

The NEWS FROM Inland See

January 20–26, 2024

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Trying to figure out who's who is a common human activity. We like to know who we are sharing our time with and what relationship they have to us. So it is with the Church that gathers on Sunday for Mass. Many of the faces are as familiar as our own, but as with any healthy group, new faces are to be expected and welcomed.

Some of those new faces may be of persons responding to a call to find out more about Christ and His Church. The Church opens its arms to these seekers with the wisdom and rituals of the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (the OCIA; known formerly as the RCIA, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults).

People who desire to learn more about the Catholic faith and its mission fall into two main groups: catechumens and candidates. A catechumen is someone who has never been baptized; candidates are those who, having already been baptized in another Christian denomination, desire to become fully initiated members of the Catholic Church. Catechumens and candidates undergo a period of formation involving a number of steps and phases. After this formation, usually at the Easter Vigil or in the Easter Season, they receive the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

For these catechumens and candidates, Lent is a period of

intensified spiritual preparation. At the beginning of Lent, the diocese celebrates a special ritual: the "Rite of Election" for the catechumens and the "Call to Continuing Conversion" for the candidates. Based on the testimony given by the sponsors and catechists, Msgr. John McDermott, administrator of the Diocese of Burlington, on behalf of the Catholic Church in Vermont, will declare the catechumens to be "Elect," chosen by God for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist at the upcoming Easter Vigil. He also will recognize the desire of the already-baptized candidates for the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist within our Catholic community.

This year, a good number of our parishes have multiple people in the OCIA process seeking the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter. All members of the faithful throughout the diocese are encouraged to pray for and with the catechumens and candidates this Lent, especially for those new faces you may see in your own parishes.

All are encouraged to join us for the Diocesan Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion that will be celebrated on Sunday, Feb. 18, at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Burlington at 3 p.m.

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

Universal Synod Update



For a synodal Church

Following the Synod Assembly of Bishops in October 2023, each diocese around the world has been asked to continue the conversation by reflecting upon the synthesis report. The US Synod Team is asking each diocese to hold 2-3 listening sessions during Lent to reflect upon two guiding questions. A 3-5 page document synthesizing what was heard at the diocesan listening sessions will be incorporated into a summary from the USCCB to the Secretariat due in April 2024. Synod Zoom Meetings for parish delegates and parishioners have already been scheduled bi-monthly the second Tuesday at 6pm with an additional meeting added in February at 10am: Feb. 6 at 10am, March 12, May 14, July 16, Sept. 10, and Nov. 12. There will also be several in-person Synod listening sessions with more information to come.

Registration required: vermontcatholic.org/universalsynod.

Upcoming Events



02|03 SATURDAY Bread of Life Retreat

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 9 am - 3 pm
Sister Paul Mary, a Franciscan Sister of the

Eucharist will lead this retreat, which includes a "bread making event" and presentations on the Eucharist. Lunch and materials for making bread which you can bring home are included in the retreat fee of \$20. You are also invited to begin the retreat day by joining us for the Rosary starting at 8 am and Mass at 8:30 am which takes place in Holy Family Church. Registration is required and number of spots limited. Please call the rectory at (802) 878-5331 to reserve your place. This event is a part of the Eucharistic Preachers Initiative sponsored by the Diocese of Burlington.



02|03 SATURDAY French Canadian Meat Pie Dinner

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Richmond • 5 pm
Join us for supper in person in the Holy Rosary

Church Hall or as a take out dinner. Featuring: tourtiere (meat) pie (1/4 pie), pea soup (8 ounces), mashed potatoes, green beans, and various desserts. \$15 per dinner. Reservations: tinyurl.com/KnightsMeatPieDinner2024.



02|04 SUNDAY Diocesan Marriage Day Mass

Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington • 10 am
Married Couples celebrating milestone anni-

versaries in 2024, who wish to be recognized at the Diocesan Anniversary Mass, can register by contacting Nicole Hamilton at nhamilton@vermontcatholic.org or 802-658-6110 ext. 1131. Recognition is given to couples celebrating marriages of 5, 10, 15, 20, 50, 51, or more years. **The deadline to register is Friday, January 26, 2024.** Parishes who wish to recognize significant anniversaries locally can request certificates signed by Monsignor John McDermott and mailed to the parish.



02|06 TUESDAY Our Lady's Kitchen Luncheon

Our Lady of the Angels, Randolph • 11 am - 1 pm
Free meal! Come one, come all!



02|09, 03|08, 04|12 FRIDAYS Essex Community Dinners

Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Jct. • 5:30 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.



02|10 SATURDAY Theology of the Body Symposium

St. Catherine of Siena, Shelburne • 12 - 3:30 pm
Luncheon & Keynote Session presentation:

Theology of the Body: Life, Love, and You! Speaker: Fr. Jon Schnobrich. Two Concurrent Afternoon Sessions: The Truth Within: Appreciating the Gift of Your Fertility with Dr. Jessica Whelan and Nurturing the Feminine Genius in Modern Feminist Culture with Valerie Parzyck. Please register by Feb. 5 through the church office: (802) 985-2373.



02|11, 03|10, 04|14 SUNDAYS Knights of Columbus Breakfast Buffet

St. Peter Parish Hall, Vergennes • 8 - 10 am

\$12 adults, \$7 children 8-12 yrs., \$38 immediate family max.

02|11 SUNDAY



Monthly COSP KofC Fund Raising Breakfast

Christ Our Savior, Manchester • 9 am - 12 pm
Proceeds support parish and community

outreach programs.



02|15, 03|14 THURSDAYS Spanish Mass

St. Peter, Vergennes • 7 pm

Fr. Timothy Danaher, O.P., Campus Minister at Dartmouth will be offering the monthly Spanish Mass.



02|16 FRIDAY Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 5 - 7 pm

Cost is \$15 for adults, \$7 for children 9 and under, \$40 for an immediate family (5 or more). Tickets are required, call Dave (802) 864-4166 x 207.



02|18 VARIOUS DAYS Bible Study: The Prophets — Messengers of God's Mercy

Locations include: Bethel, Northfield, Randolph

Classes begin the week of February 18 with a two week break at Easter. For the cost of \$15, each student will receive a Bible

Timeline Chart, the study workbook, online access to the instruction videos (good for a full year), and an online copy of the workbook. There will be ten classes which will meet each week for about 1½ hours.

Mondays 6-7:30 pm, Our Lady of the Angels, Randolph

Tuesdays 3-4:30 pm, St. Anthony, Bethel

Wednesday 6-7:30 pm, St. John the Evangelist, Northfield

Fridays 9:45-11:15, Our Lady of the Angels, Randolph

FOR MORE INFO: Elizabeth.estuart@vermontcatholic.org.



02|20, 27, 03|05, 12, 19 TUESDAYS Weekly Lenten Taize Prayer

Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales, Bennington
5:30 pm

Everyone is warmly invited to attend.



02|22, 29, 03|07, 14 THURSDAYS Lenten Lecture Series: Eucharistic Miracles, Marian Apparitions & Interesting Saints

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

A potluck dinner and an interesting lecture highlighting, each evening, one Eucharistic Miracle, one Marian apparition, and one interesting Saint. There will be great food, great fellowship and an opportunity to learn more about our faith.



02|23 FRIDAY Lenten Lecture Series: A Deep Dive into the Mass

St. John the Evangelist, Northfield • 6 - 8 pm

Potluck Supper and a detailed look at the Mass, its roots in tradition and scripture presented by Fr. Scott Gratton.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte

- Kitchen Steward
- Housekeeper

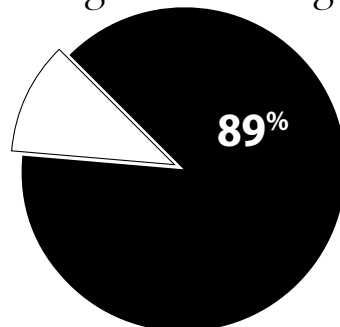
Contact Abbi Stumpf
at (802) 928-3362

or astumpf@saintannesshrine.org



BISHOP'S
ANNUAL
APPEAL

Progress: 89% to goal



Raised:
2,217,046
as of Jan. 10

Goal:
\$2,503,354

Give Online
vermontcatholic.org/giveonline
or scan the QR code to the right.

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

