The Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church campaign has officially kicked-off. This is a historic, first-ever statewide campaign for our Catholic community during extraordinary times. Based on the results of the recent Diocesan Synod and years of planning, this campaign is parish-centered and rooted in the works of Christ: "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).

The Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church campaign will move our Church forward by supporting preaching in our parishes, strengthening our teaching ministries and expanding our healing ministries for those in need.

✦ 60% of your donations will directly support parish initiatives.
✦ 20% of funds will support an emergency assistance endowment to benefit emergency aid to those in financial crisis through Vermont Catholic Charities.
✦ 20% of funds will support a faith formation endowment for statewide initiatives, such as Catholic schools, youth and lay ministry and religious education.

These are challenging times for everyone, and many parishes have seen a downturn in support while the number of requests for emergency aid have increased and so many in our community are seeking the healing words of Christ. We cannot give up on the future of our parishes and ministries serving the faith community.

This week every household will receive a packet of information about the campaign and be invited to consider making a sacrificial gift over a three-year period to support their parish initiatives and statewide ministries above and beyond their usual offertory and Bishop's Annual Appeal contribution. This is an invitation not an expectation. We understand some will not be able to contribute to this campaign, but for those that are able, we need your help.

We ask that everyone pray the campaign prayer for the success of this campaign and support his or her local pastor and campaign volunteers in their efforts.

Please visit the campaign website to watch the campaign video and review other information about how this campaign will set us up for a vibrant future at christourhopevt.org or register for one of Bishop Christopher Coyne's virtual Christ Our Hope chats at christourhopevt.org/events on Aug. 31 or Sept. 1 at 7 p.m. or Sept. 9 at 3 p.m.

"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” (Isaiah 40:30)

— Ellen Kane, Executive Director, Development and Communications
**Upcoming Events**

08|31, 09|01, 09|01 MON, TUES, WED
*Christ Our Hope Campaign*
Chat with Bishop Coyne
Zoom • 7 pm
Register for a Zoom hour long chat with Bishop Coyne to learn more about the campaign and why we must move forward now: [www.vermontcatholic.org/events/](http://www.vermontcatholic.org/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](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.

**DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON CAREERS**

Diocese: Respect Life Coordinator

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](http://vermontcatholic.org/careers)

**AUGUST 31 – SEPTEMBER 6, 2020**

**CHALLENGES TO GROW YOUR MARRIAGE**

**THE SOUNDTRACK OF YOUR LIFE TOGETHER**

Spend time this week creating a list of songs that commemorate your life together, together set the minimum and maximum number of songs that each of you will create separately. Set aside one night to share your lists and discuss why you chose those songs. Examples: Married 10 years — choose 10 songs for each blessed year together.

[vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge](http://vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge)

**Parent Café**

**Virtual Discussion Series for Catholic Parents**

Join other Catholic parents in Vermont for these virtual discussions about life and faith. Each session includes a brief prayer and presentation, setting the stage for open and honest conversation on that week’s topic. Join us for any or all sessions! Register at: [www.vermontcatholic.org/events/parentcafe](http://www.vermontcatholic.org/events/parentcafe)

**TRAPPED BY TIME**
TUESDAY, SEPT. 1
7:30 – 8:15 PM

**WHAT PRAYER LIFE?**
TUESDAY, SEPT. 15
7:30 – 8:15 PM

**LIFE IS A BALANCING ACT!**
TUESDAY, SEPT. 29
7:30 – 8:15 PM

**YOUR HABITS — THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY!**
TUESDAY, OCT. 13
7:30 – 8:15 PM

**CHRIST OUR HOPE**

**2020 BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL**

2020 Bishop’s Annual Appeal Goal: **$2,651,157**

[61%](#) As of Aug. 20: **$1,620,592**

Your support of your local parish and the Diocese during these difficult times have allowed us to continue to provide spiritual resources to the faith community. As we launch the Christ Our Hope campaign we will be using this space to update you on our process.