

First Sunday of Advent

28 November 2021



Saturday, November 27

5:30pm – Ed Sossi by wife, Marie

Sunday, November 28

8:00am – *Pro populo*

10:00am – Norm Champine

by Michael and Eleanor Murno

Monday, November 29

8:00am – All Souls Intentions

Tuesday, November 30

8:00am – The Health of Pamela Mary Woods

Wednesday, December 1

8:00am - Barbara Pinelli by Margie Pritchard

Thursday, December 2

8:00am - Emery Boudreau by wife, Rose

Friday, December 3

8:00am - June Holbrook

by Mary Pisaniello & Steve Riederer

Saturday, December 4

5:30pm – *Pro populo*

Sunday, December 5

8:00am – Ed Sossi by wife, Marie

10:00am – *Pro populo*

Let us remember in prayer:

All the Sick, the Dying, those who care for them,
and those who mourn

Dear All,

I hope that the very, very bright young clergyman with whom I had dinner last week does not think that he wasted his evening on my hard head. He offered me an idea that I had not run into before and, like every intellectual snob, I resisted the idea that someone knew something that I did not.

The proposal was this: *When the Church teaches some truth of doctrine or morals, that act of teaching is a call to conversion.* It is not a call to debate or permission to appeal to some sort of conscientious exception for the self.

My initial resistance to his proposal arose over the use of the word *conversion*. Conversion is a very big and loaded word in the dictionary of theology. It is used to describe the Christian's fundamental orientation to God. Since even the Church teaches that there is a hierarchy of truths (just as Jesus agreed that there is a hierarchy of moral demands), I declined and still think that this is the best term. It says way too much and raises the stakes to high.

On the other hand, I am very much aware that popularized science and marketing-created culture operate on every level of my life. This operation occupies my attention and whets my appetite without me knowing it. The result is that more and more of my daily life – and the daily life of my culture and society -- is lived without conscious reference to that fundamental conversion to God. Its as if the long-distance runner were to stop and thank every person who came out to cheer him on; he would never arrive at the finish line. It is to this 'goal-forgetting' that most of the Church's teaching is directed.

In some ways of course, this 'smaller' conversion is even harder to swallow. It sounds like the 'tut-tutting' of a censorious baby-sitter, always correcting, never praising.

Besides all that, there is the constant whining of those members of the Church, who insist on 'total victory' on the issues of their initial conversion. That the Church should start to address other topics or reflect on matters that are not already in some 'catechism' or other, is viewed as 'abandoning ship' or 'cowardice in the face of the enemy'. These folks create strategic alliances with the strangest of parties and actually wind up arguing that the Church is 'wrong' to use its teaching authority on 'novelties'!

This is my third 'objection' to the idea that Church teaching call for conversion. It must call all or none, but it cannot call only some.

This conversation (note the presence of *conver-* in this word, too) has really gotten me to thinking about my own role as a believer and as a 'teacher/preacher'. Needless to say, that will have repercussions on the relationship between me and you! I promise to keep you posted on this topic as it evolves in my mind – just in case you do not notice it in what I say and what I do.

Really and truly and conversely yours,

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The Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church!

Because of your generosity Christ Our Savior Parish is 29% to its goal of \$259,547. Thank you!

To learn more about the campaign or to make a gift visit: www.christourhopevt.org

Bishop Appeal 2021

Christ Our Savior Parish is 65% to its goal of \$62,660. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS JESSE TREE

Our **Jesse Tree** will be decorated next weekend with envelopes for kids whose names are submitted by the Interfaith Council of the Northshire and Red Stockings from Arlington. For those who prefer mailing donations in cash or check, there will be envelopes addressed to the **Emergency Needs Fund of the IFC**. Please follow directions in envelope and apply tags enclosed. Tags cannot be changed. Return all presents wrapped and put receipt in envelope provided in parent basket on the altar. **All gifts must be returned by Sunday, December 19th for distribution on December 21st.** Any question, please call the rectory!

Interfaith Council of the Northshire's Holiday Auction

Monday, November 29, 6:00 pm

The Interfaith Council of the Northshire's Holiday Auction begins! The monies raised through this online auction will replenish its Emergency Needs Fund, a lifeline for neighbors whose critical, unmet needs require immediate funding.

A wide range of items that include sports and entertainment activities, restaurant gift cards, personal services, an array of gift baskets, handmade artwork, specialty clothing, and tasty homemade edibles will be available. New items will be added daily, so visit often—and please bid generously! All major credit cards, and PayPal, will be accepted. Winning bidders will be notified at the end of the auction for information about where and when to pick up their items.

For information, feel free to contact:
Lori Hong lorishong@gmail.com or
Phyllis Warren pksw66@yahoo.com or
802.375.6440.

***This online auction goes live at 6:00 pm on
November 29th and runs through December 9th.
To access the auction beginning November 29th,
<https://www.32auctions.com/interfaith2021>***

For many years, the ***Knights of Columbus*** have had a fund-raising program titled "200 Club". The proceeds were used primarily for the Christmas and Thanksgiving food baskets ***FOR OUR NEIGHBORS IN OUR COMMUNITY***. This year more than ever it is important that we meet our goal of selling the 200 tickets. To participate pick up a registration form at the side entrance to church or purchase a number at December 12th Sunday breakfast. Drawings will begin in January.

Also, if there is anyone who would like to attend our breakfast but cannot get to Church, please let us know and we will try to arrange transportation. You can contact any K of C member or call Ray Jez at (802) 363-3293.