

# NEWS FROM The Inland See

February 5–11, 2022

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

## *The Vocation of Marriage*

When the Catholic Church teaches that marriage is a Christian vocation it is saying that the couple's relationship is more than simply their choice to enter a union which is a social and legal institution. In addition to these things, marriage involves a call from God and a response from two people who promise to build, with the help of divine grace, a lifelong, intimate and sacramental partnership of love and life. In *Amoris Laetitia*, Pope Francis writes:

Marriage is a vocation, inasmuch as it is a response to a specific call to experience conjugal love as an imperfect sign of the love between Christ and the Church. Consequently, the decision to marry and to have a family ought to be the fruit of a process of vocational discernment (no. 72).

The Second Vatican Council teaches that "all Christians in whatever state or walk of life are called to the fullness of Christian life and to the perfection of charity" (Constitution on the Church, n. 40). The call to marriage is a particular way of living the universal call to holiness given to every Christian in the Sacrament of Baptism. The calls to priesthood or to the vowed religious life are other Christian vocations (see St. John Paul II, *Familiaris Consortio*, no. 11). Along with marriage, all of them equally though in different ways, are a response to the Lord who says, "Follow me."

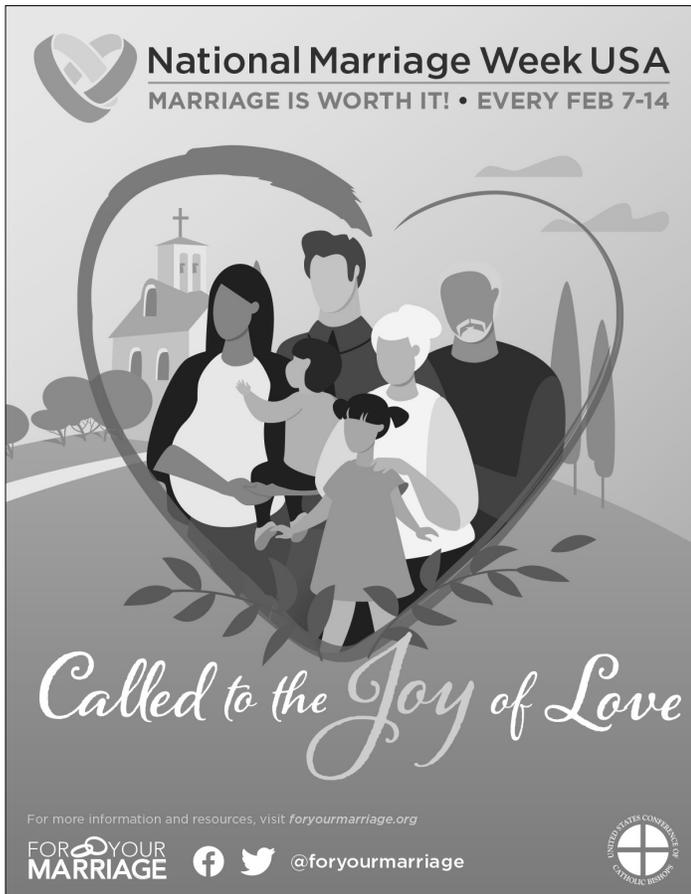
The call to love is "the fundamental and innate vocation of every human being." In the vocation of marriage – something which "is written in the very nature of man and woman," we see that "the love of husband and wife becomes an image of the absolute and unfailing love with which God loves" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, nos. 1603 and 1604).

A vocation is a personal call. It is offered freely and must be accepted freely. Attraction to a certain way of life or to a specific person can be a good sign of being called. Most often a person comes to recognize and accept a vocation gradually. This process, sometimes called discernment, is an opportunity for growth. It can be helped by prayer and guidance from trusted mentors, friends and family.

However, what begins as attraction must deepen into conviction and commitment. Those who are called to the married life should be ready to learn what their vocation means and to acquire the virtues and skills needed for a happy and holy marriage.

The vocation to marriage is a call to a life of holiness and service within the couple's own relationship and in their family. As a particular way of following the Lord, this vocation also challenges a couple to live their marriage in a way that expresses God's truth and love in the world.

— [www.foryourmarriage.org/the-vocation-of-marriage/](http://www.foryourmarriage.org/the-vocation-of-marriage/)



National Marriage Week USA  
MARRIAGE IS WORTH IT! • EVERY FEB 7-14

Called to the Joy of Love

For more information and resources, visit [foryourmarriage.org](http://foryourmarriage.org)

FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

@foryourmarriage

UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

### PRAYER FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Almighty and eternal God,

You blessed the union of married couples so that they might reflect the union of Christ with his Church: look with kindness on them.

Renew their marriage covenant, increase your love in them, and strengthen their bond of peace so that, with their children, they may always rejoice in the gift of your blessing.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

# Upcoming Events



02|12, 19, 26 SATURDAYS

## SoulCore

*Blessed Sacrament, Stowe • 3 - 4 pm*

SoulCore is an invitation to nourish body, mind and soul through prayer and functional movement. Workout can be modified to suit ability and comfort level; the prayers are the main focus. Freewill donation. Suggested items: mat, water, weights (optional, 1-3 lbs popular).



02|11 FRIDAY

## What Voters Need to Know About Proposal 5 from an RN

*St. Catherine of Siena, Shelburne • 6:30 pm*

Lynn Caulfield, RN, will present on Proposal 5, which seeks to amend the VT Constitution. She will speak about some of the far-reaching implications of this proposed amendment from a medical perspective. (Snow date: Feb. 18, 2022 at 6:30 PM)



02|13 SUNDAY

## St Peter's Chili Take Out

*St. Peter, Vergennes • 11:30 am - 1 pm*

Meat or vegetarian chili, corn bread, and brownie all for just \$10! **Reservation: (802) 877-2367.** Reservations are encouraged but you may also drive up without a reservation!



02|18 FRIDAY

## The Challenge Club for Catholic Girls

*Immaculate Heart of Mary, Williston • 6 - 8 pm*

Challenge is a club for girls to grow in virtue, friendship and their Catholic faith. **FOR MORE INFO: Mary Niekrewicz, mary.of.vt@gmail.com, (802) 878-5538 or Audrey Walko, audreycgsvt@gmail.com, (802) 373-9564.**



02|20 SUNDAY

## Movie Viewing: "Unplanned"

*St. Catherine of Siena, Shelburne • 2 - 4 pm*

Watch the movie, "Unplanned" based on the memoir by Abby Johnson, a former Planned Parenthood Clinic Director who now is an outspoken advocate for the pro-life movement.



02|22 TUESDAY

## Saints and Sinners

*Online • 7 pm*

Join us in February when Fr. Robery Murphy presents on Saints Therese of Lisieux. There will be time for prayer, small group and large group discussion. **For more info: vermontcatholic.org/saints-and-sinners.**



02|24 THURSDAY

## Lenten Presentation "Quarantine"

*Holy Family, Essex Junction • 7 - 8:30 pm*

Fr. Richard Berube, SSE presents on The Forty Days of Lent, of Jesus, of Elijah, and the desert experience of God's People. Israel.



03|03, 10, 17, 24, 31, 04|07 THURS

## Vermont Catholic Women's Group Lent 2022

*via Zoom • 7:30 - 9 pm*

Join the Vermont Catholic Women's Group on Zoom as we go through *Restore: A Guided Lent Journal for Prayer and Meditation* by Sr. Miriam James Heidland. YWe will have weekly edifying discussions. Join us for one or all meetings. Women of all ages are welcomed. Sign up for our mailing list at [www.stlukev.org](http://www.stlukev.org) and contact Carolina for more details.



03|05 SATURDAY

## First Saturday Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

In these times, let us seriously consider one of the important messages from our Lady of Fatima — the First Saturday devotion for Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This would include attending five consecutive first Saturday masses, going to confession within eight days, receiving Holy Communion, and meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary for fifteen minutes. Please prayerfully consider this for 2022! The Saturday Vigil Mass (for Sunday) may be used for the First Saturday Devotion offered in reparation for offenses against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.



03|05 SATURDAY

## Grief Support Group

*Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Jct. • 8-10 am*

Calling all Widows and Widowers... You are invited to join us for a support group, run by Catherine "Kate" King, UVM Mental Health Clinician (LCMHC) on the first Saturday of the month. Kate has been a group therapist in the community for over 20 years and is a widow herself. Join us for prayer, discussion and peer support for working through grief, at 8 am at Holy Family Parish Hall (upstairs' library). **FOR MORE INFO: call Kate (802) 881-5973.**



03|19 SATURDAY

## Annual Men's Conference

*Our Lady of Angels, Randolph • 8:30 am - 2:15 pm*

Join with other Catholic Men for a day of time of fellowship. Please contact Nicole Hamilton at [nhamilton@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:nhamilton@vermontcatholic.org) or call (802) 658-6110, ext. 1131 for the link to register. Registration deadline is March 4, 2022. Lunch is included in the \$30 payment Annual Men's Conference

## DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON CAREERS

*Diocesan Central Offices, South Burlington:*

- Diocesan Catechetical Leader
- Diocesan Youth & Young Adult Minister
- Human Resources Specialist

*Rice Memorial High School, South Burlington: Principal*

*St. Monica-St. Michael School, Barre: Principal*

[vermontcatholic.org/careers](http://vermontcatholic.org/careers)



## CHALLENGES TO GROW YOUR MARRIAGE

FEBRUARY 6-12, 2022

### SPIRITUAL AMNESIA

Envision your marriage through God's eyes with the two of you being one in flesh and spirit. Spend time this week to reflect on the beauty of your unity, even in those moments of mundane routines. Share this beauty with each other and pray daily together with the Our Father.

[vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge](http://vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge)



FEBRUARY 6-12, 2022

### PASSING ON THE FAITH

The reality of family stress, financial concerns, health issues, and challenges at work can make any parent crazy. Parenting is hard, and yet beautiful. God has called you to this vocation, and to be present in the here and now. Take five minutes this week to focus on a toy or picture that your child has drawn. Imagine what this will mean to you in ten years. What will you miss about this time in your life?

[vermontcatholic.org/familychampions](http://vermontcatholic.org/familychampions)