Vermont Catholic magazine and the Diocese of Burlington’s communications team continued their long-time winning streak as together they earned nine awards at the 2021 Virtual Catholic Media Conference June 10.

The awards included a prestigious second place in the “Best Diocesan Magazine” category, and Alayna Masker, communication manager for the Diocese of Burlington, earned an honorable mention in the Social Media Professional of the Year category.

Columnist Kay Winchester earned two accolades.

“When the churches all closed due to the pandemic, communication was especially important to keep the Catholic community connected,” said Ellen Kane, executive director of development and communications for the Diocese. “Our team rose to the challenge by quickly shifting to livestream and digital platforms to deliver more than 200 faith activities, including daily and Sunday Mass, daily rosary and Adoration, bible study, book club, daily liturgy reflections by [Burlington] Bishop Christopher Coyne and so much more. The challenges this pandemic brought did not impact the quality and ingenuity of my team, and I couldn’t be prouder of the well-earned recognition we received.”

The full list of awards follows:

- **Best Magazine — Diocesan Magazines**: Second Place, Vermont Catholic staff
- **Best Package — Covid Pandemic Outreach Communications Plan**: Honorable mention, Diocese of Burlington, Vermont Catholic Online Ministries
- **Best Use of Typography**: Honorable Mention, Vermont Catholic (Mary-Margaret Carroll), Archive Detectives
- **Best Guest Column/Commentary**: Honorable Mention, Vermont Catholic, Walking in a good way: Abenaki Catholicism in Ndakinna by Damian Costello
- **Best Regular Column — General Commentary**: Third Place, Vermont Catholic, Reflections by Kay Winchester
- **Best Title and Lead-In**: Honorable Mention, Vermont Catholic, “It was a shocking sight, really” by Kay Winchester
- **Social Media Professional of the Year**: Honorable Mention, Diocese of Burlington, Alayna Masker
- **Best Initiative or Campaign — Package**: First Place, Christ Our Hope, Development Team
- **Best Use of Photos in Social Media**: First Place, Year with the Saints Diocese of Burlington, Alayna Masker

Judges offered comments on the highest awards. Regarding work by the Diocese of Burlington team, they said:

**Best Diocesan Magazine**

“Stunning photographs and graphics accompany interesting and timely stories. The magazine has devoted an entire year to a focus on the saints linking hagiography with contemporary issues and concerns such as social justice, peace, and care for the vulnerable. Pairing the saints’ stories of old with named diocesan parishes connects past and present, echoing Pope Francis: ‘To be saints is not a privilege for the few, but a vocation for everyone.’ This creative approach is an effective and unique way to inform and catechize.”

**Best Regular Column — General Commentary**

“Relatable and well-written columns that include stories that will stay with readers long after they finish reading.”

**Best Initiative or Campaign Package**

First Place, Christ Our Hope, Development Team

“Impressive project scope. Communication effort effectively and successfully completed the mission. Web design and media materials conveyed a high level of professional skill and technological creativity. The video products were solid and could have been very competitive on their own merit in the video category. Wonderful work that represents the very best in the Catholic media industry!”

**Best Use of Photos in Social Media**

First Place, Year with the Saints Diocese of Burlington, Alayna Masker

“Excellent use of architectural photography to showcase community worship locations using social media. Creative and engaging!”

The purpose of the Catholic Press Awards is to acknowledge the outstanding work of its publisher and communication members as they strive to further the mission of the Church. On a daily basis they inform, inspire and educate readers keeping them connected to their faith and telling the story of the Church. It is those contributions that are recognized through these awards.

With the diversity of Catholic communications today, the awards program offers the opportunity for individuals with various skill sets to submit their best work for critical review. Participants choose categories organized by different media that feature writing, design, production and editing skills, and submit in sub-categories separated by intent such as news and feature stories.

The Office of Communications is supported by the Bishop’s Annual Appeal.

