

**Edmundite
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ADVENT

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of [Christmas](#).

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and also to the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas. The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, focus particularly on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord (Christmas).

Advent devotions including the [Advent wreath](#), remind us of the meaning of the season. Our Advent calendar above can help you fully enter in to the season with daily activity and prayer suggestions to prepare you spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ. More Advent resources are listed below.

Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple and one is rose, but white candles can also be used.

The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.

The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead.

(reprinted from USCCB.org)



Saint Michael's College



December 2018



CHAPEL OF SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Edmundite Campus Ministry Events

Advent Focus 2018

Rejoice, for the Lord is near;
let your kindness be known to all.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Vigil, Monday, December 24th at 8:00 pm. (no 11:30 am Mass this date)

Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25th at 11:00 am.

Worshipping Community Program

A concert of Christmas and seasonal carols will be presented in a community sing-a-long, Sunday, December 2nd, 3:00 pm, Chapel of St. Michael the Archangel. Organist and music director, Dr. William Tortolano, Professor Emeritus of Fine Arts and Music. Carols include settings by Handel & Mendelssohn; carols

from Germany, Austria, France & Italy will be sung in English and one verse in the original languages. Concert is FREE and open to the public. A free-will donation, for charity, will be available.

Christmas Concert: 7:00 pm, December 7th. The Saint Michael's College Chorale sings Saint-Saëns' Oratorio de Noël, accompanied by Dr. Susan Summerfield. The program will open with some familiar Christmas music and carols, with the audience invited to sing along. Saint Michael's College Chorale, Erin Grainger, Conductor; Susan Summerfield, Organist, and Soloists: Victoria Drew, Amy Frostman, Adam Hall, and Zebulun McLellan.

MASSES

Sunday

11:00 am & 7:00 pm
(Last 7:00 pm Mass on 12/09)

Mondays

*11:30 am & 4:30 pm

Tuesday-Friday

**11:30 am

*No 11:30 Mass on 12/17, 12/24, 12/31 or 1/7

**Daily Mass: 8:00 am for 12/26, 12/27, 12/28, 12/31, 1/2, 1/3, and 1/4

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Saturday, December 8th
11:30 am

SOLEMNITY OF MARY

January 1, 2019 11:30 am
(back altar space)

RECONCILIATION

Sunday, December 2nd
after each Mass
or by appointment any time

Edmundite Campus Ministry Events *(Continued)*

Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching: A discussion series on incorporating the Church's social doctrines into Modern Life. **December 4th—Life and the Dignity of the Human Person, Pope Francis, the Death Penalty, and the Seamless Garment.** Sessions are held one Tuesday per month in the basement of St. John Vianney Church. For more information, contact Josh McDonald at joshmcdonald@comcast.net or at 857-8841.

VT Christian Music is proud to announce our first ever Christmas Show featuring Austin French, Ben Laine, w/local favorites Jessie Lynn & Gregory Rose, and Thomas "Jazzou" Jones. **Saturday, December 15, 2018 – 7:00 pm at North Avenue Alliance Church, Burlington.** Tickets range from \$15 to \$25/ea and can be purchased online at www.vtchristianmusic.com

32nd Annual Twelfth Night Celebration: January 5, 2019 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. Donations requested. This event is held in the Chapel. For more information, call 863-9161.

Please join **VT Catholic Charities** in supporting the **Annual Advent Appeal.** The Season of Giving has no bounds for people in need. With your help, we can make a difference in the lives of those living on the edge. To donate, please mail a check to Vermont Catholic Charities, 55 Joy Drive, So. Burlington or give online at <https://vtcatholiccharities.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/adventappeal>

Marriage Preparation Retreat Day — A one-day retreat for engaged couples. Come take a break from wedding preparation and spend time in prayer, sharing and fellowship with your fiancé/fiancée and other engaged couples. Lunch and materials will be provided – prior Registration is required. Note: There is no cost for this retreat. **Saturday, March 2, 2019;** Blessed Sacrament Church, Stowe, VT; **10:30 am to 5:00 pm** (Retreat concludes with 4:00 P.M. Vigil Mass). For information, contact Deacon Phil Lawson at 802.658.6110 ext 1453.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Welcome Christ into your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. **The next Weekend is Mar 15-17, 2019 at St. Anne's Shrine, Isle La Motte, VT.** For more information, call Gary & Lynn Root at 802-456-8114 or visit them at <https://www.mevtw.org/>.

Faculty & Staff Programs

Partners in Ministry: Thursday, December 13th, 5:30 - 7:30 pm, Vermont Rm (upstairs in Alliot Hall). Call Stephanie at 881-5131 for info. All are welcome for discussion and prayer with or without snack contribution.

Pontigny Society: Will resume on **February 11, 2019.** Contact Fr. Rainville (654.2848) for information.



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:

- **Connections:** 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! There are no group meetings scheduled until after January 1st. Meetings are held in the Upper Room of the Chapel. Please contact Anna Lester for more information at 654.2897 or alester@smcvt.edu.
- **Dessert & the Divine:** Enjoy food and fellowship with other Christians! Remaining date for the Fall semester is December 5th. Held in the Upper Room of the Chapel. Please contact Anna Lester for more information at 654.2897 or alester@smcvt.edu.

Retreat Opportunities

EMMAUS - February 15-17, 2018: This Retreat is a student-led, weekend retreat based on Ignatian spirituality which emphasizes "seeing God in all things." Emmaus will provide you with the opportunity to meet new people, reflect on your spiritual journey, pray with the Scriptures, share your faith with other students and faculty/staff, and take some time out of your busy life to rest. Best of all, you will become reacquainted with God's unconditional love revealed by Jesus Christ. **Application deadline: January 25, 2019.** Contact Anna Lester at 654.2897 or Alester@smcvt.edu.



Advent Prayer

Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day. We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us. We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom. We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence. We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light. To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!" Amen.

Henri J.M. Nouwen