

# NEWS FROM The Inland See

April 7–13, 2018

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON



After 64 listening sessions throughout the Diocese of Burlington, organizers of the diocesan synod are getting a clearer idea about what is on the minds of members of the Vermont Catholic community.

Many respondents said more effort needs to be put into outreach to youth and young adults, parents and young families and inactive Catholics. Other issues included welcoming and community building, communication and evangelization.

People thought the Diocese was doing well in areas of availability of Mass and the sacraments and keeping churches open and staffed. Others commended youth programs, care for the vulnerable and communication, particularly in the area of new media, are being done well.

Burlington Bishop Christopher Coyne, who called the synod, after consultation with the Synod Preparatory Commission, asked all the parishes in Vermont to have listening sessions. Parishioners were invited to offer responses to three questions:

1. *As the Catholic Church in Vermont, what are we doing well?*
2. *What are we doing that we should be doing better?*

### 3. *What are we not doing that we should be doing?*

Reported attendance at parish sessions was 1,431. In addition, 195 people submitted comments online, by email or in writing.

The synod delegates met for the first time in February. “This was not a formal synod session — those won’t occur until the fall — but a preparatory meeting with Bishop Coyne to get acquainted, learn about the synod process and consider the results of the listening sessions with the goal of helping to focus the issues for the synod,” explained Father Brian O’Donnell, executive secretary for the synod.

There will be another round of consultation in parishes and throughout the Diocese, during which parishes will be asked to prioritize the areas of improvement which were identified during the first round of listening sessions, he said.

The delegates will next come together with the bishop on May 5 to consider again the results of the consultation.

“Further preparation will follow before the synod sessions in the fall,” Father O’Donnell said.

Included in this bulletin is a preview of the themes each parish will be asked to prioritize.

VTC • Cori Fugere Urban

## Diocese of Burlington 2018 Synod Preparation

Round Two of Parish Consultation  
Spring 2018

What should the Church in Vermont (not just in your parish) do to more effectively accomplish its God-given mission of the salvation of souls?

Please prioritize the following seven (7) themes by ranking them, 1-7, in order of importance, with one (1) being the most important and seven (7) being the least important.

- **Reach out to our youth and young adults.** Help them embrace and practice the Faith. Evangelize and catechize them more effectively before, during, and after their sacramental preparation.
- **Reach out to Catholics and non-Catholics who may feel marginalized.** Support parents and young families, lapsed Catholics, the divorced, and others who experience challenges in living the Faith. Practice the corporal and spiritual works of mercy to help our neighbors in need.
- **Build stronger and more welcoming communities.** Make our parishes more vibrant communities of faith, and more visible parts of our larger local Vermont communities.
- **Communicate our message more clearly and effectively.** Use more new media, be transparent, make the Good News of salvation in Christ and the good works of the Church better known in Vermont.
- **Evangelize and catechize adults.** Proclaim the Gospel to all. Teach Catholics to know the Faith and to share it with others. Get back to the basics that are often forgotten.
- **Strengthen our life of prayer.** Improve liturgical music, preaching, and reverence. Offer more opportunities for devotions, adoration, and spiritual retreats.
- **Emphasize vocations.** Promote priestly and religious vocations. Find new ways to support our diocesan, religious, and extern priests. Involve laypeople more in our parishes and support them in their vocations.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



04|08 SUNDAY

## Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions

*Holy Family Church, Essex Junction • 2 - 4 pm*

Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions will begin with confession from 2-3 pm, followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and singing the Divine Mercy Chaplet.



04|09 MONDAY

## Rosary for Healing and Protection on Facebook Live

*Facebook, 11:20 am - 12 pm*

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. To help commemorate the month, the Diocese of Burlington is broadcasting a Rosary for Healing and Protection to Facebook Live. We will pray for healing for all who suffer from abuse or neglect, especially those who experienced abuse by a member of the clergy or Church personnel. Tune into the live feed on the diocesan Facebook page to pray alongside us. The video will remain available on the diocesan Facebook page after the conclusion of the live feed.



