

The Inland See

NEWS FROM

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

May 15–21, 2021

Immigration issues force major clergy, parish realignments

Significant clergy and parish realignments within the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington were announced this past weekend in a number of communities as a result of changes to U.S. immigration policies and processes. Four international priests, 3 from the Philippines and 1 from Nigeria, who were legally in the U.S. on religious worker visas, will be returning to their countries as their visas will expire before any application for green card status can be completed. Along with normal retirements and transfers, this means the Diocese will be losing six active priests come this July.

“The immigration complication was completely unexpected. The first stage of the green card process which used to take three to four months to complete now takes 17-18 months or longer,” said Bishop Christopher J. Coyne. “My staff began the process for the green cards in what we understood to be a timely fashion only to discover that we were at least a year too late for the priests to be able to stay. Even though these priests want to stay with their parishes here in Vermont, they must go home now so that they can return to Vermont in 12 months.”

As a result, some parishes will be without a resident priest — including parishes in the Champlain Islands, West Rutland, Proctor, Troy and Putney — for at least the next year. In order to provide coverage for the other parishes in the Diocese, a significant number of priests have been transferred to new assignments and duties. “I’ve tried to do everything I can to make sure that as many parishes and churches will continue to have pastors to care for them and I think we will be OK,” he said. “I know it will be difficult for a while for those ‘priest-less’ parishes, but we will try and provide as much coverage as possible for Sunday Mass and the sacraments.”

Parishes that will be temporarily without a resident priest:

- Our Lady of Mercy, Putney
- St. Andre Bessette, Troy
- Our Lady of the Lake, Grand Isle County
- St. Stanislaus Kostka and St. Bridget parishes, West Rutland
- St. Dominic Parish, Proctor

Parishes and chapels with clergy transfers:

Deacon Armand Auclair, temporary administrator of Our Lady of the Lake Parish, South Hero (*effective May 1, 2021*).

The Reverend Brendan Murphy, OP, administrator of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Williston, and Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish, Richmond (*effective June 15, 2021*).

The Reverend Richard Calapan, administrator of St. Thomas Parish, Underhill Center, and Assumption of Mary Parish, Cambridge (*effective July 1, 2021*).

The Reverend Dwight H. Baker, pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Shelburne (*effective July 1, 2021*).

The Reverend Monsignor Michael W. DeForge granted senior priest status (*effective June 30, 2021*).

The Reverend Henry P. Furman, pastor of St. Michael Parish, Brattleboro (*effective July 1, 2021*).

The Reverend Karl A. Hahr, pastor of St. Luke Parish, Fairfax, and Ascension Mission, Georgia (*effective July 1, 2021*).

The Reverend Lance W. Harlow, pastor of Corpus Christi Parish, St. Johnsbury (*effective July 1, 2021*).

The Reverend Justin J. Baker, pastor of Christ the King-St. Anthony Parish, Burlington (*effective July 1, 2021*).

The Reverend Rijo Johnson, SDV, administrator of St. Andre Bessette Parish, Troy (*effective July 1, 2021*).

The Reverend Monsignor John J. McDermott, vicar general, director of the Catholic Center at UVM, Burlington (*effective July 1, 2021*).

The Reverend Christopher Micale, pastor of Holy Angels Parish, and Immaculate Conception (St. Mary) Parish, St. Albans (*effective July 1, 2021*).

The Reverend Romanus Igweonu, parochial vicar of All Saints Parish, Richford, and St. John the Baptist Parish, Enosburg Falls (*effective July 1, 2021*).

The Reverend Monsignor Peter A. Routhier, rector of St. Joseph Cathedral Parish, Burlington (*effective July 1, 2021*).

The Reverend Sahaya Paul, parochial vicar of Blessed Sacrament Parish, Stowe, and Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Morrisville (*effective July 1, 2021*).

The Reverend Agnel Samy, HGN, administrator of St. Charles Parish, Bellows Falls (*effective July 1, 2021*).

The Reverend Steven Scarmozzino, administrator of St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, West Rutland, St. Bridget Parish, West Rutland and St. Dominic Parish, Proctor (*effective April 1, 2021*).

— *Ellen Kane is executive director of the Office of Development and Communication*

Upcoming Events



05|22 SATURDAY

Walk to Mary

Isle La Motte • 9 am - 3 pm

We will be make a 2.3 mile walk from St Joseph's Church to St Anne's Shrine, praying the Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet. Following the walk there will be Mass, time for picnic lunch, Stations of the Cross for Life and closing prayers. For more info: Janice (802) 848-3834, janicegodin@myfairpoint.net or Renee (802) 370-2231, rjpatterson1962@gmail.com.



05|22 SATURDAY

Take Out Chicken BBQ

St. Rose of Lima, S. Hero • 4:30 - 6 pm



05|24, 31 MONDAY

May with Mary

Cathedral of St. Joseph • 7 pm

Holy Hour with the Litany of Loreto and spiritual reflections on Mary by Brandon Schneider, seminarian. Confessions will be available during adoration.



06|05 SATURDAY

Our Lady of Fatima Devotions

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 8 am

Beginning with Rosary at 8 am, Confessions, and followed by Mass at 8:30 am.



06|12 SATURDAY

Padre Pio Devotions

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 8 am

Rosary at 8 am followed by Mass and an opportunity to learn more about Padre Pio.



06|19 SATURDAY

Ordination Mass

Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington • 10 am

The Diocese of Burlington joyfully celebrates the ordination of two men to Holy Orders. Deacon Robert Murphy will be ordained to the priesthood and Mr. Gregory Caldwell will be ordained to the transitional diaconate by Bishop Christopher J. Coyne. Due to the seating capacity restrictions, attendance at the Mass will be by invitation only. The Mass will be live-streamed on the Diocesan website.



06|20-25 SUNDAY-FRIDAY

Saint Anne's Shrine 5 Day Directed Retreat

St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte

The Society of St. Edmund will be conducting a 5-Day Directed Retreat in the Ignatian tradition. Using principles from the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, retreatants are invited to contemplate scripture passages in a silent environment, celebrate daily Eucharist and meet with a Spiritual Director each day. **FOR MORE INFO:** saintannesshrine.org/upcoming-retreats



07|11 SUNDAY

Family Mass with Bishop Coyne

St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte • 12 pm

More information will be shared soon!

Worldpriest Annual Global

ROSARY RELAY

Friday, June 11, 2021 • 2 p.m.

- Live-streamed from the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington
- Rosary to be led by Bishop Christopher J. Coyne
- Join us on www.vermontcatholic.org or facebook.com/DioBurlington/
- Learn more about the Worldpriest Annual Global Rosary Relay at worldpriest.com/annual-global-rosary-relay/
- Questions? Email Valerie Parzyck at vparzyck@vermontcatholic.org
- How many Vermonters can we get praying the Rosary together? *Join us to find out!*



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON



MAY 16 – 22, 2021

CHALLENGES TO GROW YOUR MARRIAGE

ASCENSION

Go on a picnic this week, which might end up being on the floor in your home. Pray together for those family members or neighbors who need God's loving mercy. Imagine your prayers flying the Heaven, with Jesus as he ascended into Heaven.

vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge