On Tuesday, April 4 at 11:00 am, priests from around the Diocese of Burlington will join Bishop Coyne at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Burlington for the celebration of the Chrism Mass. This annual Mass is traditionally celebrated on the morning of Holy Thursday but (as is done in most dioceses in the United States) can be moved to another time around Easter. The Chrism Mass brings the diocesan community together as the bishop blesses the priests of the diocese and blesses the holy oils that will be used in the sacramental life of the Church in the coming year.

During the liturgy, the priests of the diocese will stand before the bishop and renew the promises they made at their own ordination. They resolve to be “faithful stewards of the mysteries of God in the Holy Eucharist” and “discharge the sacred office of teaching […] not seeking any gain, but moved only by zeal for souls.” The bishop also exhorts everyone to pray for the priests and finally to pray for him so that he “may be made day by day a living and more perfect image of Christ, the Priest, the Good Shepherd, the Teacher, and the Servant of all.”

During the Liturgy of the Eucharist, the Sacred Oils are blessed. Containers holding the three oils — Oil of the Sick, Oil of the Catechumens, and the Sacred Chrism — as well as the perfume that is mixed into the Sacred Chrism to give it its rich aroma — are presented by deacons serving in the diocese. The Oil of the Sick is blessed for the healing of body, mind, and spirit. The Oil of Catechumens is blessed for the anointing of those preparing for Baptism. Through this anointing, they are strengthened by Christ to resist the power of evil in all its forms. The Holy Chrism is consecrated by the bishop and priests of the diocese to anoint infants after baptism, those who are to be confirmed, and bishops and priests at their ordination. It is also used to anoint altars and churches at the time of their dedication. After the Mass, the oils are distributed and brought back to all the churches in the diocese.

All are invited to join us for this special liturgy to pray especially for our priests and for all who will be anointed by these oils in the coming year. As the bishop will pray at the Chrism Mass: “may the Lord keep us all in his charity and lead all of us, shepherds and flock, to eternal life.”

The Mass will also be live-streamed on the diocesan website. Following the Chrism Mass, a reception will take place in the parish hall, and priests or parish representatives designated by their pastors may come down to the lower chapel to pick up the holy oils for their respective church(es).

— Josh Perry is director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Burlington.
Upcoming Events

04|03, 05|08 MONDAYS
Bereavement Support Group
St. John the Evangelist, St. Johnsbury • 5:15 pm
Bereavement Support Group led by Kyle Sipples in the church hall. All are welcome to join this brand new ministry. In order to encourage discussion, these meetings are confidential.

04|04 TUESDAY
Chrsit Mass
Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington • 11 am
At this special Mass celebrated by Bishop Coyne, the Oil of Chrism is consecrated, the Oils of Catechumens are blessed, and the priests of the Diocese of Burlington recommit themselves to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ. Parish representatives may pick up the holy oils for their parishes after the Mass in the lower chapel. A reception will follow in the parish hall.

04|04 TUESDAY
Special Holy Week Service
Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales, Bennington 7 pm
Persons of all faiths are invited to gather for a special service titled, “Lord, Let Me Walk That Lonely Road With You: A Service of Scripture and Song for Holy Week.” Old and New Testament readings, a splendid and deeply spiritual array of musical selections and powerful images of Christ's Passion and Death will be presented.

04|04 TUESDAY
Come Pray with Us
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Williston 7:30 - 8:30 pm
Begins with Eucharistic Adoration after Mass, followed by group prayer at 7:50 PM, concludes with Benediction.

04|08 SATURDAY
Blessing of the Easter Baskets
Holy Family, Essex Junction • 11 - 11:30 am
It is an Eastern European custom to bring a basket of food to Church on Holy Saturday to be blessed. Typically that could include ham, kielbasa, eggs, butter, salt and pepper, bread, a bottle of wine. Please join us and bring your basket.

04|12, 19, 26 WEDNESDAYS
Contemplative Prayer Series
Holy Family-St. Lawrence Parish Center, Essex Jct. 9:15 - 10:15 am
Join us for this series led by Louise Boisvert, a member of Notre Dame de Vie, a Secular Institute, founded in the 20th century by Blessed Marie Eugene of the Child Jesus, a Carmelite father. Silent prayer is not well known to the general public and yet we are all called to it through the grace of our baptism.

04|15 SATURDAY
St. Peter’s Cemetery Committee Bingo
St. Peter, Vergennes • 5 - 9 pm
Doors open at 5 pm, Bingo starts at 6 pm. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold.

04|16 SUNDAY
Divine Mercy Celebration
St. Michael, Brattleboro • 2 pm
Schedule: Holy Hour from 2 to 3pm. During the Holy Hour, confessions will be offered. At 3pm we will pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy together followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The time of prayer will be followed by a potluck in the youth center to end the Octave of Easter. FOR MORE INFO: call (802) 257-5101 or email stmichael@vermontcatholic.org.

04|16 SUNDAY
Divine Mercy Chaplet & Eucharistic Adoration
Holy Family, Essex Junction • 2 - 3 pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will begin at 2 pm, and the Chaplet (sung) and Benediction will take place at 3 pm. FOR MORE INFO: call (802) 878-5331.

04|16 SUNDAY
Divine Mercy Sunday
St. Anthony, Burlington • 2 pm
Adoration with Exposition and Benediction, Reconciliation (Confessions), venerate the Divine Mercy image, Silent prayer, Rosary, concluding with praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet. 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|23 SUNDAY
Super Bingo
Doubletree, So. Burlington • 10 am - 4 pm
Doors open at 10 am, admission is $50, pay online by going to kofcvt.org. Proceeds benefit Camp Ta-Kum-Ta. FOR MORE INFO: kidsforcamp2020@gmail.com.

05|14 SUNDAY
Vergennes Council Knights of Columbus Breakfast Buffet
St. Peter, Vergennes • 8 - 10 am
$10/adults, $6/children 8-12 ($32 immediate family maximum). Come join us!

05|14 SUNDAY
Monthly COSP KofC Fund Raising Breakfast
Christ Our Savior, Manchester • 9 am - 12 pm
Supporting Parish and Community outreach programs.

05|20 SATURDAY
Walk to Mary
Isle LaMotte • 9 am - 2 pm
Join us for a 2.3 mile walk from St. Joseph, Isle La Motte to St. Ann’s Shrine starting, praying the Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet while we walk. When we get to the shrine, there will be Mass at 11 am, a break for lunch, then Stations of the Cross for Life at 1 pm. FOR MORE INFO: contact Janice (802) 848-3834, janiecegodin@myfairpoint.net or Renee (802) 370-2231 or rpatterson1962@gmail.com with any questions.

A MESSAGE FROM THE
U.S. Catholic Sisters
Ending Slavery Is Everyone’s Work

April — Slavery is not a relic of the past. It is alive today and generates billions of dollars while at the same time ruining the lives of those involved. Learn more about human trafficking.

U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking is a 501 c (3) organization, 7575 Grand River Rd., Suite 109, Brighton, MI 48114 (sistersagainsttrafficking.org)

DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON CAREERS

Dioecesan Youth & Young Adult Minister
Dioecesan Central Offices: Marriage and Family Life Coordinator
Dioecesan Central Offices: Senior Accountant
Chrst the King School, Burlington: Principal
Rice Memorial High School, South Burlington: Principal
St. Anne's Shrine, Isle LaMotte: Experienced Cook

vermontcatholic.org/careers

BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL

2022
UNITY IN FAITH

Grand Total: $2,135,610

85% Completed

To learn more or make a gift online visit: bishopsappealvt.org