

NEWS FROM The Inland See

October 12–18, 2019

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

Disciple Maker Index Survey Results

“Catholics in the Diocese of Burlington universally have a strong set of beliefs in scripture and Church teaching, which provides a foundation for extending their faith journey,” said Terry Poplava, vice president of ministry development and client services at Catholic Leadership Institute.

According to the results of the Disciple Maker Index Survey which parishioners in the Diocese of Burlington completed last spring, these two categories ranked the highest. Survey questions focused on the three Diocesan Synod priorities — vibrancy, evangelization and communication — and asked participants to rank their parish in categories such as preaching, spiritual growth, discipleship formation, welcoming community and Mass celebration.

While Catholics in Vermont universally have a strong set of beliefs, “this does not translate into a strong missionary impulse,” Poplava said. “Catholics do not feel their parishes are equipping them with the knowledge about the faith to share their faith journey with others or invite others to vocations.”

There is an opportunity for growth in the areas of faith formation and evangelization for all ages.

Catholic Leadership Institute also noted that respondents who strongly recommended their pastors were nine times more likely to strongly recommend their parishes, and, overall, most respondents agreed that preaching was good at their parishes.

The Diocese partnered with the Catholic Leadership

Institute to help parish leaders develop pastoral plans that address the synod priority of building vibrant parishes, which includes evangelization and communication. The Disciple Maker Index Survey was the first step in accessing the strengths and opportunities of each parish. Parish teams met during the summer to take a deep dive into the survey results and create goals in one or more of the three synod priority areas based on their parish strengths and opportunities. Each parish will share their final plan with parishioners once it is complete.

“The next step will be moving from documenting a plan to the implementation and measurement of progress,” said Bishop Christopher Coyne. “There are several ways we plan to support parishes in this process including utilizing prescheduled clergy meetings throughout the year, such as Presbyteral Days in early

September, to check in on the progress and identify areas where we can provide more support.”

The Diocese has already begun to implement synod recommendations to help improve communication in the parishes. More than 30 parishes have converted to new websites through eCatholic, using a template designed to provide easy access to the information parishioners want most and to share diocesan news and updates. The rest of the parishes are scheduled to transition to the new platform over the next year and a half.

In addition, all the clergy are using uniform email addresses, @vermontcatholic.org, to make it easier to communicate.

VTC • Ellen Kane



Catholic Leadership
INSTITUTE



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

UPCOMING EVENTS



10|14, 21 MONDAYS 7 Themes of Catholic Social Teaching

Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Jct. • 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.



10|13 SUNDAY Celebration in Honor of the Canonization of Cardinal Newman

Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Jct. • 4 - 7:30 pm

There will be a celebration including solemn chanted vespers, dinner and three presentations on the life and thought of Cardinal Newman, who will be canonized on Oct. 13. RSVP by Oct. 6 at vermontnewman@gmail.com.



10|13 SUNDAY St. Thomas Church Annual Ham Dinner

Seatings will be at 4 and 5:15 pm and service will be provided by our 7-9th grade religious education students. Take-out meals will be available. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for children 6 - 12 years, and children 5 and under will be the guests of the parish. Tickets are available after all Masses, at Wells Corner Market or at the door.



10|17 THURSDAY Alo Movie Night

Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Jct. • 7 - 9:30 pm
Alo is now open to ALL Catholic Women!

Join us for faith, friendship, joy, and fun. Light dinner served.



10|17 THURSDAY Series: What is Catholicism? — "Abraham"

Ascension Church, Georgia • 7 - 8:30 pm

Each Thursday from October 2019 through April 2020, Ascension Church will be hosting a talk exploring some topic of the Catholic faith. Lectures are low stress and designed for both the person who knows nothing as well as the person who knows quite a lot. Lectures will be around 40-50 minutes. There will be time for questions and fellowship afterwards. Talks will be given by Anthony Rosselli, PhD candidate. Abraham is considered the "father" — the first ancestor — of Jews and Christians. Indeed, a host of promises were made to Abraham and his family. Do these promises have anything to do with us today? And why, if God loves him so, did God ask Abraham to kill his son? What could this story possibly mean?



10|23 WEDNESDAY VCP Networking Breakfast

Pomerleau Alumni Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester 8 - 9:30 am

This free event will begin with networking and refreshments, followed by words from a professional development speaker,

and followed by more networking and discussion. Patrick Leduc, CIO & VP of Career and Education Outreach / HR at VSAC will be the October guest speaker. To register or for more information: vermontcatholic.org/vcp



10|23 WEDNESDAY Mater Christi School Open House

Mater Christi School, Burlington • 8:30 - 11 am

Mater Christi School is a private Catholic school that combines rigorous, 21st-century academics with a global philosophy in the Mercy tradition. It is a close-knit community and value-centered school where families of all faiths and beliefs are welcome. Register to attend our Open House and learn more about our school, or call 802-658-3992 to schedule a personal tour or shadow day for your child(ren).



10|26 SATURDAY Confirmation Retreat: Pilgrimage to Cathedral of St. Joseph Cathedral

Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington • 11:30 - 5 pm

Take your 8th, 9th, or 10th Confirmation students on a pilgrimage to St. Joseph's Cathedral in Burlington! Students will learn about (and tour!) the cathedral, have an opportunity to prayerfully prepare for Confirmation, and learn more about the Sacrament. Bishop Coyne will join us to meet the students and share some words about Confirmation. The retreat will close with the 4:00pm Vigil Mass at the Cathedral.



10|26 SATURDAY Roast Pork Supper

Our Lady of the Angels, Randolph
5 - 7 pm

The Knights of Columbus Council #143251 is hosting a roast pork supper by chef extraordinaire Maybelle Dumont. Adults \$12 and kids \$5. Fully accessible building!



10|26 SATURDAY Harvest Dance

Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Junction
7 - 10 pm

A night of dance, laughter and fun with music by Digital DJ. \$15 per person, includes food and beverages. RSVP Judy Kanya at kanyaj@comcast.net or Eric Audette at robochef69@yahoo.com by October 18.

DIocese of BURLINGTON CAREERS

Diocese: Senior Accountant

Diocese: Technical Support Specialist

Holy Family St. Lawrence Parish, Essex Junction:
Administrative Assistant

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Williston:
Administrative Assistant

The Loretto Home, Rutland:
Residential Care Positions

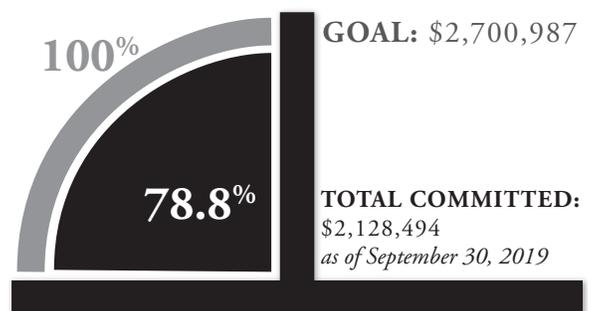
Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Fair Haven:
Organist or Keyboardist/Choir Director

Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Randolph:
Administrative Assistant

St. Joseph Residential Care Home, Burlington:
LPN

For More Info:
vermontcatholic.org/careers

UPDATE



The Diocese partnered with Catholic Leadership Institute to help parish leaders develop pastoral plans that address the synod priority of building vibrant parishes.

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

Bishop's Annual Appeal