EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY
DEC. 8, 2015 - NOV. 20, 2016

“His mercy endures forever!” (Psalm 136)

Preparations are being made for the celebration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, which His Holiness Pope Francis has proclaimed. This celebration will begin with the opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome on December 8, 2015.

In dioceses throughout the world, Holy Doors will open on December 13, 2015, the Third Sunday of Advent.

St. Joseph Co-Cathedral in Burlington has been chosen as the site of the Holy Door. There were several reasons for this choice: its status as a co-cathedral, its architectural suitability for the construction of a Holy Door, and its capacity to receive large groups of pilgrims.

Jubilee prayer cards are available at each entrance of the Chapel of St. Michael the Archangel.

CHRISTMAS MASSES
Christmas Vigil, Wednesday, December 24th at 8:00 pm.
Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25th at 11:00 am.
New Year’s Day (Mary, the Holy Mother of God), Thursday, January 1st at 11:00 am.

Worshipping Community Programs
Saturday, December 5: Advent Evening of Reflection. 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the Edmundite Dining Hall. All are welcome to join us for a simple meal and reflection on the readings throughout the season of Advent. RSVP is required; please contact Anna Lester at 654.2897.
Edmundite Campus Ministry Events (Continued)

Friday, December 11, Lessons & Carols; 7:00 pm, Chapel of Saint Michael the Archangel — The Saint Michael’s College Chorale under the direction of Nathaniel G. Lew offers its annual service of lessons and carols. This year’s service features carols in Czech, Welsh, and Rumanian, familiar carols sung by the congregation, and a special guest appearance by the Vermont Boychoir. College Organist Susan Sunnemiller accompanies.

December 20: Saint Michael’s College presents A Festival of Gregorian Chant: Seasonal and Organ Music by the VT Gregorian Chant Schola under the direction Professor Emeritus William Tortolano, at 3:00 pm in the Chapel of Saint Michael the Archangel. The Schola’s repertoire will include the Gregorian setting of the Missa cum Jubilo, as well as liturgical rounds from France, Jacques Clement, and a Jewish folk melody. Free and open to the public.

29th Annual Twelfth Night Celebration: Saturday, January 9, 1016 at 6:30 pm, featuring the Essex Children’s Choir. Twelfth Night is a collaboration between the choir and adult artists, a holiday tradition of song, dance, instruments, and narrative. This joyous occasion, enhanced by the beauty of the chapel, artistry of the musicians, and audience participation, brings to close the celebration of Christmas. Donations requested. Snow date: January 10th at 4:30 pm. This event is held in the Chapel. For more information, call 802-658-4118 or email at projectrachel@vermontcatholic.org.

Faculty & Staff Programs

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! Wednesday, December 9th, 8:00 to 9:00 pm in the Upper Room of the Chapel.

- Dessert & the Divine: Enjoy food and fellowship with other Christians! Wednesday, December 2nd; 8:00 pm in the Upper Room, Chapel. Please contact Anna Lester for more information at 654.2897 or alester@smcvt.edu.

Connections: Come join us for weekly small faith-based discussion with an emphasis on Scripture and reflections on your faith life in college. Contact Anna Lester for more information on dates/time. 654.2897 or alester@smcvt.edu.

Advent Prayer to Jesus

You are our eternal salvation. The unstaining light of the world. Light everlasting. You are truly our redemption. Glorifying that the human race was passing through the tempter’s power, without leaving the heights You came to the depths in your loving kindness. Readily taking our humanity by Your gracious will. You saved all earthly creatures, long since lost, Restoring joy to the world. Redeem our souls and bodies, O Christ, and so possess us as Your shining dwellings. By Your first coming, make us righteous; By your second coming, set us free. So that, when the world is filled with light and you judge all things, We may be clad in spotless robes and follow in Your steps, O King, Into the heavenly hall.

Advent Focus 2015

Rejoice and strengthen your hearts, for the Lord our justice is near.