

The Inland See

NEWS FROM

February 22–28, 2025

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

Ash Wednesday

A time for reflection and support for those in need

As we approach Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season, we are reminded of the importance of reflection, repentance, and acts of charity. Ash Wednesday marks the start of a 40-day journey leading to Easter, a time when we are called to deepen our faith, strengthen our relationship with God, and serve those in need.

One of the key aspects of Lent is to engage in works of mercy and compassion, particularly toward the vulnerable members of our community. During this time, we have an opportunity to make a tangible difference in the lives of others through acts of charity, prayer, and self-sacrifice.

As part of our Lenten observance, we invite you to consider supporting Vermont Catholic Charities through the Ash Wednesday collection. Any gift, no matter the size, makes a difference. Since 1929, Vermont Catholic Charities has worked tirelessly to provide essential services to individuals and families in need, including food, shelter, counseling, and more. With no geographical limitations, individuals from all 14 Vermont counties are helped. Guided by our faith, we do what we do because we are Catholic, not because those we serve are Catholic.

The clients who come to us are some of the most vulnerable in our communities. Your support will help transform people's lives.

Emergency Aid: assisting more than 3,300 children and adults

John is a single parent who is raising two school-aged children. He works full-time but had fallen behind on an electric bill while changing jobs. We helped with his electric bill and provided a food card while he got back on his feet. John said, "Thank you for your kindness. It is such a relief to receive this help. I never thought I would be in this situation, but it was amazing to know there are organizations who can help."

Prison Ministry Program: 21 volunteers providing over 3,000 hours of support to inmates

"Unfortunately, being incarcerated has resulted in losing most of my family, some through age and some who don't want anything to do with me now that I'm in prison. So, that's what I mean when I say the prison ministry volunteers who spend time with us each week have come to mean so much more to me in my life. They not

only share their faith but have also become the only adults that I've got left in my life who I feel comfortable talking with."

Counseling Services: supporting more than 220 clients per year

"I am grateful for our work together. I now have a clearer sense of direction and am moving forward with greater confidence."

Residential Care Homes: caring for more than 150 residents per year with more than 80% on Medicaid

"Our family feels the deepest appreciation and gratitude to you for all you have done for our mom over the past many years. Your combination of efficient care, compassion, and personal, one-to-one relating have been extraordinary. Mom could not be in a better place!"

As we begin this sacred season of Lent, let us reflect on the words of Jesus: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me" (Mt 25:40). By supporting Vermont Catholic Charities, we can all make a lasting impact on the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Donations can be mailed to Vermont Catholic Charities, 55 Joy Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403 or made online at <https://www.vtcatholiccharities.org/ways-to-give>.

Thank you for your generosity and compassion. As a Catholic community, let us be the hands and feet of Christ to our neighbors in need.

May this Lenten season bring you closer to God and inspire you to live out His call to love and serve others.

In Christ's love,

Mary Beth Pinard

Mary Beth Pinard, executive director
of Vermont Catholic Charities Inc.



Upcoming Events



02|24, 26 MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

Diocesan Lay Formation Information Webinar

via Zoom • 7 pm

The Diocesan Lay Formation Leadership Program seeks to form laity to assist in leadership roles in their parishes. This is a 2-year program that meets one Saturday a month in person, with additional formation taking place via online courses.

Register online at:

Monday, February 24: tiny.cc/2hv5001

Wednesday, February 26: tiny.cc/6hv5001



02|25 – 04|09

Hebrews – The New & Eternal Covenant

TUESDAYS: St. Anthony, Bethel • 3 pm

WEDNESDAYS: St. John the Evangelist, Northfield • 6 pm

FRIDAYS: Our Lady of the Angels, Randolph • 9:45 am

Classes will meet weekly for discussion and to review the videos provided by Ascension Press. Preregistration is required.



02|25 TUESDAY

St. JH Newman Sermon Seminars

via Zoom • 6 pm

Fr. Kevin Chalifoux will discuss Parochial and Plain Sermons, Volume I, Sermon 22: "Witnesses of the Resurrection." Visit page for Zoom link: vermontcatholic.org/event/st-john-henry-newman-series-of-sermon-seminars/



02|26, 03|05, 12, 19, 26 WEDNESDAYS

Bible Study

Holy Cross, Colchester • 12 - 1 pm

Interested in joining an informal bible study group? Our bible study meets weekly to discuss and discern how to put God's Word into practice in our lives. If you have questions, please call the parish office at (802) 863-3002.



03|01, 15, 22, 29 SATURDAYS

SoulCore

St. Andrew, Waterbury • 9 - 10 am

New class session and location! SoulCore is a combination faith and fitness class based on the Most Holy Rosary. Class is about 1 hour. Everyone is welcome, bring your mat and water. Suggested Donation of \$10.



03|01 SATURDAY

Light of Hope: Diocesan Youth Day Retreat

Sacred Heart St. Francis De Sales, Bennington

10 am - 3:45 pm

Calling all 7th-12th graders! Join us for a free Diocesan Day Retreat. Bring a bagged lunch and snacks with them. The official end of the retreat is at 3:45 pm. Participants and families are encouraged to stay to attend the 4 pm Mass with the group. Register at: bit.ly/day-retreat-registration.



03|01, 04|05 SATURDAYS

BINGO

All Saints, Richford • 11:30 am - 3 pm

Doors will open at 11:30 am and the games will begin at 1 pm. Homemade lunch, desserts & beverages. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Council #2610.



03|01 SATURDAY

Cemetery Committee Bingo

St. Peter, Vergennes • 5 - 8 pm

Please join us for Bingo in the parish hall.

Doors open at 5pm, Bingo starts at 6 pm. This is a family friendly event. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold.



03|02 SUNDAY

Eucharistic Healing Service

St. John the Evangelist, St. Johnsbury • 3 pm

Father Lance Harlow will conduct a Eucharistic

Healing Service with Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament and praying over by Father Harlow.



03|04, 11, 18, 25, 04|01, 08, 15 TUES.

Wilderness Within

St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 9 am / 6:30 pm

This Lent, St. John Vianney Women's Ministry

presents "Wilderness Within," a multimedia journey on Tuesdays at 9 am or 6:30 pm. Using daily reflections, journaling, and video presentations, Sr Josephine Garrett, CSFN, will guide us to discover the ways in which Christ wants to transform and heal our hearts. More information and registration are at stjohnvianneyvt.org/wilderness-within



03|06 THURSDAY

Mount St. Joseph Academy Open House

Mount St. Joseph Academy Rutland • 5 - 7 pm

The Open House for prospective students and their families will include Student-Led Tours and Teacher-Student Presentations. MSJ student ambassadors will lead them through a guided tour of the school. Faculty and staff will be on-hand to answer questions and share insights into joining the MSJ family. Light refreshments will be provided.



03|09 SUNDAY

Rite of Election & Call to Continuing Conversion

Cathedral of St. Joseph • 3 pm

Celebrated by Bishop McDermott on the First Sunday at Lent, during this rite, the Church "elects" those seeking full initiation into the Church through Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist at Easter. Friends and family of those participating and all the faithful from around the diocese are invited to celebrate with us. A reception in the parish hall will follow the liturgy.



03|09 SUNDAY

Vergennes Knights of Columbus Breakfast Buffet

St. Peter, Vergennes • 8 - 10 am

\$12 adults, \$7 children 8 to 12. Sponsored by the Vergennes Council Knights of Columbus.



03|11 TUESDAY

Our Lady's Kitchen Lunch

St. Anthony, Bethel • 11 am - 1 pm

Free hot meal for one and all!



03|12 WEDNESDAY

Grief Ministry and Support

All Saints, Richford • 6 pm

A time of openness regarding the loss of a loved one. Led by Deacon Armand Auclair.



03|13 THURSDAY

Spanish Mass

St. Peter, Vergennes • 7 pm

Spanish Mass with homemade Mexican meal to follow. All are welcome! Bilingual Missalettes are available.

United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Vermont

In re Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington, Vermont,

Case No. 24-10205-HZC

Claims Notice for Survivors of Sexual Abuse and Others With Claims Against the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington, Vermont

If you were sexually abused by any person connected with the Diocese, a Catholic parish, or Catholic school within the geographic area of the Diocese, or have any claims against the Diocese, you must file a claim by **April 4, 2025**.

For more diocesan information: visit vermontcatholic.org

For the bankruptcy docket: visit

<https://case.stretto.com/diocesefurburlington>

For U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Vermont information: visit vtb.uscourts.gov

For advice about your rights: contact an attorney