

# The Inland See

NEWS FROM

May 11–17, 2024

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

## Moms Walking with Moms in Need



*“I greatly desire that ... our parishes ... may become islands of mercy in the midst of a sea of indifference.” —Pope Francis*

This weekend, parishes throughout the Diocese of Burlington observe Mother’s Day, honoring the vocation of motherhood and celebrating the mothers in our lives. Some parishes offer mothers gestures of appreciation, such as a rose. Most priests offer a special blessing for mothers at the end of Mass.

Mother’s Day also offers us an opportunity to reflect on how well our parishes are being “islands of mercy” for struggling pregnant and parenting mothers. Can the parish do more to make choosing life an easier decision for pregnant mothers and to support mothers who have chosen life? If parishioners encounter a woman unexpectedly pregnant and fearful, would they know how they can help her?

A nationwide, parish-based initiative called Walking with Moms in Need, launched by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Pro-Life Activities in 2020, provides an excellent tool for helping parishes be more prepared for assisting pregnant and parenting mothers in need.

Walking with Moms in Need is essentially a simple process that leads a WWMIN parish leader and a small core team of parishioners in identifying resources in the area that serve pregnant and parenting moms. They then assess the compiled lists of resources, communicate those resources so that parishioners can be more informed, and prayerfully develop a plan for how the parish can better support moms in need.

Parish plans will differ based on the unique resources and makeup of each parish and how the Holy Spirit is calling them to respond. One parish might discern that they will commit to printing local pregnancy help resource information in the bulletin each weekend; while another parish might begin a new, dedicated outreach ministry for mothers in need.

Several parishes in the Diocese of Burlington have completed their WWMIN inventory and have implemented their parish plans. Their efforts are bearing fruit.

Under the auspices of one parish’s newly launched WWMIN ministry, parishioners responded generously to the call to provide new baby items and gift cards as a “baby shower” for a couple in difficult circumstances who were welcoming a newborn. Another parish felt called to provide gently used clothing for mothers and diapers for their babies. Parishes generally publish the list of resources on their website or in other ways, such as creating a brochure.

The possibilities are endless, and whether parishes plan something very basic or whether they “dream big,” all efforts contribute to building a culture of life in Vermont by serving mothers in need.

The USCCB provides a comprehensive, on-line WWMIN Parish Action Guide that includes everything you need to know to implement Walking with Mom in Need in the parish. Please see [walkingwithmoms.com](http://walkingwithmoms.com).

Additionally, the diocesan Respect Life Office can help parishes get started and offer encouragement and assistance and hosts a monthly online meeting for WWMIN parish leaders.

The Respect Life Office would love to see more parishes implement Walking with Moms in Need. If you are interested in serving as a WWMIN parish leader or a member of the WWMIN Core Team or simply have questions, contact the Respect Life Office at 802-658-6110, ext 1201, or email [ehaupt@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:ehaupt@vermontcatholic.org).

*— Eileen Haupt is the respect life coordinator  
for the Diocese of Burlington.*

# Upcoming Events



05|13 MONDAY  
**Our Lady of the Valley Book Club**  
*Bethel Library, Bethel • 5:30 pm*  
The Book Club will be meeting next to review *The Shadow of His Wings: The True Story of Fr. Gereon Goldmann, OFM* by Fr. Gereon Goldmann.



05|16, 23 THURSDAYS  
**The Church in the Modern World**  
*via Zoom • 9 - 10 am*  
Fr. Henry Furman is leading a study every Thursday at 9 am online via zoom. The current study is "The Church in the Modern World" and began on Thursday, April 11. Please contact the rectory at [stmichael@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:stmichael@vermontcatholic.org) if you'd like to join us.



05|16, 06|20 THURSDAYS  
**BINGO**  
*St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 6:30 - 9:30 pm*  
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. All food items are donated to the local Food Shelf.



05|18 SATURDAY  
**Walk to Mary**  
*Isle La Motte • 9 am - 2 pm*  
2.3 mile walk from St. Joseph's Church to St. Anne's Shrine starting at 9 am (approximately one hour). Holy Hour of Adoration at St. Anne's Shrine starting at 9:30 am, Mass at 11 am. We will have lunch after Mass, please bring your own. We will walk/pray the Stations of the Cross for Life at 1 pm, with time after that to walk the grounds.  
**FOR MORE INFO: contact Janice (802) 848-3834, [janicegodin@myfairpoint.net](mailto:janicegodin@myfairpoint.net) or Renee (802) 370-2231, [rjpatterson1962@gmail.com](mailto:rjpatterson1962@gmail.com).**



05|18, 06|15 SATURDAYS  
**Men's "Cor" Formation**  
*St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 10 - 11:30 am*  
Calling all men to fellowship, prayer and a deeper faith! You are invited to participate in COR Formation. COR Formation will be held on third Saturdays. All men are welcome. Coffee and donuts provided.



05|18 SATURDAY  
**St. Peter's Cemetery Committee — Bingo**  
*St. Peter, Vergennes • 5 pm*  
Doors open at 5 pm, Bingo starts at 6 pm. This is a family friendly event. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold. This event is sponsored by St. Peter's Cemetery Committee to benefit the on-going efforts for cemetery improvements.



05|22, 29 WEDNESDAYS  
**Discover The Our Father Prayer**  
*Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Jct. • 9 - 11 am*  
In preparation for the year of the Jubilee 2025, we will study The Our Father with the Catechism of the Catholic Church. We will meet for four Wednesdays in May (1, 8, 22, 29) following the 8:30 am Mass, in the Hoehl Room.



