

NEWS FROM The Inland See

July 12-18, 2025

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

Reflections on one year as Bishop of Burlington



My dear family Christ,

It is hard to believe that I am celebrating my first anniversary as the 11th Bishop of Burlington. Some days it feels as if the year slipped by in the blink of an eye, and at times I think it has been much longer than a year. In any event, I wish to begin by expressing my gratitude to God for the many graces I have been given over the course of this past year, and next, to thank all of you for the incredible support you have given me since last July. I cannot imagine receiving a better welcome than I have experienced over the last 12 months. The prayerful support of parishioners from every parish has been such a source of joy and consolation.

If you have been following my travels, I have visited almost every church over the last 12 months and have been impressed by the faith exhibited in all those attending Mass. Parishes, large and small, are striving to provide reverent and welcoming liturgies. I have noticed a slight increase in the number of younger families and individuals coming to our churches, and for this we must be thankful. I also ask that we take some time to invite a family member or friend back to church so our communities can continue to grow into the future. We all know someone who has stopped practicing their Catholic faith, for any number of reasons, and I believe many are just waiting to be asked to return. Remember, we are inviting them to encounter the love and mercy of the Lord.

Our schools are working to deepen their Catholic identity and ensure excellent formation in virtue and academic excellence. While far from perfect, I believe our schools are working to become more and more places where our students and their families encounter Christ and the joy of the gospel. Religious

education programs and youth ministry efforts are working to form students as faithful followers of Christ.

While I wish could write that the last 12 months have been nothing but one joy after another, with no challenges or difficulties in sight, but that would be a lie. I have to acknowledge that our Chapter 11 Reorganization has been a challenge both personally and pastorally. While I am convinced it was the right decision, the process does occupy a great deal of time and has had impacts upon our diocesan administration and ministries. Our staffing at 55 Joy Drive is being impacted and it will take time after we emerge from bankruptcy to rebuild what is being lost. I also continue to pray for those who were hurt in the past and ask the Lord to grant them healing. Please pray we reach a just resolution soon.

Finally, we need to continue to pray and work for vocations among our youth. It was one of the themes of my confirmation homily this year, and we must continue to pray that the Lord of the harvest sends more workers into the fields of Vermont. Let's not be afraid to encourage vocations and support those who may be discerning a call of consecrated life or priesthood.

I am blessed to be your bishop and pray I can provide the leadership required to lead us all closer to Jesus Christ.

God alone suffices,



+John J. McDermott
Bishop of Burlington

Upcoming Events



07|17, 18, 19 THURS, FRI, SAT Diocesan Jubilee of Hope Convocation

Brattleboro, Barre, Newport

Each evening features dinner, presentations to inspire and deepen faith, and opportunities for prayer and worship. Each evening will also have a simple activity you can partake in to become an "agent of hope."

July 17: St. Michael the Archangel, Brattleboro, 5 - 8 pm
Potluck, presentations, Adoration

July 18: St. Monica, Barre, 5 - 8 pm
Potluck, presentations, Adoration

July 19: St. Mary Star of the Sea, Newport, 4 - 7:30 pm
Mass, dinner, presentations, Rosary

FOR MORE INFO, visit: vermontcatholic.org/convocation



07|19, 08|16 SATURDAYS Cor Formation

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

Cor Formation for men is held on every third

Saturday in the church basement. This is an opportunity for men to grow closer to Jesus' through prayer, formation, and fraternity. Coffee and donuts are provided.



07|20 SUNDAY Diocesan Family Day Mass

St. Anne's Shrine, Isle LaMotte • 12:15 pm

Mass will be celebrated at 12:15 pm, and

Bishop John McDermott will be the celebrant. 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. FOR MORE INFO: info@saintannesshrine.org or (802) 928-3362.



07|24, 08|24 THURSDAYS Our Lady's Kitchen: Meal and Movie

Our Lady of Angels, Randolph • 6 - 8 pm

A free, hot meal for anyone in the community — followed by movie night. Supper at 6 pm and a movie with popcorn at 6:30 pm.



07|25, 26, 27 FRI, SAT, SUN Steubenville East Youth Conference

Springfield, MA

The conference is open to all high schoolers, including those who will be graduating both 8th grade and high school in June 2025. At each Steubenville Youth Conference, teens experience a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ that ignites their faith, strengthens their prayer life, and empowers them to live the mission long after the conference ends.



08|02, 09|06 SATURDAYS First Saturday Mass

Our Lady of Seven Dolours, Fair Haven • 7:30 am

Rosary at 7:30 am, Mass at 8 am.



08|02, 09|06 SATURDAYS First Saturday Mass

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.



08|08, 09|12 FRIDAYS Essex Community Dinner

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 5:30 - 7 pm

Intended to feed the lonely and needy among

us, these meals are free to all but donations are appreciated to cover parish expenses. Take-out dinners available at 6 pm.



08|09 SATURDAY St. Padre Pio Prayer Group

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 8 am

The Padre Pio group meets the second

Saturday of each month. We begin with the Rosary at 8 am, followed by Mass at 8:30 am. Special Intentions for the intercession of Saint Padre Pio and then learning about Padre Pio's life, ministry, and spiritual gifts.



08|09 SATURDAY Feast of St. Lawrence Celebration

Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Junction • 5:30

Come join us as we celebrate our patron saint.

Mass at 4 pm celebrated by Bishop McDermott to take place at St. Lawrence followed by a dinner at Holy Family at 5:30 pm. The menu will be salad, barbeque chicken and salmon, corn on the cob, Fr. Charlie's homemade baked beans, and birthday cake (it is the pastor's 80th birthday). The "steward of the year" award will be announced at the dinner. Everyone is invited. Please RSVP by calling the parish office at (802) 878-5331.



08|13, 09|10 WEDNESDAYS Grief Ministry and Support

All Saints, Richford • 6 pm

Coordinated by Deacon Armand Auclair.



08|13 WEDNESDAY St. John Henry Newman Series of Sermon Seminars

via Zoom • 6:30 pm

Fr. Matthew Rensch will read and present on St. John Henry Newman's sermon, Parochial and Plain Sermons, Volume III, Sermon 13 "Submission to Church Authority." For the Zoom link, go to: vermontcatholic.org/event/st-john-henry-newman-series-of-sermon-seminars/



08|30-09|02 SAT-TUES Marriage Encounter Family Camp-Out and Picnic

Would you like to share good times and the

outdoors with friends and families that share the same values of faith, marriage, and a love of nature? Then the Family Camp-out is for you! This annual event invites FAMILIES and friends to gather in the great outdoors for FUN around a FIRE, sharing FOOD, FAITH, and FELLOWSHIP. The Family camp-out is both for the Encountered and not yet Encountered, so bring friends, family, and other couples to make some great memories. Location to be determined. Cost is by donation. Contact Aaron and Andrea for more information, call 802-223-6561 or email abrssvt@gmail.com.



09|03 - 11|19 WEDNESDAYS Surviving Divorce Support Ministry

Holy Rosary, Richmond • 7 - 8:30 pm

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary parish is pleased to announce an exciting new ministry that will bring hope and healing to those who have experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage. Surviving Divorce features twelve video presentations that cover topics such as shock and grief, anger and forgiveness, money issues, dealing with children and a former spouse, and annulment and remarriage. This program is for the newly separated and divorced and those still struggling with issues many years later. Meetings will be in the rectory meeting room. For information or registration, contact Deacon Josh McDonald at jmcdonald@vermontcatholic.org.



09|06, 10|04 SATURDAYS Knights of Columbus Bingo

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

Parish Hall. Doors open at 11:30 am and the

games will begin at 1 p.m. Homemade lunch, desserts & beverages will be offered. Pull tickets will be available! Proudly sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Council #2610.



09|24 WEDNESDAY Chris Stefanick & Reboot!

St. Francis Xavier, Winooski • 7 - 9 pm

This high-energy, 2-hour event with internationally acclaimed speaker Chris Stefanick will awaken your faith, reignite your joy, and equip you with tools to live the life God created you for: A life of JOY. It will help you rediscover the JOY you were created for, and is perfect for everyone — even friends, family and children (12+) who may not be actively practicing their faith. buytickets.at/reallifecatholic/1663037

To add your parish event to the online calendar and The Inland See, fill out the form at: vermontcatholic.org/events/community/add.



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON



VERMONT
Catholic
VERMONTCATHOLIC.ORG/VTC

FOLLOW US



[instagram.com/dioburlington](https://www.instagram.com/dioburlington)
[facebook.com/dioburlington](https://www.facebook.com/dioburlington)