

NEWS FROM The Inland See

September 30–October 06, 2023

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

THE EUCHARIST AS SACRIFICE

When thinking about the Eucharist, I think we're sometimes content to stop at teaching about the Real Presence, as if talking about Christ becoming present substantially in the bread and wine at Mass is "truly enough." Honestly, it would be truly enough. Receiving the glorified Body of Christ in the Eucharist is truly enough! Being in the divine presence of God while celebrating the Eucharist is truly enough! There's enough "content" regarding the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist to spend the rest of our lives with, really.

But our God isn't about "enough."

We speak of the "superabundance" of God. We read in the Catechism that Christ becoming "obedient unto death, even death on a cross" makes amends superabundantly for the disobedience of Adam" (CCC 441) and "the miracles of the multiplication of loaves, when the Lord says the blessing, breaks and distributes the loaves through His disciples to feed the multitude, prefigure the superabundance of this unique bread of His Eucharist" (CCC 1335).

And so really, talking about the Real Presence is only part of our task. In fact, it can be said that the Mass doesn't exist just so that you and I can receive communion. The Mass exists so that you and I can participate in the very life of Jesus Christ, especially His Paschal Mystery – His passion, death, and resurrection. The Mass allows us to participate in the central action of Christ's Paschal Mystery: His sacrifice in offering himself to God the Father for our salvation. To put it curtly: Christ does something with His

body on the cross at Calvary – He offers it to God, the Father. So too, then, does the mystical Body of Christ on Earth – the Church – do something with the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist at every Mass. The Eucharist doesn't exist simply to sit on our altars or in our tabernacles (although that by itself would "be enough"). The Eucharist exists so that we may do something

– and by doing that something – we participate in the Paschal Mystery at its core in a very concrete, very real way.

Here we get to the heart of the Mass. The Mass is a sacrifice.

The language of sacrifice has largely been lost over the years; many Catholics sadly would not recognize the meaning behind the phrase "The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass." Space here doesn't allow me to explore the meaning of the sacrifice of the Mass in any great depth. Suffice it to say here that the Eucharist as sacrifice is an example of God's superabundant love for us. Christ isn't content simply to be present at Mass; He wants us to participate in His very offering of himself to God the Father that was accomplished once for all on Calvary. We participate through the celebration of the Sacrifice of the Mass. So far from shying away from this idea of sacrifice, let us embrace it, and pray with greater zeal in the Eucharistic Prayer, "we offer you, Lord, the Bread of Life and the chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you."

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



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Upcoming Events



10|01 SUNDAY

Eucharistic Healing Service

St. John the Evangelist, St. Johnsbury 3 - 4 pm
Benediction and Exposition of the Most

Blessed Sacrament at 3 pm on the first Sunday of every month with Fr. Lance W. Harlow.



10|02, 11|06 MONDAYS

Spanish Mass at St. Michael's College Chapel

St. Michael's College, Colchester • 7:30 pm

If you wish to be placed on our mailing list, please email Fr. Marcel Rainville, S.S.E at mrainville@smcvt.edu.



10|08 SUNDAY

Knights of Columbus Breakfast

St. Peter, Vergennes • 8 - 10 am

\$12 adults, \$7 children 8 to 12. \$38 immediate

family maximum.



10|08 SUNDAY

Monthly COSP KofC Fund Raising Breakfast

Christ Our Savior, Manchester • 9 am - 12 pm

Proceeds support parish and community outreach programs.



10|08 SUNDAY

Annual Harvest Dinner

St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte • 11:30-2:30

The final Mass of the season will be offered at 10:30 a.m., followed by turkey dinner with all the fixings. Requested donation: \$20 for adults, \$10 for children under 12. For more info: 802-928-3362.



10|08 SUNDAY

Fourth Annual St. John Henry Newman Night

Holy Family, Essex Jct. • 4 - 8 pm

An Evening in Honor of St. John Henry Newman, featuring solemn sung vespers, a first class dinner and dessert catered by Bill Rensch and the Knights of Columbus, and two presentations on the life and works of St. John Henry Newman. RSVP required: vermontnewman@gmail.com.



10|12 THURSDAY

Spanish Mass

St. Peter, Vergennes • 7 pm

With Fr. Timothy Danaher, O.P.



10|13 FRIDAY

Essex Community Dinners — Come Join Us for Dinner!

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 5:30 - 7 pm

Essex Community Dinners are provided in

order to grow and promote our community! They are intended to feed the hungry, lonely and needy amongst us. These meals are free to all but donations to cover parish expenses are appreciated. Take out dinners are also available for those who still need to avoid crowds.



10|14 SATURDAY

St. Ambrose/St. Peter Youth Ministry Bingo

St. Peter, Vergennes • 5 pm

Doors open at 5:00 pm, Bingo starts at 6:00 pm. This is a family friendly event. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold. This event is sponsored by St. Ambrose & St. Peter's Youth Ministry to benefit the on-going program costs.



10|18 WEDNESDAY

Vermont Catholic Professionals Networking Breakfast

Diocesan Offices, S. Burlington • 8:30 - 10 am

Donna McSoley, founder of Our Lady of

Providence Radio, will be the speaker. Join us for networking and a light breakfast. Presentation begins at 9. Zoom option available. Register here: vermontcatholic.org/vcp



10|19 THURSDAY

Our Lady's Kitchen & Catholic Movie Night — Randolph

Our Lady of the Angels, Randolph • 6 - 8:30 pm

Free meal and a movie! Come one, come all!



10|20, 21, 22 FRI, SAT, SUN

Marriage Encounter Experience

St. Monica, Barre

This autumn, renew and rekindle your relationship with your spouse and God. The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience is primarily a space for you to pause, reflect, and reconnect privately. This weekend is a non-residential format. Lunch and dinner will be served. Apply online: at <https://www.mevt.org/applyWeekend.php>. Contact Gary & Lynn Root at (802) 456-8114 or Aaron and Andrea Brassard at 802-223-6561 for more information.



10|21 SATURDAY

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.



10|25 WEDNESDAY

Mater Christi School Open House

Mater Christi School, Burlington

8:30 am - 11 am

We invite you to experience what makes Mater Christi School such a special place.



10|28 WEDNESDAY

Back from the Dead

St. John Vianney Church, S. Burlington

7 pm

Back from the Dead Cemetery Walk is a candlelit guided evangelization drama through Resurrection Park. A guide will lead groups through a portion of Resurrection Park Cemetery in South Burlington while encountering actors playing the roles of various saints and martyrs who come alive to tell their stories.



11|11 SATURDAY

2023 Annual Fall VT Catholic's Women's Retreat

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Williston

8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Keynote Speaker is Sr. Paul Mary Dreger, FSE. The Theme of the Retreat is The Eucharistic Life: Bread of Life & Bread for Others.



11|11 SATURDAY

St. John Vianney Parish Treasure in Heaven Art and Crafts Fair

St. John Vianney, South Burlington

9 am - 3 pm

The SJV craft fair is back this year and we are pleased to offer this opportunity for local artisans to feature their creative and unique work with us. We will be donating all of our proceeds to the Josh Pallotta Fund and the Vermont Food Bank. Please join us!



11|26 SUNDAY

Recital in honor of the Feast of Christ the King

Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church,

Bennington • 3 pm

Organist Donald McMahon, director of music at Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church in Bennington, will perform a recital in honor of the Feast of Christ the King. The program, which will begin with Sir William Walton's Crown Imperial, will include music of Bach, Durufle, Gigout, Vierne, and others. The performance is free and open to the public.



BISHOP'S
ANNUAL
APPEAL

Progress: 75% to goal

