

PROCLAIM

CHRIST THE KING PARISH MONTHLY MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY 2023 | VOLUME 2 | ISSUE 8

STAFF PROFILE
Finding Home

COME ALIVE
Does the devil
actually exist?

CATHOLIC CUE
Saint Valentine's Day



Feeding the Hungry

Mary Jane Bailey reflects on nearly 50 years of volunteering at the Parish Food Pantry

Questions about life? Let's talk.



christthekingnh.org/alpha

Alpha



VERMETTE
orthodontics
SHOW OFF YOUR SMILE

2 Wall St, Concord | 603.224.9119 | VermetteOrtho.com

Open Sundays at 12 PM



Best Burger
- THE HIPPO & NH MAGAZINE READER POLLS

CONCORD'S CHOICE FOR PREMIUM FOOD, PROPER DRINK, & TOP NOTCH SERVICE!

132 North Main Street, Concord, NH 603-228-6363
-across the street from the Gold Dome



Roan Family Funeral Homes & Cremation Service
Proud to remain family owned, operated, and occupied.

Pembroke Location: 167 Main Street (603) 485-9573 www.roanfamilyfuneral.com	Epsom Location: 1217 Suncook Valley Highway (603) 798-3050 www.stilloaks.com
---	--

Katherine Roan, Director | Matthew Roan, Director



Waters Funeral Home

Concord's only family owned and operated funeral home

We're here when you need us

50 South Main Street, Concord, NH
WatersFuneralHomeConcord.com | 603-225-5707
Shaun P. Clougherty | Joanna E. Clougherty

Since 1884

Breathe in Jesus



Dear Friends,

It is amazing to think that we are getting ready for Lent. Didn't we just come through Christmas? Yet here we are, approaching the last Wednesday in February – Ash Wednesday – the first day of Lent.

So often when we think about Lent, we think about what we might “give up.” Usually it is things we love and will have a hard time doing without. Our hope is that by sacrificing such pleasures, we become better people, as in some small way we are able to connect with the sacrifice of Jesus dying on the cross for us. But what if we looked at Lent differently this year? What if instead of just “giving up,” we also “added to” our lives? Consider Lent as a time to listen to God; a time to become quieter and to go more inward so we can hear the whispers of God in our heart.

I would invite us to breathe

the presence of Jesus in deeply. Breathing sustains life! We breathe in oxygen and we exhale carbon dioxide. In our spiritual lives, let us breathe in Jesus and exhale weakness, fear, and sin. This practice helps us realize that Jesus is just a breath away. And the best part of all of this? This Lenten practice can be the way we live. Breathing in Jesus – and then breathing out the negative parts of our lives – offers us a way to remember that God is here with us.

So perhaps for six weeks, consider adding this new way of connecting with God. And as this grows to feel more comfortable, maybe this will be the beginning of a new relationship with our God.

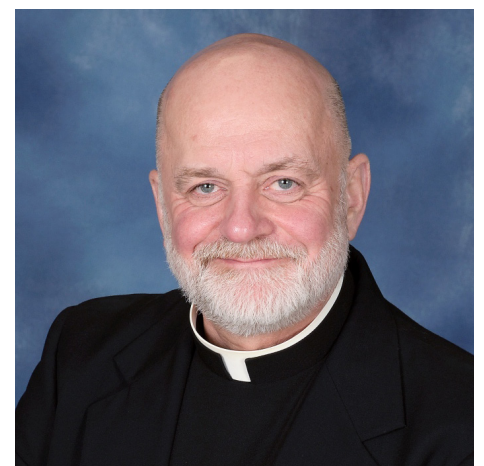
Often in life we run through our days without remembering who gave them to us and why we matter. May we remember this Lenten season, that we serve the One who created us and gives us

Light. May we desire to spend more time with our God, to see where God might be leading us and what God may be asking us to do.

Blessings for a deeply felt, enriching Lenten Season.

Yours in Christ,

Father Rich



Father Richard Roberge, Pastor of Christ the King Parish



Saint Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is a little wonky for us Catholics. If you take a look at a Catholic Calendar, right there on February 14 you'll find the names of two Slavic saints: Saints Cyril and Methodius. This used to be Saint Valentine's feast day, but back in the 1960s an Ecumenical Council deemed the feast of Saint Valentine not universally important and removed it from the Roman calendar.

