Saint Anthony Church

15 Church Street
White River Jct. Vermont 05001

First Sunday of Advent – December 1, 2019

Father Charles R. Danielson, Pastor
Deacon John P. Guarino

Bishop of Burlington: Most Rev. Christopher J. Coyne

Parish Office

Hours
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
11:00 AM – 4:30 PM
Closed on Wednesday

Secretary: Ms. Joanne Collins
Telephone: 802-295-2225, ext. 3
Office e-mail: Info@SaintAnthonyChurchWRJ.org
Website: www.stanthonysvt.org

Mass Schedule

Weekend: Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 8:30 AM

Weekday: Monday & Friday 9:00 AM

Holy Days: Consult the parish bulletin

Rectory Chapel

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Religious Education

Coordinator: Mrs. Julie Hamilton, 295-3989, juliehamilton130@comcast.net

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Saturday from 3:15 – 3:45 PM

Baptism: Parents must come to the rectory to get the necessary forms at least one month in advance.

Marriage: Couples must contact the parish at least six months in advance.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 30	**4:00 P.M.**	**Albert & Lena Romano** by Herb & Patti Castellini
Sunday, December 1	**8:30 A.M.**	**The People of Saint Anthony Parish**
Monday, December 2	9:00 A.M.	**Meghan and Son Gavin Shaw** by Shaw family
Friday, December 6	9:00 A.M.	**In Thanksgiving to Saint Anthony** by JLD
Saturday, December 7	**4:00 P.M.**	**Christian and Keanan Thompson** by Chris Thompson
Sunday, December 8	**8:30 A.M.**	**The People of Saint Anthony Parish**

Dianne Hopkins
Liz Wheeler
Frank Klymn
Martha Brock
Catherine McKenney
Patrick Kendall
Theresa Lund

Please also remember others who are in need of our prayers.

Names will be published in our bulletin for one month. If you would like to renew your prayer request after one month, please contact the parish office.

Sanctuary Lamps will burn for:

Saint Anthony Parishioners & friends

Sacrificial Giving Report

To meet our expenses we need:	$ 3,700.00
Offertory collection November 23-24:	$ 4,443.00
Catholic Campaign for Human Develop.:	$ 907.00

Thank You for Your Support of Saint Anthony Church!

Low Gluten Altar Bread: If you require a low gluten host for communion, come to the altar with the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. The celebrant will give you the consecrated low gluten host from a separate paten.

Thank You! We would like to thank our parishioners who give so generously of their time, talents and treasure to help Saint Anthony Parish in countless ways throughout the year. Many of the people who are sitting near you today quietly donate their time, year after year. We ask our good Lord to bless them, and all of our parishioners.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: The R.C.I.A. program will meet this Monday evening at their usual time of 6:00 p.m. Please keep those involved in the program, candidates and leaders, in your prayers.

Message from Fr. Rick:

First Sunday of Advent
"Happy New Liturgical Year 2020!"

The Church describes this Advent Season as a season of devout and expectant delight. Thus, perhaps more than any other season of the Church year, Advent most closely resembles the most common experiences of human life .... waiting .... hoping ..... We wait ... all the time .... for Christmas ... for summer .... for a new job for a big move, for Ordination, for marriage, for a successful diagnosis, or a winning season .... We wait in dread, or in hope, we wait. These blessed four weeks of Advent each year invite us to wait "in joyful hope" from a new perspective. From the perspective of hope for Our Lord's glorious second coming.

To be watchful, alert to all His "little comings" among us. In His Word, in sacrament, and mystery, in the myriad ways He comes to us every day, to train our hearts to be open to receive Him all the times in all the ways He comes to us and receive Him with joy!

A Blessed Advent to you all!

Fr. Rick

Since December 8 falls on a Sunday this year, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is transferred to December 9. (It is normally a holyday of obligation, but it is not obligatory this year). In this feast, we celebrate Mary's conception free from the stain of Original Sin, and we recognize that Mary's life began at the moment she was conceived in the womb of St. Anne. So, too, does every human life begin at the moment of conception, lovingly knit together by God the Father.

Baked Goods Drop Off: The drop off for the baked goods will be ***all day Friday, December 6th***, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. or first thing Saturday morning (***before the start of the bazaar***.) Any baked goods are very much appreciated and needed for the success of the sale. ***Please clearly mark if your item(s) contain nuts***. Thank you very much!

PINS Holiday Gift Tree: The annual PINS gift tree is up in the back of the church. Please take the opportunity to provide a local child in foster care with a nice gift for Christmas! Just take a tag off the tree, buy and wrap the gift, then tape the tag ***securely*** to the top of the package. ***It is important that every gift have the gift tag attached, as this is the only way to identify the recipient.***

Gifts should be dropped off at the church or rectory office no later than **Sunday, December 15th** in order to be distributed in time for Christmas. Questions? Please call Linda James at 295-7127.

Totus Tuus: St. Anthony Parish has been approached to host Totus Tuus (meaning Totally Yours) - a spiritual week for our youth the week of June 14-19, 2020. This is a huge undertaking! Before we commit, we need to know how many of our parishioners are willing to volunteer their time during that week. These positions will include advertising; being a host family for lodging a team member (there are about 4) who will be running the program (includes providing continental breakfast each morning); team dinners each night (not the responsibility of host families); help prepare and serve lunches and snacks at the parish center; an adult to be present during presentations; and finally, you must be willing to be Safe Environment trained. If we cannot find enough volunteers we will have to pass this year. Please email me at juliehamilton130@comcast.net if you are interested.

Annual Advent Appeal: Please join Vermont Catholic Charities in supporting the Annual Advent Appeal. The "Season of Giving" has no bounds for people in need. Whatever the season, it is a daily struggle for many Vermonters to maintain housing, stay warm or feed their families. With your help, we can make a difference in lives of those living on the edge.

