

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.

2018 Collection Envelopes: If you have not used the collection envelopes in the past but would like to do so now, please take a box without a name on it. These are available on the table in the lobby. **Please be sure to write your name and address on the envelopes for the first few weeks you are using them. Also, please do not use leftover envelopes from previous years.** Thank you.

Parish Contributions for 2017: If you use offertory envelopes or are enrolled in online giving, a record of your 2017 donations to St. Jude's will be mailed to you later this month.

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 482-2290 or stjude@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: We are 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 or by calling Marie at 482-2290 or email marietcookson@aol.com.

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>.

Hinesburg Rides: Hinesburg Rides is in need of additional volunteer drivers. You do not have to commit to a specific number of rides or days. SSTA sends out an email and if it is a ride you can or want to do, you respond to them. Primarily rides are for medical appointments. For more information and to become part of Hinesburg Rides volunteers, contact Karla Munson at karlamunson@hinesburgrides.org.

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 or online at 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.

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. St. Francis serves students from pre-school to 8th 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 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-8th 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.