

LENT: Why we receive ashes—Wednesday, February 22nd

Why we receive the ashes: Following the example of the Ninevites, who did penance in sackcloth and ashes, our foreheads are marked with ashes to humble our hearts and remind us that life passes away on Earth. We remember this when we are told “Remember, you are dust, and unto dust you shall return.” Ashes are made a symbol of penance by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice. The distribution of ashes comes from a ceremony of ages past. Christians who had committed grave faults performed public penance. On Ash Wednesday, the Bishop blessed the hair shirts which they were to wear during the forty days of penance, and sprinkled over them ashes made from the palms from the previous year. Then, while the faithful recited the Seven Penitential Psalms, the penitents were turned out of the church because of their sins — just as Adam, the first man, was turned out of Paradise because of his disobedience. The penitents did not enter the church again until Maundy Thursday after having won reconciliation by the toil of forty days’ penance and sacramental absolution. Later, all Christians, whether public or secret penitents, came to receive ashes out of devotion. In earlier times, the distribution of ashes was followed by a penitential procession.

The Ashes: The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. The ashes are christened with Holy Water and are scented by exposure to incense. While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. His Divine mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent, and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer and penance.



February 2012



CHAPEL OF SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Edmundite Campus Ministry

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Edmundite Campus Ministry Events

MASSES
Sunday
11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Mondays
4:30 p.m.
Tuesday-Friday
11:30 a.m.

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MORNING PRAYER
Monday-Friday
7:40 a.m.

ASH WEDNESDAY
Wednesday, February 22;
11:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
Reconciliation after each
Mass

MASS IN SPANISH
Monday, February 13;
7:30 p.m.

RECONCILIATION
Sundays, February 26 and
April 1
Offered after each Mass
or by appointment any time

Ash Wednesday is February 22nd. Pick up a Lenten brochure that includes our devotional activities for the season. Reconciliation will be after each Mass. Rice Bowls and Daily Lenten Reflection booklets written by our students, Faculty/Staff and worshipping community will be available in the main lobby of the Chapel. Rice Bowls will be collected on Palm Sunday, April 1st.

Fast for Peace: Ash Wednesday, February 22nd (all day). In collaboration with the Edmundite Center for Peace & Justice. Sign up at the Campus Ministry office.

Rosary for Peace: Mondays, February 27, March 5, 19, 26, and April 2 at 5:00 p.m. Back Altar space of the Chapel.

Eucharistic Adoration: Please join us for some quiet time before the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesdays, February

Edmundite Campus Ministry Events *(Continued)*

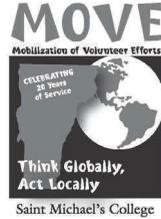
28 and March 6, 20, 27 and April 3, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Back Altar space of the Chapel. Benediction beginning at 8:50 p.m.

Married Couples: Choose a WorldWide Marriage Encounter Experience to keep your married relationship a priority. The next Marriage Encounter weekend in Vermont will be held in Stowe, April 27-29, 2012. Call Dave & Jennie Erkson at 1-800-434-4218 or via e-mail at erksonmevt@comcast.net to register or for more information.

Saint Michael's College is presenting a concert of outstanding musicians playing works by African-Anglo musician Samuel Coleridge-Taylor in recognition of Black History Month on the 100th anniversary of Coleridge-Taylor's death. The concert, free and open to the public, with a free will offering suggested, will be **Tuesday, February 7, at 7:30 p.m.** in the Saint Michael's College Chapel.

Faculty & Staff Programs

Pontigny Society: February 6th: This semester, we will be discussing *Putting on the Heart of Christ: How the Spiritual Exercises Invite Us to a Virtuous Life* by Fr. Gerald Fagin, SJ. In *Putting on the Heart of Christ* takes a fresh look at the Spiritual Exercises through the lens of virtue ethics. **12:00 Noon in the Upper Room of the Chapel.** Future dates: March 5th and April 2nd. Please R.S.V.P. if you plan to attend. Contact Anna Lester at 654.2897 or alester@smcvt.edu.



Used Book Sale: To benefit MOVE international service trips (India and Dominican Republic). February 10-12th. (Friday & Saturday: 10:00 am to 6:00 pm; Sunday: 10:00 am to 2:00 pm; Alliot Student Center).

Chitrangada: Dance of the Warrior Princess: This dance drama from India, adapted by Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore, is set to verse and music, with performances by highly trained local dancers. Free, \$5 suggested donation to support MOVE student service trip to Kolkata, India.

LENTEN MISSION

"WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU CAN'T FIND GOD?"



MSGR. RICHARD LAVALLEY
February 27, 2012, 6:30 p.m.,
Chapel

What do you do when you can't find God? Many people define their faith by how they are feeling, but faith is so much more. Rev. Msgr. Lavalley will reflect on how to activate our faith when we are struggling to find God in our lives.

Rev. Msgr. Richard G. Lavalley is presently Pastor of St. Francis Xavier in Winooski and Vicar for Clergy. Msgr. is also Dean of the Winooski Deanery and has been a Campus Ministry at Norwich University over the past 24 years.

Retreat Opportunities

LEAP - March 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, 2012: This is a program of spiritual formation and renewal sponsored by the Office of Edmundite Campus Ministry at Saint Michael's College. The retreat begins Friday afternoon and ends by Sunday afternoon. It takes place at various facilities within a short drive of campus. LEAP is a unique, communal and deeply personal experience which builds upon talks, activities and group dynamics. The weekend includes a series of presentations that explores the meaning of commitment, peace, prayer and faith in one's life. It is an opportunity to deepen one's understanding of self and others within the context of a believing Christian Community centered around the Eucharist. Contact Edmundite Campus Ministry Office (654.2333) for applications.

EMMAUS - March 23-25, 2012: This is a weekend retreat which provides an opportunity for participants to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ and to share their faith with others. Candidates are invited to become aware of God in their everyday lives by recognizing the Lord's presence in others and in daily experience. The retreat uses a combination of guided meditations, private reflection time, and group sharing on Scripture. Applications are being accepted for the weekend. For more information, contact Jason Moore in Edmundite Campus Ministry at 654.2386.



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, February 8th, 22nd, and 29th**, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Upper Room of the Chapel.

Connections: Come join us for weekly small faith-based discussion with an emphasis on Scripture and reflections on your faith life in college. **Thursdays, February 9th, 16th, 23rd, and March 1st** in Alliot 125 (Anna Lester's office) from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Dessert & the Divine: Enjoy food and fellowship with other Christians! We will have our first gathering on **Wednesday, February 15th** at 8:00 p.m. in the Upper Room of the Chapel. Contact Anna Lester for more information at 654.2897.

Let no one have contempt for your youth, but set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity. 1 Timothy 4:12