

NEWS FROM The Inland See

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

June 15–21, 2019

*Christ
our Hope*

DECLARATION OF THE 2018 SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

THE MOST REVEREND CHRISTOPHER J. COYNE
BISHOP OF BURLINGTON

APRIL 16, 2019

*“Direct the Church in Vermont during this
time of preparation for the Diocesan Synod.”*

From the very beginning of the synodal process the dynamic has been to seek-listen-discern: to seek input from all, to listen to all and to discern with all who are part of our Church. In the first stage of the process, “listening sessions” took place in each deanery and parish. Input also was sought through on-line and mail surveys. All of this data was collated and presented to the Synod Preparatory Commission that distilled the many and various responses to ten possible priorities. Once again, we returned to the parishes and deaneries seeking further input on which of the ten priorities would be rated as most important. The process proved to be dialogical, back and forth from the Diocese to the parish and back again. Finally, three priorities were established by the bishop and preparatory commission and the actual synod sessions were convened.

The delegates to the Diocesan Synod, men and women from each parish or parish cluster as well as many of the clergy of the Diocese, came to the synod meetings ready to “discern the signs of the time wisely, that we may joyfully proclaim the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ” (Synod Prayer). These delegates were not daunted by the tasks and challenges that we face now and in the future in the Diocese of Burlington. Instead, they were and are believers who are ready to “go out to the highways and hedgerows and make people come in” (Luke 14:23) that God’s house may be filled. As they listened to one another, what became clear was how much the delegates love the Church. Their words were filled with passion for their faith and hope for the future. The dialogue and deliberations that took place in the sessions confirmed more and more that people need to hear the Good News of God’s mercy, the Good News of Christian hope and the Good News of salvation in and through Jesus Christ and His Church.

From our synodal deliberations, three key pastoral priorities emerged, each of them related to the mission of the Church:

Evangelization — call people to faith;

Building and supporting vibrant parishes — give people a place where faith lives; and

Communications — proclaim a message that can be heard, received, understood and accepted.

While we continue to engage in what we are already doing as the Church in Vermont, these three priorities will be primary foci that will direct the pastoral mission of the Church throughout the years to come. The recommendations provided at the end of each section of this document provide concrete actions toward the fulfillment of our three priorities that will be undertaken in the next few months. It is important to note that the recommendations from the synod are intentionally broad, as the actual convening of the synod was only the first step in the work ahead. What is most important is the follow-up and implementation of the recommendations. It is in this process that the details will be clarified and actions will be taken.

The Scriptures offer clear direction as we move forward as a Diocese. The first is a simple method for how each of us, no matter what our place in life may be, can be missionary disciples: “Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope” (I Peter 3:15). The second is the reason for our hope for the future: “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever” (Hebrews 13:8). He is the one constancy in our lives. In Him “we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28). May we never fail to trust in the Lord; with Him, “all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26).

This is an excerpt from “Christ our Hope: Declaration of the 2018 Synod of the Diocese of Burlington,” which was promulgated by Burlington Bishop Christopher Coyne at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Burlington, Vermont, on April 16, 2019. Read the full declaration at vermontcatholic.org/vermont/christ-our-hope.

UPCOMING EVENTS



06|16 SUNDAY Father's Day Brunch

St. Mary, Franklin • 9 am - 12:30 pm
Adults \$9, children 7-16 \$5, 6 and under are free. All You Can Eat!



06|22 SATURDAY Family Retreat Day

Sacred Heart of Jesus, Troy • 9 am - 8 pm
"Love, Live in Me" — with guest presenter

Mark Mallett. Pre-Register by June 15, 2019: www.SHSVSI.com/retreat or Retha Piette at (802)323-2422, rethap53@gmail.com



06|23 - 28 SUNDAY - FRIDAY Saint Anne's Shrine 5-Day Silent Retreat

St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte

The Society of St. Edmund will be conducting a 5-Day Silent Retreat in the Ignatian tradition. Retreatants will be invited to contemplate scripture passages, celebrate daily Eucharist and meet with a Spiritual Director each day. Applicants should be comfortable maintaining an atmosphere of silence and be able to share their prayer experience with a Spiritual Director in a daily meeting of about forty-five minutes. Cost is \$500. Space is limited due to single room accommodations.

FOR MORE INFO: (802) 928-3362 or fstanne@pshift.com.



06|29 SATURDAY Celebrate Marriage Enrichment

Christ the King, Rutland • 10 am - 4:30 pm

Come celebrate your marriage at a day-long enrichment that will renew your dreams, increase your passion and refresh and celebrate your marriage. The cost is \$30 per couple, which includes workbooks and lunch. Registration is required.

FOR MORE INFO: Terri McCormack, Marriage and Family Life Coordinator, (802)658-6110, ext. 1451



06|29, 30 SATURDAY & SUNDAY Public Veneration of the Relic of the Chains of St. Peter

St. Peter, Rutland • 4:15 pm & 11 am

To celebrate our patronal Feast of St. Peter and the 146th anniversary of the dedication of St. Peter Church, a relic of the Chains of St. Peter will be available for public veneration during each of the weekend Masses. This link of chain is a second class relic, which means it came into direct contact with St. Peter, our first pope.



07|06 SATURDAY Our Lady of Fatima Devotions

Holy Family, Essex Junction
8 - 9:30 am

First Saturday of every month, come to Our Lady of Fatima Devotions. Rosary and reconciliation at 8 and Mass at 8:30.



07|07 SUNDAY Annual Diocesan Family Mass & BBQ

St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte
12 - 4:30 pm

After Mass, to be celebrated by Burlington Bishop Christopher Coyne, visitors may picnic on the shrine grounds or on the shore of Lake Champlain. Bring your own picnic lunch or enjoy a barbecue lunch at the shrine. There is no cost for the BBQ this year. Event will take place rain or shine. RSVP by July 1: Terri McCormack, marriage and family life coordinator, tmccormack@vermontcatholic.org or (802) 658-6110 x1451.



07|11 THURSDAY Chicken Pie Supper

St. Michael, Greensboro Bend
5 - 6:30 pm

Chicken pie, casseroles, baked beans, cole slaw, rolls, pie and beverage Servings 5 and 6:30 p.m. No reservations. Take out available. Proceeds to benefit the St. Michael's Altar Society

DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON CAREERS

Diocese: Accountant

Diocese: Development Specialist

Diocese: Manager of Safe Environment Programs

Diocese: Seasonal Groundskeeper

Diocese: Superintendent of Schools

The Loretto Home, Rutland:
Residential Care Positions

St. Joseph Kervick Home, Rutland: Billing and Administrative Support Assistant

St. Joseph Kervick Home, Rutland:
Director of Nursing

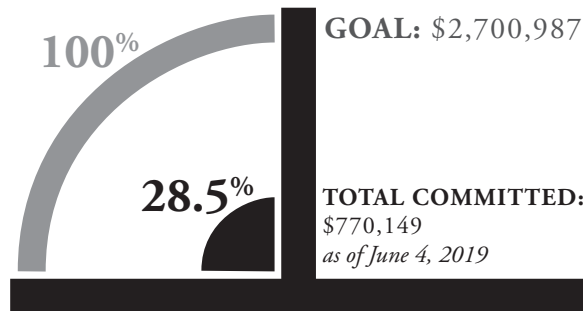
St. Joseph Residential Care Home, Burlington: LPN

Vermont Catholic Charities, Burlington:
Accountant

For More Info:

vermontcatholic.org/careers

UPDATE



The Diocese continues to identify opportunities and apply new strategies for lifelong formation. Youth programs engage more than 1,000 young people in rallies; annual men's and women's retreats engage hundreds of adults.

Consider supporting this initiative with a gift at bishopsappealvt.org.

Bishop's Annual Appeal



VERMONT
Catholic

VERMONTCATHOLIC.ORG/VTC

Ask your pastor where to find free copies of the latest issue of *Vermont Catholic* Magazine in your parish.



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

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