

Saint Francis Xavier Parish

3 Saint Peter Street, Winooski, VT 05404 · (802) 655-2290

Monsignor
Richard G. Lavalley
Pastor

Reverend
Joseph Sanderson
Parochial Vicar

Saint Francis Xavier School
Eric Becker, Principal
Pre-School through 8th grade
655-2600

**Director of Faith
Formation**
Jordan Easley
503-8241

**Our Lady of
Providence**
Residential Care
Facility
655-2395

St. Francis Xavier Cares
Sharon Brown, RN
Parish Nurse
922-2958



Advent Week 1

As you light the first candle in the Advent wreath, take a slow deep breath. Remember that achieving the perfectly orchestrated holiday doesn't matter. What matters is watching for God in every situation.

Reflection is adapted from St. Anthony Messenger Press.
www.AmericanCatholic.org

Weekend Masses

Saturday : 4:00 PM

Sunday : 7:30, 9:00, & 11:00 AM

Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday : 8:00 AM

Confessions

Saturday 2:30 to 3:30 PM
Anytime by appointment

St. Vincent de Paul Center

Phone: 655-3006
Open 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Baptisms

Parent classes required. Please call the rectory for more information.

Marriage

Plan six months in advance.
Contact the rectory. Attend Pre-Cana classes

Registration

New parishioners and newly married couples should register by calling the rectory as soon as possible.

TELEPHONES

School	After School
655-2600	655-4660

School Website: www.SFXVT.org

www.sfxchurch.org

NEWS FROM The Inland See

November 30–December 6, 2019

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

Advent meditation: Dreaming with St. Joseph

Pray along with this meditation inspired by Matthew 1:18-24.

You speak to us in dreams. Sometimes it is the only occasion you find us still and quiet. Quiet enough to hear your voice. Still enough to grab our attention.

You whisper to us throughout the day, reminding us you are present and that you delight in us. But we cannot hear you.

So you come to us in our sleep, the liminal space between this world and the one where your glory dwells. Is this why sometimes it is only rest that will comfort us? When we have run our bodies and our minds ragged until we collapse? In sleep, we find ourselves in your arms.

Wendell Berry said, "Sleep is the prayer the body prays." Is this why sometimes our first waking thoughts are prayer? Connecting the two worlds together?

You spoke to Joseph through a dream. Betrothed to Mary, he discovered she was pregnant. He knew he could not go through with the wedding, but he loved her and was kind. He decided to end it quietly.

He did not want to expose her shame. To do so, meant Mary would have been judged publicly — and then stoned. A frightening position to think of our dear mother in, the mother of our Lord.

You spoke to Joseph through a dream. Just like his namesake so many years before, the one who's dream raised him to the house of kings. Joseph, son of Jacob. Living in the house of Pharaoh, Joseph could save your people when famine ravaged the country and Israel was out of food.

Joseph knew you through his dreams and saw that the harm his brothers inflicted on him, you meant for good. He

had come to his royal position for a time such as this, to save your people, your remnant, again.

But this Joseph, the carpenter, the one who would raise your Son here on earth, you spoke to him through an angel in a dream. The angel said, "Do not be afraid to take Mary into your home."

The child within her was conceived through the Holy Spirit. The same Spirit who spoke through the prophets, saying, "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son." The angel told Joseph that this child "will save his people from their sins" and "they shall name him Emmanuel."

Emmanuel, "God is with us." God came down from heaven to be with us. To remind us that you love us, that you delight in your children. That you want to be with us. You are with us in our dreams, in our breath and in the Eucharist that saves us from the famine that ravages our own hearts, keeping us from you.

And Joseph woke from his sleep, rested and sure of you. He did as you commanded and took Mary into his home. In his rest, he saw your truth, that they were placed in a lowly position for a time such as this. Joseph listened and was able to be part of your story for eternity.

As we ponder the mystery of Emmanuel, God with us, speak to us in our sleep, O Lord.

May our bodies pray the prayers we cannot speak during the day. May our restless souls rest in you. May we hear your words — and listen. May we be certain that you are here with us.

Connect your worlds together in our sleep so that we may find you more clearly in our waking hours.

— **Shemaiah Gonzalez, Catholic News Service**



The Dream of Saint Joseph, Francesco Solimena, c.1700, ink and chalk on paper, National Galleries Scotland.

UPCOMING EVENTS



12|02 MONDAY Love and Mercy: St. Faustina Movie Screening

Palace 9 Cinemas, South Burlington • 7 pm

There will be a one time showing of Love and Mercy, a new movie which sheds light on the life and vision of St. Faustina.



12|03 TUESDAY Knights of Columbus Annual Christmas Party

St. Mark, Burlington • 6 - 8:30 pm

Prayer service and lighting of the Christmas tree with a potluck. The celebration is open to all families and friends.



12|05 THURSDAY A Day of the Eucharist

St. Thomas, Underhill Center • 8 am - 8 pm

This day of Eucharistic adoration will begin with Holy Mass at 8 am. At the beginning of each hour we will pray various Catholic devotions throughout the day.
FOR MORE INFO: Parish office (802) 899-4632.



12|07 SATURDAY Our Lady of Fatima Devotions

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 8 - 9:30 am

First Saturday of every month, come to

Our Lady of Fatima Devotions. Rosary and reconciliation begin at 8 am and Mass at 8:30.



12|06, 08, 15 Christmas Concert Series

All in one concert, 17 Christmas and seasonal carols will be presented in a community

sing-a-long with organist and music director, Dr. William Tortolano, professor emeritus of fine arts and music at St. Michael's College. The program will be presented at three churches of acoustical, and historic interest:

Friday, 12|06 • Blessed Sacrament, Stowe • 7:30 pm

Sunday, 12|08 • Immaculate Conception, St. Albans • 3 pm

Sunday, 12|15 • St. Michael's College, Colchester • 3 pm

The concerts are free and open to the public. A free will donation will be accepted.



12|07 SATURDAY Blood Drive

St. Isidore, Montgomery • 9 am - 2 pm

Hosted by St. Isidore Parish and sponsored by

Montgomery Emergency Services. Local raffles with prizes. To schedule an appointment, go to www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS Walk-ins are welcome!



12|07 SATURDAY Marriage Preparation Retreat

St. Peter, Vergennes • 10 am - 5:30 pm

Come take a break from wedding preparation and spend time in prayer, sharing and fellowship with your fiancé and other engaged couples. Lunch and materials will be provided — prior Registration is required.



12|08 SUNDAY Basket Raffle

St. Raphael, Poultney • 11 am - 3 pm

Admission and 1 sheet of 25 tickets is \$5.

Additional ticket sheets are \$2 each. There will be special item raffles and 50/50 raffles. Lunch concession will be provided. This fundraising event is one of many to benefit our capital project for replacing our church's roof.



12|08 SUNDAY Annual "Messiah Sing"

Our Lady of the Snows, Woodstock • 4 - 6 pm

Our parish's contribution to Woodstock's

Wassail Weekend. There will be a professional orchestra and soloists; but anyone who wishes to sign may join the Chorus. Just bring a libretto. The event is open to the public, and is a truly enjoyable Advent tradition.



12|11 WEDNESDAY Vermont Catholic Professionals Christmas Social

Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Jct. • 6 - 8 pm

Join VCP for a Christmas Social with guest speaker Mary Beth Pinard, Executive Director of Vermont Catholic Charities.

Donations will be collected for Vermont Catholic Charities' Advent Appeal. Beverages to be provided — please bring a dish to share.



12|14 SATURDAY Bingo

All Saints, Richford • 11:30 am - 5 pm

Doors open at 11:30 am, games start at 1

pm. Refreshments and pull tickets will be available. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

CRAFT FAIR & MARKET DIRECTORY

Our Lady of Seven Dolors Christmas Bazaar

St. Mary's School, Fair Haven

11 am - 6 pm

Christmas Bazaar

Our Lady of the Angels, Randolph

2 pm - 5 pm

Christmas Bazaar

All Saints Dorion Hall, Richford

9 am - 2 pm

St. Paul's Christmas Bazaar

Town Hall, Orwell

9 am - 2 pm

Christmas Bazaar and Craft Fair

St. Patrick, Fairfield

9 am - 3 pm

Old Fashioned Christmas Bazaar

St. Frances Cabrini, West Pawlet

10 am - 2 pm

12|07 Christmas Bazaars (two)