04|09 MONDAY

## Mass in Spanish

*St. Michael's College, Colchester • 7:30 pm*

Chapel of St. Michael the Archangel, with

Edmundite Fr. Marcel Rainville. Refreshments after the Mass.



04|10 TUESDAY

## Registration Deadline: Father/Son Retreat

*Mary Theotokos Retreat Center, Newark*

FOR MORE INFO: or to register, [kalderman@vermont-catholic.org](mailto:kalderman@vermont-catholic.org), (802) 658-6110 x1130.



04|10 TUESDAY

## "Thrifty Fashions" Fashion Show

*St. Mary School, Fair Haven*

6 - 8 pm

Hosted by Our Lady Of Seven Dolors Thrift Store, this event will feature an array of wearable ensembles and fashionable accessories for spring and summer, which will be available for purchase. Tickets \$5, \$150 in cash door prizes.

FOR MORE INFO: call the store at (802) 265-4900.



04|14 SATURDAY

## Padre Pio Devotions

*Holy Family, Essex Junction*

8 - 10 am

Confessions, the Rosary, followed by Mass at 8:30 am.

After Mass there are intercessory prayers to Padre Pio and refreshments and a presentation in the Hoehl Room.



04|15 SUNDAY

## Maple Breakfast

*St. Amadeus, Alburgh*

9 am - 12 pm

The menu will include eggs, pancakes, various meats, coffee/tea and maple dumplings. Adults \$10, 7-12 \$5, under 7 free.



04|15 SUNDAY

## Ascension Parish Maple Ham Dinner

*Georgia Elementary School, Georgia*

12 pm

Come join us at our annual maple ham dinner featuring delicious maple desserts! Adults \$14, Seniors \$10, Children 5-12 \$7, Under 5 Free, Family \$35.



04|15 SUNDAY

## Social Impacts and Responses to Opiate Abuse in our Community

*Mater Christi School, Burlington*

2 - 4 pm

The Sisters of Mercy and Mercy Associates are sponsoring a panel that will seek to address the problem of opiate abuse in Vermont. Panel: TJ Donovan, VT State Attorney; Mark Redmond, Director of Spectrum Youth and Family Services; and Dr. Stephen Fleffer, UVM Chief Medical Officer. Facilitator: Dr. John Reuwer, Emergency Medical Physician and Adjunct Professor of Peace and Justice, St. Michael's College. A portion of the *Hungry Heart*, a prize winning documentary film by Bess O'Brien, will be shown.



04|18 WEDNESDAY

## Mass of Thanksgiving

*Immaculate Heart of Mary, Williston • 7 pm*

Fr. Harlow will celebrate Mass as part of his

Masses of Thanksgiving in honor of his Silver Jubilee.



04|18 WEDNESDAY

## A Night of Healing Prayer

*Christ the King, Burlington*

*Annunciation of the BVM, Ludlow*

7 - 8 pm

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. To commemorate the month, the Diocese is hosting a Night of Healing Prayer to remember those who have suffered, or are currently suffering, from abuse and neglect. Everyone is invited to come to a service near you and gather in prayer. Please do not miss this special opportunity to pray for our neighbors and loved ones who need our support in their suffering.

Diocese of Burlington's  
**Totus Tuus**  
Summer Youth Program

**12 Locations!**  
**For More Info:**  
[vermontcatholic.org](http://vermontcatholic.org)

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. [respectlife@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:respectlife@vermontcatholic.org)

**St. Monica Parish Hall Barre, Vermont**  
Thursday, April 19, 2018 • 3:00 pm & 6:30 pm

**St. Edward Parish Hall, Derby Line**  
Tuesday, May 1, 2018 • 3:30 pm & 6:30 pm

**THE NEW EVANGELIZATION SUMMIT** *Inspiring Catholics*

**LIVE FROM OTTAWA APRIL 27-28, 2018**  
**WEBCAST TO HOST SITES ACROSS NORTH AMERICA!**

**STREAMING TO**  
**COLCHESTER, VT**  
Holy Cross Church, 416 Church Rd.  
[jperry@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:jperry@vermontcatholic.org) | 802-448-3515

For tickets or more information, visit [NEWEVANGELIZATION.CA](http://NEWEVANGELIZATION.CA)