

The Communion of Saints Leadership Gift Societies is a community of benefactors who, through their generosity to the Bishop's Annual Appeal, have taken on a leadership role in the work of the Church.

As a member, you pledge to become partners in a shared vision for a vibrant Church in Vermont, furthering our core ministries such as faith formation, Catholic schools, vocations, and emergency aid, while setting a good example of stewardship for all in our Diocese.

another as I love you. — Jn 15:12

# Blessed Virgin Mary The Blessed Virgin Mary is the patroness

of the Diocese of Burlington. She reminds us of the immense love she experienced as the first disciple of Jesus. Our work strives to continue to spread the love that Mary experienced through our pastoral ministries as we seek to grow discipleship and serve the

Stock Gifts/Planned Gif

802-658-6110 ext.1226

in Vermont.

St. Joseph is the patron and the protect Faith unites all of us as one diocesan spiritual needs of all in our Diocese. serve our parishes and our Diocese,

ensure a vibrant future for the Church

his sight and followed him on the way.

## St. Joseph

to ordained service. These men model the faith witnessed by St. Joseph and

And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the holy Spirit that has been given to us. — Rm 5:5

### St. André Bessette

St. André Bessette, the "Miracle Man of Montreal," helped heal thousands by encouraging prayers to St. Joseph to whom he had a strong devotion to He did not dismiss the real pain and sickness of those who visited him but offered companionship and hope by standing with, listening to, and praying with them. With a parish named for him in the Northeast Kingdom, St. André Bessette continues to bring hope

Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will act. — Psalm 37:5

(formerly the The 1853 Society)

Vianney set an example of selflessness and dedication to leading his parishioners on the path to eternal salvation. With devotion, our priests and bishops make sacrifices to serve those in our Diocese. An example of such a sacrifice is the first bishop of Burlington, Bishop Louis deGoësbriand. He died penniless after using his wealth to grow the Diocese. This society honors Bishop deGoësbriand's charitable nature a dedication to the Church in Vermont. to the people of Vermont.

afraid. — Jn 14:27

## St. John Viannev

(formerly the The deGoësbriand Circle)

The patron saint of priests, St. John in the Iroquois nation that managed the fields, forests, and wildlife of its homeland in the area of Canada. upstate New York, and Vermont. She has been referred to as a "child of

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or

Celebrate 170 years of generosity in a way that builds momentum, promotes ministries, encourages hearts young and old, and fosters belonging. This brochure includes stories of people who have served, sacrificed, and built our Church during the last 170 years. Please prayerfully consider a generous gift today; your gift reinforces the values of our faith and helps to celebrate the history of our Church and the continual building of a vibrant Church of Vermont.

Your gift at work

\$500-\$999 The Diocese of Burlington **Anniversary Circle** \$170-\$499

> You will be enriched in every way to be aenerous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. — II Cor 9:11

### St. Kateri Tekakwitha

St. Kateri Tekakwitha, the patron of the environment and ecology, was raised nature" who often went into the woods to make crosses out of sticks and to talk to God. The Circle of Peace honors God's gift of the resources and natural beauty A letter from Bishop Christopher Coyne

& Services

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

This is a historic year for the Diocese of Burlington as we celebrate our 170th anniversary and continue our year of Eucharistic Revival, embracing a grateful heart for the many graces we receive in Holy Communion.

I invite you to join in this celebration by reflecting upon the ways we as the Church in Vermont have been enriched by God's gifts throughout our long history. I am filled with gratitude when I consider the faith-filled works within our Diocese, the ministrie that touch so many because of the generosity of people like you to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. The movement of the Holy Spiri is alive in our Diocese and has called many to serve our Church throughout time with a generous and open heart.

Our first bishop, Louis deGoësbriand, served as the bishop of Burlington for more than 46 years, from 1853-1899. He encouraged men and women religious to work tirelessly to help build our churches, schools, and charities; ordained many priests to serve our parishes; and more than doubled the number of Catholics in our

Diocese. His cause for sainthood continues, and I invite you to offer prayers for that cause and ponder all that he did for this Diocese.

The great works that were initiated by Bishop deGoësbriand still continue in our Diocese. Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal supports emergency aid to the poor, hungry, and homeless; formation of our seminarians, priests, and deacons; education for our young; strengthening of our faith formation programs; ministry to the sick; and so

As we witnessed with the selfless generosity from Bishop deGoësbriand to our Diocese, your sacrificial gift makes a difference. I humbly thank you for your consideration Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Chairpan J. Come

Most Reverend Christopher J. Coyne Bishop of Burlington

Celebrating 170 Years of Generosity 1853-2023

You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

— II Cor 9:11



Ways to give

Donate By Mail vermontcatholic.org/giveonline Bishop's Annual Appea

Left: Shown is the first St. Joseph Church in Burlington. circa 1850s. This building was later moved to the South End of Burlington and is the current St. Anthony Church.



: Bishop deGoësbriand and priests seated

Left: Site of the first St.

Joseph School in Burling-

ton, begun in 1863. This

building is now Vermont

Residential Care Home.

The Diocese of Burlington, founded July 29, 1853, is one of the oldest Dioceses in the nation. Bishop Louis

deGoësbriand, the missionary bishop, was appointed our first bishop. At this time, there were only 10

churches and approximately 20,000 Catholics served by five priests. Bishop deGoësbriand traveled our state

bringing the message of salvation to the people and spending most of his own \$250,000 inheritance building

given everything to God. Because of his faith, the number of Catholics in Vermont more than doubled.

churches, schools (six of which still exist today), and homes for the most vulnerable. He died penniless, having

Catholic Charities' St. Joseph



Below: The combined choirs of St. Joseph and on the lawn of the Cathedral of the Immaculate



Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception parishes in Burlington pose at the consecration of Burlington Bishop Joseph Rice in 1910.

Above: Bishops Louis deGoësbriand and John Michaud and priests watch a parade from the porch of the bishop's residence, 1899, believed to be Bishop deGoësbriand's last public appearance

Above: The deGoësbriand Memorial Hospital opened i 1924, initially staffed by 15 nuns from Fanny Allen Hospital in nearby Colchester. The hospital later merged with Mary Fletcher Hospital in 1967 and eventually became the University of Vermont Medical Center.

These were turbulent years that included World War I,

▲ a Spanish influenza epidemic, anti-Catholicism, and

machine for a photo in 1944.



Below: A photo of the "new" St. Joseph Church in Burlington, decorated for a World War II victory



UVM was dedicated by Boston Cardinal Richard Cushing and **Burlington Bishop Robert Joyce** 

dential care home operated by Vermont Catholic Charities Inc opened in 1969 in the former



Then and now

W7ith the growing shortage of priests during the past 20 years, efforts W have been made to increase the role of laity in the life of the Church and strengthen faith formation. The House of (vocation) Discernment at the Catholic Center at the University of Vermont was established. Three A*bove:* Bishop Angell distributes First Holy Communion in 1991

Below: Bishop Matano presides at priestly Ordination in 2009.



new Catholic schools opened along with the first virtual Catholic high school in Vermont. The first Diocesan Synod in more than 60 years was convened, engaging thousands of Catholics. New technology was embraced to improve communication, including livestreaming Mass and ministries, which was invaluable during the Covid-19 pandemic to keep our faith community connected. *Vermont Catholic* magazine was redesigned and cognized as one of the best in the nation, websites were updated in every parish, and lay leadership opportunities were expanded. Many of the ministries of faith and charity that began years ago still thrive today because of your generosity to what is now known as the Bishop's Annual Appeal.









Bennington, 1891 Rutland, 1891















Right: The Cathedral

School Class of 1909

and clergy faculty



Third Bishop of Burlingt



the Great Depression, yet Catholics persevered in their faith. Fanny Allen Hospital in Colchester, deGoësbraind Hospital in Burlington, and Vermont Catholic Charities were established to care for the poor. Cathedral High School in Burlington (now Rice Memorial High School in South Bishop Matthew F. Brady Bishop Edward F. Rvan Burlington), and Trinity College founded in Burlington Fourth Bishop of Burlington | Fifth Bishop of Burlington by the Sisters of Mercy opened. The number of churches expanded to 100 and the first local Catholic newspaper was established. The generosity of many led to the great growth of our Church during this time.





A fter the Second Vatican Council took place, our Church experienced many changes and weathered cultural resistance. We were faced

A with the Vietnam War, declining enrollment in schools, and legalized abortion, yet we continued to grow and serve our community

with the founding of new schools and the Catholic Center at the University of Vermont. Michaud Manor was established in Derby Line

to provide residential care for the most vulnerable elderly Vermonters. The Bishop's Fund was begun to support all these ministries.



Bishop John A. Marshall

Seventh Bishop of Burlington