The Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saturday, September 26

5:30pm – Dorothy Leubert by Nancy Black

Sunday, September 27

8:00am – Bernie and Stella Stupski by Bill and Marilyn Kinney

10:00am - Pro Populo

Monday, September 28

8:00am – NO MASS

Tuesday, September 29

8:00am - NO MASS

Wednesday, September 30

8:00am - Healing for Pamela Mary Woods by Mark Templeton

Thursday, October 1

8:00am – Marlene Cabral by Ingrid Hennig Cabral

Friday, October 2

8:00am – Russel Cullen by Mark and Freddie Templeton

Saturday, October 3

5:30pm – *Pro Populo*

Sunday, October 4

8:00am – Julia Dyett

by Ray and Carolyn Smith

10:00am - Pro Populo

Let us remember in prayer:

For the sick, the dying and those who care for them.

Dear All.

The oldest surviving and functioning organization in the world is the Catholic Church. Judaism and Hinduism are older, but have no religious organization to match the Church; the same may be said of certain groups who represent aboriginal interests, but their advocacy mandate is relatively recent. So, if you please, I will let that first sentence stand as read.

After 2000 years she has the unenviable record having tried just about every way human ingenuity can devise in order to last. Some have succeeded admirably; others, not so much. That makes her very smart and very insightful. Let me outline some of the lessons she has learned.

Lesson 1: Because the world changes – technologically, politically, economically, culturally, the people inside the Church change too. Change is unavoidable and irreversible.

Lesson 2: Thus, neither conservatism nor liberalism guarantees infallibility. They are, after all, but attitudes about the acceptable or desirable pace of change.

Lesson 3: Change happens most rapidly at the margins of a community, where other changes – economic, scientific, political -- are most acutely felt.

Lesson 4: Thus, every attempt to slow or hasten, to corral or mandate, to co-opt or stifle change spawns a schism or a heresy.

Lesson 5: A community thrives, then, on patience, on willingness to listen, on a focus on the members of the community and the members' commitment to each other. Issues divide; charity unites.

Lesson 6: Subsidiarity is the best policy – all change should be managed at the level most affected by it. The Pope need not solve every quarrel; indeed, he should not volunteer to do so.

Some of you might be interested in looking for analogs to these lessons in the world of national or international politics, economics or diplomacy. Knock yourselves out! But remember this – the overarching truth that governs the Church's thought and action in every place and time: *God is Love*.

September 27, 2020

God is not Logic or Power or Prosperity or Privilege or Prudence or Fairness or Diversity or any one of a hundred things that worldly communities grab as levers to move and remove others.

This *love* business is precisely what makes the Church seem so naïve, impractical, idealistic, romantic, chaotic, stupid or rigidly doctrinaire to others. No matter what human issue she addresses, she does so from the point of God – of love – and this is not at all the departure point of politicians, economists, sociologists, educators, etc..

Whether the lessons of life that the Church has learned have application in any other community depends, I suppose on the intensity of the death wish in that community. They have served the Church well indeed. But what has made the Church able and willing to live these lessons is the clear awareness that a community that is not one of love is not in tune with the truly eternal. Thus, such a community must rise and fall as its time-bound setting changes.

More of love and its requirements anon.

Really and truly and temporarily yours, tm

Bishop's Annual Appeal

Thank you for supporting the Bishop's Annual Appeal in the past and in this 2020 Campaign! As of September 17, you have contributed \$41,296. toward a total goal of \$65,958.

If you have not yet made a gift to the appeal or would like to make an additional gift online, visit https://vermontcatholic.org/giveonline or call, 802-658-6110 or mail to: Bishop's Appeal, Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington, PO Box 1358, Williston, VT 05495-1358.

Look at the Advertisers Supporting our Church Bulletin! Parishioners are encouraged to patronize and thank our faithful supporters who make it possible to publish this Bulletin each week throughout the year.

ALPINE Physical Therapy & Sports Care, P.C.

Bourne's Tire & Auto Mistral's at Toll Gate

Christ Our Hope Campaign

Building a Vibrant Church

Hebrews 13:16: "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

Soon you'll receive your request to support the Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church campaign. Until then, please prayerfully consider what you may do and the impact of a successful campaign for Christ Our Savior Parish and the Diocese. Note that a portion of our support will be for Faith Formation, Youth Ministry, Evangelization, Lay Initiatives and creating a endowment for Catholic Charities for emergency services and helping our neighbors every day.

When a volunteer calls to discuss the campaign, please take a few minutes to talk with them. Remember, success comes only through prayer, dedication and sacrifice from our faith family.

Don't forget, to stay current with all campaign news please visit https://www.christourhopevt.org/!

CAMPAIGN PRAYER

Almighty and eternal God, we place our hope in You to guide the Catholic Church in Vermont to renew our parishes, and engage our youth; to form lay leaders, and serve the most vulnerable among us.

In the power of the Holy Spirit, help us build a vibrant church in this time and place and for generations to come.

Seeking the intercession of our first bishop, Louis deGoesbriand, we pray this through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.