

The Inland See

News from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington



November 15–21, 2025



2025 Advent Appeal



Be the Light This Advent Season

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” — John 1:5

As we enter the sacred season of Advent — a time of waiting, hope, and renewal — we are reminded of the light Christ brings into our lives. At Vermont Catholic Charities, we strive to reflect that light by offering hope and compassion to our neighbors in need.

This Advent, we invite you to Be the Light.

Through our Annual Advent Appeal, your generosity can shine brightly in the lives of individuals and families facing difficult times. Each gift is a reflection of Christ's love — a beacon of hope to those walking through dark valleys.

Every day, your compassion allows us to respond to urgent needs. Here are just a few stories of lives changed through your support:

A Story of Courage — Jennifer, a single mother, and her son with special needs found themselves in a rural Vermont motel, fleeing an abusive situation with barely more than the clothes on their backs. With limited food, clothing, and personal items, Jennifer reached out in desperation. We responded with a food

card and a VISA card to help cover essential needs. “I didn’t know where to go,” she said. “You gave me hope when I had none.”

A Story of Light in the Darkness — Mike and Julie, parents of two young children, work full-time and are proud to provide for their family. When Julie’s hours were cut, they fell behind on bills and faced a utility disconnect notice. We stepped in to help. “Your kindness paved a path to security and peace,” they told us.

A Story of Warmth in the Cold — Patsy and Tom are hardworking parents of three children. Both hold full-time jobs and were managing to make ends meet — until an unexpected car repair threw their budget off balance. Suddenly, they found themselves without heating fuel, facing cold nights and no hot water. We responded with a fuel delivery to restore warmth and comfort to their home. They stated, “Your help meant the world to us — thank you from the bottom of our hearts.”

These moments of mercy are only possible because of you.

Last Christmas, your gifts brought relief, dignity, and joy to 564 adults and 546 children throughout Vermont. Your support of our Emergency Aid Program has helped hundreds of families throughout the year with food, housing, utilities, and other essential needs.

This year, we’ve seen a rising number of Vermonters seeking help — many for the first time — due to inflation, reduced work hours, and unexpected hardships. Too many hardworking families now live one setback away from crisis.

What makes our Emergency Aid Program unique is our compassionate, flexible approach. We do not enforce strict income thresholds. Instead, we respond to real-life emergencies — car repairs, medical needs, job loss, or caregiving duties — that push families into crisis.

We believe strong communities begin with secure families — families who are warm, housed, and nourished. With your help, we can continue to ensure that no one faces darkness alone.

Will you Be the Light this Advent?

Your Advent gift will bring food, shelter, and warmth to those in need across Vermont. Together, we can reflect the love of Christ and shine hope into the lives of our neighbors.

Give today. Mail a check to:

Vermont Catholic Charities
55 Joy Drive, S. Burlington, VT 05403

Give online:

vermontcatholic.org/adventappeal

Thank you for walking this Advent journey with us — in faith, compassion, and love. May this holy season fill your heart with peace, joy, and the radiant light of Christ.

With gratitude,

Mary Beth Pinard, Executive Director,
Vermont Catholic Charities



11|16, 12|07 SUNDAYS Life Teen Life Night

Fr. Lively Center, St. Johnsbury • 5 - 7 pm

All teens in grades 6-12 are invited to gather for dinner, games, teachings, and prayer.



11|18, 25, 12|02 TUESDAYS What is the Catholic Worker?

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Williston • 6 - 7 pm

A Catholic Worker House of Hospitality is an intentional community built upon the principles of Micah 6:8. "You have been told what is good, and what the LORD requires of you: Only to do justice and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." We're working to bring the Catholic Worker to Vermont. Come join one of our meetings to learn more and see if it's something you'd want to be involved in!



11|22 - 12|20 SATURDAYS SoulCore

St. Andrew parish hall, Waterbury • 9 am

Activate your mind, body, and soul: stretch, strengthen, and pray. SoulCore is an integrated faith and fitness class to the prayers of the rosary with a self-paced workout. Bring a mat and water. Suggested \$10.



11|22 SATURDAY St. John/St. Anthony Annual Bake Sale/Bazaar

St. John the Baptist, Enosburg Falls
9 am - 3 pm

Purchase freshly made baked goods for your Holiday celebration! Raffle for a homemade queen-sized quilt, turkey, gift cards for gas, Hannafords, and Walmart, \$2 each or 3/\$5. All proceeds help to heat our parishes this winter!



11|22 SATURDAY St. Francis Xavier 18th Annual Holiday Craft Fair

St. Francis Xavier School, Winooski

9 am - 3 pm

Enjoy a festive day of holiday shopping with talented local crafters and artisans offering unique gifts and handcrafted treasures. Browse our raffle tables, savor delicious treats at our famous bake sale, and stay for a warm lunch.



11|22 SATURDAY St. Peter's Church Preservation Committee BINGO

St. Peter, Vergennes • 5 - 8 pm

Doors open at 5 pm and games start at 6 pm. This is a family friendly event. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold.



11|24 MONDAY Cor Formation

St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Cor Formation is an opportunity for men to grow closer to Jesus through prayer, formation and fraternity. Snacks and beverages are provided. Contact Mike Bullock, (802) 598-8179/mtn6@gmavt.net for more information.



11|30 SUNDAY St. Andrew's Parish 150th anniversary kickoff

St. Andrew, Waterbury • 6 - 8:00 pm

To begin the year of festivities leading up to the completion of 150 years, we'll celebrate the feast day with an evening prayer service and dessert reception. Bishop John McDermott will preside for the evening prayer, at 6 pm. The dessert reception will follow at St. Leo's Hall at 7 pm.



12|04, 11, 18 THURSDAYS Reflections on Marian Consecration with Fr. Tim Naples

St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 5:15 - 7:15 pm

This Advent, you're invited to join us for a three-part series with Fr. Tim Naples - Reflections on Marian Consecration: Total consecration and the example of St Maximilian Kolbe. We will begin with a short video, followed by discussion. The gathering will use a hybrid model; in person in the Fr. Davignon lounge OR over Zoom, whatever works best for you. **FOR MORE INFO:** Fr. Tim at tnaples@vermontcatholic.org.



12|06 SATURDAY Annual Christmas Bazaar

St. Patrick, Wallingford • 9 am - 2 pm

There will be crafts and baked goods, take out will be available for soups, macaroni and cheese, chili, and baked beans. Silent auction, themed baskets, over 50 items, once-loved room, and raffles. Returning this year is the lunch in!



12|12 FRIDAY Essex Community Dinner

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 5:30 - 7 pm

Essex Community Dinners are provided in order to grow and promote our community! They are also intended to feed the lonely and needy among us. These meals are free to all but donations are appreciated to cover parish expenses. Take-out dinners are also available, starting at 6 pm, for those who still need to avoid crowds.



Vermont Catholic Professionals Networking Event

**Wednesday, November 19
5:30 PM (presentation at 6 PM)**

Diocese of Burlington Offices
55 Joy Drive, South Burlington

Speaker
Will Cahill

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Topic
Social media and our Catholic faith

Registration
vermontcatholic.org/vcp

Snacks and beverages will be provided.

CATHOLIC VARIETY SHOW



Thursday, November 20 • 7 p.m.

McCarthy Arts Center, St.
Michael's College, Colchester
Tickets \$20 each

VTchallengers.org

All proceeds to benefit Vermont
Catholic Charities.



BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Goal: \$2,200,000

99%

Current: \$2,183,759.17
as of 11/5/25

How to Give:

Online:
vermontcatholic.org/giveonline

Call:
802.658.6110 x 1102

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