

The Inland See

NEWS FROM

April 22 – 28, 2017

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

Mercy for our Common Home



"May the works of mercy also
include care for our common home"
— Pope Francis

This weekend, we celebrate both Earth Day and Divine Mercy Sunday. One observance seemingly "secular" and the other deeply "religious," but, aren't both the Earth and mercy things with which each and every one of us maintain relation, regardless of creed?

Pope Francis' September 2016 statement, "Show Mercy to our Common Home," opens with a strong message of universality. After quoting several Christian leaders and organizations, he concludes, "Christians or not, as people of faith and goodwill, we should be united in showing mercy to the earth as our common home and cherishing the world in which we live as a place for sharing and communion."

In an effort to strengthen our relationships with one another and with our Creator God, Pope Francis later proposes a new act of mercy to adopt in our prayer lives and in our lived witness of the faith: care for our common home.

"The Christian life involves the practice of the traditional seven corporal and seven spiritual works of mercy. 'We usually think of the works of mercy individually and in relation to a specific initiative: hospitals for the sick, soup kitchens for the hungry, shelters for the homeless, schools for those to be educated, the confessional and spiritual direction for those needing counsel and forgiveness... But if we look at the works of mercy as a whole, we see that the object of mercy is human life itself and everything it embraces.'

Obviously 'human life itself and everything it embraces' includes care for our common home. So, let me propose a complement to the two traditional sets of seven: may the works of mercy also include care for our common home.

As a spiritual work of mercy, care for our common home calls for a 'grateful contemplation of God's world' which 'allows us to discover in each thing a teaching which God wishes to hand on to us.' As a corporal work of mercy, care for our common home requires 'simple daily gestures which

break with the logic of violence, exploitation and selfishness' and 'makes itself felt in every action that seeks to build a better world.'

In response to the new act of mercy — care for our common home — and in observance of this weekend's celebrations, the Global Catholic Climate Movement launched their Mercy2Earth initiative, which encourages Catholic dioceses, parishes, families and individuals to reflect upon the pope's message and put it into action.

The Diocese of Burlington and Holy Family-St. Lawrence Parish's "Green Committee" will host a Mercy2Earth event that responds to both the spiritual and corporal aspects of cultivating this new act of mercy. Participants will gather in the church for an evening prayer service focused on the pope's message of creation care. Following the 30-minute prayer service, there will be roundtable discussion groups in the Holy Family Parish Center. The goal is to learn or share about strategies to focus on creation care in one's parish, home or workplace. Topics include renewable energy, energy efficiency, waste management, clean water, living simply, impacts on communities, eco-spirituality and parish-level organizing. Discussion groups include a parishioner or community member who is experienced in the topic of discussion, able to respond to common questions and provide some resources for further education. The event will conclude with an option to tour the Holy Family Parish Center's "green" kitchen. All are welcome to attend this Earth Day and Divine Mercy Sunday event on April 23, from 5 to 7 pm.

How do you show Mercy2Earth? Send your stories to sclary@vermontcatholic.org.

— *Stephanie Clary, Mission Outreach & Communication
Coordinator, Diocese of Burlington*



#Mercy2Earth is a global campaign to encourage Catholics to reflect on Pope Francis' important "Show Mercy to Our Common Home" message and to put it into action.

Visit Mercy2Earth.org to learn more.

A Prayer for our Common Home

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, who are so precious in Your eyes... God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of Your love for all the creatures of this earth, God of mercy, may we receive Your forgiveness and convey Your mercy throughout our common home. Praise be You! Amen.

— Pope Francis

UPCOMING EVENTS



04|22
St. Ambrose Casino Nite
St. Ambrose Parish Hall, Bristol
7:30 - 10:30 pm

Play Craps, Roulette, or Black Jack. Tickets are \$20 per person and include \$200 in Gaming Chips). Everyone has a chance to win great prizes. This year's Door Prize: \$250 VISA Gift Card. Appetizers & refreshments will be available.
FOR MORE INFO: Sue Grover (802) 453-2488



04|23
Holy Hour for Vocations
Sacred Heart of Jesus, Troy
2:30 pm

This is a Feast of Divine Mercy Holy Hour, confession will be available. A potluck meal will follow in the parish hall.
FOR MORE INFO: (802) 744-6272



04|23
**Divine Mercy Devotions —
The Sung Chaplet**
Holy Family, Essex Junction
3 - 4 pm

Confessions will be heard beginning at 2 pm and after the service which is at 3 pm.
FOR MORE INFO: parish office (802) 878-5331



04|23
Divine Mercy Holy Hour
St. Louis, Highgate Center
3 - 4 pm

Divine Mercy Holy Hour from 3 to 4 p.m. Confessions will be available a half hour before and after the Holy Hour.
FOR MORE INFO: (802) 868-7535



04|23
Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions
St. Elizabeth, Lyndonville
3 pm

Chaplet of the Divine Mercy, prayers and confessions.



