

NEWS FROM The Inland See

December 15–21, 2018

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON



Each of the past four years of my time here as bishop of the Diocese of Burlington have been marked by a particular theme. We began with Pope Francis' call for the celebration of a Year of Mercy in 2016, followed by the Year of Creation linked to Francis' encyclical on the environment, "Laudato Si," and finally, this year's celebration of the Year of the Family. During each year's celebration, volunteers and diocesan staff have coordinated a wealth of opportunities for us to pray, reflect, and act upon God's mercy, God's creation, and God's gift of the family. I thank all who have worked so hard to make all of these endeavors possible and successful.

For the past year and a half, the people of the Diocese of Burlington have also been engaged in a Diocesan Synod. Out of all of the surveys, consultations and meetings, the Synod delegates, comprised of representatives from each parish or parish-cluster as well as clergy and religious, have discerned three priorities that will direct our pastoral work here in Vermont: evangelization, vibrant parishes and good communication. Each of these priorities are seen, not as unique silos, but intertwined one with the other. In order to evangelize, you need to have vibrant parishes and good communication. Vibrant parishes are built upon people who revel in the gift of salvation in Jesus Christ and are alive with an evangelical faith. That faith, that Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life in and through his Holy Church, has to be communicated across a wide variety of

means. Each of these priorities in the end is focused toward the creation of disciples, children, men and women who are believers. In light of this, I have designated this coming year as the Call to Discipleship.

A disciple of Jesus Christ understands Him to be the way, the truth and the life. It is Christ who points us toward the Father, to be one with Him, as He is one with the Father. It is Christ who told us that the Father will send us the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, so that we will not be left orphans. It is Christ who established the Church upon the rock of His apostles to go and make "disciples of all in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit." To be a disciple is to embrace the fullness of faith in the Church and its teachings. To be a disciple is to live in the gift of the Church's sacraments.

The Call to Discipleship is personal and communal. It calls us out of ourselves to go and spread the good news that Jesus is Lord and Savior of all. As we venerate the first of the disciples, Mary and Joseph, during this Advent and Christmas season, may we be open to responding to the promise of salvation found in their child Jesus as they did.



Yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Christopher J. Coyne
Bishop of Burlington



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

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

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UPCOMING EVENTS



12|16, 23 SUNDAYS

Community Sing-a-Long of Christmas and Seasonal Carols

Dr. William Tortolano, professor emeritus of

fine arts and music at St. Michael's College, is the organist and music director. Sing-a-longs will be held at:

St. Luke, Fairfax, Dec. 16 at 4 pm

St. Peter, Vergennes, Dec. 23 at 3 pm



12|16 SUNDAY

Service of Lessons and Carols

Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales, Bennington
5 pm

The parish choir will offer a Service of Lessons and Carols for Gaudete Sunday. Everyone is warmly invited to join the choir in anticipation of the Savior's birth with song and scripture.



12|16 SUNDAY

Messe en Français

St. Joseph Cathedral, Burlington • 6 - 7 pm

Mass and homily in French. Perfect

extra-curricular or extra credit activity for French students to develop their understanding skills and attend a Sunday evening Mass at the same time.



12|21 FRIDAY

Saint Albans Youth Night

St. Mary Parish Center, St. Albans

All teens in 7th - 12th grade are welcome to

join us! A night of fun, fellowship and faith. Most nights begin with a good amount of fun, large group games/activities, reflection/talk, small group discussion and prayer. Join a great group of teens from the Franklin County area! All are welcome! This night will likely be some kind of Christmas service night - possibly visiting a nursing home, etc. We hope you can join us! Time will likely be around 5 or 6 p.m. start.

FOR MORE INFO: Bill Gavin (802) 881-7795



12|21 FRIDAY

Advent Retreat

Our Lady of the Valley, Bethel

7 - 8:30 pm

An evening of singing Advent songs and praying the Joyful Mysteries together, ending with fellowship.



01|08 TUESDAY

Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching

St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 7 - 8 pm

Often called "the Church's Best Kept Secret," Catholic social teaching is a good and useful guide in living the Christian life and truly being a Light to the World. Join our discussions on how these ideals can help bring us more into a Christ-centered life. Theme # 3 is "The Option for the Poor and Vulnerable: St. Teresa of Calcutta and Serving the Suffering Christ." Throughout her life and ministry, St. Teresa of Calcutta never lost sight of the fact that, in serving the poorest of the poor she was actually serving Christ Himself. In this light we look at the Church's Preferential Option for the Poor.



01|11 FRIDAY

Saint Albans Youth Night

St. Mary Parish Center, St. Albans

7:30 - 9:30 pm

All teens in 7th - 12th grade are welcome to join us! A night of fun, fellowship and faith. Most nights begin with a good amount of fun, large group games/activities, reflection/talk, small group discussion and prayer. Join a great group of teens from the Franklin County area! All are welcome!



01|15 TUESDAY

Youth Ministry Training — Contemporary Moral Issues

Christ the King, Rutland

6:30 - 8:30

This Youth Ministry training 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 ongoing Youth Ministry training happening throughout Vermont this year — part of the Deeper Waters program.

FOR MORE INFO: or RSVP, wgavin@vermontcatholic.org



01|17-20 THURSDAY - SUNDAY

Life is Precious Trip

Washington, DC

Our second "Life is Precious Trip" is scheduled for Jan. 17-20, 2019. Bus departs from Burlington at roughly 7 pm. Arrive in Washington D.C. Jan. 18. Return to Vermont late afternoon of Jan. 20. Participate in the Annual March for Life, elderly outreach, visiting Shrines, monuments and museums, fellowship with other local youth and homeless outreach. Come live and experience why ALL human life is precious in God's eyes. This trip is greatly backed and supported by the Knights of Columbus and the Bishops Appeal.

FOR MORE INFO: vermontcatholic.org/event/life-is-precious-trip/



01|26 SATURDAY

Annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass

St. Augustine Parish-Montpelier

9:30 am - 2:30 pm

Mass at 9:30 am with Bishop Coyne, followed by refreshments in the church hall. At 10:45 am attendees are invited prayerfully walk with Vermont Right to Life to the State House for a group photo on State House stairs. Vermont Right to Life will host a program inside the State House featuring prayer, announcements and guest speaker: Ann McElhinney. The event concludes with refreshments and ends by 2:30 pm.

VERMONT CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS



Networking Breakfast

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

8 - 9:30 am

Speaker

Mark Redmond

Executive Director of Spectrum
Youth & Family Services

Pomerleau Alumni Center
Saint Michael's College, Colchester

DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON CAREERS

Diocese: Facilities Manager

Diocese: Respect Life Coordinator

*Diocese: Youth and Young Adult
Ministry Administrative Assistant*

For More Info:

vermontcatholic.org/careers