

The Inland See

NEWS FROM

March 9–15, 2019

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

Discipleship, feasibility surveys to help Diocese establish plan

The Diocese of Burlington is currently conducting two studies resulting from the Diocesan Synod, one regarding the development of pastoral plans to create vibrant parishes and another to gauge the feasibility of a campaign to support those plans at the parish and diocesan levels.

The Disciple Maker Index Survey is being conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute; The Feasibility Survey is being conducted by Steier Group. Both the Catholic Leadership Institute and Steier Group are consultants to the Diocese.

“These surveys are equally important,” emphasized Ellen Kane, executive director of development, stewardship and communication for the Diocese of Burlington.

The Disciple Maker Index Survey will help parishes develop a pastoral plan based on their unique strengths and weaknesses.

“The Feasibility Survey will provide information about the type of support available to implement the pastoral plan at the parish level and at the diocesan level,” Kane explained. “These surveys are being done simultaneously because the results of both will help us decide if and how to move forward.”

The Feasibility Survey deadline is March 10 and it can be completed online by going to steiergroup.com/survey, clicking on Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington and entering the password Burlington.

The Disciple Maker Survey deadline is March 31 and it can be accessed at disciplemakerindex.com.

VTC • Cori Fugere Urban

Read an extended version of this article at vermontcatholic.org/2surveys.



The Rite of Election AND CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION

On the First Sunday of Lent, a special liturgy takes place at the cathedral church in every Diocese. The Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion is one part of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, a gradual process of conversion and initiation into the Catholic Church for those adults seeking baptism or for those already baptized who seek full communion in the Catholic Church.

Those preparing for baptism are called catechumens while those already baptized in another Christian denomination seeking full communion with the Catholic Church are called candidates.

An important part of the RCIA are the liturgical rites that are celebrated publicly with the parish community. Through the celebration of these rites, the entire parish

becomes part of the RCIA process, supporting catechumens and candidates with prayers and words of support, while the catechumens and candidates are slowly integrated into the community throughout the process – even before the celebration of baptism and confirmation. Being initiated into the universal Catholic Church, however, means more than just joining a single parish. The RCIA process reflects this, most especially through the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion, where the bishop has an opportunity to meet the catechumens and candidates and support them in their journey to the Catholic faith.

In the celebration, the godparents of the catechumens testify to the efforts the catechumens have taken to prepare

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themselves for baptism. The godparents – and the entire assembly – pledge their prayers and support for the catechumens. The bishop then elects the catechumens to receive the sacraments of initiation at Easter; It is an acknowledgement that God has called the catechumen to faith. Seeing that the catechumen has cooperated with that call, the universal Church, through the voice of the bishop, “elects” the catechumen to be initiated through baptism, confirmation and Eucharist. In a similar way, the sponsors of those seeking full communion in the Church testify to the preparation the candidates have undertaken. The bishop doesn’t “elect” them though since they are already baptized. Rather, the bishop recognizes their journey thus far and encourages them to continue that journey into the Catholic Church. Through the bishop’s recognition, they are reminded that they are joining a

Church that extends beyond their own parish community and they go with the prayers and support of the entire Church.

We invite the faithful to join in the celebration of the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion at 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 10, at the Cathedral of St. Joseph. (This is NOT a Mass.) Please keep the candidates and catechumens in your prayers throughout the Lenten Season as they make their final preparations to receive the sacraments of initiation. If you happen to see any catechumens or candidates in your own church, stop and introduce yourself. They are going to be (God-willing) the newest members of our faith family.

—*Josh Perry, Director of Worship, Diocese of Burlington*
Read an extended version of this article at vermontcatholic.org/riteofelection.

UPCOMING EVENTS



03|11, 18, 25 MONDAYS
Acts of the Apostles

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 7 pm

Fr. Richard Berube will present Luke’s Second

Volume: Acts of the Apostles on three Mondays: March 11, 18, and 25. Call the Rectory at (802) 878-5331 or email holyfamilysecretary@comcast.net for a reservation.



03|15 FRIDAY
Michael Mette Concert Event

St. Michael School, Brattleboro

7 - 8:30 pm

Join us for MJM7 — the Michael Mette Family Band in concert. Open to the whole family! A good will offering will be taken at the end of the event.



03|19 TUESDAY
Adoration and Rosary Devotion on the Feast of St. Joseph

St. Joseph Cathedral, Burlington • 7 - 8 pm

In honor to St. Joseph, Blue Army Vermont will lead the rosary and the Litany to St. Joseph, with the special prayer intention for the chronic homeless, homeless youth, immigrants, refugees, and for an end of human trafficking.



03|12, 19, 26, 04|02, 09 TUESDAYS
Bishop Robert Barron’s ‘The Mass’

St. Pius X, Essex Center

7 - 8 pm

We will view one episode each week in this six-part series. There is no cost to attend this event and all are welcome. Refreshments and materials provided by the Knights of Columbus. Series started on March 5.

RSVP: call St. Pius X office (802) 878-5997 or email John.Ludden@vtluddens@gmail.com



03|16 SATURDAY
Marriage Preparation Retreat

Christ the King, Rutland

9:30 am - 3 pm

A one-day Retreat for Engaged Couples. Come take a break from wedding preparation and spend time in prayer, sharing and fellowship with your fiancé and other engaged couples. Lunch and materials will be provided – prior Registration is required. There is no cost for this retreat.

FOR MORE INFO: vermontcatholic.org/event/marriage-preparation-retreat-day-rutland/



03|23 SATURDAY
2nd Annual Vermont Catholic Men’s Conference

St. Anthony, White River Junction • 9 am - 3 pm

Mass with Bishop Christopher Coyne. Keynote Speaker: Eric Sutulovich – Former NFL Coach. Guest Speakers: Msgr. John McDermott and Mr. Paul Kendall. Cost: \$40, and \$20 for those 21 years old and younger.

FOR MORE INFO: vermontcatholic.org/event/men/



03|14 THURSDAY
Bishop Robert Barron’s Catholicism Series

Holy Family, Essex Jct.

9:30 - 10:30 am

Join us for Episode 2 – Happy Are We: The Teachings of Jesus. We will play one episode each week, ending on May 16. Series began on March 7.



03|16 SATURDAY
St. Thomas K of C Irish Dinner

St. Thomas, Underhill • 5 - 6:30 pm

Knights of Columbus Annual Corned Beef &

Cabbage Dinner with all the trimmings. Adults: \$14, children ages 5-10: \$8, maximum of \$40 for a family. Children under age 5 eat for free. Take out meals are available. Come and bring the whole family for this traditional Irish Dinner. The parish hall is currently not handicap accessible, but will be soon.

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



03|23, 24 SATURDAY & SUNDAY
High School Retreat

St. Anne’s Shrine, Isle la Motte

All High School teens are welcome to join us

for a retreat weekend of great talks, fun, fellowship, time for quiet reflection and journaling, confession and more. Father Jon Schnobrich will be an integral part of the weekend, along with other great speakers. \$45 per person.

FOR MORE INFO: <https://www.vermontcatholic.org/event/high-school-retreat-saint-annes-shrine/>



03|15, 29, 04|12 FRIDAYS
St. Ambrose Lenten Fish Frys

St. Ambrose, Bristol • 5 - 7 pm

Meal includes fried or baked haddock, french fries, coleslaw, beverage & dessert. Adults: \$12.50, children 9 and under: \$6, immediate family of 5: \$37.

FOR MORE INFO: call St. Ambrose (802) 453-2488



03|18 MONDAY
Regional Lay Formation and Diaconate Info Night

Sacred Heart, Bennington

6:30 - 8 pm



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

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