

# NEWS FROM The Inland See

February 3–9, 2024

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON



## Universal Synod Update

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*“Synodality is not about winning an argument, it is about planting a tree,” said Dominican Father Timothy Radcliff who, before the Assembly of Bishops in October, led a three-day retreat for the participants.*

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The first session of the Synodal Assembly of Bishops took place from Oct. 4 to 29 in Rome on the theme “For a Synodal Church. Communion, Participation, Mission.” It was historic in many ways.

For the first time, lay people, those in consecrated life, deacons and priests joined with bishops and the pope to reflect upon the characteristic signs of a synodal Church and the dynamics of communion, mission, and participation that it contains. They discussed issues and themes that arose from churches throughout the world that engaged in the synodal process at diocesan, national, and continental stages beginning in October 2021. They reflected upon the merits of issues, identified themes in need of in-depth study, and voted on a preliminary set of proposals laid out in the synthesis report “XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops” (find the full report at [vermontcatholic.org/universalsynod](http://vermontcatholic.org/universalsynod)).

While various issues, some controversial, have risen to the top during this process, the synod is not about changing Church doctrine, but rather about inviting more voices to the conversation and decision-making process.

Following the Synod Assembly of Bishops in October 2023, each diocese around the world has been asked to continue the conversation by reflecting upon the synthesis report. The U.S. Synod Team is asking that each diocese have two to three

listening sessions during Lent to reflect upon two guiding questions (below). A 3-5-page document synthesizing what was heard at the diocesan listening sessions will be incorporated into a summary from the USCCB to the Secretariat for the Synod of Bishops due in April 2024.

- Where have I seen or experienced successes — and distresses — within the Church’s structure(s)/organization/leadership/life that encourage or hinder the mission?
- How can the structures and organization of the Church help all the baptized to respond to the call to proclaim the Gospel and to live as a community of love and mercy in Christ?

Synod Zoom meetings for parish delegates and parishioners have been scheduled bi-monthly on the second Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. with an additional meeting added on February 6 at 10 a.m. The Lenten meetings to reflect upon the two guiding questions are planned for February 6 (10am) and March 12 (6pm) with additional meetings planned for May 14, July 16, Sept. 10, and Nov. 12 (6 pm).

Registration is required. Go to [vermontcatholic.org/universalsynod](http://vermontcatholic.org/universalsynod).

We look forward to listening to your responses.

— **Ellen Kane, Executive Director of Communications and Development for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington**

# Upcoming Events



02|06 TUESDAY  
**Our Lady's Kitchen Luncheon**  
*St. Anthony, Bethel • 11 am - 1 pm*  
Free meal! Come one, come all!



02|07 WEDNESDAY  
**Mount St. Joseph Academy Open House**  
*Mount St. Joseph Academy, Rutland • 5 - 7 pm*

Mount St. Joseph Academy is a private, Catholic, college-preparatory school for students in grades 9-12. Come and meet teachers, staff coaches, administration, and students. Guided tours and light refreshments will be provided.



02|07 WEDNESDAY  
**Vocation Night at Rice**  
*Rice Memorial High School, S. Burlington*  
5:30 - 8:30 pm

Father Timothy Naples with Mrs. Pam King invite ALL High school students to join us for dinner and an open conversation about the Vocations God gives in the Church. We will have representatives from all the different vocations (marriage, priesthood, consecrated life, religious, and permanent diaconate). This is a FREE event open to all high school students. Please RSVP to Mrs. King at king@rmhsvt.org by February 5.



02|08, 15, 22, 29, 03|07, 14, 21 THURS  
**THE SEARCH**  
*Christ Our Savior, Manchester • 6:30 - 7:30 pm*  
Join us for THE SEARCH, a beautiful new video program that explores life's big questions. For information and the zoom link TheSearchCOSP@gmail.com.



02|09, 03|08, 04|12 FRIDAYS  
**Essex Community Dinners**  
*Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Jct. • 5:30 pm*

Essex Community Dinners 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.



02|10 SATURDAY  
**Tea Cup Auction**  
*St. Raphael, Poultney • 11 am - 3 pm*  
Purchase 25 tickets for \$2 and place the tickets into a cup next to the item they hope to win. One ticket will be drawn from each cup and that item's winner will be called.

Everyone can win something! Doors open 11 am and bid drawing begins at 1 pm. The kitchen will be serving items for lunch! To benefit St. Raphael, Our Lady of Seven Dolours and St. John the Baptist parishes.



02|10 SATURDAY  
**Theology of the Body Symposium**  
*St. Catherine of Siena, Shelburne • 12 - 3:30 pm*  
Luncheon & Keynote Session presentation:

Theology of the Body: Life, Love, and You! Speaker: Fr. Jon Schnobrich. Two Concurrent Afternoon Sessions: The Truth Within: Appreciating the Gift of Your Fertility with Dr. Jessica Whelan and Nurturing the Feminine Genius in Modern Feminist Culture with Valerie Parzyck. Please register by Feb. 5 through the church office: (802) 985-2373.



02|10 SATURDAY  
**Chicken & Biscuits Dinner**  
*Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Swanton • 4:30 - 6:30 pm*

Serving chicken & biscuits, stuffing, cranberry sauce, coleslaw and dessert. Take-out available, call (802) 363-1452.



02|10 SATURDAY  
**St. Valentine's Dinner**  
*Our Lady of the Angels, Randolph • 5:30 - 8 pm*  
\$25 per person, for a Prime Rib dinner. All

are welcome. Ticket sales available from Bill Johnson at (802) 345-3828 or email coachjohnson@outlook.com.



02|11, 03|10, 04|14 SUNDAYS  
**Knights of Columbus Breakfast Buffet**

*St. Peter Parish Hall, Vergennes • 8 - 10 am*  
\$12 adults, \$7 children 8-12 yrs., \$38 immediate family max.



02|11 SUNDAY  
**Monthly COSP KofC Fund Raising Breakfast**  
*Christ Our Savior, Manchester • 9 am - 12 pm*

Proceeds support parish and community outreach programs.



02|11 SUNDAY  
**40 Days for Life Kick Off Rally — Barre**  
*St. Monica, Barre • 1 - 2 pm*

Light refreshments will be provided. Sign up for prayer &

fasting, vigil participation, and pick-up vigil materials. The 12-hour daily public vigil (except Sundays) runs from Wednesday, February 14 at 7am to Sunday, March 24, 2024. Learn more at: 40daysforlife.com/barre.



02|11 SUNDAY  
**40 Days for Life Kick Off Rally — Burlington**  
*Ignite Church, Williston • 1 - 2 pm*

FOR MORE INFO: John Averill (802) 734-1743.



02|15, 03|14 THURSDAYS  
**Spanish Mass**  
*St. Peter, Vergennes • 7 pm*  
Fr. Timothy Danaher, O.P., Campus Minister at Dartmouth will be offering the monthly Spanish Mass.



02|16 FRIDAY  
**Knights of Columbus Fish Fry**  
*St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 5 - 7 pm*

Cost is \$15 for adults, \$7 for children 9 and under, \$40 for an immediate family (5 or more). Tickets are required, call Dave (802) 864-4166 x 207.



02|19 VARIOUS DAYS  
**Bible Study: The Prophets — Messengers of God's Mercy**  
*Locations include: Bethel, Northfield, Randolph*

Classes begin the week of February 18 with a two week break at Easter. For the cost of \$15, each student will receive a Bible Timeline Chart, the study workbook, online access to the instruction videos (good for a full year), and an online copy of the workbook.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte

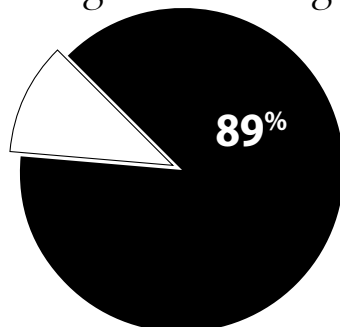
- Kitchen Steward
- Housekeeper

Contact Abbi Stumpf  
at (802) 928-3362  
or astumpf@saintannesshrine.org



BISHOP'S  
ANNUAL  
APPEAL

Progress: 89% to goal



Raised:  
**\$2,121,939**  
as of Jan. 24

Goal:  
**\$2,503,354**

**Give Online**  
vermontcatholic.org/giveonline  
or scan the QR code to the right.

**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

