

The Inland See

NEWS FROM

April 9–15, 2022

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

Divine Mercy Sunday — Sunday, April 24

One of the beautiful things about being a priest is that people will share with you profound elements of their deepest emotions — vulnerable thoughts and experiences that go to the very core of their characters. You also find out that there are certain patterns in what people desire to tell — sometimes moments of great sorrow, fear and regret. Some of the deepest and, sadly, most common wounds that people have in their hearts relate to the reality that their loved ones, friends, family, especially children, do not practice or engage with the faith, or are even angry with and estranged from religion. People pray for loved ones, try to address it, try to engage, only to be met with indifference, avoidance or negative emotion, leading to confusion, division and pain within families.

As we approach Divine Mercy Sunday, it is the perfect time to reflect on some of these realities and call on the name of the Lord on a path toward reconciliation and healing.

It may be worthwhile to briefly remind ourselves of the meaning and purpose of the Divine Mercy devotion. St. Faustina Kowalska inscribed in her diary reports of apparitions of Jesus in which He emphasized His loving mercy towards all people, especially sinners. Sharing with the world the celebrated Image of the Divine Mercy, well known to so many, St. Faustina desired to share the merciful love of God alongside God's desire for us all to allow mercy to flow through our hearts to those who need it.



A statue of the Divine Mercy is seen at Our Lady of the Island Shrine in Manorville, N.Y. Divine Mercy Sunday, celebrated the week following Easter, is April 24 in 2022. — CNS/Gregory A. Shemitz photo

The Sunday directly following Easter was set aside by Pope St. John Paul II in a special way to allow us all to partake in the graces promised by Christ in this devotion, which include total expiation of sins and punishment for those who go to confession and receive the Eucharist on that day.

The Feast of the Divine Mercy also calls us to think of the connections and relationships we have with others in our lives, how to grow them and strengthen them. A strong way to witness to someone who has fallen away from faith is to live out your own faith journey with integrity and kindness. People respond to authenticity and encouragement. Showing others the joy that your faith brings to you, not shying away from your faith commitment, keeping lines of communication always open do leave an impression. We may be tempted to force an issue through confrontation, unhelpful probing questions, seeking

immediate answers to what has to be a gradual and lifelong process: the conversion of someone's heart.

Better perhaps to build up trust by showcasing an authentic, joyful life of faithful integrity, always open to non-judgmental conversation and dialog. By being present and merciful to people at all times, they may open themselves up to you when you least expect it.

Divine Mercy is something granted to all people, and we may all do our part to show that the Lord's heart is always open to all.

— *Edmundite Father Michael Carter, St. Michael's College, Colchester*



Affirming A Culture of Life

The pro-life movement is not only about protecting babies. It is also about protecting the lives and souls of women. The unborn child's soul is safe and will go straight into the arms of God. But what about the soul of the mother? Is she not deeply wounding herself, in choosing to abort her child? What pressures, circumstances, confusion, fears have driven her to choose abortion as her only option? Some women have no regrets about their abortion, but many women are deeply scarred. Many have said: "If only there had been someone who stood by me, who said 'I'm here for you,' I wouldn't have done it." **Let us be such a person, such a people. Affirm life and vote "NO" to Article 22.**



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

Upcoming Events



04|12 TUESDAY
Chrism Mass

Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington • 11 am

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Coyne and priests of the diocese — the Oil of Chrism is consecrated, the Oils of Catechumens and the Sick are blessed, and the priests within the Diocese of Burlington recommit themselves to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ.



04|16, 23, 30 SATURDAYS
SoulCore

Blessed Sacrament, Stowe • 3 - 4 pm

SoulCore is an invitation to nourish body, mind and soul through prayer and functional movement. Workout can be modified to suit ability and comfort level; the prayers are the main focus. Freewill donation. Suggested items: mat, water, weights (optional, 1-3 lbs popular).



