The Inland See

Easter Message

from Bishop Coyne



Bright is the silver, bright is the gold, under the light of the Easter candles. Each face alights before the holy candles, that Christians bear in hand.

his excerpt from the poem "The Day of Easter" draws its imagery from the ritual celebration of the Easter mysteries within the Orthodox faith tradition. It echoes our own liturgy as well at the Easter Vigil: At the start of the celebration, the community enters into the dark church, lead by the light of the Easter candle, carrying their own small candles of light as we hear intoned three times, "Christ our light!" It is the movement from the darkness of the tomb into the light of dawn, the rising of the Day Star, Christ Himself, the light of the world, conquering death by His own death on the cross and now rising from the grave. He is our light and our salvation, the dawn from on high which breaks upon us "to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace" (Lk 1:79).

Over the centuries, many poems have been written in addition to the beautiful prayers, songs, and rituals of the Easter celebration in both the Latin and Orthodox rites. Sometimes these poems are captured in the hymns we sing within the Easter season, sometimes they sit within a secondary canon of imagination and faith. Among many, I came across the poem excepted above from the pen of the Greek national

poet, Dionysios Solomos, and was intrigued by the poem not only because of its imagery from within the Orthodox tradition but because it is an unfinished poem. Indeed, all of Solomos' poems, save one which became the Greek national anthem, are unfinished. It's not clear why he never finished his poems. There is no reason from history left to consider.

Still it hasn't stopped me from considering (as I am want to do) in the unfinished nature of this poem this truth we share — that while the Easter event of Christ's resurrection in itself was a complete moment of salvation, the offer of salvation that flows from His life, death, and resurrection to all of creation and to each one of us is not yet complete. Salvation is both a "now" and a "not yet," offered to us now but not yet completed in time. Still as we stand in our churches this Easter morn in the glow of the light of the paschal candle, we know that "Christ is our light" who can lead us out of darkness into His wonderful light through the Easter sacraments: the rebirth of baptism, our anointing in the Holy Spirit, and our celebration of Eucharist. That is, if we will let Him do so.

May God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit bless this day!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Christopher J. Coyne

The Most Reverend Christopher J. Coyno Bishop of Burlington



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Upcoming Events



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|12, 19, 26 WEDNESDAYS

Good News Bootcamp

St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 6:45 - 8:30 pm Please join us in discussing how we as Catho-

lics can bring healing, transformation, virtue, and enthusiasm to our world. If you enjoyed our viewing of "The Search" videos this past fall, Good News Bootcamp will take many of those elements to the next level. Check out our website at https://stjohnvianneyvt.org/good-news-bootcamp to discover what each week's topics will be. Join us for the sessions that interest you or join us for all of them! Questions? Contact Connie at SJVGoodNews@gmail.com.



04l15 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. Proceeds to benefor St. Peter's Cemetery fund.



04|16 SUNDAY

Divine Mercy Chaplet, Adoration, and Confession

St. Mark, Burlington • 1 - 3 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession from 1-3 pm. Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3 pm. Confessions will be available after the Divine Mercy Chaplet prayer.



04l16 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|19 WEDNESDAY

Vermont Catholic Professionals Networking Breakfast

Diocese Offices, S. Burlington • 8:30 am

Join us for our next networking breakfast. Our speaker will be Deacon RJ Dourney. Attend in-person or via Zoom. Learn more and register at: vermontcatholic.org/vcp.



04|23 SUNDAY

So. Burlington Council, Knights of Columbus, 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|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.



UE 114 CHINDA

Vergennes Council Knights of Columbus Breakfast Buffet

St. Peter, Vergennes • 8 - 10 am

\$10/adults, \$6/children 8-12 (\$32 family maximum).



05|14 SUNDAY

Monthly COSP Knights of Columbus 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. Anne's Shrine starting at 9 am, 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 those who cannot walk with us and would still like to participate, there will also be a Holy Hour of Adoration at St. Anne's Shrine starting at 9:30 a.m. FOR MORE INFO: contact Janice (802) 848-3834, janicegodin@myfairpoint.net or Renee (802) 370-2231 or rjpatterson1962@gmail.com with any questions.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL



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





After being away from the Church for 27 years, I intentionally opened my heart to God. He put the Truth of the Eucharist in my heart and I couldn't look away. Now, it's been 18 years of growing in love with Jesus and His Church, Praise God!

— Monica Cayia, St. Mark Parish, Burlington