



## **NATIVITY, BVM-ST. LOUIS PARISH**

65 CANADA ST, SWANTON, VT 05488|802-868-4262|NATIVITYBVM-STLOUIS@COMCAST.NET

**SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 2025**

## **8<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**




"A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit. A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good, but an evil person out of a store of evil produces evil; for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks." - Lk 6:43, 45

# Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Lord it is good to give thanks to you. Psalm 92*

## Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

<b>SATURDAY, March 1</b> <i>Nativity 5pm</i>	†Aleta Bushey by the Family and Intention of the Parishioners
<b>SUNDAY, March 2</b> <i>Nativity 8:30am</i> ++++  <i>St. Louis 10:30am</i>	†Sr. Rita Mawn (65 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary) by Gabe & Anna Gagne ++++ †Phillip & †Irene Brosseau by Raymonde Choiniere
<b>SUNDAY, March 2</b> <i>St. Louis 6pm</i>	Spanish Mass
<b>MONDAY, March 3</b> <i>St. Louis 8:30am</i>	†John & †Anita Boucher by Raymonde Choiniere
<b>TUESDAY, March 4</b> <i>Nativity 6:30pm</i>	†Brenda Lauzon (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary) by the Family and Intention of Anita Cote by Charlie & Dina Remillard
 <p><b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> BEGINS THE SEASON OF LENT</p>	
<b>ASH WEDNESDAY, March 5</b> <i>Nativity 8:30am</i> ++++  <i>St. Louis 6pm</i>	†Mary M. Giuffre by Martin Giuffre ++++ †George Dodson by Keith & Louise Machia
<b>THURSDAY, March 6</b> <i>Nativity 8:30am</i>	†Tom Lucier by Don & Dot Bruyette
<b>SATURDAY, March 8</b> <i>Nativity 5pm</i>	†JoAnne Campbell by Clarence & Debbie Miller and †Ronny Flanders by the Family
<b>SUNDAY, March 9</b> <i>St. Louis 6pm</i>	Spanish Mass



## STATIONS of the CROSS

Stations of The Cross will be led by Fr. Dodson in Nativity Church every Friday during Lent beginning Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.



Please pray for members of our parish who are ill, facing surgery, hospitalized, or experiencing difficult times and have asked for our prayers:

Andrea Belrose	Julie Bushey Holbrook
Ed Daniel	Brenda Koldys
Ben Deziel	Michael Korte
Henry Forgues	Ace Lambert
Jeannine Fortin	Louise LaBombard
Jerry Gagne	Norman & Janice LaPan
Jackie Gagner	Gerry Wells
Charlie & Dina Remillard	



Mass intentions are available to schedule throughout 2025 beginning the month of April.

Please call the office at 802-868-4262 or email: [nativitybvm-stlouis@comcast.net](mailto:nativitybvm-stlouis@comcast.net)



## PRAYER & FASTING



### Confession Schedule



**SATURDAY, March 1:**  
Nativity 4pm-4:45pm  
**SUNDAY, March 2:**  
St. Louis after 10:30am Mass  
**TUESDAY, March 4:**  
Nativity 7pm-7:45pm  
**WEDNESDAY, March 5:**  
Nativity 9am  
**THURSDAY, March 6:**  
Nativity 7:45am-8:15am  
**SATURDAY, March 8:**  
Nativity 4pm-4:45pm  
**SUNDAY, March 9:**  
St. Louis after 10:30am Mass



**TUESDAY, March 4:**  
Nativity 7pm-7:45pm  
**WEDNESDAY, March 5:**  
Nativity 9am-12pm  
Rosary 11:30am/Benediction  
**THURSDAY, March 6:**  
Nativity 7:45am-8:15am

### PARISH SUPPORT

**SUNDAY, February 23: SUNDAY, March 2:**

Offertory: \$2,018 Fuel offering

Fuel: \$811

**March 5 Ash Wednesday**

VT Catholic Outreach

\$2,750 is needed each week to meet our Offertory Budget. Thank you for your continued generosity.



The Diocese is once again hosting Lenten Retreats for All Parish Staff and Volunteers, and all of you definitely meet that criteria.

