Bill Gavin, director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the Diocese of Burlington, has been thinking about future challenges that might necessitate parishes and the Diocese to do ministry “in our new virtual world” post Covid-19 pandemic.

He and his administrative assistant, Rachel Lavallee, have created an online retreat for teens who were not able to attend a confirmation retreat as well as trainings and webinars for youth workers in Vermont.

“Our summer events are on hold for now, and we are waiting to see how the situation evolves,” Gavin said.

But youth ministry continues.

“Our biggest success has been a young adult Theology on Tap that we have moved online,” Gavin reported. Nearly 50 young adults participated in the first one.

“We are excited about this prospect moving forward as a challenge with Theology on Tap has been figuring out a way to better reach young adults from all over the state,” Gavin said. “This virtual Theology on Tap is a great way of doing so.”

Although the Diocese is “obviously facing a paradigm shift,” Gavin said the Church can emerge from the pandemic with a better use of technology: “Online Masses, virtual presentations, virtual classrooms, etc. are just some of the things that can supplement our incarnational ministry.”

Maryann McGinnis of St. John the Evangelist Church in Northfield attended two online programs — a presentation on Creating a Healthy and Holy Home and Youth Discipleship after Confirmation. “The former had some very good suggestions, ideas and reminders, some of which we already practice as a family,” she said.

The youth discipleship conversation was helpful because it was “comforting to know we are not alone,” she said, adding that she was encouraged to see pastors on the call.

“This conversation has motivated me to sign up for additional programs/presentations about youth discipleship,” she said.

Even after physical distancing requirements are eased, Gavin said online programs will be continued.

“I enjoy being able to participate in different programs, prayer services, webinars and discussions,” McGinnis said. “Online offerings enable me to attend programs in the comfort of my home and encourage me to try new things. The obstacle of the program not being local disappears.”

For more information on Youth and Young Adult Ministries, go to vermontcatholic.org/ministries-programs/youth-young-adult/young-adult.

The Bishop’s Annual Appeal provides essential financial support to Youth and Young Adult Ministries. To make a donation, go to bishopsappealvt.org.

VTC • Cori Fugere Urban
Emmaus Walks

St. Mary, St. Albans • 1 - 3 pm
Open to the whole family! Bring food, water, and sturdy shoes for hiking. We'll meet at the church. From there, we will walk to Hard'ack Park for fellowship, fun and prayer. Fr. Chalifoux will join us for these walks.

Theology on Tap with Fr. Dwight Baker
Switchback Brewing Company, Burlington
6:30 - 8 pm
Young adults ages 18-39 are welcome to Theology on Tap with Fr. Dwight Baker at Switchback Brewing Company. Come enjoy good beer and socially-distanced fellowship while reflecting on our faith.

Young Adult Hike: Camel’s Hump
Duxbury • 9 am - 1 pm
Young adults are invited to hike Camel’s Hump with Fr. Dwight Baker. This is a challenging hike. Bring food, water, and sturdy hiking shoes. We will use the Camel’s Hump Road trailhead south of Duxbury.

Diocesan Family Mass at St. Anne’s Shrine
St. Anne’s Shrine, Isle La Motte • 12:15 pm
Burlington Bishop Christopher Coyne will celebrate Mass. After Mass visitors may picnic on the shrine grounds or on the shore of Lake Champlain, bringing their own picnic lunch. All are asked to follow the Covid-19 protocols issued by the Diocese of Burlington. Learn more: vermontcatholic.org/event/diocesan-family-mass-at-st-annes-shrine-2/

Virtual Theology on Tap with Fr. Matthew Rensch
Zoom online • 7 - 8:30 pm
Young adults ages 18-39 are invited to bring their favorite brew and join in! Learn more: vermontcatholic.org/event/virtual-theology-on-tap-with-fr-matthew-rensch/

Steubenville Youth Hike
Stowe Mountain Skiing Parking Lot, Stowe
3:30 - 5 pm
Following Steubenville Live, join us for a socially-distanced hike at Stowe Mountain. We’ll spend time in prayer, and reflecting on the conference as we hike. Bring food, water, and good hiking shoes!

Vermont Catholic Professionals — Virtual Professional Development
Zoom online • 8 - 9 am
“Crossing Communication Barriers By Leading with Love” presented by Mary Farley, Intelligent Careers Group / Founder, FarLake Consulting. Learn more: vermontcatholic.org/event/vcp-networking-breakfast-7/

St. Joseph’s Residential Care Home, Burlington: Full-Time LNA or Caregiver — $500 Sign-On Bonus
St. Joseph’s Residential Care Home, Burlington: Full-Time LPN or Med Tech — $1000 Sign-On Bonus
St. Joseph’s Residential Care Home, Burlington: Part-Time LNA or Caregiver

For More Info: vermontcatholic.org/careers