VTC • Cori Fugere Urban
Upcoming Events

08|04 WEDNESDAY
Summer Reflection Series
St. Anne’s Shrine, Isle La Motte • 11:15 am
Rev. Richard Berube, SSE will present “Not Just Heartbreaks and Honky-Tonk: Country Music in Sacred Space.” Begins with Mass at 11:15 am followed by presentation. Lunch is available for purchase, or you may bring your own. All are welcome! Reservations are appreciated though not necessary and can be made by calling (802) 928-3362.

08|04 WEDNESDAY
Living Joy Discussion Group:
Rule #2 Practice Silence
Online • 7 pm
Join Chris Stefanick’s Living Joy: 9 Rules to Help You Rediscover and Life Joy Every Day. This virtual event explores one rule every other week. Offered by members of the Diocesan Evangelization Committee. Contact ptumley@aol.com for more information.

08|13, 14, 15 FRI, SAT, SUN
Retreat on The Book of Revelation
Our Lady of Ephesus House, Jamaica
Fr. Dominique Faure, chaplain of Catholic Discipleship College in the diocese of Auckland, New Zealand, will lead a retreat on the book of Revelation.
FOR MORE INFO: ourladyofephesushouseofprayer.org, or call (802) 896-6000.

08|15 SUNDAY
Prayer Day on the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
St. Anne’s Shrine, Isle La Motte • 10:30 am – 2 pm
Join us for Mass, followed by the Rosary, and a procession. Please bring your own lunch for picnic and enjoy the beach.

08|20, 21, 22 FRI, SAT, SUN
National Conference for Single Catholics
Denver, CO and Online
Join hundreds of single Catholics at “Finding Meaning through Self-Gift:” The 20th National Conference for Single Catholics. Attend virtually — registration forming soon. Join us for dynamic presentations by Fr. Nathan Cromly, Fr. Thomas Loya, Mary Beth Bonacci and others, as well as for music, socials, prayer, fellowship and more! Special discount code for young adults in the diocese of Burlington: DIOYA21, $40 off.

09|25 SATURDAY
Vermont Catholic Daughters of America Retreat
Our Lady of Angels, Randolph
9:30 am – 1:30 pm
Deacon Gesualdo Schneider will lead us in a retreat as we spend a day with “Jesus’ Family.” This event is free, will include lunch, and is open to all women aged 18 and over. There will be an opportunity for a goodwill donation to support the K of C’s purchase of an ultrasound machine for a mobile clinic in the Burlington area. Registration is required. (More information will be forthcoming.)

DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON
CAREERS

Diocesan Offices: Development and Communication Coordinator
Diocesan Offices: Diocesan Catechetical Leader
Diocesan Offices: Diocesan Youth & Young Adult Minister
Diocesan Offices: Staff Accountant
The Loretto Home, Rutland:
Full-Time and Part-Time LNA or Nurse Aide — $500 Sign-On Bonus for Full-Time!
Michaud Manor Home, Derby Line:
LNA or Nurse Aide P/T Day Shift
St. Joseph Kervick Home, Rutland:
Full-Time and Part-Time LNA or Nurse Aide — $500 Sign-On Bonus for Full-Time!
St. Joseph’s Residential Care Home, Burlington:
Home Administrator
St. Joseph’s Residential Care Home, Burlington:
Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) — $1,000 Sign-On Bonus
vermontcatholic.org/careers

BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL
2021 UPDATE

GOAL: $2,502,465
42%

As of July 20, 2021: $1,059,090
To learn more or make a gift visit:
vermontcatholic.org/giveonline

CHALLENGES TO GROW YOUR MARRIAGE

Love one another

AUGUST 1–7, 2021

SPIRITUAL FOOD
How is your marriage fed spiritually? Write a love letter to God this week, thanking Him for the gifts shared between you and your spouse. Share this letter with your spouse over a romantic dinner (with candlelight).
vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge