

# The NEWS FROM Inland See

December 9–15, 2023

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

## Vermont Catholic Community Foundation holds annual meeting



The eighth annual meeting of the Vermont Catholic Community Foundation (VCCF) took place at St. Catherine of Siena Parish Hall in Shelburne Oct. 19; nearly 100 people attended from parishes around the state to learn more about the foundation's impact in Vermont. VCCF was established in 2015 to support the apostolic ministries of the Catholic Church in Vermont and support parishes, schools, cemeteries, and charities that help those in need.

The foundation investments adhere to the Catholic social teachings and investment guidelines set forth by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and provide a safe, affordable option for Catholic investments. Funds in the foundation are restricted and support 22 cemeteries, five Vermont Catholic Charities programs, 11 diocesan ministries, 29 parishes, 36 Catholic school financial aid and operation funds, and four VCCF charity grants.

Msgr. John McDermott, administrator of the Diocese of Burlington, opened the meeting with a prayer. He acknowledged Hartford Co-adjutor Archbishop Christopher Coyne, 10th bishop of Burlington, for establishing the foundation eight years ago and thanked Ellen Kane, executive director of VCCF, for her efforts to grow the foundation.

"When I started shortly after the foundation was established," Kane said, "I realized that no funds had been established yet in the foundation, and that is when I adopted the motto 'with God all things are possible.'"

As of the end of the fiscal year — June 30, 2023 — there were 107 funds and almost \$23 million invested.

David Mount, a long-time board member, reported on the investment management of funds in the foundation, celebrating positive returns even in unpredictable markets. "We have had increases of 11.3 percent. This is an amazing amount when we consider the fluctuating market. In the spring of 2023, VCCF distributed earnings to the beneficiaries of the foundation. The distribution was \$1,227,328. This was a record distribution for us, exceeding all previous years."

According to Kane, one of the primary goals of the foundation was to provide a pathway for individuals to leave a legacy

of faith for the next generation. She celebrated the tripling of the Christ Our Hope Legacy Society with the partnership of FreeWill, a confidential and easy software available to the Catholic community to create a legal will.

Another priority of the foundation is to give back to the community. "I am happy to report that this year we were able to make grants to 12 parish outreach programs that serve the needy in their community ranging from food pantries to migrant worker outreach to meals for shut ins," Kane said. "We were also able to grow emergency-aid funds that help thousands of households in financial crisis each year through Vermont Catholic Charities."

Beneficiaries and grant recipients from several ministries shared the impact of the support, including Andrew Nagy, principal of Rice Memorial High School in South Burlington. "We have nearly \$2 million endowment funds invested in the foundation, many being financial aid funds," he said. "Nearly 40 percent of our students receive financial aid, and I am grateful to the foundation and the individuals who established these funds to help make Catholic education accessible."

Jennifer Patenaude, coordinator of the Mater Dei Parish Food Shelf in Newport said, "With the recent discontinuation of the Covid-19 aid, we have seen a rise in requests for food. We are so grateful to the foundation which has helped us meet this need."

Patty Lewis, chair of the Catholic Migrant Ministry of Addison County, said the county has Vermont's largest population of migrant workers. The VCCF grant helped provide monthly Masses in Spanish and meal gatherings for migrant workers and their families.

"We help those in need because we are Catholic not because they are Catholic," said Mary Beth Pinard, executive director of Vermont Catholic Charities.

Kane concluded the event thanking the community for their trust and generosity to the foundation and the ministries it supports.

For more information about the foundation, go to [vccatholicfoundation.org](http://vccatholicfoundation.org).

— *Vermont Catholic*

# Upcoming Events



12|12 TUESDAY  
**Spanish Mass**

*Assumption, Middlebury • 7 pm*

Join us for a Mass celebrated in Spanish by Edmundite Father Marcel Rainville. All are welcome.



12|13, 20 WEDNESDAYS  
**FORGIVEN: The Transforming Power of Confession**

*via Zoom • 6:30-8 pm*

This program from Augustine Institute explores the grace and healing offered in Confession and shows how this sacrament of mercy reveals the depth and bounty of God's love. Led by Fr. William Beaudin, pastor of Christ Our Savior, Manchester Center. Register at: [forgivencosp@gmail.com](mailto:forgivencosp@gmail.com).



12|13, 14 WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY  
**Advent Retreat**

*Our Lady of Angels, Randolph • 5 - 8 pm*

Sr. Paul Mary Dreger, FSE will present her two part retreat *The Eucharist: The Bread of Life* and *The Eucharist: Bread for Others*. Wednesday evening will be a potluck and Thursday will be a catered dinner of bread and soup. If you plan to attend the Thursday dinner, please RSVP by December 4 to [estuart@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:estuart@vermontcatholic.org). Dinner is free – donations will be accepted to help offset the costs.



12|16 SATURDAY  
**Women's Walking Group**

*St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 9 - 9:45 am*

SJV Women's Ministry welcomes interested women to meet and walk together for roughly 45 minutes, usually leaving from the parking lot. In the event of inclement weather, check our website for a cancellation notice; [stjohn-vianneyvt.org/walking-with-wm](http://stjohn-vianneyvt.org/walking-with-wm). Have questions? Contact Connie at [sjvgoodnews@gmail.com](mailto:sjvgoodnews@gmail.com).



12|16 SATURDAY  
**Men's "Cor" Formation**

*St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 10 - 11:30 am*

Calling all men to fellowship, prayer and a deeper faith! Through fraternity, prayer, and the study of God's word in Scripture and holy examples, we intend to grow closer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. COR Formation will be held on the third Saturday of the month. Coffee and refreshments provided by the K of C.



12|16 SATURDAY  
**Eucharistic Presentation**

*All Saints, Richford • 2:30 pm*

Father Michael Carter, SSE, will be offering a presentation on the Holy Eucharist, including Adoration, Reconciliation and the Holy Mass. Please call the rectory to register: (802) 848-7741.



12|16 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 on the third Saturday of the month. We will watch an episode of *The Chosen* together and have food and fellowship!



12|17 SUNDAY  
**Knights of Columbus Council #2284 Pancake Breakfast**

*St. Francis Xavier School gym, Winooski  
8 - 11 am*

\$10 per person or \$25 per family of 4 (each additional family member \$5).



12|17 SUNDAY  
**Lessons and Carols**

*Our Lady of the Snows, Waitsfield • 2 pm*

Featuring singers from Thomas Aquinas

College in Northfield, MA, and Ruth Tintle and her husband Leigh. Outdoor reception with refreshments will follow.



12|20 WEDNESDAY  
**Lessons & Carols**

*St. Michael, Brattleboro • 5:30 pm*

Join us for an Advent service of Lessons and

Carols. Let hymns, sacred music, and readings from Holy Scripture prepare your heart for the coming of Christ at Christmas. All are welcome!



12|21 THURSDAY  
**Knights of Columbus BINGO**

*St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 6:30 - 9:30 pm*

Held on the third Thursday of each month. The

jackpot is \$1,000. Doors open at 4:30 and the first game begins at 6:30. Come join the fun with friends and family. Bring a non-perishable food item(s) and receive two free game sheets for the "winner take all" game.



12|25 MONDAY  
**Free Christmas Dinner!**

*St. Anthony, Bethel • 12:30 - 2:30 pm*

Come enjoy a free, incredible, and scrumptious

dinner cooked by Cathy Day and her crew. This meal is for anyone who wants a warm dinner and conversation this Christmas Day. Come and know the dignity you have in God.



# Eucharistic

## TESTIMONIALS

[vermontcatholic.org/eucharistic-testimonials](http://vermontcatholic.org/eucharistic-testimonials)

"What a marvelous privilege that we can approach the throne of God every day to receive from Him His very presence. We often forget how great a gift the eucharist is; but the fact is that He is always present and always desiring to communicate something of His perfection to us. He is always desiring to make us more like Himself: to burst us from the chains of sin, to clothe us with virtues, to impart the Holy Spirit upon us to live in His divine life. We often only see a little wafer, but indeed it is love itself."

— *Cale Bombardier*

*Christ the King/St. Anthony Parish,  
Burlington, and Diocesan Seminarian*

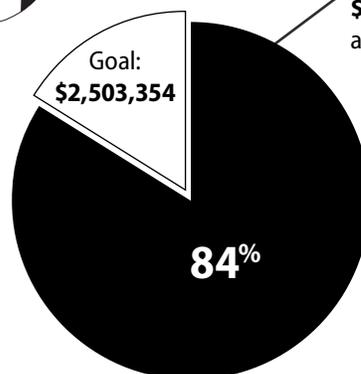


ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

*Progress: 84% to goal*



BISHOP'S  
ANNUAL  
APPEAL



Raised:  
**\$1,973,157**  
as of Nov. 29

### Give Online

[vermontcatholic.org/giveonline](http://vermontcatholic.org/giveonline)  
or scan the QR code to the left.

### Donate By Mail

Bishop's Annual Appeal  
Diocese of Burlington  
55 Joy Drive  
South Burlington, VT 05403

### Stock Gifts/Planned Gifts

802-658-6110 ext.1226  
[ekane@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:ekane@vermontcatholic.org)