04|20 WEDNESDAY
Vermont Catholic Professionals Virtual Meeting

via Zoom • 8 - 9 am

'Happiness Engineer' Michael Hagan, former manager of religious education and catechesis for the Diocese of Burlington, will be the speaker at the next virtual meeting of Vermont Catholic Professionals. He currently works remotely from Vermont for Flocknote, a communications-first Church software company. During his presentation, he will talk about Church teaching related to technology and some of his experiences at Flocknote. He will encourage the Vermont Catholic professionals in attendance to consider ways they can be of service to their parish in the realm of technology. **FOR MORE INFO: vermontcatholic.org/vcp.**



04|20, 05|04 WEDNESDAYS
Practicing the Presence of God

via Zoom • 7 - 8 pm

Practicing the Presence of God... a 6 week Diocesan wide zoom exploration of this spiritual classic by Brother Lawrence. For information, mercygrace@protonmail.com. Meets: April 20, May 4, 18, June 1, 15 & 29.



04|24 SUNDAY
Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions

St. Anthony, Burlington • 1:30 - 3:00 pm

Join us for Adoration — Exposition and Benediction, Reconciliation (Confessions), silent prayer, Rosary, concluding with praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet with the Knights of Columbus. Special invitation to Catholics and individuals who have been absent from the Church and want to return to receive the Graces of His Mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Jesus is there waiting for you in the confessional.



04|24 SUNDAY
Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 12 - 4 pm

Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin following the 11 am Mass. Confessions will be heard beginning at 2pm and the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be sung at 3 pm followed by Benediction.



04|24 SUNDAY
Healing Service

St. John the Baptist, St. Johnsbury • 3 pm

Public healing service with Exposition/Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament with Divine Mercy Chaplet. Father Harlow will pray over individuals seeking physical, mental and spiritual healings for healing and grace.



05|01 SUNDAY
Organ Concert with Donald McMahon

Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales, St., Bennington • 3 pm

Donald McMahon will perform an organ recital, featuring works by Cesar Franck, Denis Bedard, Johann Sebastian Bach and an assortment of other selections that will showcase the versatility of the church's massive pipe organ. The performance is free and open to the public.



05|07 SATURDAY
Grief Support Group

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 8 - 10 am

Calling all Widows and Widowers... You

are invited to join us for a support group, run by Catherine "Kate" King, UVM Mental Health Clinician (LCMHC) on the first Saturday of the month, at 8 am at Holy Family Parish. Kate has been a group therapist in the community for over 20 years and is a widow herself. Join us for prayer, discussion and peer support for working through grief. Please call Kate with questions at (802) 881-5973.



05|10 TUESDAYS
Seminar: The Creed Professed

via Zoom • 7 - 8:00 pm

Seminar based on Part I of the U. S. Catholic

Catechism for Adults, as part of the diocesan's "Year of Communion: Unity in Creed, Worship and Life." Sessions are bi-weekly by zoom from May 10 through November 8. Offered and coordinated by Deacon Gesualdo Schneider and Paul Turnley. **REGISTER: studythecreed@gmail.com**



05|21 SATURDAY
Ordination Mass

Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington • 10 am

The Diocese of Burlington joyfully celebrates the ordination of two men to Holy Orders, as Deacons Brandon Schneider and Gregory Caldwell are ordained to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ by Bishop Christopher Coyne. All are invited to join us in the Cathedral for this solemn liturgy of Ordination. Both men will offer their first blessings in the church following Mass.



07|25, 26, 27 MON, TUES, WED
Quebec Pilgrimage

Join the K of C Council #297 in St. Albans for a pilgrimage to Quebec. Stops include

Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré Shrine, Our Lady of the Cape Shrine in Trois-Rivières, St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal and St. Anne's Shrine in Isle La Motte, Vermont. The cost includes all lodging, transportation and meals. Contact Bill Greenwood at 802-527-0496 for more information.



APRIL 10-16, 2022

HOLY WEEK

Spend time this week reading stories of Jesus' passion and death during Holy Week. Reflect on the choices Jesus faced, the expectations of his disciples in leading the Jewish people, and ultimately how He fulfilled God's plan. Share with each other some of the challenges each of you face this week and find ways to support one another.

vermontcatholic.org/familychampions



CHALLENGES TO GROW YOUR MARRIAGE

APRIL 10-16, 2022

EMOTIONAL INTIMACY

Investing in our Emotional Intimacy with our beloved spouse is investing in the blinding love of God — God's desire for marriage. Reflect on the obstacles that prevent you from being vulnerable with your spouse and share this with one another. How can each of you feel more emotionally secure in your relationship?

vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge