

**ST. ANDRE BESSETTE PARISH  
YEAR B  
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



**EUCCHARISTIC  
CELEBRATION**

Sat:	12/2/2023	4:00 PM <b>Special Intentions</b> By Alicia Couture
Sun:	12/3/2023	9:00 AM † <b>Yvette Limoges</b> By Rose & Gaston Bathalon
Tue:	12/5/2023	9:00 AM (Open For Intentions)
Wed:	12/6/2023	9:00 AM † <b>Roland Limoges</b> <b>26th Anniversary</b> By Jerry and Nicole Pion
Thur:	12/7/2023	9:00 AM (Open For Intentions)
Thur:	12/7/2023	6:00 PM Vigil Mass
Fri:	12/8/2023	9:00 AM (Open For Intentions) Feast of Immaculate Conception
Sat:	12/9/2023	9:00 AM <b>Parishioners of Saint Andre Bessette Parish</b>
Sat:	12/9/2023	4:00 PM (Open For Intentions)
Sun:	12/10/2023	9:00 AM † <b>Roland &amp; Gerard Limoges</b> By Jerry & Nicole Pion

**Intentions for Daily Masses are available.  
Please call or stop by the office  
with your request.**

**Candle Intentions**

Sanctuary Lamp: **Fedele/Fugere Families**  
Sacred Heart: **OPEN FOR INTENTIONS**  
Blessed Mother: **OPEN FOR INTENTIONS**



Sanctuary lamps/candles in front of the statues of Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary are available to be lit in honor/memory of your loved ones.  
Each candle cost \$10.00.  
The candle will be lit for one week.

**The construction of the Living Quarters for the Priest at the Sacred Heart Hall have been completed!**

This gives our Priest the ability to stay overnight in the winter or for emergencies and ministry purposes.

The total cost of the project cost \$8455.59.



We want to give our thanks to Arthur Limoges and Raymond LeMay for all the hard work they put into this project.

Thank you to all who have donated money and supplies to make this happen.

**If you would like to make a donation to cover the expenses, please contact the office.**

**Ladies of Saint Andre Bessette Parish**

**Meeting**

**December 4th at 6 PM**



***Prayer for the Sick***

*Dear Jesus, Divine Physician and healer of the sick, we turn to You in this time of need. Alleviate our worry and sorrow with Your gentle love and grant us the strength to accept this burden. Dear God, we place our worries in Your hands. We place our sick under Your care and humbly ask that You restore Your servant to health. Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge and accept Your will.  
Amen*

**Please call the parish office  
at (802-744-4066)**

**if you would like to add a name to the list**



**Andre LeBlanc, Annette Morse, Kristi Leblanc,  
Kimberly Thibault, Brian Bonvechio, Rose Blais,  
Abigail Jackson, Wilma Therrien,  
Rita Taylor, Purie Mesina,  
Rick Bouchard**

### All Ladies of St. Andre Bessette Parish



**You are invited to a luncheon**  
(Food will be provided)

You are invited to join us for a lunch and to help assemble cookie platters.

The cookie platters will be distributed in the parish community.

This event will be on December 5th at 11:30 at the Troy parish hall. We ask the ladies to bring their appetite and 2-3 dozen cookies to fill the platters.

### Order of Christian Initiation of Adults The Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens



Each year around the world, the Catholic Church welcomes thousands of adults and older children who become Catholic at the Easter Vigil through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. These people spend many months preparing for that important day, meeting with catechists at the parish to learn more about the Catholic faith and to explore their own relationship with Jesus Christ.

The process by which they prepare is called The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, or OCIA. The OCIA has been described as an “*apprenticeship in Christian living*” which allows the candidates to gradually explore their faith and their place in the Catholic Church. The OCIA involves many phases, each phase marking a deepening of faith and commitment in the candidates seeking initiation. The transition from one phase to another is always marked by a special ritual celebrated by the parish community.

**On Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at the 9:00AM Mass**, we will celebrate the first of those rituals—the *Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens*. In this ritual, the candidate, **David Michael Valieres**, will be formally introduced to the community, and he will publicly make his first acceptance of the teachings of Jesus Christ. After hearing his acceptance, we as a community pledge our support through prayer, and David will receive the Sign of the Cross for the first time. Also, in this ritual, he becomes a “*catechumen*” in our community. A catechumen is a person preparing for baptism who is formally accepted into the parish community.

Although not fully initiated, through the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens, we embrace him as our own and help him along the journey to baptism. Please join us on December 10<sup>th</sup> and continue to pray for David as he prepares for the Sacraments at Easter.

### Parish Stewardship Report

#### Weekend of November 25 & 26, 2023

Offertory	Stewardship	\$1341.00
Weekly Budget	CORNER	\$2000.00

### FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH



The Ladies of SABP welcome you to join in a social after Mass on the first Sunday of each month.  
**All are welcome.**

### Saint Paul's Catholic School News

*Christmas Concert* at St Paul's Catholic Church on Wed, Dec 6 at 6:00 PM. Students in Pre k - 8 present *The Christmas Pageant*. All are welcome. Food shelf donations are being accepted at the door in lieu of admission.



*Students Christmas Shopping* - we are accepting gently used and new repurposed gifts to “buy” for our family members of all ages by Dec 11. Simple items smaller than a milk crate size are appreciated. Thank you for not sending books, weapons or clothing.  
Contact Joanne Beloin at 802-525-7101.

Happy 128th Birthday to Saint Paul's Catholic School. Would you consider being one of our valued 128 donors by donating \$128 towards our annual appeal to help us reach our goal? Donations can be made to: St Paul's Annual Appeal and mailed to 54 Eastern Ave, Barton, VT 05822.

### REFLECTIONS

December 3, 2023

#### PREPARE A WAY FOR THE LORD

The lovely season of another Advent is upon us and excitement fills the air. Across the next four weeks we shall be washed with a cascade of images of preparation and readiness and freedom.

Our very 1st Reading of the Season tells it as it is. We have all strayed and generally messed up our lives. To off-set this sorry state, Isaiah calls on God to come and rescue Israel. There are many who have remained faithful. “Come among us,” cries the prophet, as the Potter who formed you in the first place.

In our 2nd Reading, Paul has less to condemn among his Corinthians. He urges the same serious preparation and readiness for the Day of the Lord. After all it is the great God who has called them and us to be one in Christ.

The gospel tells us directly that alertness is the name of the game. The image of the landlord, which comes in other Gospels too, is put briefly before us. The landlord is going on a journey and leaves the house in charge of the servants, each with a particular duty to perform. He will return and take a reckoning. Let us each be ready, our duties all done faithfully.



# NEWS FROM The Inland See

December 2–8, 2023

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

## Taking the time for Advent

When we think of Advent, it's natural that Christmas isn't far behind in our minds.

And with Christmas on our minds, the time of Advent becomes obscured. Instead of a "period of devout and expectant delight" as one Church document describes Advent, we find the endless to-do lists: Christmas shopping, Christmas-card writing, prepping for meals, Christmas decorating. Advent is indeed a time of preparation for Christmas, but I'd like to propose another way of thinking about Advent, and it is simply this: at the center of Advent is the theme of time.

As a season of preparation for Christmas, Advent gives us an opportunity to look back in time — at the coming of God in the flesh into the world. Observing the Nativity of the Lord at Christmas is an ancient custom in the Church, and the Nativity forms one of the two hinges of the liturgical year (Easter is the other one). Just as we need to prepare for our own celebration of Christmas, we also need to spend time spiritually preparing to celebrate and remember the birth of our Lord. Advent gives us that time. The latter part of Advent, especially, focuses on this theme of looking back in time in preparation to celebrate the first coming of Jesus.

Much of Advent, however, gives us the opportunity to look forward in time — to the glorious coming of Christ at the end of time. Thinking about the end times can be a frightening idea and scripture even alludes to this fear ("May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping!" Mark 13:36 — First Sunday

of Advent), but this doesn't have to be a fearful time. In fact, Advent calls us to be ready for the Second Coming of Christ and to wait for the Second Coming with joyful anticipation. Why is this? Because of what is ultimately promised in the Second Coming: "God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord" (1 Corinthians 3:9 — First Sunday of Advent). In the midst of the calamity that is foretold, there is a message of hope and redemption.

Finally, Advent calls us to take the time to look at the present and seek Christ in our lives today. Advent offers us a time to renew our relationship with Christ today, especially through the Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation. Do we see Christ in those in need? Sometimes, we don't even need to look further than our own families.

So, let us take the time for Advent. Let us take the time to thank God for the gift of Himself in the child Jesus. Let us take the time to continually acknowledge the presence of God in our lives today. Let us take the time to prepare ourselves for the Second Coming or, more personally, take the time to prepare to meet Christ at the end of our own earthly existence. If we take the time to enter into the opportunity Advent gives us to look at time — past, present, and future, then we will be ready to receive Christ into our lives, not only at Christmastime, but all the time.

— *Josh Perry is director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Burlington.*

# Upcoming Events



12|06, 13, 20 WEDNESDAYS  
**FORGIVEN: The Transforming Power of Confession**  
via Zoom • 6:30-8 pm

This program from Augustine Institute explores the grace and healing offered in Confession and shows how this sacrament of mercy reveals the depth and bounty of God's love. Led by Fr. William Beaudin, pastor of Christ Our Savior, Manchester Center. This series began on Nov. 29. Register at: [forgivencosp@gmail.com](mailto:forgivencosp@gmail.com).



12|08 FRIDAY  
**Essex Community Dinners**  
Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Jct. • 5:30 pm  
They are intended to feed the hungry, lonely and needy amongst us. These meals are free to all but donations to cover parish expenses are appreciated. Take out dinners are also available for those who still need to avoid crowds.



12|09 SATURDAY  
**St. Peter's Cemetery Bingo**  
St. Peter, Vergennes • 5 pm  
Doors open at 5 pm, Bingo starts at 6 pm.

Family friendly event. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold. Sponsored by St. Peter's Cemetery Committee to benefit the on-going efforts for cemetery improvements.



12|09 SATURDAY  
**Catered Roast Pork Dinner**  
St. John the Evangelist, Northfield • 6:30 - 8:30 pm  
Scrumptious food, catered by Sambels! Tickets are \$20 each and the space is limited to 100. Take out containers are available as well. RSVP at (802) 485-8313 to RSVP.



12|07, 08 THURSDAY & FRIDAY  
**Vermont Catholic Advance Directive Presentation**  
12|07 at St. Jude, Hinesburg, 6:30 pm  
12|08 at Assumption, Middlebury, 6:30 pm

Bioethicist Deacon Pete Gummere will lead a discussion on the Vermont Catholic Advance Directive, which explains Catholic teaching on end of life care and enables you to appoint a healthcare agent to act on your behalf in the event you are unable to communicate or participate in healthcare decisions.



12|10 SUNDAY  
**K of C Breakfast Buffet**  
St. Peter, Vergennes • 8 - 10 am  
\$12 adults, \$7 children 8 to 12 yrs., \$38 immediate family maximum.



12|10 SUNDAY  
**Monthly COSP K of C Fund Raising Breakfast**  
Christ Our Savior, Manchester • 9 am - 12 pm



12|10 SUNDAY  
**K of C DeGosbriand Council # 279 Community Breakfast**  
Cathedral of St. Joseph, Burlington • 9 - 11:30 am

Join us for an old-fashioned all-you-can-care-to-eat pancake breakfast. \$10 per person or \$ 25 for family of four or more.



12|12 TUESDAY  
**Spanish Mass**  
Assumption, Middlebury • 7 pm  
Join us for a Mass celebrated in Spanish by Edmundite Father Marcel Rainville. All are welcome.



12|13, 14 WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY  
**Advent Retreat**  
Our Lady of Angels, Randolph • 5 - 8 pm  
Sr. Paul Mary Dreger, FSE will present her two part retreat *The Eucharist: The Bread of Life and The Eucharist: Bread for Others*. Wednesday evening will be a potluck and Thursday will be a catered dinner of bread and soup. If you plan to attend the Thursday dinner, please RSVP by December 4 to [estuart@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:estuart@vermontcatholic.org). Dinner is free – donations will be accepted to help offset the costs.



12|16 SATURDAY  
**Men's "Cor" Formation**  
St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 10 - 11:30 am  
Calling all men to fellowship, prayer and a

deeper faith! Through fraternity, prayer, and the study of God's word in Scripture and holy examples, we intend to grow closer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. COR Formation will be held on the third Saturday of the month. Coffee and refreshments provided by the K of C.



12|16 SATURDAY  
**Eucharistic Presentation**  
All Saints, Richford • 2:30 pm  
Father Michael Carter, SSE, will be offering a presentation on the Holy Eucharist, including Adoration, Reconciliation and the Holy Mass. Please call the rectory to register: (802) 848-7741.



12|16 SATURDAY  
**The Chosen – Movie Night and Potluck**  
St. John the Baptist, Enosburg Falls • 5 - 6:45 pm

Come join us for a movie night and potluck dinner on the third Saturday of the month. We will watch an episode of *The Chosen* together and have food and fellowship!



12|17 SUNDAY  
**Knights of Columbus Council #2284 Pancake Breakfast**  
St. Francis Xavier School gym, Winooski  
8 - 11 am

\$10 per person or \$25 per family of 4 (each additional family member \$5). Menu includes plain and blueberry pancakes, scrambled eggs, home fries, bacon, sausage, coffee, and juice.



12|20 WEDNESDAY  
**Lessons & Carols**  
St. Michael, Brattleboro • 5:30 pm  
Join us for an Advent service of Lessons and

Carols. Let hymns, sacred music, and readings from Holy Scripture prepare your heart for the coming of Christ at Christmas. All are welcome!



12|21 THURSDAY  
**BINGO**  
St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 6:30 - 9:30 pm  
The St. John Vianney Knights of Columbus

have restarted a monthly bingo, to be held on the third Thursday of each month. The jackpot is \$1,000. Doors open at 4:30 and the first game begins at 6:30. Come join the fun with friends and family. Bring a non-perishable food item(s) and receive two free game sheets for the "winner take all" game. All food items are donated to the local Food Shelf.

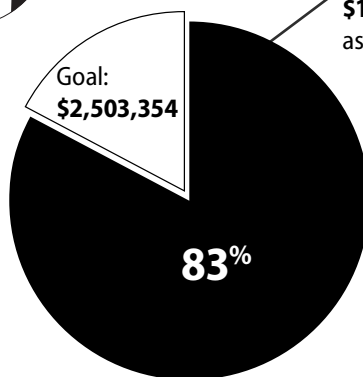


12|25 MONDAY  
**Free Christmas Dinner!**  
St. Anthony, Bethel • 12:30 - 2:30 pm  
Come enjoy a free, incredible, and scrumptious

dinner cooked by Cathy Day and her crew. This meal is for anyone who wants a warm dinner and conversation this Christmas Day. Come and know the dignity you have in God.



BISHOP'S  
ANNUAL  
APPEAL



Raised:  
**\$1,949,886**  
as of Nov. 20

Progress: 83% to goal

**Give Online**  
[vermontcatholic.org/giveonline](http://vermontcatholic.org/giveonline)  
or scan the QR code to the left.

**Donate By Mail**  
Bishop's Annual Appeal  
Diocese of Burlington  
55 Joy Drive  
South Burlington, VT 05403

**Stock Gifts/Planned Gifts**  
802-658-6110 ext.1226  
[ekane@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:ekane@vermontcatholic.org)