If you would like to go here is the information:

-March 19: St. Anne's in Milton

-April 9: Christ the King in Rutland

Register by using this link:

<https://forms.gle/nzXC8BYy2fCJUcDp6>

### Food Shelf



**TUESDAY, March 4:**

Nativity Parish Ctr. 9am-12pm

Great Need: Oatmeal, Soup, Crackers, Condiments, & Barbecue Sauce

"Lent is a time of renewal for the whole Church, for each community and every believer. Above all it is a time of grace." – Pope Francis

# NEWS FROM The Inland See

March 1-7, 2025

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON



## A Call for Spiritual Reorganization

**O**n February 1, 2025, Bishop John McDermott sent a letter to priests of the Diocese of Burlington. In the letter he addressed the need for a spiritual reorganization and requested priests to take four actions to help achieve this.

"As the Diocese undergoes its administrative reorganization through the Chapter 11 bankruptcy, it has been on my heart to share that, while our administrative reorganization is necessary, it is even more important that we consider a 'spiritual reorganization.' St. Paul reminds us that 'our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world ruler of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in heaven' (Eph 6:12). I am convinced that our greatest challenge as a diocese and as a presbyterate is spiritual and not financial and so we must remember that we are called to holiness of life. With this in mind, I am asking that we accept a call to greater prayer and sacrifice to set an example for one another and the people we serve."

The four requests that Bishop McDermott outlined are as follows:

- "Along with the traditional days of fast and abstinence we observe in the liturgical year, I am inviting all priests of the Diocese of Burlington to observe every Wednesday as a day of fasting."
- "I am asking that we increase our time of daily prayer by 15 minutes on Wednesdays before the Blessed Sacrament, if possible, for the specific intention of our personal sanctification, the sanctification of our parishioners, and priestly vocations in Vermont."
- "I also wish us to return to the observance of the traditional Ember Days during the liturgical year. These four three-day periods of fasting, abstinence, and prayer, tied to the four seasons and liturgical observances, will challenge us all to do with less worldly comfort and to rely more fully on God. The Ember Days in 2025 fall on March 12, 14, 15; June 11, 13, 14; September 24, 26, 27; and December 17, 19, 20."

- "I am asking that throughout the Diocese of Burlington we pray together for vocations at the conclusion of the General Intercessions at all Masses for the Sunday obligation. We need to cry out to God that more men and women accept the call to labor in the 'vineyard' as priests and consecrated women and remind our people that this petition must be sought by all the faithful. I am instructing that we begin this diocesan vocation prayer on the First Sunday of Lent, March 8-9, 2025. I also encourage this prayer to be prayed at daily Masses."

Bishop McDermott ended his letter with the statement "In a world that is in search for answers, our witness will hopefully lead others to know what we know, that 'God alone suffices!'" Parishioners are invited to take on these actions as well and support their priests in their efforts.

Additionally, Bishop McDermott invites the faithful to pray for an increase of priestly vocations in the diocese, and for an enthusiastic response to all vocational callings:

Heavenly Father,

You have created us for a definite purpose.

Grant us the grace to know the path  
you have planned for all of us in this life  
and to respond with a generous 'yes.'

May men respond courageously to Your call  
to be good and holy priests.

May women accept trustingly in Your call  
to consecrated life.

Bless us with devoted deacons, holy marriages  
and strong families.

We ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Through this spiritual reorganization, it is Bishop McDermott's hope that the Diocese of Burlington more fully and enthusiastically embraces Christ's call to evangelize the world — by our faith, our joy, and our example.

— *Vermont Catholic*



## Upcoming Events



### 03|02, 09, 16, 23, 30 SUNDAYS Conformation Formation Program for Adults

*St. Norbert, Hardwick*

This Diocese sanctioned program will be facilitated by Deacon David O'Brien to prepare adults who have not received this sacrament. For more information email: dmobrien.1948@gmail.com.



### 03|04, 11, 18, 25, 04|01, 08, 15 TUES. Wilderness Within

*St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 9 am / 6:30 pm*

This Lent, St. John Vianney Women's Ministry presents "Wilderness Within," a multimedia journey on Tuesdays at 9 am or 6:30 pm. Using daily reflections, journaling, and video presentations, Sr Josephine Garrett, CSFN, will guide us to discover the ways in which Christ wants to transform and heal our hearts. More information and registration are at [stjohnvianneyvt.org/wilderness-within](http://stjohnvianneyvt.org/wilderness-within)



### 03|04 – 04|09 Hebrews – The New & Eternal Covenant

*TUESDAYS: St. Anthony, Bethel • 3 pm*

*WEDNESDAYS: St. John the Evangelist, Northfield • 6 pm*

*FRIDAYS: Our Lady of the Angels, Randolph • 9:45 am*

Weekly classes using program by Ascension Press.



