In the fall of 2020, the first-ever, diocesan wide campaign was launched after several delays due to the pandemic. The campaign was carefully planned for almost two years using the results of the Synod and a feasibility study which confirmed that a $10 million campaign would be supported by the Catholic community. The priorities were: building vibrant parishes, faith formation and helping the poor.

“We were ready to launch the first wave of the campaign in March 2020, after several major donors committed large gifts and the parishes were prepared with their campaign objectives,” said Bishop Coyne. “Then we were forced to shut everything down because of Covid-19. When the churches began to open up again last May, we rescheduled the campaign for the fall. It was a difficult decision and we moved forward with advice from our clergy and lay advisory committees and our consultants.”

The first wave of the campaign ran from October through December and raised $4.4 million towards the three priorities: building vibrant parishes (60%), faith formation (20%) and emergency aid (30%). The first distribution of $1.270 million was made in February 2021 with the majority going directly to parishes to meet their immediate needs. A second distribution is being made to parishes by the end of this month.

Most parishes identified two to three tiered goals, allowing many parishes to start projects with this first campaign distribution. Examples include: a new boiler at Christ the King-St. Anthony; technology upgrades at St. John Vianney; neglected repairs to Our Lady of Good Help Church; St. Monica School heating upgrade; and emergency funds for operations due to a loss of offertory during the pandemic.

Many donors have already been generous to the campaign, while others have asked that we make another request this fall with hopes the outlook with the pandemic will be even better. An invitation to donate will be mailed to parishioners this month to join the campaign and help our parishes reach their goals.

With generosity from people like Dan and Jeanette who were able to transfer stock as a donation and avoid capital gains tax, we know we can reach our goal:

“When we received the Christ Our Hope campaign information my wife and I were at first concerned about becoming involved in a third campaign pledge in one year. We were already involved in two ongoing pledge payments. Upon reflection it seemed to us that in actuality this was a perfect time. Here was an opportunity to live our faith at a time of greater need, by supporting the church’s efforts during the pandemic. While we urge the government to greater effort in aid, we should also do our part. Accordingly, we made a pledge and spoke to others about also becoming involved. Best wishes for a successful campaign.”

To learn more about the campaign and your parishes progress visit: christourhopevt.org.

Sincerely,

Ellen Kane
Executive Director of Development and Communication
Upcoming Events

**11|06 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.

**11|06 SATURDAY**
Annual Nativity Ham Dinner
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Swanton
5 pm - 6:30 pm
$6.00 – $35.00 Take-out only, baked ham, mash potatoes, squash, coleslaw, carrots, rolls and apple crisp. RSVP by Oct 24 — call 802-868-3037.

**11|08, 15 MONDAY**
According to Luke: The Good News for the Year Ahead
Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Jct. • 7 pm
Please join us for a series on the Gospel which will be proclaimed in Year C, the new liturgical year beginning with Advent. The presenter is Fr. Richard Berube SSE, St. Michael College retired professor of Religious Studies. To create a safe environment, we ask that you please wear masks.

**11|10 WEDNESDAYS**
Living Joy Discussion Group
Online • 7 pm
Join us for 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 pturnley@aol.com for more information.

**11|11 THURSDAY**
Veterans Day Mass
St. Pius X, Essex • 5 pm
Fr. Dallas St. Peter, Chaplain of the Burlington Fire Department is the homilist and Cpt. Dan Davis, member of the National Guard Medavac team is the speaker. Reception to follow Mass, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

**11|13 SATURDAY**
Annual Women’s Retreat
St. Catherine of Siena, Shelburne
8:30 am - 2:15 pm
See ad on this page for more details.

**11|23 TUESDAY**
Rice Memorial High School Stunt Nite
Flynn Center, Burlington • 3 pm & 8 pm
Four unique musical comedies featuring the incredible talents of Rice Memorial High School students. Tickets go on sale at the Flynn box office beginning Monday, October 25.

**11|30 TUESDAY**
Saints & Sinners
Online • 7 pm
Join us online in November when Bishop Christopher Coyne presents on St. Peter. For more info: vermontcatholic.org/saints-and-sinners.

BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL 2021

GOAL: $2,502,465

As of Oct. 20, 2021: $1,747,855

To learn more or make a gift visit: vermontcatholic.org/giveonline

The Heart of Prayer
Our Living Relationship with God

Annual Vermont Catholic Women’s Retreat

Saturday, November 13 • St. Catherine of Siena, Shelburne

9 am – 2:15 pm, check-in begins at 8:30 am • Key Note: Sister Barbara Cline, Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist

Limited number of attendees, deadline registration November 6 with $30 payment. There will be a waitlist in event of cancellations made prior to retreat.

Contact Terri McCormack at tmccormack@vermontcatholic.org or (802) 658-6110, Ext. 1451

All Hallows’ Eve — The Eve of All Saints’ Day — Pray the Litany of Saints together to ask for the intercessions of these holy ones for your family, friends, and neighbors.

vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge