



**From Bishop Coyne--Sign of Peace and Communion from the Cup During Cold and Flu Season:** The Sign of Peace has been an integral and valued part of the worship of the church for centuries in the form of a kiss of peace or handshake. As we enter this cold and flu season, it is important to recognize that some people are especially susceptible to the viruses that can be spread by contact and that some immune systems are very sensitive. Please understand that some people may choose not to shake hands during the Sign of Peace, but might simply greet you with a smile. Also, please use common sense and good judgment concerning Mass attendance if you are ill. If you do decide to come to church for Mass, please remember that frequent and thorough hand-washing, refraining from physical contact during the Sign of Peace, and refraining from receiving communion from the Chalice can help prevent the spread of germs. Thank you.

**New Parishioners:** If you are new to the parish or have never registered, won't you please fill out a parish registration form found in the vestibule of the church? We are trying to update our parish records and have incomplete info on some families.

**Adult Confirmation:** Are you an adult who has been baptized and received your First Communion in the Catholic Church but were never confirmed? We will be holding a 7 session preparation class in the spring for all those interested in being confirmed. If you are interested or would like more info, please contact the office at 425-2637 or [carmel@gmavt.net](mailto:carmel@gmavt.net) and we will add you to our list and will notify you as we get closer to the start date.

**Jay Peak Family Fun Package:** St. Jude Parish is again raffling off the Jay Peak Family Fun Package with a \$725.00 value. Tickets are \$1/each or a book of 6 for \$5.00. The drawing will happen after the holidays. Tickets are available after the weekend Masses at St. Jude's or by calling Marie at 482-2290, 425-2637 or email [marietcookson@aol.com](mailto:marietcookson@aol.com).

**Senior Meals.** St. Jude Parish offers lunches to area seniors on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> **Tuesday** of each month. The next senior meals are scheduled for **January 23 and February 13 and 27** from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Serving begins at 12:00 noon. All Seniors and Caretakers welcome.

**Family Mass and Pancake Breakfast:** St. Jude will have their monthly Family Mass on **Sunday, January 28**. The Mass will be followed with the Pancake Breakfast. There is **NO CHARGE** for the breakfast but a **FREE WILL OFFERING** basket will be available. All are welcome.

**Re-engaging the Occasional Catholic:** A Presentation by Bishop Coyne on **Wednesday, January 17**, will be offered at Holy Cross Parish in Colchester from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. This presentation will also be available via livestreaming on the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington Facebook Page <http://www.facebook.com/vermontcatholic.com>.

**World Marriage Day 2018 Celebration with Bishop Coyne:** The celebration of World Marriage Day in the Diocese of Burlington will take place on **Sunday, February 4 at the 10:00 a.m.** Sunday Mass at St. Joseph's Co-Cathedral in Burlington with recognition being given to those couples celebrating their Milestone Anniversaries in 2018 (5, 10, 15, etc...). Couples can also choose to be recognized in their parish and receive a certificate on the following Sunday, February 11. Please register through the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis, Marriage and Family Life at [ldaudelin@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:ldaudelin@vermontcatholic.org) or online at [www.vermontcatholic.org](http://www.vermontcatholic.org).



*They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. — Mt 2:10-11*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

**Living Out Christmas in the New Year:** How do we live out the message of Christmas in the New Year, rather than pack it away with the ornaments? Each year the Octave Day of Christmas falls on the first day of the New Year, on which we also celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Her open heart and courageous "yes" to God show us how to live year-round—with hearts open to the Lord, following where He leads. We are called to place our trust in Him, to enter compassionately into the suffering of others, and to love one another as Christ loves us. Like Our Blessed Mother welcomed Jesus, we are called to cherish and protect the gift of human life, at every stage and in every circumstance. One way to live out the message of Christmas and follow Our Lady's example is to join 9 Days for Life, a digital pilgrimage of prayer and charitable action. The U. S. Catholic bishops invite you to join thousands of Catholics nationwide from **Thursday, January 18 – Friday, January 26**. Join today at [www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com).

## Catholic Schools Open House

**St. Francis Xavier:** St. Francis Xavier School in Winooski is hosting an Open House for prospective families on **Wednesday, January 31 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** Come take a tour and learn more about St. Francis. They offer strong academics, a vibrant community, and a supportive, faith-based environment for the students. Walk-ins are welcome but they encourage RSVP by calling 655-2600 or emailing [info@sfxvt.org](mailto:info@sfxvt.org). St. Francis serves students from pre-school to 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Christ the King:** Christ the King School in Burlington will host an Open House on **Thursday, February 1 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** Teachers will be present and classrooms will be open with student work displayed. To RSVP, find out more, or schedule a tour, please contact [osteel@cksvt.org](mailto:osteel@cksvt.org) or call 862-6696.

**Mater Christi School:** Visit Mater Christi School in Burlington for their Open House on **Sunday, February 11 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.** Mater Christi School has a tradition of academic excellence within a nurturing, collaborative and accountable environment. This is a private Catholic school, PS-8<sup>th</sup> grades, that welcomes students of all faiths and beliefs. Financial aid is available. To register for the Open House, please go to [www.mcschool.org](http://www.mcschool.org).