Regardless of Saint Valentine's importance (or lack thereof) in our calendar or in our history, it doesn't stop the secular world from celebrating this day with a bunch of well-meaning words and gifts. Now, you see "Valentine's Day" mentioned with no "Saint" added. But what if we, as Catholics, took back the day a little?

If you're like me, you'll soon be getting emails from your kids' teachers informing you that there will be a little Valentine's Day gathering for the class and that the children can give out cards and/or treats if they would like. I'm always so impressed with the parents who manage to send in a little creative, crafty treat. I'm a lot of things, but

crafty, I am not. So, I'm usually that mom who is hustling to Target last minute to get some lame-o cards for my boys to pass out.

During one of those hurried trips to Target, I was standing there staring at the Valentine's Day cards and growing more and more frustrated. Staring back at me were the Avengers, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, and Disney princesses that were, well, lacking in the message I'd like my boys to send. Much (not all) of this day is filled with empty love messages and I wanted something more. "There has to be something better!" I thought to myself.

So, empty handed, home I went, to scour the internet for Catholic valentines. After a quick Google search, I came across a familiar name and blog, Kendra Tierney's *Catholic All Year*. Here is where I found exactly what I wanted!

The cards she has available for purchase and download are beautifully and simply designed, filled with brief but meaningful messages about the merciful, unending love of Christ. There are cards available that showcase

the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Some of the cards feature the names and a brief story of saints who were known for their remarkable Christian love. And, there are some cards with lovely Bible verses.

As Catholics, we're called to spread the love and word of God always. So this Saint Valentine's Day, I invite you to join me in switching up your usual approach in the valentines you and your kiddos usually hand out. You never know whose heart you might touch. ♦



Jen Albee, Coordinator of Young Disciples at Christ the King

Does the devil actually exist?

The topic of the devil, or Satan, has become taboo in many Catholic circles today. We simply don't talk about him. Furthermore, I think it's probable that many Catholics don't believe he exists. Last month, here in *Come Alive*, we discussed angels. We established their existence is deemed a "truth of faith" by the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. These immortal beings of pure spirit were created by God as His servants and messengers and, just like humans, were given free will. In seeking authentic love from his creations, humans and angels alike were given freedom by God. And humans and angels alike have abused that freedom and turned from their Creator.

The Catechism declares, "Behind the disobedient choice of our first parents lurks a seductive voice, opposed to God, which makes them fall into death... Scripture and the Church's Tradition see in this being a fallen angel, called 'Satan.'" (CCC 391) Satan is thought to be one of a number of fallen angels, having "radically and irrevocably rejected God and his reign." (CCC 392)

Unlike humans who may fall into sin but find their way back to God, the choice of these angels is final and unforgivable. The Catechism tells us, "There is no repentance for the angels after their fall, just as there is no repentance for men after death." (CCC 393) We know our God to be a merciful one, but also one that accepts the choice his creatures make.

The Catechism tells us, "The

power of Satan is, nonetheless, not infinite. He is only a creature, powerful from the fact that he is pure spirit, but still a creature. He cannot prevent the building up of God's reign. Although Satan may act in the world out of hatred for God and his kingdom in Christ Jesus, and although his action may cause grave injuries – of a spiritual nature and, indirectly, even of a physical nature – to each man and to society, the action is permitted by divine providence." (CCC 395)

This theological statement reveals that Satan is acting in our world today, just as the angels do. There are evil spirits around us "seeking the ruin of souls," as the Prayer to Saint Michael states. This is an uncomfortable reality, but in accepting it, we gain the power to fight against it.

C.S. Lewis' acclaimed work, *The Screwtape Letters*, gives us insight into how it is these demons move among us. This narrative is written from the perspective of one demon to another and includes statements like:

- "Indeed the safest road to Hell is the gradual one."
- "It is funny how mortals always picture us as putting things into their minds: in reality our best work is done by keeping things out."
- "All we can do is to encourage the humans to take the pleasures which [God] has produced, at times, or in ways, or in degrees, which He has forbidden."

- "A moderated religion is as good for us as no religion at all – and more amusing."
- "There is nothing like suspense and anxiety for barricading a human's mind against [God]."
- "All extremes, except extreme devotion to [God], are to be encouraged."

So how do we respond? Well, there are certainly improper responses. We can blame these demons and stop taking responsibility for our actions. We can also become too interested in these matters, or give in to fear. Instead, we arm ourselves with Scripture and cling tightly to our Lord. The more we know his voice, the easier it becomes to distinguish it from other voices.

We also hold tight to the truth revealed in our Catechism that Satan is only able to act because God allows it. Satan is not more powerful than our God. The Catechism tells us, "It is a great mystery that providence should permit diabolical activity, but 'we know that in everything God works for good with those who love him.'" (CCC 395) ♦



Haley Judd, Coordinator of Adult Discipleship at Christ the King

Have questions about another topic within Catholicism? Send them anytime to parish@christthekingnh.org.



Feeding the Hungry

Mary Jane Bailey reflects on nearly 50 years of volunteering at the Parish Food Pantry

The corporal works of mercy are founded on the teachings of Jesus. They are actions we can perform that extend God's compassion and mercy to those in need. Feeding the hungry is the first of the seven corporal works of mercy. It is at the top of this list because this is one of the most basic needs of humanity as we journey together through this life. Meeting this need, the Food Pantry at Christ the King Parish provides food, personal items, and fellowship to low-income families throughout the greater Concord community.

Mary Jane Bailey is a long-time volunteer at the Food Pantry. Mary Jane grew up in Penacook, New Hampshire. She was a teacher's aide for 27 years in the Conant School. She knows a lot of people, their children, and their grandchildren. She loved every minute of her job and retired in 2000. Two days after she retired, she decided to volunteer at the same school and did that for 20

more years. She says, "I loved it, I loved it there. While I was there, I was a teacher's aide for Theresa Downing when Theresa taught second grade. I talked frequently about the Food Pantry and the time and work that was involved in being a Food Pantry volunteer." (Theresa Downing recently left one million dollars in her will to the Food Pantry.)

For Mary Jane, her work with the Food Pantry began in the 1970s when her friend, Louise Roberge, told her that Father Rick Pennett was getting many knocks on the St. John the Evangelist rectory door from people asking for food. Mary Jane says, "We really needed to do something about it, and so a group of us got together and decided we'd provide a little help for people. That is how it all started. At that time, we had 10 basic items that we were prepared to hand out."

The Food Pantry has changed over the years. Now there are 80 volunteers involved in this

ministry. It is open four nights a week for two hours and serves an average of 20 to 40 families. It is not unusual to see 15 to 20 guests waiting in line outside to pick up food. Volunteers do a variety of jobs, from cleaning the shelves and floor, to picking up food, to sorting and stacking food on the shelves.

Ed Lovejoy, who has been volunteering at the Food Pantry for 24 years, shares, "Whose faith journey wouldn't be enhanced by all the support we get – coupled with the sincere smiles and grateful 'Thank you' from the many clients served over the years by this very special and rewarding ministry? God has blessed us in so many ways so that we may help others." Charlie Siletti agrees, "I volunteer at the Food Pantry because there's a need and because it gives me a sense of gratitude for all the contributions of others and for my own personal blessings."

When volunteers come to the Food Pantry for the first time,

Mary Jane reminds them that regardless of how the guests look physically, we are to be like Jesus and care for them because we are all His children. “Volunteers go all over Concord picking up food from the local supermarkets,” Mary Jane explains. “We get food from the Federal Government, from Bagel Works, Panera Bread, and from a nice lady who shops for whatever we need and brings it to my home for me to transport to the Food Pantry. Many times I received fresh produce at my home to be delivered to the Food Pantry.”

“A lot of things happen at the Food Pantry,” Mary Jane recalls. “I worked the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. A woman called and was desperate; she said that she just moved here with four children and four adults. She said she had a place to live, but no food and wanted to know if the Food Pantry would deliver food to them. I asked her if she had anyone who can come and get the food, but she said that she didn’t know a soul here.” Listening to the conversation was a Food Pantry volunteer who stepped up to the plate and was willing to deliver the food. The volunteer called her daughter to accompany her and used her GPS to find the location of the desperate woman. When the woman received the food, she was very thankful.

This just one of the many stories of God working through people to provide the Food Pantry with everything that is needed. Mary Jane says, “We get to know the guests that come on a regular basis. Many are working people, but they just don’t make enough money to make ends meet.”

