

NEWS FROM The Inland See

July 17–23, 2021

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

TO HAVE TO HOLD TO HONOR

Natural Family Planning
*Supporting God's gifts of
love and life in marriage*



Natural Family Planning Week • July 25–31, 2021

We all experience the trials, tribulations and joys of our human body changing. So why is it that talking about these changes with our parents, grandparents, children and friends is so challenging? Why is it that the beauty of God's perfect design, each human being — you and me — has become so controversial when fertility awareness or family planning is raised? Why is family planning, or more specifically Natural Family Planning considered by many to be an infringement by the Church?

The love shared by husband and wife in marriage is meant to be life-giving and selfless, creating family and witnessed within the community. Marriage is a sacramental gift, a gift of unitive love where the two become selflessly one. Eve was designed exclusively for Adam (Gn 1:27), and Adam rejoices when he sees the woman: "This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh" (Gn 2:23). Our Catholic faith teaches us to be open to new life, to be selfless and accepting of the gifts of love that God sends to each of us.

Natural Family Planning teaches each one of us to better understand the biology of our body, the changes that the body goes through during life on Earth. The teaching of Natural Family Planning supports the gift of God's love in marriage. As the husband and wife are better equipped at knowing the wife's fertility, they are better able to discern whether God is calling them to become pregnant or not. If

the couple chooses to postpone conception, they have the knowledge to refrain from the marital act. This knowledge brings the couple closer to God's unitive love, as they are not using drugs or devices that interfere with God's divine love. The husband and wife share in the responsibility of sexual partnership, which aims to be unitive while procreating a natural love within the marriage.

The key word is "natural" when discussing our human sexuality. God has given each of us His divine love to experience in our relationship with others dependent upon the vocations to which we are each called. The Church does not dictate nor mandate Natural Family Planning, Fertility Care, Natural Procreative Technology or Theology of the Body. Our Catholic faith teaches us to nurture the love God has given each one of us with our physical bodies.

We are called to respect the intimacy and vulnerability that God designed in the marital act, which runs counter to our culture.

During this week of Natural Family Planning Awareness, we are invited to learn and explore God's plan for married life.

For more information, visit: usccb.org/topics/natural-family-planning/what-natural-family-planning, naturalwomanhood.org or sisterhoodcwa.com.

— *Terri McCormack is marriage and family life coordinator for the Diocese of Burlington.*

Upcoming Events



07|11 – 08|06

Totus Tuus

July 18 – 23 • S. Burlington and Bristol
July 25 – 30 • Newport and Middlebury
August 1 – 6 • Bennington and Barre

The Totus Tuus Summer Catholic youth program will be hosted at twelve locations in Vermont this summer.



07|18 SUNDAY

Eileen George Prayer Group

Most Holy Name, Morrisville • 1 - 2 pm
Fr. Lance W. Harlow is offering a monthly

lecture and video presentation on the teachings of Eileen George, founder of Meet-The-Father Ministry. Includes Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions. Please join us for a very inspiring presentation. Reading materials will be provided each month.



07|21 WEDNESDAY

VCP Virtual Networking Event

via Zoom • 8 am

Dr. Jules Wetchi, an ophthalmologist and president of the New American Communities in the Burlington area, will be the featured speaker at the next meeting of Vermont Catholic Professionals. Learn more or register at vermontcatholic.org/vcp



07|21 WEDNESDAY

Living Joy Discussion Group: Rule #1 Give Thanks

Online • 8 pm

Join Chris Stefanick's Living Joy: 9 Rules to Help You Rediscover and Live Joy Every Day. This virtual event explores one rule every other week. Offered by members of the Diocesan Evangelization Committee. Contact pturnley@aol.com for more information.



07|28 WEDNESDAY

Summer Reflection Series

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

Join us this week when Rev. David Theroux, SSE presents "Saints Martha & Mary and the Charism of Edmundite Hospitality." Program begins with Mass at 11:15 am followed by presentation. Lunch is available for purchase, or you may bring your own. All are welcome! Reservations are appreciated though not necessary and can be made by calling (802) 928-3362.



08|07 SATURDAY

Our Lady of Fatima Devotions

Holy Family, Essex Junction • 8 am

Beginning with Rosary at 8 am, Confessions, and followed by Mass at 8:30 am.



08|13, 14, 15 FRI, SAT, SUN

Retreat on The Book of Revelation

Our Lady of Ephesus House, Jamaica

Fr. Dominique Faure, chaplain of Catholic Discipleship College in the diocese of Auckland, New Zealand, will lead a retreat on the book of Revelation. Learn more: ourladyofephesushouseofprayer.org, or call (802) 896-6000.



08|15 SUNDAY

Prayer Day on the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte • 10:30 am - 2 pm

Join us for Mass, followed by the Rosary, and a procession. Please bring your own lunch for picnic and enjoy the beach.



09|25 SATURDAY

Vermont Catholic Daughters of America Retreat

Our Lady of Angels, Randolph • 9:30 am - 1:30 pm

Deacon Gesualdo Schneider will lead the retreat, open to all women aged 18 and over. This event is free and includes lunch. There will be an opportunity for a goodwill donation to support the Knights of Columbus's planned purchase of an ultrasound machine. Registration info available soon.

CHRIST OUR

Hope

BUILDING A VIBRANT CHURCH



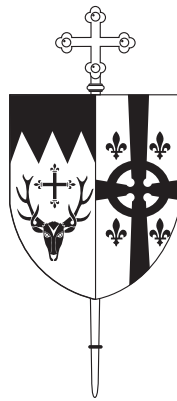
Goal: \$9,582,456

46%

As of
July 6, 2021:
\$4,451,413

To learn more
or make a gift visit:
christourhopevt.org.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

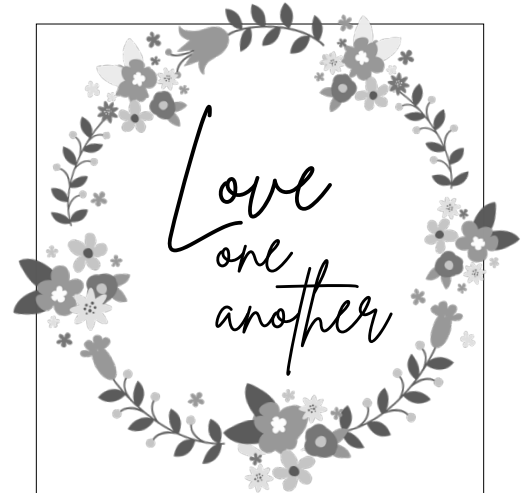


BISHOP'S
ANNUAL APPEAL
2021
UPDATE

GOAL: \$2,502,465

36%

As of
July 6, 2021: \$905,944



JULY 18-24, 2021

**CHALLENGES TO GROW
YOUR MARRIAGE**

QUIET TIME, TOGETHER

Share quiet time together, holding hands, and offering prayers of thanksgiving for your relationship. Spend 15 minutes in quiet prayer, and end with an Our Father prayed together.

vermontcatholic.org/marriagechallenge