St. Rose of Lima, South Hero

St. Joseph, Grand Isle

9 am - 3 pm

Old Fashioned Christmas Bazaar

St. Frances Cabrini, West Pawlet

10 am - 2 pm

Christmas Fair

Bishop Marshall School, Morrisville

9 am - 3 pm

Christmas Bazaar

St. Anthony, Bethel

9 am - 2 pm

Christmas Bazaar

St. Jude, Hinesburg

9 am - 3 pm

DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON CAREERS

Diocese: Respect Life Coordinator

Diocese: Senior Accountant

Diocese: Technical Support Specialist

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Williston:

Administrative Assistant

The Loretto Home, Rutland:

Residential Care Positions

Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Randolph:

Administrative Assistant

Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Fair Haven:

Organist or Keyboardist/Choir Director

St. Joseph Residential Care Home,

Burlington: LPN

Vermont Catholic Charities: Counselor

For More Info:

vermontcatholic.org/careers



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

To see more events or to submit your event to the diocesan calendar:
vermontcatholic.org/events



Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, December 2, 2019

8:00 AM Pauline Fellows *by Rick & Dianne Cota*
 11:00 AM Laurence Yandow *by The Myers Family*
 (OLP Chapel)

5:30 PM Mass at Church

Tuesday, December 3

8:00 AM Mass at Church
 10:00 AM Florida Boisjoli *by Diane Dufresne*
 11:00 AM Bernard & Frances Demag *by Mary Ann*
and James (OLP Chapel)

5:30 PM **NO Mass**

Wednesday, December 4

8:00 AM Meddie & Ronald Gingras *by M/M Rene Brodeur*
 11:00 AM Elizabeth Lacharite *by Family*
 (OLP Chapel)

5:30 PM Mass at Church

Thursday, December 5

8:00 AM Meddie & Ronald Gingras *by M/M Rene Brodeur*

11:00 AM Mary Bissonnette *by Estate*

5:30 PM Doris Courville *by Jackie Courville*

6 to 7 PM **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Friday, December 6

8:00 AM Jeannine Germain *by Sandy Retell*
 11:00 AM Louis Plankey, 17th Anniv *by Family*
 (OLP Chapel)
 5:30 PM Kevin Maley *by Greg, Sheila & Travis Clairmont*

Saturday, December 7

4:00 PM Bernard, Clemence & Jared Dion *by Family*

Sunday, December 8

7:30 AM Laurette & Florian Masse *by Family*
 9:00 AM Alan Leclair *by Family*
 11:00 AM Intentions of Parishioners

Parish Support

November 17, 2019.....	\$ 6,095.00
Online Giving Offertory (42 Givers).....	\$ 1,333.00
Weekly Average (July 1st Week 20).....	\$ 8,354.62
Weekly Goal.....	\$ 8,500.00
Fuel.....	\$ 808.00
Online Giving Fuel (11 Givers).....	\$ 111.00

Act of Love: O my God, I love You above all things, with my whole heart and soul, because you are all-good and worthy of all my love. I love my neighbor as myself for love of You. I forgive all who have injured me, and I ask pardon of all whom I have injured. Amen

**The Winooski Knights of Columbus**

meet every 2nd Monday of each month at the Senior Center at 7 PM. Any man 18 years of age or older wishing to join the Knights should contact Grand Knight Greg Clairmont at 343-8446 or listandsellvt@gmail.com or Deputy Grand Knight Greg Bolger at 660-9044 or gbolger@ccnne.com. For additional information about the Knights of Columbus visit our web site www.wkofc.org and "like" our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Winooskikofc2284

Knights of Columbus Sunday Breakfast

The Knights of Columbus St. Stephen's Council #2284's world famous breakfast returns on Sunday, December 15, 2019, 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM, at the Winooski Senior Center. Charge is \$7.00 per person, maximum \$20.00 per family, children under 5 years of age complimentary.

"For I was hungry and you gave me food" Matthew 25: 35-40

Our St. Francis Xavier parish community is partnering with the new Winooski Food Shelf to help feed our neighbors in need. For the month of **December** the food shelf is in need of canned chicken, carrots, beets, peas, chowders, ramen noodles, tomato paste, garbanzo beans, spam, hash, chili, baked beans. Cereal such as Raisin Bran, Life, Honey Nut Cheerios and Fruit Loops as well as additional non-perishable food items for distribution. There is also a need for Laundry Soap and Dish Soap, as well as ketchup, mustard and mayonnaise. Shampoo and toothpaste.

Collection boxes are placed in the church vestibule and delivered to the Food Shelf each week.

