Deacons exercise service to the Church and to the People of God through a three-fold ministry: the ministry of the Word, the ministry of liturgy, and the ministry of charity. As ministers of the Word, deacons serve as evangelizers and teachers; they are heralds of the Good News of Jesus Christ. As ministers of the liturgy, deacons serve the liturgy by assisting not only the priest at the altar, but also the entire gathered assembly throughout the liturgy. Deacons may also preside at other liturgical functions such as baptisms, weddings, funerals, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest, and bringing communion to the sick and homebound. Finally, as ministers of charity, the deacon is out in the world — bringing the ministry and presence of the Church to those who need it most.

This three-fold ministry are often expressed and experienced as separate ministries, but in the person of the deacon, the ministries of word, liturgy, and charity become one ministry.

The unity of these ministries is best seen when the deacon is at Mass. At Mass, the deacon proclaims the Gospel and perhaps preaches (ministry of the Word), he assists the priest at the altar (perhaps receiving the gifts of bread and wine from the people and preparing them at the altar), leads the people in praising God for his mercy, invites them to offer each other a sign of peace (ministry of the Liturgy), brings the needs of the world to the mind of the Church when he offers the intentions during the Universal Prayer, and dismisses the assembly at the end of Mass to bring Jesus Christ into the world (ministry of charity). The deacon at liturgy, then, presents a model of ministry for all of us. Our work of evangelization consists in our proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and our worship of God and our prayers for the needs of others, and our work of charity and justice in the world. The Christian life isn’t simply one or two of these, but they are all of them.

— Josh Perry, Director of Worship

The seven deacon candidates received the order of acolyte by Bishop Christopher Coyne at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Burlington on March 20. — Submitted photo

The candidates are:
Robert Begley, RJ Dourney,
Patrick Leduc, Thomas Lovett,
John Magnier, Josh McDonald
and Christopher Noble
**Upcoming Events**

**09|21 – 10|28 WEDNESDAYS**

**“The Search” Video Series**
St. John Vianney, S. Burlington
6:45 – 8:30 pm

Why are we here? What’s life all about? What happens when we die? Have you ever pondered the answers to these questions, or others like them? Do you wonder what kinds of answers the Catholic faith has given throughout the centuries? To get to the crux of the matter, please consider joining us “The Search” video series: viewing, brief discussion, and some light refreshments. FOR MORE INFO: Connie, sjvgoodnews@gmail.com.

**09|23, 30, 10|FRIDAYS**

**SoulCore**
Blessed Sacrament, Stowe • 9 – 10:30 am

SoulCore is an apostolate that intentionally engages the whole person in the sacred experience of the rosary. Integrating the prayers of the rosary with core strengthening, stretching and functional movements to nourish body & soul and encourage deeper reflection on the virtues. A gentle path to grow in virtue and cultivate interior peace. What to bring: Mat, water, weights optional (1-3lbs)

Who should come? Everyone! SoulCore is self-paced and can be modified for any ability.

**09|24, 25 SATURDAY & SUNDAY**

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level II Course for Adults**
Saint Andrew, Waterbury

This Level II course builds upon the foundation of the Level I course and prepares catechists to work with 6-9 year old children. Complete dates: Sept 24-25, Nov 5-6, 2022, Jan 7-8, Mar 18-19 (tentative) 2023; May 13-14 (snow make-up date), June 19-25, 2023. MORE INFO: Kathleen Cosentino, kcosentino@madriver.com or (802) 233-3009.

**09|25 SUNDAY**

**Our Adoption Journey**
St. Catherine of Siena, Shelburne
11:30 am – 1 pm

We invite you to join us as we share our incredible blessing of adoption! Travel with us from the day God placed adoption in our hearts — to the day we held our child for the first time! A light lunch will follow the presentation. Masks are required. Hosted by the Parish Respect Life Committee.

**09|27 TUESDAYS**

**Grief & Loss Support Group for Widows/Widowers**
St. Mark, Burlington
9:45 – 11 am

The benefits of a support group with others who have experienced the loss of a spouse or partner helps universalize your experience. You are not alone, although it may feel that way sometimes. Listening to the experience of others who have traversed rough waters usually lends helpful insights into personal practices. 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 for God’s healing.

**09|27 – 11|08 TUESDAYS**

**The Creed Professed: a seminar on Part I of the U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults**
via Zoom • 7 – 8 pm

This bi-weekly Zoom seminar is being offered as part of the Diocesan “Year of Cummunion: Unity in Creed, Worship and Life.” The first session was held on May 10. For information and to register: studythecreed@gmail.com

Sep 27, Session 10: The Church: Reflecting the Light of Christ
Oct 11, Session 11: The Four Marks of the Church
Oct 25, Session 12: Mary: Church’s First and Most Perfect Member
Nov 8, Session 13: Our Eternal Destiny

**10|01, 02, 03 SATURDAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY**

**Light of the World Retreat**
St. Augustine, Montpelier

“The Light of the World retreat re-energized my desire to strengthen my relationship with God. I also formed precious, deep relationships with other St. Augustine parishioners that I now cherish dearly,” said a past participant. No cost to attend, must register by Sept. 19. Meals provided, masks optional. FOR MORE INFO and registration, call the rectory (802) 223-5285.

**10|08 SUNDAY**

**Ordination Mass**
St. Joseph Cathedral, Burlington
10 am – 12 pm

The Diocese of Burlington joyfully celebrates the ordination of seven men to the permanent diaconate by Bishop Christopher Coyne. All are invited to join us in the Cathedrall for this solemn liturgy of Ordination. A reception will follow in the Cathedral Parish Hall.

**10|08 SATURDAY**

**Bingo**
St. Peter, Vergennes • 6 – 8 pm

Doors open at 5 p.m., Bingo starts at 6 p.m.

This is a family friendly event. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold. This event is sponsored by St. Peter’s Cemetery Committee to benefit the on-going efforts for cemetery improvements.

**10|16 SATURDAY**

**St. Peter’s Cemetery Committee Craft Fair with Bake Sale & Luncheon**
St. Peter, Vergennes • 9 am – 3 pm

Come shop our handmade crafts! This event benefits the on-going efforts for cemetery improvements.

**10|16 SUNDAY**

**Third Annual Celebration in Honor of St. John Henry Newman**
Holy Family, Essex Junction • 4 - 8 pm

Chanted Solemn Vespers followed by dinner and two presentations. Please RSVP by October 10: vernmontnewman@gmail.com. $15 per guest/ $25 for two / $10 for every additional guest.