Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Pope Francis has designated this year “The Year of St. Joseph,” drawing our attention to St. Joseph as a model for discipleship. St. Joseph has many titles — St. Joseph the foster father of Jesus, the worker, the dreamer — but the title that resonates most with me is St. Joseph the doer. Whenever he heard the call of God and his faith was challenged to do something that seemed difficult, he responded with a “yes.” When he was concerned about taking Mary as his wife, he was told in a dream to do so, and he did. When he was told to flee to Egypt with Mary and Jesus to protect them, he did so. When he was told to return to Nazareth, he did so. Most importantly, he willingly embraced the role of foster father to the Son of God without hesitation. St. Joseph was a man of faith ready to do the will of God no matter the sacrifice.

I see that same commitment to do the will of God in our own Diocese. I have been your bishop for more than five years, and during this time we have accomplished a lot. We carried out a synod in which we came up with three key priorities on which to focus our ministerial work:

✦ **Evangelization** — welcome people back to the Church.
✦ **Vibrant Parishes** — engage parishioners in the community life of the parish and leadership opportunities.
✦ **Communication** — expand communication efforts.

Following the synod, we redirected Bishop's Annual Appeal resources to focus on these key priorities. In doing so, we improved our communication infrastructure and created new faith formation opportunities so when the pandemic closed our parishes and schools, we were able to livestream almost 200 faith engagement activities, including daily and Sunday Mass; swiftly shift our schools to online learning; continue financial emergency aid to the needy — many impacted by Covid; and so much more.

As a Church, God has called us to spread the news that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and Savior no matter the challenges. Please help us continue to do God's work by making a gift to the 2021 Bishop's Annual Appeal.

You will find stories about the impact of your gift on the following pages; for more details or to give online visit: bishopsappealvt.org.

"Every good and perfect gift is from above.” — James 1:17

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Christopher J. Coyne
Bishop of Burlington
Upcoming Events

05|31 Monday
May with Mary
Cathedral of St. Joseph • 7 pm
Holy Hour with the Litany of Loreto and spiritual reflections on Mary by Brandon Schneider, seminarian. Confessions will be available during adoration.

06|05 Saturday
Our Lady of Fatima Devotions
Holy Family, Essex Junction • 8 am
Beginning with Rosary at 8 am, Confessions, and followed by Mass at 8:30 am.

06|11 Friday
Worldpriest Annual Rosary Relay
Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington and Livestream • 2 pm
In 2002 Pope John Paul II announced the Annual World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests to be held on the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Worldpriest was first established for the evangelization and strengthening of the Catholic faith with the main goal of uniting priests and laity to come together into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. On June 11, 2021, there will be livestream prayer locations from all over the globe praying the Rosary. Bishop Coyne will lead us in praying the Rosary virtually at 2 pm. You may also pray with the bishop in-person at the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

06|12 Saturday
Padre Pio Devotions
Holy Family, Essex Junction • 8 am
Rosary at 8 am followed by Mass and an opportunity to learn more about Padre Pio.

06|19 Saturday
Ordination Mass
Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington • 10 am
The Diocese of Burlington joyfully celebrates the ordination of two men to Holy Orders. Deacon Robert Murphy will be ordained to the priesthood and Mr. Gregory Caldwell will be ordained to the transitional diaconate by Bishop Christopher J. Coyne. Due to the seating capacity restrictions, attendance at the Mass will be by invitation only. The Mass will be live-streamed on the Diocesan website.

06|20–25 Sunday–Friday
Saint Anne’s Shrine
5 Day Directed Retreat
Saint Anne’s Shrine, Isle La Motte
The Society of St. Edmund will be conducting a 5-Day Directed Retreat in the Ignatian tradition. Using principles from the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, retreatants are invited to contemplate scripture passages in a silent environment, celebrate daily Eucharist and meet with a Spiritual Director each day. For more info: saintannesshrine.org/upcoming-retreats

07|11 Sunday
Family Mass with Bishop Coyne
St. Anne’s Shrine, Isle La Motte • 12 pm
More information will be shared soon!

CHALLENGES TO GROW YOUR MARRIAGE

MAY 30 – JUNE 5, 2021

Getting Each Other to Heaven

What do you think Heaven will be like? Are you working together to help the other grow closer to God? Make time this week to reflect on these questions, and then share your thoughts.

vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge

CHRIST OUR HOPE
BUILDING A VIBRANT CHURCH

Goal: $9,582,456

As of May 19, 2021:
$4,429,239

To learn more or make a gift visit: christourhopevt.org

DIocese of Burlington Careers

Diocesan Offices: Manager of Religious Education and Catechesis
Diocesan Offices: Development Specialist
Diocesan Offices: Youth & Young Adult Ministry Manager
Diocesan Offices: Staff Accountant
Michaud Manor Home, Derby Line:
LNA or Nurse Aide P/T Day Shift
St. Joseph’s Residential Care Home, Burlington: Cook Full-Time
St. Joseph’s Residential Care Home, Rutland: Director of Food Services
St. Joseph Kervick Home, Rutland:
Full-Time and Part-Time LNA or Nurse Aide — $500 Sign-On Bonus for Full-Time!
The Loretto Home, Rutland:
Full-Time and Part-Time LNA or Nurse Aide — $500 Sign-On Bonus for Full-Time!

For More Info: vermontcatholic.org/careers

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

46%

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