

# NEWS FROM The Inland See

December 11–17, 2021

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON



## What is Prop 5?

Join webinar to learn more.

Tuesday, December 14  
7:00 pm

Register at:  
[vermontcatholic.org/event/prop-5-webinar](http://vermontcatholic.org/event/prop-5-webinar)

Please join Burlington Bishop Christophe Coyne, Mary Hahn Beerworth and Deacon Pete Gummere for an important webinar explaining Proposal 5 on Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m.

Bishop Coyne will offer the opening prayer and remarks.

Mary Beerworth, executive director of the Vermont Right to Life Committee, will present on Proposal 5 and what it means for Vermonters.

Deacon Gummere, a bioethicist and diocesan director of the permanent diaconate, will present on ethical issues, including respect for the human person.

### What is Proposal 5?

Sec 2. Article 22 of Chapter 1 of the Vermont Constitution is added to read:

#### Article 22. [Personal reproductive liberty.]

*That an individual's right to personal reproductive autonomy is central to the liberty and dignity to determine one's own life course and shall not be denied or infringed unless justified by a compelling State interest achieved by the least restrictive means.*

### Why a webinar and why should you be concerned?

Vermont already has in place a law guaranteeing a woman's

right to abortion, all the way through birth. Act 47, an act relating to preserving the right to abortion, was passed in 2019 by Vermont legislators. It was signed into law by Gov. Phil Scott on June 10, 2019.

Regardless of what happens to *Roe v. Wade*, women in Vermont will continue to have the right to seek an abortion, up to and including during labor. This current proposal would take this a step further. It would enshrine a right to abortion, and potentially other reproductive rights, into the state constitution. It is unclear what "personal reproductive autonomy" will mean in the future.

The language of Prop. 5 is deliberately vague, meaning that there could be unintended consequences. Even proponents of Prop. 5 have admitted that the full impact of this amendment will not be seen until it is clarified through the courts.

Please join the webinar. Get the facts. Get involved. Most of all, pray.

Go to [vermontcatholic.org](http://vermontcatholic.org) for more info or register at [vermontcatholic.org/event/prop-5-webinar](http://vermontcatholic.org/event/prop-5-webinar).

This webinar will be recorded. Registrants will receive an email with the recording.

— *Phyllis Harkonen is the respect life coordinator for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington*



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

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# Upcoming Events



12|12, 19 SUNDAYS  
**Sing We Now Noel**

St. Albans, Colchester & Stowe • 2 pm

A celebration of Christmas and seasonal music will be presented at three different locations with Dr. William Tortolano as organist. The 92-year-old St. Michael's College Professor Emeritus of Fine Arts and Music continues to avoid retirement. The acoustic and tonal resources of the different Vermont spaces will bring a wide variety of organ music and vocal soloists. The audience will have an opportunity to sing favorite carols from many countries. Organ solos are by J.S. Bach, Pachelbel, Brahms, Yon and Rowley.

**Dec. 12, St. Michael's College chapel in Colchester:** soloist Jerry Proulx

**Dec. 19, Blessed Sacrament Church in Stowe:** soloist Elisabeth Ortiz.

The concerts are free and open to the public. An optional free will offering will be available.



12|13 MONDAY  
**A Charlie Brown Christmas, America's Passion Play**

Holy Family Parish Center, Essex Jct. • 7 pm

Come learn the inside story and multi-faith origins — Catholic, Jewish, and Protestant — of America's most spiritual piece of pop culture. Presented by Dr. Damian Costello, Director of Postgraduate Studies at NAIITS: An Indigenous Learning Community and author of "How 'A Charlie Brown Christmas' became America's passion play."



12|14, 21, 28, 01|04, 11, 18, 25 TUESDAYS  
**Courageous Women Bible Study**

St. John Vianney, S. Burlington • 9 am or 6:30 pm

For this study we will use, "Courageous

Women: A Study on the Heroines of Biblical History" by Stacy Mitch, written with a female audience in mind yet it is equally approachable for men. We will meet for 8 sessions; you can choose the time that fits your schedule best. Each session is mostly independent of the others, so participants are welcome to attend as many or as few as they can. Look for the sign-up sheet at the top of our ramp entrance. Copies of the book are available through the parish for \$12 each.

**FOR MORE INFO: Connie McDonald (802) 864-4166 x204 or SJVGoodNews@gmail.com**



12|14 TUESDAY  
**Webinar: What is Prop. 5?**

Online • 7 - 8 pm

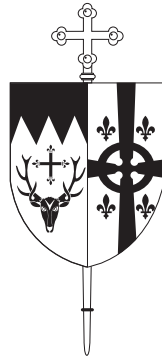
Join Bishop Coyne and State experts for an evening webinar explaining Prop. 5 (Article 22). Prop. 5 seeks to amend Vermont's constitution to enshrine abortion into it. Prop. 5 is expected to be put to the general public vote in November, 2022. Please send any questions/comments to Phyllis Harkonen at pharkonen@vermontcatholic.org or 802-652-6110 x1201



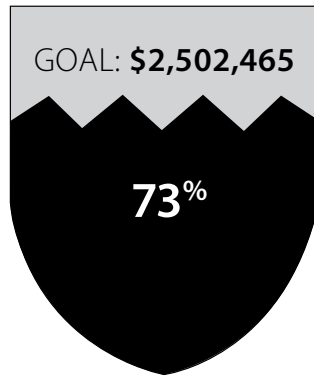
12|17, 01|07, 21, 02|04, 18 FRIDAYS  
**The Challenge Club for Catholic Girls**

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Williston • 6 - 8 pm

Challenge is a club for girls to grow in virtue, friendship and their Catholic faith. It's a place for girls to learn about



BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL  
**2021**  
UPDATE



As of Nov. 30, 2021: **\$1,838,486**

To learn more or make a gift visit:  
[vermontcatholic.org/giveonline](http://vermontcatholic.org/giveonline)

themselves by doing apostolic projects and creating a positive impact on family, friends and the world. **FOR MORE INFO: contact Mary Niekrewicz, mary.of.vt@gmail.com, (802) 878-5538 or Audrey Walko, audreycgsvt@gmail.com, (802) 373-9564.**



12|18 SATURDAY  
**Corpus Christi Parish Advent Retreat**

Our Lady Queen of Peace, Danville  
9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Come re-encounter Jesus Christ, join Catholic brothers and sisters as we journey through Advent, and experience anew the joy of our faith! The day will feature talks by local clergy on the Advent themes of Hope, Faith, and Joy, followed by witness talks from local parishioners. There is no registration fee and no charge for lunch. **FOR MORE INFO: contact Tom Lovett at lightoftheworldcorpuschristi@gmail.com.**



12|30 THURSDAY  
**More than the Magi: Celebrating the Riches of Epiphany 2022**

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 7-8:30 pm

A reflection on the history, liturgy, and spirituality of a feast of feasts, with Fr. Richard Berube, SSE.



01|05, 19, 02|02, 16, 03|02, & 16  
WEDNESDAYS  
**Resisting Happiness Book Club**

Online • 7 pm

Come explore with us Matthew Kelly's book *Resisting Happiness* at 7-8 pm every other Wednesday for six weeks. Free book and study guide, contact ptturnley@aol.com.

## DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON CAREERS

*Christ the King School, Burlington:*  
Afterschool and Summer Camp Director

*Diocesan Central Offices, South Burlington:*

Human Resources Generalist

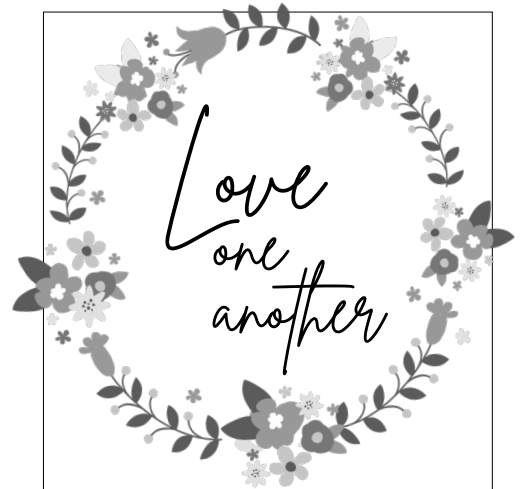
Diocesan Catechetical Leader

Diocesan Youth & Young Adult Minister

*St. Joseph's Residential Care Home, Burlington:*  
Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) — \$1,000 Sign-On Bonus

*St. Mark Parish, Burlington:*  
Coordinator of Evangelization & Catechesis

[vermontcatholic.org/careers](http://vermontcatholic.org/careers)



DEC. 12-18, 2021

### CHALLENGES TO GROW YOUR MARRIAGE

#### The Third Week of Advent

Contact a nursing home, a senior care center, or your local parish to determine the best approach in serving the residents or homebound this week. Pray together for those who are lonely, thinking of them as you do a random act of kindness for someone.

[vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge](http://vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge)