Christopher and Delana Braves of Richmond recently established two funds in the Vermont Catholic Community Foundation to honor the legacy of their parents and grandparents.

“You always respect and honor those that passed before you,” Delana said. “When we go into a cemetery we pray for the dead. Our prayers are an intercession on behalf of the dead to be in heaven. We are also asking the dead to pray and intercede on our behalf for our journey to heaven.”

Last year, the couple established the Edward A. and Ann M. O’Neill Mobbs Memorial Holy Rosary Cemetery and St. Mary Cemetery Reserve Fund at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish in Richmond. One of the primary purposes of the fund is to fix broken and overturned headstones. The fund honors Delana’s parents, for whom the fund is named.

“My parents had a special mission to care for the cemeteries where their relatives were buried,” Delana said. “It was important for us to carry on their legacy.”

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “The bodies of the dead must be treated with respect and charity, in hope and faith of the Resurrection. The burial of the dead is a corporal work of mercy; it honors the children of God, who are temples of the Holy Spirit.”

“These cemeteries were established in the 1800s and need a lot of repairs,” Christopher said. He began his ministry repairing headstones nine years ago when he noticed one that had fallen over on his morning run. “Every morning I would run down Cochran Road and say the rosary. On one run, I noticed a grave stone had fallen over,” he said. A few years ago, he rebuilt his garage to include a workshop above it where he spends many hours preparing materials for repairing headstones. He calls his workshop “The St. Joseph’s Workshop.”

He grew up in Rutland with many family ties to the community, especially Mount St. Joseph Academy, a school his mother and her siblings attended. Both of his grandmothers played a significant role in his life, especially in his faith.

Last fall, Christopher and Delana established the Thomas F. and Florence E. Chapleau Dunn Family and Christos D. and Catherine T. Lines Braves Family Memorial Mount St. Joseph Academy Fund in honor of his family to support operations of the school. As an educator and coach working with children his entire life, he wanted to do something that honored his family and his faith.

“Today, because of people like Mr. and Mrs. Braves, we can continue our mission to educate the whole person in mind, body, and spirit and remain accessible to all who desire a challenging Catholic educational experience,” said MSJ Principal Michael Alexander.

The Vermont Catholic Community Foundation was established more than seven years ago as a way for the faithful to leave a legacy of faith for the next generation and to honor those who came before them. Most funds are endowed and intended to provide stable income annually to a specific ministry in perpetuity. This is vital for the future operation of schools, parishes, and cemeteries.

To learn more about how to donate to a fund, how to establish a fund, or join the legacy society visit: vtcatholicfoundation.org or contact Ellen Kane at ekane@vermontcatholic.org.

VTC · Ellen Kane
09|14 THURSDAY
Meals & Sacrifice: Scriptural Basis for the Eucharist
Holy Family, Essex Jct. • 7 - 8 pm
Fr. Michael Carter, SSE will give a presentation that traces some of the scriptural foundations for the Eucharist, from Genesis to the Gospels.

09|03, 11|01 SUNDAYS
Eucharistic Healing Service
St. John the Evangelist, St. Johnsbury • 3 pm
Benediction and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on the first Sunday of every month with Fr. Harlow.

09|06 - 10|27 WEDNESDAYS or FRIDAYS
Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible
Our Lady of Angels, Randolph
Wednesdays: 6:30 - 8 pm
Fridays: 9:45 am - 11:15 am
This eight-session study program includes video presentations that explore all twelve time periods of The Bible Timeline.

09|07 THURSDAY
Fall Concert and Reflection by Paul Koleske
St. Lawrence, Essex Junction • 7 - 8:30 pm
Contemporary Christian singer, songwriter and recording artist, Paul Koleske, will be offering his concert of personally composed sacred music. This is a very spiritually uplifting event, and you are invited to bring family and friends. His recorded music will be available for purchase. The concert will be on a free will offering basis. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

09|10, 11|08 SUNDAYS
Spanish Mass
St. Peter’s, Vergennes • 7 pm
Fr. Timothy Danaher, O.P., Campus Minister at Dartmouth College, will be offering Spanish Mass at 7 pm.

08|23, 30 WEDNESDAYS
St. Michael Church Summer Lecture Series
St. Michael, Brattleboro • 5 - 7 pm
A program on the saints pictured in the stained glass windows will be presented in the church by a number of visiting priests, artisans and teachers starting on Wednesday, June 28. The program begins at 5 pm with evening prayer followed by the presentation.

8/23 Father Greg Caldwell, Parochial Vicar of Saint Michael Church in Brattleboro will discuss Saint Paul
8/30 Helen Schultz, Teacher at Saint Michael School in Brattleboro will discuss Saint Raphael

08|26 SATURDAY
Ascension Church Furnace FUNdraiser Live Auction & Raffle
Ascension, Georgia • 11 am - 3 pm
Light lunch items, raffle & silent auction available throughout the day. Preview the live auction items from 11 am to 1 pm. The live auction will be held from 1-3 pm, by auctioneer Mike LaChance. FOR MORE INFO: Call Jean (802) 782-6491 or Alice (802) 524-3330.

08|27 SUNDAY
Knights of Columbus Pilgrimage Mass at St. Anne’s Shrine
St. Anne’s Shrine, Isle La Motte • 12:15-2:30 pm

09|14 THURSDAY
Meal & Sacrifice: Scriptural Basis for the Eucharist
Holy Family, Essex Jct. • 7 - 8 pm
Fr. Michael Carter, SSE will give a presentation that traces some of the scriptural foundations for the Eucharist, from Genesis to the Gospels.

09|16, 10|21 SATURDAYS
The Chosen — Movie Night and Potluck
St. John the Baptist, Enosburg Falls • 5 - 6:45 pm
Come join us for a movie night and potluck dinner every third Saturday of the month. We will watch an episode of The Chosen together and have food and fellowship!

09|29 – 10|02 FRI, SAT, SUN, MON
Light of the World Retreat
Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Junction
Parishioners from all parishes are welcome.
Information and registration available at Essex Catholic Light of the World Retreat or email questions to ecc.engage@gmail.com. There is no registration fee.

10|08 SUNDAY
Fourth Annual St. John Henry Newman Night
Holy Family, Essex Jct. • 4 - 8 pm
This event features solemn sung vespers, dinner and dessert catered by the Knights of Columbus, and two presentations on the life and works of St. John Henry Newman. RSVP required: vermontnewman@gmail.com.