05|24, 25, 26 FRI, SAT, SUN  
**Rachel's Vineyard Healing Retreat**  
*Saranac Lake, NY*  
Step into a new day! Find hope and healing at Rachel's Vineyard after-abortion healing retreat. Register online: [rcdony.org/pro-life](http://rcdony.org/pro-life). More info: Diocese of Ogdensburg Respect Life Office: (518) 524-0774.



05|31 FRIDAY  
**Saints Shuffle 2024**  
*Millstone Trails in Websterville • 4 - 7:30 pm*  
Seventh annual community fun run/walk aimed at benefiting St. Monica-St. Michael School. Participants can choose between a virtual option or join in person on a scenic trail that passes historic granite quarries at the Barre Town Forest. Race day registration will also be available. Registration is \$25 for participants aged 14 and younger and \$35 for those aged 15 and above. For more info or to register, visit the event's website at [runsignup.com/Race/VT/Websterville/SaintsShuffle](http://runsignup.com/Race/VT/Websterville/SaintsShuffle) or contact [cmeyer@stmonica-stmichael.org](mailto:cmeyer@stmonica-stmichael.org).



05|31 FRIDAY  
**Holy Hour for Vocations**  
*Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington • 6:30 pm*  
You are invited to join seminarians and clergy as we pray for vocations in our diocese.



06|01 SATURDAY  
**First Saturday Devotions**  
*Holy Family, Essex Junction • 8 am*  
Every first Saturday starting with Confessions and the Rosary at 8 am followed by Mass at 8:30 am.



06|01 SATURDAY  
**Transitional Diaconate Ordination**  
*Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington • 10 am*  
Luan Tran is scheduled to be ordained this year to the transitional diaconate. All are welcome. The Mass will also be live-streamed to the diocesan website: [vermontcatholic.org/news/communication/tv-mass](http://vermontcatholic.org/news/communication/tv-mass).



06|04 TUESDAY  
**Our Lady's Kitchen Luncheon**  
*St. Anthony, Bethel • 11 am*  
Free meal! Come one, come all!



06|06 THURSDAY  
**Spanish Mass**  
*St. Peter, Vergennes • 7 pm*  
Fr. Timothy Danaher, O.P. will be offering Mass in Spanish. A meal will follow the Mass.



06|09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 SUN - FRI  
**5-day Directed Retreat**  
*St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte*  
This 5-Day Directed Retreat in the Ignatian tradition begins at 7 pm on Sunday, June 9 and concludes with lunch on Friday, June 14. The cost is \$550 per person which includes private room and all meals. To register: contact Joe Gallagher at (802) 928-3362 or [info@saintannesshrine.org](mailto:info@saintannesshrine.org).



06|14 FRIDAY  
**Essex Community Dinner**  
*Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Jct. • 5:30 pm*  
These meals are free to all but donations to cover parish expenses are appreciated. Take out dinners are also available.



06|21 FRIDAY  
**Witness to Love Training**  
*Blessed Sacrament, Stowe • 8:30 am - 2 pm*  
The day will begin with welcome and refreshments at 8:30 am and should conclude at around 2 pm. Lunch will be provided. The Co-Founders of Witness to Love, Ryan and Mary-Rose Verret, will be the presenters. Contact Deacon Armand Auclair if you do not have the Witness to Love Materials. Registration: [vermontcatholic.org/event/witness-to-love-training/](http://vermontcatholic.org/event/witness-to-love-training/)



07|07 SUNDAY  
**Annual Diocesan Family Day Mass**  
*St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte • 12:15 - 3 pm*  
The annual Diocesan Family Day Mass will be celebrated July 7 at 12:15 p.m. at St. Anne's Shrine in Isle LaMotte with Burlington Diocesan Administrator Monsignor John McDermott as celebrant. A barbecue will follow. The shrine will be providing a free-will-donation barbecue after the Family Day Mass as in the past. Visitors are welcome to bring their own picnic as well as lawn chairs and lawn games. RSVP by July 3 to: [sas@sse.org](mailto:sas@sse.org) or (802) 928-3362. Additional information: contact Deacon Armand Auclair, Marriage and Family Life Coordinator for the Diocese of Burlington at (802) 658-6110 ext. 1451 or [aaclair@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:aaclair@vermontcatholic.org).



08|20 TUESDAY  
**One-day Pilgrimage to the St. Kateri Shrine**  
Join us for a one-day pilgrimage to the St. Kateri Shrine in Kahnawake, Quebec, outside of Montreal. Pickups and dropoffs in Middlebury and South Burlington. For details and the Registration Form, contact Fr. Schneider at [bschneider@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:bschneider@vermontcatholic.org) or (802) 388-2943.



## Pilgrimage to Rome — April – May 2025

Consider joining Fr. Matthew Rensch on a pilgrimage to Rome, Assisi, Orvieto, Cascia, and Norcia, among other sites. The pilgrimage will visit the Eucharistic Miracles and three incorrupt saints. A ProRome tour manager will accompany the group. Private bus transportation, four-star hotels, Catholic tour guides, all tours and tickets, daily breakfast are all included in the price.

Details here:

[www.prometours.com/fr-matthew-reusch/](http://www.prometours.com/fr-matthew-reusch/)