

# NEWS FROM The Inland See

May 21–27, 2022 FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

## ‘Every word weighs a ton’

Calvin Coolidge was once asked why he spoke so infrequently, and when he did, so briefly. He had earned the moniker “Silent Cal.” In response, he said that “one of the first lessons a president has to learn is that every word he says weighs a ton.”

The same could be said for the creeds of our faith, those statements of the faith of the Church that we are proud to profess.

A creed, very simply, is a precise summary and formulation of the truths, or doctrines, of the faith received from Jesus Christ, which are necessary to hold for salvation. We have three principle creeds: The Apostles’ Creed (the short one that accompanies the rosary), The Nicene Creed (the one used on a Sunday) and The Athanasian Creed (one much less used, but profound and beautiful nonetheless). That every word of the creeds has been debated, fought over, prayed with and safeguarded tells us how important they are.

Our own age is characterized by its philosophical materialism, which is a denial of the spiritual life, and a radical skepticism, which is severe doubt that we can actually know anything to be true. These two currents of thought have led to the de-humanizing tragedy that people no longer care whether they are

philosophically or theologically right. The philosophy of “it’s all good” or “whatever floats your boat” and “you have your truth, I have mine” makes mincemeat of reality and any hope of unity. For in truth we are all created by God and find our identity in the saving words and deeds of the Word Incarnate, Jesus Christ. St. Augustine said that “our hearts are restless until they rest in thee,” and Aristotle reminded us that “all men, by nature, desire to know.”

Let us recall that conversion of mind, of believing true things, of having sure knowledge of God and His will, are central to the mission of Christ. Hear Christ’s words with Pontius Pilate: “Pilate said to him, ‘So you are a king?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears my voice.’ Pilate said to him, ‘What is truth?’” (Jn 18:37-38).

We are not only physical beings with material appetites. We are spiritual beings wedded to a physical body. We have souls to be saved! God did not make us to be unknowing like the animals. Allowing our minds to be flooded with divine truth, to hold certain things in our mind to be true and others false is part of the act of faith.

The most fundamental truth is this: “For God so loved the world that he gave us His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life” (Jn 3:16). Author G.K. Chesterton said in his 1905 book “Heretics” that the most terrible position we can be in is ignorance of our own creed. A reluctance to hold a creed simply will not do. It is against human nature. A reluctance to hold a creed will mean simply an acceptance of someone else’s.

We Catholics, baptized and made members of the mystical body of Christ, are humble recipients of the fullness of truth as revealed by God in His son Jesus Christ. The creeds we possess are like heirlooms that have distilled and made crystalline the solid and unchanging truth of God and what He has done to bring us to Himself.

So, the next time you are at Sunday Mass, let your mind and heart close tightly around those sacred words, “I believe...” Martyrs have died for those words, make them a prayer — each word weighs a ton. Be “transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect” (Rm 12:2).

— *Father Steven Marchand is the parochial vicar of the Rutland-Wallingford Catholic Community.*



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

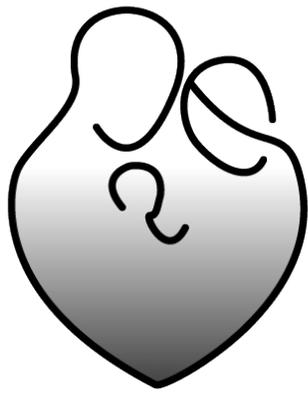
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**LIFE**  
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## Respect Life Ministry – Article 22: Should I Vote “NO”?

In November, Vermonters will vote on whether to amend the Vermont Constitution by adding Sec 2. Article 22 of Chapter I which reads: **Article 22. [Personal reproductive liberty] That an individual’s right to personal reproductive autonomy is central to the liberty and dignity to determine one’s own life course and shall not be denied or infringed unless justified by a compelling State interest achieved by the least restrictive means.** Notice that this Article mentions neither “women” nor “abortion”. As stated by Robert P.

George, Professor of Jurisprudence, Princeton University: “People on both sides of the debate over abortion know that ‘reproductive autonomy’ is publicly understood to be the way of referring to an unlimited abortion license, that is, elective abortion permitted through the entire nine months of gestation and pregnancy up to and including the process of birth.” If voters approve Article 22, Vermont will be the first state in the country to explicitly allow the death by induced abortion of unborn children in its state constitution.

## Upcoming Events



05|24 TUESDAY  
**Grief & Loss Support Group for Widows/Widowers**  
St. Mark, Burlington  
9:45 - 11:15 am

Please join us every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month in the rectory parlor, to explore supportive ways grief and loss can be the entry point of God’s healing in your life.



05|24 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](mailto:studythecreed@gmail.com)



05|28, 06|04, 11, 18, 25 SATURDAYS  
**SoulCore**  
Blessed Sacrament, Stowe  
3 - 4 pm

SoulCore is an invitation to nourish body, mind and soul through prayer and functional movement. Workouts 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).



05|28, 06|11, 25 SATURDAYS  
**Scripture Deep Dive — Acts of the Apostles**  
St. Mark, Burlington  
8 - 9:30 am

Come explore the beginnings of the early church movement as studied through the Acts of the Apostles. Join us every Saturday of May and June at 8 am. in the parish library to dive deep into God’s word. Begin your weekend with scripture and you will not regret it!



05|29 SUNDAY  
**DeGoesbriand Council #279 Vocation Pancake Breakfast**  
Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington • 9-11:30 am  
Join us for an old-fashioned all you care to

eat pancake breakfast. Benefits seminarians or religious aspirants. Admission is by donation with a suggested gift of \$8. Take-out containers are available. Hope to see you there!



06|08, 15, 22, 29 WEDNESDAY  
**Stumbling Into Grace Book Group**  
St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 9 am OR  
6:30 pm

In “Stumbling into Grace,” Mary Pezzulo shows how the works of mercy have become her anchor in turbulence and calm, overcoming despair and bringing enduring hope. She also shares ways to live the works of mercy in your own life. St. John Vianney parish in South Burlington’s summer book series will meet in-person on Wednesdays for four weeks, beginning on June 8. You can sign up for the morning sessions at 9 am or the evening sessions at 6:30 pm. Books will be available for \$16 each to be picked up in the parish office. For more information or to sign up, please contact Connie McDonald at [sjvgoodnews@gmail.com](mailto:sjvgoodnews@gmail.com) or 802-864-4166 x204.



06|19 - 24 SUNDAY - FRIDAY  
**5 Day Directed Retreat**  
St. 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. Trained Spiritual Directors will serve as companions and co-discerners of the Spirit during the retreat. The cost is \$550 per person and includes private room and all meals. FOR MORE INFO: Nancy Dulude, (802) 928-3362 or [ndulude@sss.org](mailto:ndulude@sss.org) or online at [saintannesshrine.org/upcoming-retreats](http://saintannesshrine.org/upcoming-retreats)



07|25, 26, 27 MON, TUES, WED  
**Quebec Pilgrimage**  
via Bus, roundtrip Vermont – Quebec  
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.  
FOR MORE INFO: Bill Greenwood at (802) 527-0496.



06|19 – 08|06  
**Totus Tuus**

Vermont’s largest catholic summer program for kids returns, with 12 locations. For more information and to download registration forms, visit [vermontcatholic.org/totustuus](http://vermontcatholic.org/totustuus).

### Complete list of dates and locations:

June 19 – 24 • Bennington and Waterbury  
June 26 – July 1 • St. Albans and Barre  
July 10 – 15 • S. Brattleboro and Stowe  
July 17 – 22 • S. Burlington and Vergennes  
July 24 – 29 • Newport and Rutland  
July 31 – August 5 • St. Johnsbury and Georgia



06|24 FRIDAY  
**Worldpriest Rosary Relay**  
Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington  
4 pm

The Annual Global Rosary Relay for the Sanctification of Priests will again take place on the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This will be its thirteenth year, involving more prayer locations than ever, having grown from 24 single prayer locations in June 2003 its first year to 2,600 in 2020. Bishop Christopher J. Coyne will be leading the Rosary in Vermont, from the Cathedral of St. Joseph. All are invited to attend either in person or via live-stream. Learn more or access livestream at: [www.vermontcatholic.org/event/worldpriest-rosary-relay/](http://www.vermontcatholic.org/event/worldpriest-rosary-relay/)