Among the guests at the Food Pantry are people from other countries. “When they first come to this country, they do not speak English,” Mary Jane says. “They are not familiar with our food, and they do not take anything from

a can; they just don’t know what that stuff is. To get to know them is amazing.” The Food Pantry tries to stock fresh food that is recognizable to all the guests. Mary Jane says, “This is what it is all about. The Food Pantry made me realize on a completely different level the needs of people. Not only their food needs, but also the need to have someone to talk with. I love that; I love hearing their stories. My faith journey is an ongoing project, and the Food Pantry has been a big part of that.”

Many Food Pantry volunteers are young people who need service hours for school. They come from Bishop Brady, Concord, and Bow High Schools. Many come back

even after they have completed their service hours and after they are done with school or college; some even come back and work during vacation or during the summer. Mary Jane smiles, “How amazing is that! Many young people don’t realize that there are people out there that are desperate for food. Some people, especially young people, have no idea what that is like.”

Jesus asks us to see Him in every person we meet, especially in those who are suffering and in need. He asks us to care for each person with a spirit of loving service knowing that we are really loving and caring for Christ. ♦



Food Pantry Volunteers





Finding Home

Ken & Sarah Jane Roth

If you have ever wondered who sends out the Parish Happenings email, designs, cuts, and folds brochures and the weekly bulletin, or designs this very publication - you need look no further than Christ the King's Communications Coordinator, Sarah Jane Roth. Coming from a family of artists, it may seem like design work is in her blood. However, her journey to this position wasn't just about finding a job, it was also about finding a home.

Born in Wisconsin to a fallen-away Catholic mother and a father who was an agnostic, Sarah Jane's faith life had a rocky start. After her parents divorced, she would stay at her father's house every other day, which afforded little stability. "My father would only eat meat and potatoes; my mother ate

vegetarian. My dad and I would watch TV and play videogames late into the night, and my mom didn't have a television," she says. "It was a crazy childhood, but I was protected and loved by both parents." Despite her non-religious first few years, when Sarah Jane's mother began discerning her way back into the church, Sarah Jane, at seven years old, was more than willing to as well. "I asked to be baptized," she says, "I don't think it even occurred to my mother to ask me at that time." After that, Catholicism was always part of Sarah Jane's life, though she never considered her relationship with God to be anything extraordinary.

It was in college that her faith really began to deepen. She found a home and family attending Magdalen College in Warner, New

Hampshire, and thrived under the stability of the program there. After college, Sarah Jane worked at Magdalen for five years, then was headhunted to help establish the Diocese of Manchester's *Parable Magazine*, and then spent six years working for the company that publishes *Parable*, Faith Catholic.

Though Sarah Jane lived near Christ the King Parish, her job responsibilities had her attending parishes throughout the diocese. It was not until 2016 when she and her now-husband, Ken, were dating that she had her first experience attending Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church. "It felt like home," she remembers. "It was also the final step to Ken's deciding to become Catholic."

The feeling of home stayed with them. Even though they briefly moved to Pennsylvania for work after they were married, once COVID hit, they found themselves drawn back to New Hampshire. Soon after they came back, Sarah Jane was invited to interview for the newly open Communications position and everything fell into place.

As the Communications Coordinator at Christ the King, Sarah Jane handles all the physical and electronic communications including emails, YouTube videos, and even the electronic signs. While she didn't have any experience with design work, it quickly became her favorite part of the job. "I learned how to use InDesign using YouTube! I love the work. It's very challenging and creative," she says.

Through all the uncertainties of her life, Sarah Jane has learned that no matter where God leads her, it will always be for the better. "We're called to love and give and do whatever God asks of us," she says. "So that's what we're going to do." ♦

FEBRUARY 2023

February 1: Adoration

Come for an hour of adoration every Wednesday from 7:00-8:00 pm in the church. All are welcome! Come for a few minutes or stay for the whole hour.

February 3 & 5: Emmaus

Emmaus is a place where every disciple of Christ of every age can come and grow deeper in their Catholic faith and deeper in fellowship with their church community. This month, we will discuss “Our Heart’s Resolve: Expressions of Prayer.” For more information, visit christthekingnh.org/emmaus.

February 17: Rediscover the Mass

Join us to watch Bishop Robert Barron’s life-changing course, *The Mass*, in the church. The presentation will be followed by a live talk from clergy throughout our diocese followed by a reception in the Parish Activity Center. Join us, on Friday, February 17, from 6:30-8:00 pm, and rediscover the Mass. The series runs until June.

