

NEWS FROM The Inland See

August 16–22, 2025

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

Be the hope

Saint Katharine Drexel and the work of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament played an important role in the evangelism and education of African-Americans both in the city of Philadelphia and around the country.

— Catholic Historical Research Center of the
Archdiocese of Philadelphia photo



A lot of people I know have given up watching the news. “It’s too depressing,” one told me. “It makes me wonder where all the good in the world has gone.”

Fair point. There seems to be a rule — whether written or unwritten, I’m not sure — that the only news that sells is bad news, scary news, news designed to keep a person up all night. I don’t blame my friend for just tuning it all out. I have toyed with the same temptation myself.

And yet...

There’s something in Catholic Christian tradition that gives me pause. Jesus did not tell us to hide in our rooms and ignore the world; instead, He told us to go forth and make disciples of all nations. If we take Him at His word, then we don’t have the option of passing the buck or ignoring what is going on. Remember what happened in Jesus’ parable about the servant who buried his talent rather than investing and multiplying it? Message received.

But as my friend pointed out, there are days, many of them, when you would give anything to have one glimmer of hope, just a little something to lighten the load and lift the spirit. The question is, when all seems dark, just where do you find that hope?

I am reminded of the story of Katharine Drexel, a 19th century Philadelphia heiress who was very moved and distressed by the plight of the Native and African Americans in the United States. On a European tour in 1887, she had an opportunity to ask Pope Leo XIII to send more missionaries to Wyoming to help these people who seemed to have so little. His answer would change the course of her life. “Why don’t you become a missionary?” he asked. The rest, as they say, is history. At the time of her death in 1955, Saint Katharine Drexel’s Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament had established 63 schools and 50 missions throughout the United States, including Xavier University in New Orleans, the first Catholic

University in the United States for African Americans.

In short, she became the hope she had been seeking.

“Hope has already begun with you,” Pope Francis once said. If we are at a loss as to how to go about being that hope for ourselves and others, we need look no further than Mary’s very excellent advice at the wedding feast of Cana.

“Do whatever He tells you.”

One doesn’t have to read very far into scripture to see what she meant by that. It’s all there — feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the sick and imprisoned — including those imprisoned in their own homes by age or disability. Forgive your enemies. Listen to one another (yes, that means putting down your phone). Bear one another’s burdens. Be a cheerful giver — become known for being patient, kind, and understanding. Always put Jesus front and center. Be hope, and “the measure you measure with will be measured back to you.”

VTC • Kay Winchester

Upcoming Events



08|20, 27 WEDNESDAYS Saint Anne's Shrine Summer Reflection Series 2025

St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte • 11:15 am - 2 pm

The Society of Saint Edmund invites you to the Summer Reflection Series, held every Wednesday in July and August. Each program begins with Mass at 11:15 am, followed by a presentation. Lunch will be available for purchase in the café, or feel free to bring your own picnic to enjoy outdoors.

Wednesday, August 20 — Monsignor Peter Routhier
Jubilee Year of Hope: Why We Celebrate

Wednesday, August 27 — John Kenney, Professor
Emeritus, Religious Studies, Saint Michael's College
Saint Monica: A Life of Grace



08|25, 09|22 MONDAYS Cor Formation

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

Cor Formation for men is held on every third

Saturday in the church basement. This is an opportunity for men to grow closer to Jesus' through prayer, formation, and fraternity. Coffee and donuts are provided.



08|28 THURSDAY Our Lady's Kitchen: A Meal with a Movie

Our Lady of Angels, Randolph • 6 - 8 pm

Potluck dinner followed by popcorn and a movie. The movie is *The Chosen*, season 3, episodes 7 & 8.



09|02 TUESDAY Jesus Thirsts: The Miracle of the Eucharist

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 7 - 9 pm

The Knights of Columbus Bishop Rice Council presents a free showing of the documentary "Jesus Thirsts: The Miracle of the Eucharist" featuring leading Catholic apologists such as Dr Scott Hahn, Chris Stefanick and more. The film takes you around the world visiting the sites of many Eucharistic miracles that have occurred over the centuries, including some that are quite recent. Why not bring a friend or family member who has been away from Mass for awhile?



09|03 - 11|19 WEDNESDAYS Surviving Divorce Support Ministry

Holy Rosary, Richmond • 7 - 8:30 pm

Surviving Divorce features twelve video presentations that cover topics such as shock and grief, anger and forgiveness, money issues, dealing with children and a former spouse, and annulment and remarriage. This program is for the newly separated and divorced and those still struggling with issues many years later. Contact Deacon Josh McDonald at jmcdonald@vermontcatholic.org.



09|06 SATURDAY 2025 St. Paul's School Golf Tournament

Barton Golf Club • 8 am

Registration is at 8 am with a Shotgun start at 9 am. \$50 per

person, \$15 for golf carts. Learn more at: vermontcatholic.org/event/2025-st-pauls-school-golf-tournament.



09|06, 10|04 SATURDAYS First Saturday Mass

Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Fair Haven • 7:30 am

Rosary at 7:30 am, Mass at 8 am.



09|06, 10|04 SATURDAYS First Saturday Devotions

All Saints, Richford • 7:30 am

Please join us on the first Saturday of every month for confessions starting at 7:30 am followed by the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 8 am. Following Mass we pray the First Saturday Devotional prayers. All are welcome.



09|06, 10|04 SATURDAYS First Saturday Mass

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 8 am

Every first Saturday starting with Confessions and the Rosary at 8 am followed by Mass at 8:30 am.



09|06, 10|04 SATURDAYS Knights of Columbus Bingo

All Saints, Richford • 11:30 am - 3 pm

Parish Hall. Doors open at 11:30 am and the games will begin at 1 pm. Homemade lunch, desserts & beverages will be offered. Pull tickets will be available! Proudly sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Council #2610.



09|07, 10|05 SUNDAYS Eucharistic Healing Service

St. John the Evangelist, St. Johnsbury • 3-4:30 pm

Father Lance Harlow will conduct a Eucharistic Healing Service, with Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament and praying over by Father Harlow.



09|09 - 10|28 TUESDAYS The Chosen, Season 5

St. Pius X, Essex • 6 - 8 pm

Similar to past season discussion groups, we will show each week's episode at approximately 6 pm (depending on the length of each week's episode) followed by our group discussion at 7 pm. Come for both or just the discussion group!



09|12, 10|10 FRIDAYS Essex Community Dinner

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

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 available at 6 pm.



09|13 SATURDAY National Remembrance for Aborted Babies

All Saints Cemetery, Richford • 9 - 10 am

Please join us for a prayer service as we pray to remember all aborted babies, bring healing to their parents, and hopefully bring an end to abortion. Rain or shine. Please bring your rosary beads and a chair if desired. Event sponsor is All Saints Parish, Richford. The event will last about an hour.



09|24 WEDNESDAY Chris Stefanick & Reboot!

St. Francis Xavier, Winooski • 7 - 9 pm

This high-energy, 2-hour event with internationally acclaimed speaker Chris Stefanick will awaken your faith, reignite your joy, and equip you with tools to live the life God created you for: A life of JOY. It will help you rediscover the JOY you were created for, and is perfect for everyone — even friends, family and children (12+) who may not be actively practicing their faith. buytickets.at/reallifecatholic/1663037



10|25 SATURDAY Echoes of Grace

St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 5:45 - 8:45 pm

Step into Resurrection Park and sacred silence for a one-of-a-kind evening of grace and reflection. As you walk quietly through the cemetery, you'll hear firsthand from beloved saints as they impart their words of wisdom to guide you in your life today. Each moment will leave you inspired and renewed by their faith-filled messages of love, hope, and perseverance.



BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Goal: \$2,200,000

Current: \$1,840,469
as of 8/6

84%

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

