

NEWS FROM The Inland See

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

May 18–24, 2024

A Message from our Bishop-elect



My dear family in Christ:

By now most parishioners in the Diocese of Burlington have heard that Pope Francis has appointed me to serve as the 11th bishop of Burlington. I am humbled by this appointment and promise to pray for all members of our local Church even more than I have been as administrator. Please pray for me as I prepare for my episcopal ordination on July 15, 2024.

Some may wonder how someone finds out they have been named a bishop. I thought I would share my story with you and offer a brief thought on how this appointment has taught me a valuable lesson in faith.

On Sunday, April 28, after my usual early morning cup of coffee, some prayer, exercise, and a light snack, I opened up the doors to The Catholic Center at the University of Vermont at 7:15. I went into the chapel to continue my prayer, and then at 7:25 a brilliant flash of lightning and a loud peal of thunder erupted overhead. At that exact moment my phone rang, and I saw the area code 202 — Washington, D.C. I expected it was a call from the apostolic nuncio, and so I answered the phone and went to my office. I thought he said to me that Pope Francis had appointed a new bishop for Burlington. I asked him who it was, and he responded enthusiastically, “no, he has appointed you, you to be bishop of Burlington.” While I did not feel worthy of such an appointment, trusting the Lord to provide the grace necessary to fulfill the duties, I said yes. I had to keep this confidential until it became public on May 6 — not an easy task.

I think the lightning and thunder were a heavenly reminder that the Lord is always present in our lives, sometimes in big and significant moments, but — as I was in the chapel in the presence of Our Lord in the silence of the tabernacle and Blessed Sacrament — sometimes in the silent moments of our lives. In either case, He is with us and provides what we need to follow Him with all our heart, soul, and strength.

As I prepare to take on the responsibility of the episcopacy, it is my hope and prayer that I can help people know that presence of God in their lives in great and small moments in order to help them become the saints they are called to be.

Oremus pro invicem! Let us pray for one another!

The Most Reverend John J. McDermott



Bishop-elect of Burlington
Diocesan Administrator

Upcoming Events



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|23 THURSDAY

Our Lady's Kitchen: A Meal with a Movie

Our Lady of Angels, Randolph • 6 - 8 pm

Potluck — bring your best recipe! Supper at 6, popcorn and movie at 6:30. We will be watching The Chosen, Season 2, episodes 1 and 2.



05|24, 25, 26 FRI, SAT, SUN

Fr. Pio Mandato Retreat Weekend and Healing Service with St. Padre Pio Relic

Christ the King/St Anthony Parish, Burlington

Friday, May 24, 6–7:30 pm, St. Anthony Church
Healing Service with Adoration and Confessions

Saturday, May 25, 9 am – 5:30 pm, Christ the King Church
Retreat day with Mass, Confessions, Adoration, Rosary, relic veneration and blessing, and a talk by Fr. Pio Mandato.

Saturday, May 25, 4:15 pm, St. Anthony Church
Fr. Mandato with concelebrate Mass with Fr. Baker at 4:15 pm, with blessing with the relic after Mass.

Sunday, May 26, 9 am and 11 am

Fr. Mandato with concelebrate the two Sunday Masses with Fr. Baker, with blessing with the relic after Mass.



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. 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 or contact 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

Corpus Christi Parish Golf Tournament

Save the Date

Join Corpus Christi Parish for a day of FUNdraising for the parish. There will be a four person scramble golf tournament as well as 30+ silent auction items, food, yard games, and more! Contact Chase or Paige Lindholm at (920) 323-5551 or cplindholm@gmail.com for more information.



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.



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.



06|14, 07|12 FRIDAYS

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|15 SATURDAY

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 is Latin for Heart. Though fraternity, prayer, and the study of God's pursuit of souls, 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 each month. All men are welcome. Coffee and donuts provided.



06|20 THURSDAY

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.



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/



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 Bishop-elect 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 (not required, but helpful): info@saintannesshrine.org or (802) 928-3362.



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 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-rensch/