February 22: Ash Wednesday



Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence, meaning a person should eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together

are not equal to a full meal. This is **not** a holy day of obligation. Mass and distribution of ashes will be available at 9:00 am, 12:10 pm, and 7:00 pm.

February 24: Fridays in Lent

During Fridays in Lent, we are asked to abstain from meat. “From the first century, the day of the crucifixion has been traditionally observed as a day of abstaining from flesh meat to honor Christ who sacrificed his flesh on a Friday.” (*Catholic Source Book*)

February 24: Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be prayed in the church at 5:30 pm every Friday during Lent.

MARCH 2023

March 3 & 5: Emmaus

This month, we will discuss “In the Age of the Church: The Tradition of Prayer.” For more information, visit christthekingnh.org/emmaus.

March 31 & April 2: Emmaus

This month, we will discuss “The Battle: Guidance in Prayer.” For more information, visit christthekingnh.org/emmaus.

APRIL 2023

April 3: Day of Reconciliation

On the Monday of Holy Week, Father Rich will offer additional confession times. Confessions will be heard in the church confessional at 11:00 am-12:00 pm, 1:00-2:00 pm, and 5:00-7:00 pm.

April 5: Tenebrae Service

Tenebrae means “darkness” and refers to the singing of the Divine Office in the days leading up to Easter Sunday. We will hold our Tenebrae Service at 7:30 pm in

the church. Reading and psalms, along with music pieces, will help you to prayerfully prepare for the Triduum.

April 6: Holy Thursday

Today, we commemorate the Last Supper of Jesus Christ. Mass is available at 7:00 pm in the church. After Mass, adoration will be available until 10:00 pm in the Parish Activity Center.

April 7: Good Friday

On Good Friday, we gather to commemorate the Crucifixion and Death of Jesus Christ. At 12:10 pm, Stations of the Cross will be prayed in the church. Services will be offered at 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm in the church. Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence, meaning a person should eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.

April 8: Easter Vigil

Tonight, we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Easter Vigil will be at 8:00 pm in the church.

April 9: Easter Sunday

Today, we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Mass will be available in the church at 7:00 am, 9:00 am, and 11:00 am.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

February 4 & 5:

Food Pantry (Parish)
Catholic Schools (Diocese)

February 11 & 12:

Fuel & Utilities (Parish)

February 18 & 19:

Maintenance (Parish)

February 25 & 26:

no special collection

CONTACT INFO



Christ the King Parish

72 South Main Street, Concord, NH 03301
603.224.2328 | www.christthekingnh.org

Weekend Masses

Sat: 4:00 pm | Sun: 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am

Weekday Masses

Mon, Wed, Fri: 12:10 pm | Thurs: 5:30 pm

Confession/Reconciliation

Thurs: 4:45-5:15 pm | Sat: 2:30-3:30 pm

Pastor:

Father Rich Roberge, frrich@christthekingnh.org

Deacon:

Winton DeRosia, deaconwinton@christthekingnh.org

Director of Parish Life:

Cynthia Tokos, cynthia@christthekingnh.org

Bookkeeper:

Liz Geary, liz@christthekingnh.org

Business Manager:

Charlie Burr, charlie@christthekingnh.org

Communications Coordinator:

Sarah Jane Roth, sarahjane@christthekingnh.org

Coordinator of Adult Discipleship:

Haley Judd, haley@christthekingnh.org

Coordinator of Young Disciples:

Jen Albee, jen@christthekingnh.org

Director of Music Ministry:

Michelle Dokka, michelled@christthekingnh.org

Facilitator of Community Engagement:

Jeff Litchfield, jeff@christthekingnh.org

Parish Secretary:

Kathy Planchet, kathy@christthekingnh.org




WILLIAM JUDD PHOTOGRAPHY
A wedding and portrait photographer serving Northern New England



williamjuddphotography.com 

will@williamjuddphotography.com 



Beauty

We capture your family's authentic beauty

15% off family portrait session fee with this ad



charlenegraham
PHOTOGRAPHY

charlenegramphotography.com
603.608.2295



NEW HAMPSHIRE

print&mail

Reliable • Dependable • Local

Call or email us today!

