Dear Friends,

This weekend Bishop Christopher Coyne officially kicks off the Diocese of Burlington’s first-ever Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church campaign managed by the Vermont Catholic Community Foundation. After two years of planning, and based on the outcomes of the Diocesan Synod, this campaign is centered on the works of Jesus:

“And he went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people” (Mt 4:23).

We cannot have a vibrant church if we do not have vibrant parishes. Parishes are the heart of our church where the preaching occurs. That is why 60 percent of donations raised by each parish will go back to support its urgent needs. Twenty percent will be used to strengthen our faith formation programs or teaching ministries, such as Catholic education and youth and lay ministries. The final 20 percent will support the healing works of Christ by expanding emergency aid to the most vulnerable among us through Vermont Catholic Charities.

I invite each of you to please watch the campaign video and read the “Frequently Asked Questions” flyer to learn more about why now, more than ever, we need to move forward with this statewide campaign: www.christourhopevt.org.

Many parishes have seen significant downturns in funding and they need our help. Others have urgent projects that must be addressed. Each parish has created its own goals based on its specific needs and has recruited tremendous volunteer leadership teams.

Over the next several weeks, you will receive communications about the campaign through multiple platforms, and a packet of information with your specific parish goals will be mailed to your household with an invitation to prayerfully consider a sacrificial gift to the campaign over a three-year period. This is an invitation not an expectation.

Due to the pandemic, some families will not be able to make a gift above their annual parish and Bishop’s Appeal support. But all are invited to participate by praying the campaign prayer (below or to the right?) and supporting your pastor and volunteer leadership team in this effort.

With Christ as our hope, whatever we receive will be used to glorify Him and spread the Good News.

With gratitude,

Ellen Kane
Executive Director, Development and Communications

Campaign Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, we place our hope in You to guide the Catholic Church in Vermont to renew our parishes, and engage our youth; to form lay leaders and serve the most vulnerable among us.

In the power of the Holy Spirit, help us build a vibrant Church in this time and place and for generations to come.

Seeking the intercession of our first bishop, Louis deGoesbriand, we pray this through Christ Our Lord,
Amen.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.
Upcoming Events

09|05, 10|03 SATURDAY
Our Lady of Fatima Devotions
Holy Family, Essex Junction • 8 am
First Saturday of every month. Rosary and reconciliation at 8 am and Mass at 8:30.

09|05-07 SATURDAY-MONDAY
WWME-VT Community Family Camp-out and Picnic
St. Anne’s Shrine, Isle LaMotte
Accommodations include Cabins, Tent, and RV sites. This event is open to Encountered couples, their families, and anyone who wants to know more about Marriage Encounter and our community. For more info: https://sites.google.com/view/wwmevtcamp

09|26 SATURDAY
Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate
Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington • 10 am
The Diocese of Burlington celebrates with great joy the Ordination of the Permanent Diaconate of five men to serve the Catholic Church in Vermont. More information will be posted soon.

01|21 WEDNESDAY
VCP Networking Event
Venue TBD • 8 - 9:30 am
Our October guest speaker is John Reuwer, MD — Retired Emergency Physician and Adjunct Professor, Saint Michael’s College.

DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

CAREERS

Diocese: Respect Life Coordinator
St. Andrew’s Parish, Waterbury:
Secretary/Bookkeeper
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 LPN or Med Tech
St. Joseph’s Residential Care Home, Burlington: Full-Time LNA or Caregiver — $500 Sign-On Bonus
St. Joseph’s Residential Care Home, Burlington: Part-Time LNA or Caregiver
For More Info: vermontcatholic.org/careers

We are so grateful to announce that we received $22,583 in One-Time Gifts on July 29 Founder’s Day of Giving, meeting our challenge match in one day! We also received an additional $33,325 in pledges which well exceeded our expectations. God is good. Thank you to all those who were able to give. If you would still like to make a gift please visit: www.bishopsappealvt.org.

2020 Bishop’s Annual Appeal Goal: $2,651,157
As of August 5, 2020: $1,511,541

CATHOLIC FAMILY

SUMMER CHALLENGE

Is your family participating in the Catholic Family Summer Challenge?
Do you have a favorite activity to share?
If you haven't joined the Catholic Family Summer Challenge Facebook group to check out your competition, it's not too late!
Check in with Michael Hagen, mhagen@vermontcatholic.com or Terri McCormack, tmccormack@vermontcatholic.com by Aug. 15.
www.vermontcatholic.org/summerchallenge

AUGUST 16 – 22, 2020

CHALLENGES TO GROW YOUR MARRIAGE

TIME TO SHARE

Take time this week to reflect personally on these statements and then share with your spouse. Decide which two to explore and the nights you will share together (both of you make this plan):
One thing I liked best about you when we first met was… | Before I die, I’d like to go to these 3 places… | One way I’m glad our kids are like you… | I know you love me when you…

vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge

vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge