

NEWS FROM The Inland See

March 26 – April 1, 2022

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

Mercy Sunday

“God himself will set me free from the hunter’s snare.”

This is the usual Lenten Responsory during Morning Prayer for the weekdays of Lent.

All of us have at one point or another felt trapped. Ultimately the snare is sin and the hunter is the devil. This is what Jesus came to free us from via His death and resurrection. The trap manifests itself in all sorts of ways.

Ever feel trapped in circumstances, in a relationship, in a job, in a particular sin? The Lord seeks to free us from that trap.

A number of years ago, this Lenten Responsory Psalm had a particular relevance in my life as I felt very much trapped in a particular situation. And quite frankly I could not see a way out. Every day I said that prayer, it was a heartfelt and fearful cry to the Lord to set me free, to show the way out. Shortly after Easter that same year, I was in church praying, beseeching the Lord. During my prayer as I gazed around the church, my eyes drifted to the large framed picture of the Divine Mercy set up on a stand to the right of the sanctuary, settling on the words at the bottom of the image: “Jesus I trust in you.” And that became my ongoing prayer/cry. Not long after, the Lord did “set me free from the hunter’s snare.”

I dare say there’s not an adult around who hasn’t felt trapped, who hasn’t felt ensnared, who hasn’t been able to see

a way forward. To all of us, the Lord offers an invitation to come to Him, to seek Him, to trust Him, to let Him free us from the hunter’s snare.

In three weeks at the Easter Vigil in Catholic churches throughout our Diocese and the world, men and women will literally be freed from the hunter’s snare, placing their full trust in the Lord, in receiving the Sacrament of Baptism and being welcomed into the Catholic Church.

St. Faustina, to whom the image of Divine Mercy was revealed, encouraged

everyone to seek the mercy of God. In particular, referring to the Sacrament of Confession, that “fount of mercy,” she wrote: “Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy... ”

Divine Mercy Sunday is April 24. Here’s an invitation to all in our world, especially those in one way or another trapped in “the hunter’s snare,” to seek the one who came to set us free.

Jesus, I trust in you.

— *Deacon Phil Lawson, executive director of pastoral ministries for the Diocese of Burlington.*



Archbishop Jan Pawlowski, an official at the Vatican Secretariat of State and papal delegate, celebrates Mass at the Divine Mercy Shrine in Plock, Poland, Feb. 22, 2021. The Mass marked the 90th anniversary of the first apparition of Jesus to St. Faustina Kowalska. — CNS photo/Katarzyna Artymiak



Say “No” to Article 22

We encourage all citizens, particularly Catholics, to embrace their citizenship not merely as a duty and privilege, but as an opportunity meaningfully to participate in building the culture of life... in ways that defend human life, especially those of God’s children who are unborn, disabled or otherwise vulnerable.

— US Bishops “Living The Gospel of Life” 32

Article 22 (formerly Prop 5) will amend the Vermont Constitution and permit abortions for any reason, through all nine months of pregnancy up to and including the day of birth. Article 22 will be on the 2022 Vermont General Election ballot in November for a vote. If Article 22 passes, we will have NO ability to protect the life of the unborn. Vermont will then be the first state in the country to explicitly deny unborn children the right to life in its constitution. Vote “NO” to Article 22.

Upcoming Events



03|27 SUNDAY Lenten Evening of Reflections and Confessions

St. Jude, Hinesburg • 4:30 - 6 pm

Michelle Morin from VT Right to Life will give a talk on Article 22 (Proposal 5). Eucharistic adoration will follow the talk, with the availability of confessions by multiple priests. This will be an opportune time to receive the sacrament of reconciliation for Lent and to spiritually prepare for the Paschal feast of Easter.



03|29 TUESDAY Saints and Sinners

Online • 7 pm

Join us in February when Fr. Tim Naples presents on Saint Anthony of Padua. There will be time for prayer, small group and large group discussion. For more info: vermontcatholic.org/saints-and-sinners.



03|31 THURSDAY Lenten Presentation

Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Jct. • 7 pm

Presentation by Rev. Richard Berube, SSE entitled, "The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke" — Preparing for Palm Sunday and Holy Week.



04|02 SATURDAY Grief Support Group

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 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, at 8 am at Holy Family Parish. 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. Please call Kate with questions at (802) 881-5973.



04|02 SATURDAY Madness in the Constitution: Look at Vermont's Proposed Constitutional Amendment,

St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 9:30 - 11 am

Learn about the so-called "Reproductive Liberty Amendment" Article 22, which will enshrine abortion on demand as a so-called right to "an individual's reproductive autonomy" into Vermont's constitution. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Panel includes: Sharon Toborg, Policy Analyst from Vermont Right to Life; Deacon Peter Gummere, Bioethicist for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington; Annisa Lambertson, Spokesperson for Vermonters for Good Government; Carol Kauffman, Member of Vermont Family Alliance.



04|02, 09, 16, 23, 30 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).



04|02 SATURDAY Chicken & Biscuits Dinner

Nativity of the BVM, Swanton 5 - 7 pm

Includes chicken & biscuits, stuffing, cranberry sauce, coleslaw and dessert — sit down & take out.



04|12 TUESDAY Chrism Mass

Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington • 11 am

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Coyne and priests of the diocese — the Oil of Chrism is consecrated, the Oils of Catechumens and the Sick are blessed, and the priests within the Diocese of Burlington recommit themselves to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ. Parish representatives may pick up the holy oils for their parishes after the Mass in the lower chapel. A reception will follow in the parish hall.



04|20 WEDNESDAY Vermont Catholic Professionals Virtual Meeting

via Zoom • 8 - 9 am

'Happiness Engineer' Michael Hagan, former manager of religious education and catechesis for the Diocese of Burlington, will be the speaker at the next virtual meeting of Vermont Catholic Professionals. He currently works remotely from Vermont for Flocknote, a communications-first Church software company. During his presentation, he will talk about Church teaching related to technology and some of his experiences at Flocknote. He will encourage the Vermont Catholic professionals in attendance to consider ways they can be of service to their parish in the realm of technology. FOR MORE INFO: vermontcatholic.org/vcp.



04|20, 05|04 WEDNESDAYS Practicing the Presence of God

via Zoom • 7 - 8 pm

Practicing the Presence of God. . . a 6 week Diocesan wide zoom exploration of this spiritual classic by Brother Lawrence. For information, mercygrace@protonmail.com. Meets: April 20, May 4, 18, June 1, 15 & 29.



04|23 SATURDAY Vermont State Catholic Daughters Spring Retreat

Our Lady of Angels, Randolph • 9 am - 2 pm

Vermont State CDA is sponsoring a Spring Retreat for all women 18 and older. Registration is required and you must register by April 8, 2022. Fee for the retreat is \$6, which includes refreshments and lunch. Retreat will be led by Deacon Gesualdo Schneider.



07|25, 26, 27 MON, TUES, WED Quebec Pilgrimage

Join the K of C Council #297 in St. Albans for a pilgrimage to Quebec. Stops include

Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré Shrine, Our Lady of the Cape Shrine in Trois-Rivières, St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal and St. Anne's Shrine in Isle La Motte, Vermont. The cost includes all lodging, transportation and meals. Contact Bill Greenwood at 802-527-0496 for more information.



for a communal Church

"Pope Francis has announced a universal Synod inviting all Catholics across the globe to discern together how to better listen and communicate with each other to bolster our communion in Christ Jesus." — Bishop Coyne

We are asking every parishioner to participate by completing the online survey: vermontcatholic.org/universalsynod



MARCH 27 – APRIL 2, 2022

LEARNING FROM OTHERS

Our pilgrimage is about learning from others as we act in love as a family. Together read the Sunday Gospels during the week and become aware of the liturgical year. Visit the US Bishops' website at usccb.org/bible/readings. Talk about the readings and look for examples of your daily life where these apply.

vermontcatholic.org/familychampions