As the COVID-19 pandemic raged last year, Vermont Catholics were not stymied in their generosity and contributed $86,249 to the annual Advent Appeal. Those funds were used to help families and individuals have a happier, less-stressed Christmas and to assist with emergency needs throughout the year.

“The ‘Season of Giving’ has no bounds for people in need,” said Mary Beth Pinard, executive director of Vermont Catholic Charities Inc. “At Christmastime and throughout the year, it is a daily struggle for many Vermonters to maintain housing, stay warm or feed their families.”

She is asking that people again consider helping people in crisis, especially the most vulnerable — children, struggling parents, the elderly and the sick.

The Advent Appeal helps people like John and Lisa feed their children. They have five school-aged children and they both have jobs, but due to a medical emergency, she had to take extra time off from work. The family was getting by, but as Christmas approached, Lisa and John worried about making ends meet. Vermont Catholic Charities provided the family with a food card.

“Thank you for your kindness. We were losing hope, but this gift helped us have a joyful Christmas,” the couple responded.

“With your support we can assist people just like them, our neighbors in need,” Pinard said. “Your gift helps us to continue to show God’s love in concrete ways.”

Last year 1,300 adults and 900 children received aid through the Advent Appeal and the Vermont Catholic Charities Emergency Aid Program.

“In the midst of our busy preparations for the celebration of Christ’s birth in ancient Bethlehem, please consider being the light for Vermonters in need of emergency assistance by making a gift to Vermont Catholic Charities’ annual Advent Appeal,” Pinard asked. “For 27 years, you have answered the call to bring the joy and hope of the Advent season to those in need.”

To contribute, send a check to Vermont Catholic Charities, 55 Joy Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403 or give online at vermontcatholic.org/adventappeal.

VTC · Cori Fugere Urban
**Upcoming Events**

**11|14 SUNDAY**
DeGoesbriand Council 279
Burlington Pancake Breakfast
Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington
8 - 11:30 am
Adult $10, seniors 5-6, kids 6-12 $6, under 5 free. Proceeds to benefit the Knights of Columbus vocation fund for our seminarian or postulant.

**11|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 Benube SSE, St. Michael College retired professor of Religious Studies. To create a safe environment, we ask that you please wear masks.

**11|21 SUNDAY**
Organ Recital in Bennington
Sacred Heart-St. Francis de Sales, Bennington
3 pm
In celebration of the Feast of Christ the King and in thanksgiving for the many blessings bestowed upon the parish families of Sacred Heart-St. Francis de Sales and St. John the Baptist parishes, in Bennington and North Bennington, respectively, Donald McMahon will perform a recital at the magnificent organ of Sacred Heart-St. Francis de Sales. A musical feast for the soul is promised, including music of Johann Sebastian Bach and other great composers. The program will include a heart-felt rendition of the beautiful American hymn, “There is a Happy Land, Far, Far Away!” and conclude with an intense and fiery performance of French composer Jean Langlais’ “Christ Vindicator.” Everyone is warmly invited to attend.

**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 are sale at the Flynn box office.

**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.

**12|01 WEDNESDAY**
Living Joy Discussion Group: Jesus is the Journey
Online • 7 – 8 pm
Join Chris Stefanick’s Living Joy: 9 Rules to Help You Rediscover and Life Joy Every Day. This is the last of eleven sessions that began in July. Offered by members of the Diocesan Evangelization Committee. Contact pturnley@aol.com for more information.

**12|05, 12, 19 SUNDAYS**
Sing We Now Noel
St. Albans, Colchester & Stowe • 2 pm
A celebration of Christmas and seasonal music will be presented at three different locations with Dr. William Tortolano as organist. The 92-year-old St. Michael’s College Professor Emeritus of Fine Arts and Music continues to avoid retirement. The acoustic and tonal resources of the different Vermont spaces will bring a wide variety of organ music and vocal soloists. The audience will have an opportunity to sing favorite carols from many countries. Organ solos are by J.S. Bach, Pachelbel, Brahms, Yon and Rowlcy.
Dec. 5, St. Mary’s Church in St. Albans: soloists Jake Barickman and John Schreindorfer
Dec. 12, St. Michael’s College chapel in Colchester: soloist Jerry Proulx
Dec. 19, Blessed Sacrament Church in Stowe: soloist Elisabeth Ortiz.
The concerts are free and open to the public. An optional free will offering will be available.

**12|13 MONDAY**
A Charlie Brown Christmas, America’s Passion Play
Holy Family Parish Center, Essex Jct. • 7 pm
Come learn the inside story and multi-faith origins—Catholic, Jewish, and Protestant— of America’s most spiritual piece of pop culture. Presented by Dr. Damian Costello, Director of Postgraduate Studies at NAIITS: An Indigenous Learning Community and author of “’How A Charlie Brown Christmas’ became America’s passion play.”

---

**BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL 2021 UPDATE**

**GOAL:** $2,502,465

71%

As of Nov. 2, 2021: $1,773,271

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

---

**DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON CAREERS**

**Christ the King School, Burlington:**
Afterschool and Summer Camp Director

**Diocesan Central Offices, South Burlington:**
Human Resources Generalist

Diocesan Catechetical Leader

Diocesan Youth & Young Adult Minister

**St. Joseph’s Residential Care Home, Burlington:**
LNA / Caregiver — $500 Sign-On Bonus!

**St. Joseph’s Residential Care Home, Burlington:**
Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) — $1,000 Sign-On Bonus

**St. Mark Parish, Burlington:**
Coordinator of Evangelization & Catechesis

vermontcatholic.org/careers

---

**LOVE ONE ANOTHER**

**NOV. 14-20, 2021**

**CHALLENGES TO GROW YOUR MARRIAGE**

Gratitude love letter. Plan an evening or two to write your beloved a detailed love letter that expresses your gratitude about him/her. Be sure to include loving examples and feelings to describe your gratitude. Save this letter to share next week.

vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge