

NEWS FROM The Inland See

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

March 10–16, 2018

This Lent,
step outside your

COMFORT
ZONE



It's no secret that Catholics oppose abortion. While people of goodwill can disagree on the best means to end abortion and what role public policy plays, we Catholics are a "people of life" who believe that all human life is of equal worth and dignity, deserving of protection from conception until death.

And yet, our quest to make abortion unthinkable has become increasingly elusive, especially here in Vermont, where abortions are legal without restrictions throughout all 9 months of pregnancy. Recently, the State's largest hospital joined Planned Parenthood in providing elective abortions. An infant born at 23 weeks gestation will be resuscitated and sent to the neonatal ICU, while in an operating room in the same hospital, one that is 22 weeks, 6 days, can be aborted.

While this is legal, it is not right. One might ask what has happened in the 45 years since *Roe v Wade* that such a "new normal" is even possible. We were promised, "Safe, legal and rare" and now we are living in a culture where abortion is increasingly described as, "Just another medical procedure."

What has happened?

It has been said that all it takes for evil to triumph is for good people to say nothing. And yet when it comes to talking about abortion, we often squirm. This must change if we are to reverse the cultural mindset. We can learn to talk about abortion with charity and compassion, reflecting that we are pro all-life, not just against abortion. But we also must be firmly anti-abortion, because it is wrong.

Not everyone is suited to pro-life activism, but that doesn't mean there aren't ways everyone can help restore the

culture of life. This Lent, why not make a goal of stepping outside your comfort zone and adding some positive, pro-life energy to your world in some small way?

Here are some ideas to get started:

- 1 Post a pro-life meme or article on social media.
- 2 Follow the "Respect Life: Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington" Facebook page and invite at least one other person to do so.
- 3 Give up something extra for Lent for a pro-life intention.
- 4 Learn the facts. Science supports what Catholic moral teaching affirms: life begins at conception. Data about abortion can be eye opening. Many people aren't aware that help and alternatives exist for women with unexpected pregnancies. There are many links available on the Diocesan website's respect life page with talking points and information.
- 5 Share the facts. The next time the topic arises, don't remain silent. With charity, help correct the myths and errors. Don't be afraid to say, "I'm pro-life."
- 6 Donate to a pro-life organization or a pregnancy-care center.
- 7 Join a prayer group like 9 Days for Life or start a pro-life novena with your friends.

Use your imagination; together, we can make a difference!

For more ideas and information, visit the Respect Life link at www.vermontcatholic.org

— *Carrie Handy, Respect Life Coordinator*



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

To see more events or to submit your event to the diocesan calendar: vermontcatholic.org/calendar

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UPCOMING EVENTS



03|11 SUNDAY K of C Breakfast

St. Peter, Vergennes • 8 - 10 am

Come join us for a delicious breakfast of eggs, omelets (to order), hot cakes, french toast, sausage, bacon and more. Bring your family and friends! Adults \$8.50; Seniors 60+ \$7.50 and Kids 6-12yrs. \$6. Children under 6 years old are free. Immediate families of five or more \$28.



03|14, 21 WEDNESDAY Laetare Living — Lenten Retreats

Annunciation of the BVM, Ludlow
St. Jude, Hinesburg
9:30 am - 3 pm

Lenten Parish Retreats for all Parish Volunteers and Staff. Are you active in your parish: secretary, bookkeeper, maintenance help, Religious Education, Funeral Ministry, Music Ministry, etc...? Join us for a day of prayer, fellowship, and inspiration! The retreat is being offered in Ludlow on March 14 and in Hinesburg on March 21.

REGISTRATION: Idadelin@vermontcatholic.org



03|14 WEDNESDAY Mass of Thanksgiving

St. Charles, Bellows Falls • 7 pm

Fr. Lance Harlow will celebrate Mass as part of his Masses of Thanksgiving in honor of his Silver Jubilee of Priestly Ordination. Everyone is invited.



03|16 FRIDAY K of C Lenten Fish Dinner

St. Peter's Parish Hall, Vergennes • 5 - 6:30 pm

Battered baked haddock, fries, mac. & cheese, green beans, coleslaw, rolls, punch, milk, coffee. Adults \$12, Children under 12 \$6, Children under 6 are FREE, Immediate family only \$35. Please bring a dessert to share.



03|17 SATURDAY Silent Day-Retreat in the Carmelite tradition

St. Paul d'Abbotsford, QC • 9:30 am - 7 pm

Opportunity to give God time to love and transform us.

Teaching given by a Carmelite Friar in French with simultaneous translation available. Mass, lunch and fellowship over dinner. Drive takes about 1 hour 45 minutes; enhanced travel document or passport necessary.

FOR MORE INFO: email@ourladyoflifeinstitute.org



03|17 SATURDAY K of C Annual Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

St. Thomas, Underhill Center • 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Adults \$14, Children (5-10) \$8, with a maximum of \$35 per family. Children under 5 are free. Take-out meals will be available. Hall is not handicapped accessible. Come and bring the whole family for this tasty Irish dinner to celebrate St. Patrick's Day!

FOR MORE INFO: call the church office (802) 899-4632.



03|18 SUNDAY K of C Pancake Breakfast

St. Mark, Burlington
8:30 - 10:30 am

Pancakes, blueberry pancakes, french toast, bacon, ham, scrambled eggs, home fried potatoes, coffee, tea, milk, hot chocolate, orange juice. Suggested donation \$6.



03|18 SUNDAY Regional Parishes Lenten Penance Service

St. Monica Parish, Barre • 2 pm

Penance Service at 2 pm, Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament (Time for Silent Prayer & Individual Sacramental Confession) at 2:30 pm, Solemn Benediction at 3:45 pm. Several priests will be present and available for Confessions. Come pray with our Eucharistic Lord and make a good Confession in preparation for Holy Week and Easter!



03|20 TUESDAY Open House at Saint Francis Xavier School

Saint Francis Xavier School, Winooski
9 am - 2 pm

Saint Francis Xavier School serves students from Pre-School (age 3) to 8th grade. Our goal? Developing the whole person

... academics, character, community and faith. Come see what we have to offer. Walk-ins are welcome, but we also encourage RSVPs by calling (802) 655-2600 or email info@sfxvt.org. Visit our website at www.sfxvt.org.



03|23 FRIDAY St. Ambrose 18th Annual Lenten Fish Fry

St. Ambrose Parish Hall • 5 - 7 pm

Join us for "All You Can Eat" fish fry. Fried or baked haddock, French fries, coleslaw, beverage & dessert. Adults \$12.50, children nine and under \$6, immediate family of five \$37.



03|25 SUNDAY Palm Sunday Breakfast

St. Rose of Lima, South Hero
7:30 am



03|25 SUNDAY Praise & Worship

All Saints, Richford
4 - 5 pm

Praise & Worship lead by Bill Gavin from the Diocese of Burlington, including adoration and confessions until 5 pm. A potluck meal will follow the event at Dorion Hall. Please come and join us in prayer, adoration and fellowship.



03|27 TUESDAY Chrism Mass

St. Joseph Co-Cathedral, Burlington
11 am - 12:30 pm

Join Bishop Christopher Coyne and the priests of the Diocese of Burlington for the annual Chrism Mass. Priests will renew the promises they made at their ordination and the holy oils used throughout the year in the sacramental life of the church will be blessed.



03|27 TUESDAY Taize Prayer

Sacred Heart Saint Francis de Sales,
Bennington • 7 pm

The parish choir will offer its annual Holy Week Service of Silent Prayer, Song, and Adoration of the Cross in the Tradition of Taize. Taize is a village in the hills of Eastern France that is home to an ecumenical community of religious Brothers who have dedicated their lives to prayer and works of charity. Taize compositions consists of litany-style melodies and refrains that become increasingly prayerful with each repetition.



03|29 THURSDAY Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

St. Joseph Co-Cathedral, Burlington • 7 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows Mass in the Lower Chapel.



03|30 FRIDAY The Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion

St. Joseph Co-Cathedral, Burlington
3 - 4:30 pm

PRESENTATION: Vermont Catholic Advance Directives — How and Why

Bioethicist Deacon Pete Gummere will lead a discussion on the Vermont Catholic Advance Directive (VCAD) and distribute VCAD preparation packets at this presentation. The VCAD complies with Vermont's Advance Directive Law as well as with Church teaching. **FOR MORE INFO:** respectlife@vermontcatholic.org

03 14 WEDNESDAY	Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall, Stowe	1 pm and 6:15 pm
03 20 TUESDAY	St. John Vianney Parish Hall, S. Burlington	6:30 pm
03 21 WEDNESDAY	St. Michael's Parish Center Brattleboro	10:30 am & 6:30 pm
03 22 THURSDAY	St. Theresa's Church Parish Center, Orleans	6:30 pm
04 19 THURSDAY	St Monica Parish Hall Barre, Vermont	3:00 pm & 6:30 pm
05 01 TUESDAY	St. Edward Parish Hall, Derby Line	3:30 pm & 6:30 pm