April/May 2011

Dear Friends,

Just a few days before Christmas at St. Anne’s Shrine, we discovered that two of our beautiful and well grown blue spruce trees were stolen from the area alongside the Way of the Cross. These trees added to the beauty of the grounds as pilgrims prayed the Stations of the Cross near the shore of Lake Champlain. The trees were actually donated by an out-of-State man in memory of his deceased wife. The two of them would often visit the Shrine, pray and make their petitions known to Good St. Anne. The Shrine was special to both of them as it is for many others seeking spiritual nourishment.

It saddens us that someone would take property commemorating the death of Jesus in the Way of the Cross, in order to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas. We were disappointed that someone would take trees from a religious site such as St. Anne’s Shrine that brings so much joy, beauty and peace to so many. It was disheartening for us to be the victims of such an act.

As we move towards spring, despite threats of snow, we begin to make necessary preparations for our opening during Memorial Day weekend. Thanks to the generosity of friends of the Shrine, the trees that were taken will be replaced. However, there are many other trees damaged by winter from heavy snow and ice that will need to be cared for or replaced. The beach needs to be cleaned, docks put in, statues of various saints cleaned and chapel pews painted. The road leading up to the cafeteria has been split in two as a result of rapidly melting snow causing a river of water to flood the edge of the road. The gutters of the chapel pavilion need replacement from too much ice, along with routine maintenance of all buildings to check for unforeseen damage.

We certainly cannot perform these and many other tasks to prepare the Shrine for the 2011 Pilgrimage Season without financial assistance. Please consider making a donation to St. Anne’s Shrine during this time of Lent as we prepare for the glorious feast of Easter, knowing that your support of the Shrine is very much needed and appreciated. Contributions may be sent to St. Anne’s Shrine, P.O. Box 280, Isle LaMotte, VT 05463. May God bless you in your generosity.

Sincerely,

Rev. Brian J. Cummings, S.S.E.
Spiritual Director

April 2011

MOVE

Spring International Market—Alliot Lobby, April 8th (10 a.m. to 6 p.m.); April 9th (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.); and April 10th (10 a.m. to 1 p.m.)
Edmundite Campus Ministry Events (Continued)

VITA is a group of students who are committed to ministering to other students through practicing our faith and leading many of the liturgical, retreat, and service programs. Student-led programs include:

LINK: A large group that meets weekly and combines discussion, meditation, music and more to help bridge the gap between our college and faith lives. Everyone is welcome to join us! Wednesdays, April 6th, 13th and 27th; 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Upper Room of the Chapel. The retreat ends May 5th. Please register by April 15th. Applications are located in the brochure rack outside the Campus Ministry Office. Contact Jason Moore at 654.2386.

BUSY STUDENT RETREAT
Walking with the Risen Christ
An individualized program that complements your spiritual journey and fits into your "planner." Every day during the week, you schedule a half hour of one-on-one direction with a spiritual companion, and then choose from other spiritual activities including daily Eucharist, Reconciliation and evening reflections with the group. Sunday, May 1st (following the 7:00 p.m. Mass); Upper Room of Chapel. The retreat ends May 5th. Please register by April 15th. Applications are located in the brochure rack outside the Campus Ministry Office. Contact Jason Moore at 654.2386.

Retreat Opportunities

April/May 2011

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Dessert & the Divine: Enjoy food and fellowship with other Christians! We will gather on Wednesday, April 20th at 8:00 p.m. in the Upper Room of the Chapel. Contact Anna Lester for more information at 654.2897.

Edmundite Campus Ministry Events

Worshipping Community Program

Partners in Ministry: Partners in Ministry will meet on Monday, April 11th at 5:30 p.m. in the Vermont Room in Alliot Hall for fellowship prayer and pot luck. Our continuing focus will be on "Bridges to Contemplative Living" based on the writings of Thomas Merton. All are welcome with or without a dish. Contact Stephanie Noakes, snoakes@smcvt.edu, or 654.2999 for further information.

Lenten Adult Religious Education: “TRUSTING IN THE LORD’S MERCY: New Hope through the Sacrament of Confession” In response to Bishop Matano’s call for renewed focus on the Sacrament of Reconciliation, especially during this season of Lent, St Pius X parish in Essex will be hosting a talk on that sacrament presented by Msgr. Reid C. Mayo, a Senior Priest of the Diocese of Burlington and the Pastor Emeritus of Christ The King Parish, Rutland. Come and learn more about this important part of our lives as adult Catholics. The talk will be held in the Fr. Murray Room (downstairs from the church) on Thursday, April 7th at 7:00 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Deacon Gerry Scilla via e-mail at vsicilla@comcast.net; 878-0639 or 769-1882.

The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano and the Vermont Gregorian Chant Schola will present a Tenebrae service, Wednesday, April 20th at 7:00 p.m. at Holy Family Church, 36 Lincoln Street, Essex Junction, VT. The word ‘tenebrae’ is Latin for shadows and the service, which is designed for Holy Week, includes Scripture narratives and solemn hymns that capture the passion of Jesus Christ. All are invited to attend.

The UVM Catholic Center invites you to a special event! Students from The Catholic Center will be performing "Golgatha" a meditation on Christ’s Passion presented through prayerful reflections and theatrical scenes. Please join us at 8:30 p.m. on Good Friday, April 22nd at the UVM Catholic Center Chapel, to enrich your Good Friday observance and support our students. Admission is free of charge, donations will be accepted.

Christ the King School Lecture Series: Speaker George Weigel, Friday, May 13th at 7:00 p.m. George Weigel currently serves as a Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, DC. He is Pope John Paul II’s personal biographer and wrote the best-selling biography of Pope John Paul II, Witness to Hope. Mr. Weigel also writes a weekly column, The Catholic Difference, which appears in our diocesan magazine Vermont Catholic. Mr. Weigel will be speaking about his new book entitled The End And The Beginning: Pope John Paul II–The Victory of Freedom, The Last Years, The Legacy. Attendees will be able to purchase a copy and have him sign it. All are invited!!!

Faculty & Staff Programs
Pontifical Society: April 11th: We will be discussing two texts by C.S. Lewis: The Screwtape Letters and A Grief Observed. We will be reading the entire text of A Grief Observed for our last meeting. Lunch will be provided beginning at 11:45 a.m. which will help us to get started with the reflection promptly at noon. Please RSVP if you plan to attend. Contact Anna Lester at 654.2897 or ales-ter@smcvt.edu for more information.

Lenten Mission

WITH JACKIE FRANCOIS

APRIL 7, 2011 - CHAPEL OF ST. MICHAEL - 7:00 P.M.

Jackie is a singer, songwriter, guitarist, speaker, and youth minister from Placentia, Calif. For 22 years Jackie attended St. Joseph Catholic Church in Placentia. Through retreats, youth conferences, and World Youth Day 2000 in Rome, Jackie experienced Jesus in a deeper way. In college, she served as the Cal State Fullerton Newman Catholic Club President and a volunteer youth minister and musician. Jackie has performed at many major faith events. In 2006, she served as the youth minister at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church in Ventura, Calif. In 2007, Jackie moved back to Placentia to begin full time music ministry, serving the wider Catholic Church. Jackie is currently a host for spiritandsong.com's webcast, "The Commons," and for spiritandsong.com's Perfect Playlist Podcasts. Her debut album, Your Kingdom Is Glorious, was released through spiritandsong.com in 2008.