Food for the Journey

Take time to feed your soul with the food that really matters...Prayer and meditation, scripture reading, daily Mass, Adoration, the Eucharist. To assist you on your journey, pick up some CD's and books at the entrances of the church. You will find inspiring and challenging messages and meditations from outstanding Catholic speakers. Your donation for each CD or book covers our cost and will enable us to continue bringing in new titles.

Have a blessed journey!!

Please Note:

St. Francis Xavier Parish has a new email address.

sfxchurch@vermontcatholic.org

The CARES Catholic Network: St. Francis Xavier Health & Wellness Ministry

Compassion, Advocacy, Respite, Education, Service

We are three Mercy Associates who are working with the Parish Nurse to collect and redistribute medical equipment in an effort to help those in need have a better quality of life. We are seeking wheelchairs, walkers, canes, commodes, adult diapers, bed pads and other related equipment (good condition only, please). If you have any equipment that you would like to donate or if you are in need of equipment, please call 863-8508 or 578-9920 and ask for Monique.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Radio IS ON THE AIR!

Tune to 105.5 FM

24 hours a day/7 days a week

This is YOUR radio station, so please be an active listener. Our success depends on it! The more people listen, the sooner our communities will hear about it and listen themselves and come back to The Church. So preset your radio dial and find your favorite shows! Visit our website at WRXJ1055.org

The Winooski Food Shelf offers their continued thanks to the Parishioners of St. Francis Xavier Parish for your very generous donations. Your support has been amazing and very much appreciated. Special thanks to Norm Picard and Tom Wilson for always making sure the items get to the food shelf.

National March for Life: The Diocese is sponsoring a bus for teenage Vermonters to participate in the annual National March For Life in Washington. This is amazing experience for youth. Buses will leave January 23 (eve) and return January 26. This will be an extended itinerary for teens and their chaperones to include visits to several museums/shrines in the D.C. area and overnight stays.

St. Ambrose Church in Bristol presents "Season of Love" Marketplace! Friday, December 6th from 1 to 5 PM AND Saturday, December 7th from 9 am to 5 pm Featuring: Craft Shop, Bake Shop, Mercy Creation Gift Shop, Doll & Jewelry Shop, Wonder Jars, Silent Auction, Attic Treasures, and fabulous Raffles: Hand-Made Quilts, Theme Baskets filled with Great Items, 50/50. Special Events include: on Friday—Silver Tea (2:30 PM)

2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Go out and spread the good news.

Thank you to all who contributed so generously to the 2019 Bishop's Fund Appeal. Because of your generosity we have achieved our goal.

Singers/Instrumentalist are needed for Christmas Eve Midnight Mass:

Do you like to sing?? You don't have to read music or have prior experience. Anyone interested in participating should call or text Lucy Dupont at 999-4831 or email ldupont_nmc@hotmail.com (use underscore after ldupont). Practices will be held on Sunday afternoons. Dates and time will be published in next week's bulletin.

A Gift For You

Our parish has just subscribed to an amazing resource called formed.org. This is a faithfully Catholic website that offers HUNDREDS of movies, documentaries, Bible studies, sacrament studies, books, and audio teachings. If you like the lighthouse Catholic media CDs, then imagine having all of those resources at your fingertips in audio and video. You can sign up for this on your smartphone, tablet, smart TV, or your home computer. Just go to formed.org (or download the app) click the "sign up as part of a parish" button, type in Saint Francis Xavier, and enter your name and email. That's all you have to do to have all of these FREE resources at your finger tips. If you need help signing up, then please call the parish office 655-2290 or contact Jordan Easley, 802-503-8241.

Get the Most Out of Christmas... Start with Advent!

If you struggle with the rush and the noise of the Christmas season, then consider taking a little extra time to prepare with the Church for the birth of our Lord. For the first three weeks of December, our parish will be hosting group Bible studies using the newly released FORMED.org. For one hour on a Monday OR Thursday evening, join your brothers and sisters in a 1 hour session of Bible study and prayer, waiting on the Lord in this Advent season. Even if you can't make it in the evenings, you can still follow the study online with FORMED. If you're interested, contact **Jordan Easley: 802-503.8241** or jordan.easley@gmail.com.

Guardian Angel Prayer

Angel of God My Guardian Dear

To whom God's love commits me here.

Ever this day be at my side

To light and guard to rule and guide. Amen