CHRIST IS ALIVE! He is our hope, and in a wonderful way He brings youth to our world. The very first words, then, that I would like to say to every young Christian are these: Christ is alive and He wants you to be alive! He is in you, He is with you, and He never abandons you. However far you may wander, He is always there, the Risen One. He calls you, and He waits for you to return to Him and start over. When you feel you are growing old out of sorrow, resentment or fear, doubt or failure, He will always be there to restore your strength and your hope.”*

With these words, Pope Francis begins his address to the young people of the world of this truth of our faith, proclaimed in an extraordinary synod he had undertaken with a gathering of bishops.

When asked, “How do we as a Church speak to today’s young people?” Pope Francis answers with the very first message found in the earliest preaching of the Church: in the words of St. Peter, “God raised this Jesus; of this we are all witnesses” (Acts 2:32) and “God raised up His servant and sent Him to bless you” (Acts 3:26). “I have seen the Lord,” proclaims Mary Magdalene (Jn 20:18). Peter and Paul and all of the ancient saints continually preached the saving message that God raised Jesus from the dead and that all who believe in Him and follow Him will have eternal life. It is this same message that we still need to hear today, more than two thousand years later: Christ is alive!

Venerating of the first-class relic of the patron of parish priests will take place from 6-10 pm. Priests of the diocese will lead a vespers prayer service at 7 pm with a schola, or choir. Free and open to the public. 

*Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation Christus Vivit of the Holy Father Francis to Young People and to the entire People of God, March 25, 2019, par. 1-2. 
**Ibid, par. 32.
04|24 WEDNESDAY
VCP Networking Breakfast
Pomerleau Center, Saint Michael’s College
8 - 9:30 am
Free event featuring networking and refreshments, and a talk by Lisa Ventris, President & CEO of Vermont Business Roundtable. To register or for more information: vermontcatholic.org/vcp

04|25 THURSDAY
Bishop Robert Barron’s Catholicism Series
Holy Family, Essex Jct. • 9:30 - 10:30 am
Join us for Episode 7 – Word Made flesh, True Bread of Heaven. We will play one episode each week, ending on May 16. Series began on March 7.

04|28 SUNDAY
Regional Parishes Divine Mercy Sunday Service
Saint Sylvester, Graniteville
1:30 - 4 pm
Event begins with Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration. Several Priests will be present and available for Individual Sacramental Confessions until 2:30, then Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by Solemn Benediction and Reposition. Jesus, I Trust in You! Come join in this wonderful celebration of mercy and grace that Our Lord Jesus Christ gives to each and every one of us.

04|28 SUNDAY
Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions
St. Lawrence Church, Essex Junction
2 - 4 pm
There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the singing the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Confessions will be heard beginning at 2 pm.

05|02 THURSDAY
Tortolano Organ Concert
St. Michael’s College Chapel, Colchester
7:30 pm
Join us for a celebration of two enduring College legacies: the Chapel’s 51-year old organ, which Tortolano designed in 1966, and the 89-year old Tortolano himself. Organist emeritus at the college, This will be the 51st recital on the chapel organ, which is dedicated to him. The concert is free and open to the public.

05|04 SATURDAY
Marriage Preparation Retreat
St. Joseph Cathedral, Burlington
10:30 am - 5 pm
A one-day Retreat for Engaged Couples. Come take a break from wedding preparation and spend time in prayer, sharing and fellowship with your fiance and other engaged couples. Lunch and materials will be provided — prior Registration is required. There is no cost for this retreat.
FOR MORE INFO: www.vermontcatholic.org/event/marriage-preparation-retreat-burlington/

05|05 SUNDAY
Recital of Musical Masterpieces
Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales, Bennington
3 pm
Mandy Kent, flutist, and Donald McMahon, pianist, will perform a recital of musical masterpieces, certain to raise your spirits, is promised! The performance is free. All facilities are accessible to those with special needs, and convenient parking is available behind the church. Everyone is warmly invited to attend.

05|07 TUESDAY
Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching
St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 7 - 8 pm
Theme # 7 is “Care For God’s Creation: Saint Francis of Assisi and the Stewardship of Creation.” Saint Francis of Assisi had a deep and unique understanding of Creation as a sacred gift from God to all. He called the Earth, the sun, the wind, and the water his brothers and sisters because all are created by God. It has taken several hundred years, but our civilization is finally beginning to appreciate the importance of this aspect of his ministry.

05|07 TUESDAY
St. Anne’s Shrine Spring Social
St. Michael’s College, Colchester
6 - 7:30 pm
A donation of $50 per person will benefit the mission of the shrine. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP to (802) 928-3362 or email fstanne@pshift.com by April 30.

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