On Sept. 8, approximately 90 synod delegates and priests representing every region in the state met for the final pre-synodal meeting to prepare for the upcoming Synod meetings. During the morning session, we took time out of the busy synod agenda to address the immediate crisis our Church is facing with new scandals on the national level and the revisiting of past sins within our local community. I was grateful for the input and encouragement from the delegates to continue to communicate with you and the larger community about how we have made significant changes in our policies to ensure this does not happen again in Vermont and how we have been successful since these policies were adopted in 2002. I will be sharing more information in next week’s “Inland See” about the progress we have made and how we will continue to ensure that all members of our family are safe and supported.

In the afternoon, delegates discussed three priority areas that will be the focus of the synod: [1] Evangelization, [2] Building Vibrant Parishes and [3] Improving Communication. This is been a year-long project and involved collection of input from thousands of parishioners from every parish in Vermont. The priorities were carefully chosen based on the responses from the Catholic community. At the Synod sessions, we will enter into conversation and consultation which will guide a planning process to then enact the policies, laws and directives to carry out that plan in the Vermont Church. Synod sessions will take place at two locations over the next month (below). All sessions are open to the Catholic community to attend, but delegates will participate on behalf of the parish(es) they represent.

Oct. 13: Immaculate Conception Church, Burlington; 9 a.m. Mass (optional); 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Synod Session
Oct. 27: St. Anthony Parish, White River Junction; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Synod Session
Nov. 10: Immaculate Conception Church, Burlington; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Synod Session

May I just take the time now to thank everyone who has participated in the planning process for the Synod, especially the clergy and parish delegates. I am grateful for the faith, prayers and participation of so many. It has given me hope for a better future. May all that we do and say be for the greater glory of God.

Yours in Christ,

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

10|08 MONDAY
Mass in Spanish at St. Michael’s College
St. Michael’s College Chapel, Colchester
7:30 - 8 pm
Se celebrará la misa en español en la capilla de San Miguel Arcángel, en el campus de Saint Michael College, los días 8 de octubre y 5 de noviembre. La hora de las misas es las 7:30 PM. (19h30). Se le invita a toda la persona interesada a acompañarnos. Se servirá un pequeño refrigerio después de la misa. Atentamente, Padre Marcel Rainville, SSE.

10|09, 10 TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY
Youth Ministry Training — Minister like St. John Bosco
St. Ann, Milton • October 9 • 7:30 - 9:00 pm
St. Monica, Barre • October 10 • 6:30 - 8:30 pm
This workshop will focus on the life of St. John Bosco, patron saint of Young 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 Advanced Directive
St. Monica, Barre
Holy Angels, St. Albans
3 pm and 6:30 pm
1 1/2 Hour presentation seeking to share the importance of having a VAD 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.

10|12 FRIDAY
Second Annual Challengers for the Catholic Faith Variety Show
McCarthy Arts Center, St. Michael’s College, Colchester • 7 pm
This year’s show will feature professional musician and singer Tori Harper and several diocesan priests. All proceeds will benefit diocesan seminarians. Tickets are available for $15 each online at vtchallengers.org.

10|13 SATURDAY
‘Miracle of the Sun’ Celebration
Saint Augustine, Montpelier
3 - 7 pm
This event celebrates the last apparition known as the “Miracle of the Sun” which occurred on Oct. 13 1917. Rosary and state statue procession at 3 pm, during which Confessions will be heard. Mass will start at 4 pm and include the blessing of the brown scapulars of our Lady of Mt. Carmel. There will be a pot luck dinner following the Mass.

10|14 SUNDAY
St. Francis Xavier Parish 150th Anniversary Celebration
St. Francis Xavier, Winooski • 11 am - 3:30 pm
In 1868, Fr. Jean F. Audet celebrated the first official Mass of Saint Francis Xavier Parish in a rented room in Winooski. Over the next two years Fr. Audet and his faithful parishioners built St. Louis Convent and School and a beautiful church. We will celebrate starting with a Mass at 11 am, followed by a parish festival including a community barbecue, music, games, and family friendly activities.

10|14 SUNDAY
Annual Harvest Dinner and Hand-made Quilt Drawing
Sacred Heart of Jesus, Troy • 11:30 - 1:30 pm
Annual fundraising meal presented by the Ladies of Sacred Heart. Roast Pork Dinner with all the fixings, homemade desserts. This year’s hand-made quilt is in honor of the late Aurore Morin and entitled, “Aurore’s Star.”

10|15 SUNDAY
St. Thomas Annual Harvest Ham Dinner
St. Thomas, Underhill Center • 4 - 6 pm
Two sittings: 4 and 5:15 pm. Takeout available. Adults $12, children 6-12 $6 for children 6-12 years, under 5 free. Purchasing your tickets early reserves your place at the seating of your choice. Tickets are also available at the door, at Wells Corner Market, or call church office at (802) 899-4632.

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

DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON CAREERS

Diocese: Groundskeeper
Diocese: Marriage & Family Life Coordinator
Diocese: Respect Life Coordinator
Diocese: Youth and Young Adult Ministry Administrative Assistant
Vermont Catholic Charities: Accountant
Vermont Catholic Charities: Loretto Home Director of Nursing
St. Luke / Ascension Parish, Fairfax: Coordinator of Evangelization & Catechesis
St. Peter / St. Ambrose, Vergennes/Bristol: Youth Ministry
Sacred Heart / St. Francis de Sales, Bennington: Part-time Coordinator of Catholic Youth Ministry and Evangelization

For More Info: vermontcatholic.org/careers