### 03|05, 12, 19, 26 WEDNESDAYS Bible Study

*Holy Cross, Colchester • 12 - 1 pm*

Interested in joining an informal bible study group? Our bible study meets weekly to discuss and discern how to put God's Word into practice in our lives. If you have questions, please call the parish office at (802) 863-3002.



### 03|06 THURSDAY Mount St. Joseph Academy Open House

*Mount St. Joseph Academy Rutland • 5 - 7 pm*

The Open House for prospective students and their families will include Student-Led Tours and Teacher-Student Presentations. MSJ student ambassadors will lead them through a guided tour of the school. Faculty and staff will be on-hand to answer questions and share insights into joining the MSJ family. Light refreshments will be provided.



### 03|07, 21, 04|04 FRIDAYS Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Dinner

*St. Peter, Vergennes • 5 - 6:30 pm*

\$13 adults, \$7 children 6-12 (cash or checks). For take-out reservations call (802) 877-3352.



### 03|07 FRIDAY Annual Holy Family Fish Fry

*Holy Family, Springfield • 5 - 6:30 pm*

\$15 eat in/take out. Kids under 6 are free for

eat in. Reserve take-out (802) 885-4123 prior to 2pm day of.



### 03|09 SUNDAY Rite of Election & Call to Continuing Conversion

*Cathedral of St. Joseph • 3 pm*

Celebrated by Bishop McDermott on the First Sunday at Lent, during this rite, the Church "elects" those seeking full initiation into the Church through Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist at Easter. Friends and family of those participating and all the faithful from around the diocese are invited to celebrate with us. A reception in the parish hall will follow.



### 03|09 SUNDAY Vergennes Knights of Columbus Breakfast Buffet

*St. Peter, Vergennes • 8 - 10 am*

\$12 adults, \$7 children 8 to 12. Sponsored by the Vergennes Council Knights of Columbus.



### 03|11 TUESDAY Our Lady's Kitchen Lunch

*St. Anthony, Bethel • 11 am - 1 pm*

Free hot meal for one and all!



### 03|12 WEDNESDAY Grief Ministry and Support

*All Saints, Richford • 6 pm*

A time of openness regarding the loss of a loved one. Led by Deacon Armand Auclair.



### 03|14, 04|11, 05|09 FRIDAYS Joy of Marriage Date Nights

*St. John the Baptist, Enosburg Falls • 6 - 8 pm*

These events are for married and engaged couples, featuring fellowship and presentations. Register by emailing: [aaclair@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:aaclair@vermontcatholic.org).



### 03|15 SATURDAY St. Patrick's Day Dinner

*St. Pius X, Essex Center • 5:30*

Please join us for a traditional corned beef & cabbage dinner. \$17 per person. Due to limited seating, reservations are required and must be received by Monday, March 10. Takeout will not be offered. Contact: Jane Watson [janewatsonvt@comcast.net](mailto:janewatsonvt@comcast.net).



**BISHOP'S  
ANNUAL APPEAL**



Goal: \$2,503,354

Current: \$2,316,932  
as of February 19

93%

#### Website:

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

#### Call:

802.658.6110 x 1102

#### Mail:

Bishop's Annual Appeal  
55 Joy Drive  
South Burlington, VT 05403

## United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Vermont In re Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington, Vermont, Case No. 24-10205-HZC

### Claims Notice for Survivors of Sexual Abuse and Others With Claims Against the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington, Vermont

If you were sexually abused by any person connected with the Diocese, a Catholic parish, or Catholic school within the geographic area of the Diocese, or have any claims against the Diocese, you must file a claim by **April 4, 2025**.

For more diocesan information: visit [vermontcatholic.org](http://vermontcatholic.org)

For the bankruptcy docket: visit

<https://case.stretto.com/diocesefburlington>

For U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Vermont  
information: visit [vtb.uscourts.gov](http://vtb.uscourts.gov)

For advice about your rights: contact an attorney



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