30 Terrill Park Dr p: 603.226.4300
Concord, NH 03301 e: info@nhprintmail.com
www.nhprintmail.com

MONTHLY OFFERTORY REPORT

	12/11/22	12/18/22	12/25/22	1/1/23
Offertory	\$9,332.00	\$15,450.00	\$17,750.00	\$16,289.24
Online	\$6,475.99	\$8,880.53	\$6,180.34	\$5,279.74
Total	\$15,807.99	\$24,330.53	\$23,930.34	\$21,568.98

For more information on the parish's online giving program, visit christthekingnh.org/give. To request monthly parish envelopes in the mail, call Kathy Planchet, Parish Secretary, in the parish office at **603.224.2328**.



Christ the King Parish Directory

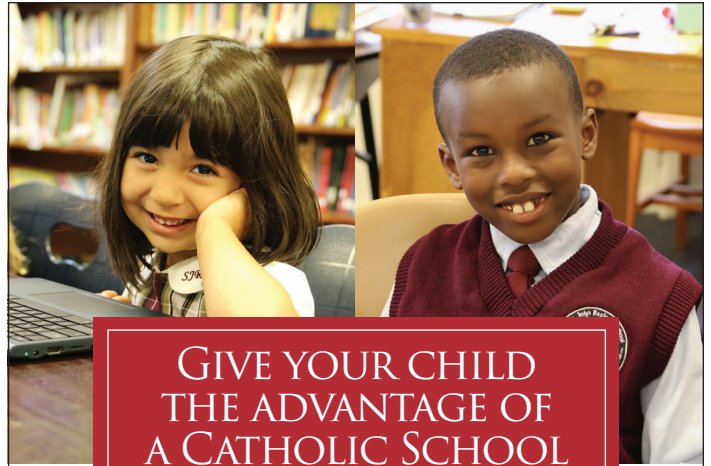
You are invited to be
included in the
Fall 2023
Parish Directory



Photos taken by
professional
photographers in
January-May 2023
Pets welcome!



To sign up for your
photo session, visit
**christthekingnh.org/
directory**



**GIVE YOUR CHILD
THE ADVANTAGE OF
A CATHOLIC SCHOOL
EDUCATION**

We offer an educational experience for Pre-K through Grade 8 that instills a love of learning and builds a strong foundation for a lifetime of academic success. To learn more or schedule a tour, call 603-225-3222.



ST. JOHN REGIONAL SCHOOL
Generation after Generation...Since 1888

61 South State Street, Concord NH · stjohregional.org

THE FLORIST AT



**COLE
GARDENS**

Flowers help express your feelings


430 Loudon Rd, Concord | 603.229.0655 | colegardens.com

DESIGN-BUILD • CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT • GENERAL CONTRACTING




JH SPAIN
GENERAL CONTRACTOR
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

40 Years of Building/Renovating
the Concord Community
(603) 224-8583 • jhspain.com
189 North Main St., Ste. 101 • Concord, NH



CENTURY 21
Circa 72, Inc.
46 Pleasant St | Concord, NH
Stephen DeStefano, President
603-224-3377, Ext. 16
603-496-3674 (cell)

*Each office is independently
owned and operated*

Parishioners of Christ the King Parish



Gary R. Paquette

Senior Vice President/Investments



Gregory Kerr

Assistant Branch Manager

Stocks | Bonds | Mutual Funds | Insurance | Annuities
CDs | UITs | ETFs | Managed Accounts

(603) 526-8130

276 Newport Road, Suite 104
New London, New Hampshire 03257

STIFEL

Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated | Member SIPC & NYSE | www.stifel.com



Children, Teen & ADULT Orthodontics
Invisalign DIAMOND
Provider

603-333-2538



Concord orthodontics™

DR LYNNETTE NYBERG, DMD, MSD

The Orthodontic and Invisalign Specialist

16 Foundry Street, Suite 202, Concord, NH

www.concordorthodontics.net



DR. ROGER ACHONG
DR. PATRICK CAPOZZI
DR. DANIELLE HINTON
DR. ELLIOT CHIU
DR. MICHAEL CAPOZZI

16 FOUNDRY STREET, SUITE #101
CONCORD, NH 03301

603-224-3339

CONCORD PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY
The Pediatric Dental Specialists

We Love Taking Care of Kids®

