther. We will also be joined by Father Jon Schnobrich, religious sisters and other speakers! Come enjoy faith, inspiration, fun, fellowship and food. Open to ALL families — Catholic and non-Catholic. FOR MORE INFO: www.vermontcatholic.org/event/fall-youth-rally-christ-the-king-burlington/

10|09 TUESDAY
Youth Ministry Training — Minister like St. John Bosco
St. Ann, Milton
7:30 - 9:00 pm
This workshop will focus on the life of St. John Bosco, patron saint of Youth Workers; in particular, on Bosco’s method and style of effectively reaching youth through his paradigm of religion, reason and kindness. We will also learn about St. Francis de Sales and Salesian spirituality as an excellent tool for reaching youth for Christ. Presented by Father Jack Peterson, priest of the Youth Apostles Community
RSVP: wgavin@vermontcatholic.org

10|10 WEDNESDAY
Vermont Catholic Professionals Networking Breakfast
Pomerleau Center at Saint Michael’s College, Colchester
8 - 9:30 am
Please join Vermont Catholic Professionals for our first quarterly networking breakfast. We are proud to welcome our guest speaker, Dr. Lorraine Sterritt, President of Saint Michael’s College. All are welcome! We welcome individuals of all faiths who share our values and are professionals (entrepreneurs, medical, education, corporate, etc) looking for networking and professional development opportunities.

10|10 WEDNESDAY
Vermont Catholic Advanced Directive
Holy Angels, St. Albans
3 pm and 6:30 pm
1 1/2 Hour presentation seeking to share the importance of having a VCAD in place that aims to bring comfort to a person before the pressure of decision making when death is approaching. It will encourage confidence and comfort for family and friends by knowing that the wishes of their loved one are in keeping with Catholic Moral teachings.

2018 BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL
Thank you to all who have generously given to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal in support of the Vermont Catholic community and the many ministries that it provides throughout the state. See your gift at bishopsappealvt.org