04|23
Mercy for our Common Home
*Holy Family-St. Lawrence Parish Center,
Essex Junction*
5-7 pm

In honor of Global Catholic Climate Movement's Mercy2Earth Weekend (Earth Day-April 22 and Mercy Sunday April 23) the parish will host round table discussions on parish initiatives for creation sustainability. Topics will include renewable energy, energy efficiency, waste management, clean water, living simply, impacts on communities, and eco-spirituality. Evening prayer focused on Pope Francis 2016 statement "Show Mercy to our Common Home" will accompany the discussion. Non-parishioners are welcome and encouraged to attend.



04|25
Senior Meals
St. Jude, Hinesburg
12 - 2 pm

St. Jude Parish offers lunches to area seniors on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.



04|26
**World Apostolate of Fatima
Meeting**
St. John Vianney, South Burlington
5 pm

The World Apostolate of Fatima — The Blue Army — invites priests and parishioners to Mass and the rosary devotion as the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima nears. Mass will begin at 5 p.m. and the rosary at 5:30. The potluck meeting will take place in the parish hall. Topics will include nominating and voting for the new officers for the group, and finalizing plan for the Fatima Centennial Vermont Tour for Peace to seven selected churches.



04|28
Feast of St. Gianna
Holy Family, Essex Junction
8:30 - 10 am

Feast of St. Gianna - mother, wife, doctor and pro-life witness. Mass followed by presentation with refreshments, in the Ready Library of Holy Family-St. Lawrence Parish Center.
FOR MORE INFO: (802) 878-5331



04|28,29
Indoor Lawn and Rummage Sale
Holy Family Parish Center, Essex Junction
9 am - 5 pm

Members of Catholic Daughters Court Fanny Allen #1060 are seeking items for their indoor lawn and rummage sale. Drop off your items to Holy Family Parish Center (lower level) on Thursday, April 27, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. They are accepting good, clean, usable and ready to wear spring and summer clothing and footwear for all age groups; bedroom; bathroom and kitchen items; along with miscellaneous lawn sale items.

FOR MORE INFO: Louise (802) 878-8407, Brooke (802) 878-5879



04|29
Day Retreat
Our Lady of Life Spiritual Center, Quebec
8 am - 9 pm

Therese of the Child Jesus can help us on our faith journey, showing us how to use everything we experience as a way to enter more deeply into God's love. You are invited to a day of prayer, sacraments, teaching and fellowship at Our Lady of Life Spiritual Center in Quebec. The car-pool leaves the St. Francis Xavier Rectory in Winooski at 8 am and returns by 9 pm. The \$30 fee includes lunch, supper and snacks.

FOR MORE INFO: Rectory (802) 655-2290 or Teresa email@ourladyoflifeinstitute.org



04|29
**St. Michael School PreK
Open House**
St. Michael School, Brattleboro
2 - 4 pm

This 4-Star PreK Program will have spring open house for returning, new and prospective families. All PK teachers and teaching assistants will be on site to discuss the program.

FOR MORE INFO: bethanythies@smsvt.info or (802) 254-6320



04|29
Spaghetti Supper
Saint Sylvester, Graniteville
4:30 pm

Join us for the fourth annual spaghetti supper with homemade meatballs and sauce, salad, rolls, assorted desserts and beverages. Seatings at 4:30 and 6 pm, adults \$10, children 11 and under free. Take-outs will be available by reservation.
FOR MORE INFO: (802) 793-4944



04|29
**Burlington Catholic Young Adult
Fundraiser Dinner**
St. Mark Parish Hall, Burlington
5 - 7 pm

The funds raised from this pasta dinner will be used to help with expenses like food costs for potlucks and costs for printing posters for advertising. Tickets are \$5 per person, or \$20 per family. Please RSVP.

FOR MORE INFO: burlingtonareayoungadults@gmail.com



04|30, 05|01, 02
Parish Mission
Saint Monica, Barre
various times

This parish retreat features Father Dan Cambra of the Marians of the Immaculate Conception, who will give the homily at each weekend Mass and offer confessions with a talk on Sunday at 6:30 pm and a talk Monday and Tuesday at 9 am.
FOR MORE INFO: stmonicalift@gmail.com.



ROMAN CATHOLIC
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Submit your event to the diocesan calendar!
vermontcatholic.org/calendar

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