Help people like Grace and John keep the electricity and heat on. Grace, John and their three children were struggling to keep the utilities on as John's hours at work had been reduced and they faced unexpected medical bills. We helped them avoid the disconnection of their utilities and provided food cards for the family.

Whether your gift is $10, $100, $1000 or more, your gift will make a difference in the life of a needy family. To donate, please mail a check to Vermont Catholic Charities, 55 Joy Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403 or give on online at www.vermontcatholic.org/adventappeal.

Second Collection Next Weekend: Give in thanksgiving. "The nuns left lasting impressions on me," writes a donor. "I shall be grateful for my Catholic education." Please join in thanking the thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who worked tirelessly to educate the young and serve those in need. Next weekend's second collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious, which helps hundreds of religious communities care for aging members. ***Please make checks payable to St. Anthony Church.***

Bishop's Annual Appeal: The Bishop's Annual Appeal continues. As of November 25th Saint Anthony Parish has reached 72% of our pledge goal, with donations totaling $26,632. The Diocese has a challenge gift again this year to match dollar for dollar every gift made now until the end of December up to $18,000. The Bishop's Appeal directly supports ministries and programs that provide subsidies to our schools, emergency aid to families in financial crisis, faith formation programs and so much more. If you have not yet been able to respond, please consider a donation. For more information please visit bishopsappealvt.org.

Third Order of Mary: The Third Order of Mary's prayer meeting will meet Sunday, December 1st at 12 noon at Sacred Heart Church, Lebanon, NH.

Families Needed: There is a huge need for families who want to work with children. Your commitment may range from a single day to a lifetime. Keeping children in their communities and schools is important, but when children come to us we must often remove them from their communities due to a shortage of families to care for them.

Can you help? Please visit www.def.state.vt.us/fsd/ for more information. - *Deanna Rounds, Resource Coordinator, Vermont Department for Children and Families, Hartford District.*

Respect Life: "When we encounter Christ, experience his love, and deepen our relationship with him, we become more aware of our own worth and that of others." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, *"How to Build a Culture of Life"*

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: "So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." Enrich and renew your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are December 13-15, 2019 in Duxbury, MA and January 31 - February 2, 2020 in Huntington, NY. For more information, call John & Diane Forcier at 802-657-3083 or visit them at https://wwmevtw.org/.

Assistance to Our Neighbors in Need: As a parish, we have opportunities to support those in our community who are in need, both through our prayers and our financial help. Saint Anthony Parish provides donations to the food shelf at the Haven on an ongoing basis. We publish the weekly list of needs in the bulletin and collect donations in the basket at the entrance to the church. This parish project helps year round.

We also have a fund that allows us to provide individuals and families financial assistance for emergency needs such as fuel, shelter, clothing and other essentials. Donations to replenish our Assistance Fund allow us to continue to provide for these needs. Your check made out to Saint Anthony Church **marked "Assistance"** will ensure your donation is used for this purpose. Thank you for your generosity.

Haven: The most needed items this week are turkeys and gravy. Other needs include grocery bags and can openers. Non-perishable items may be left in the basket at the top of the stairs. Thank you!

St. Anthony Parish would like to welcome all those who are visiting with us this weekend.

NEWS FROM
The Inland See
November 30–December 6, 2019
FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

Advent meditation: Dreaming with St. Joseph

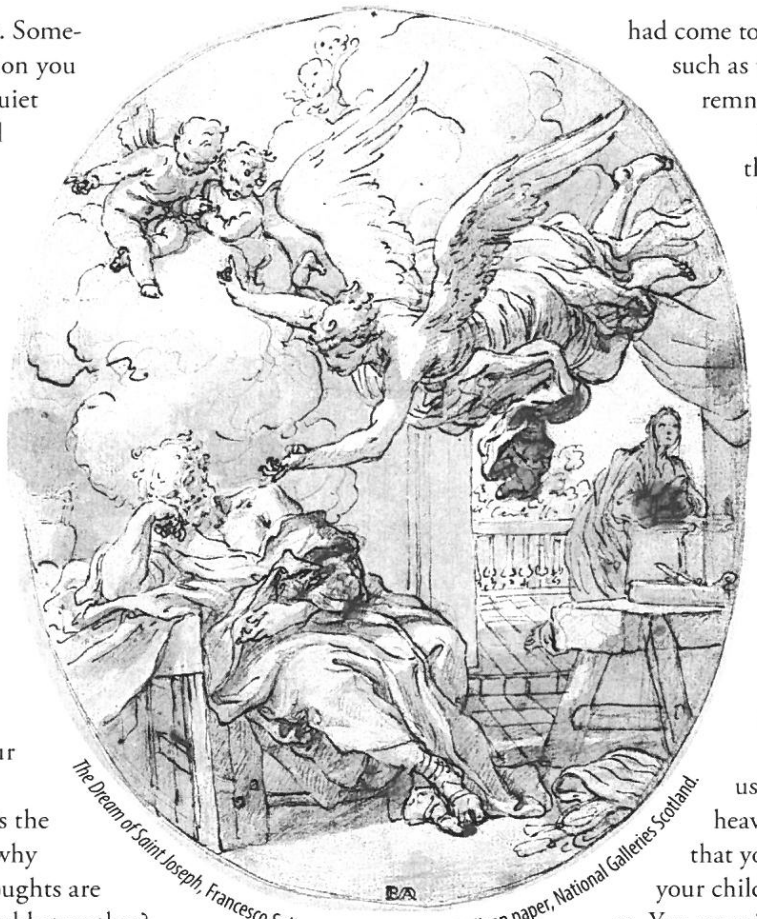
Pray along with this meditation inspired by Matthew 1:18-24.

You speak to us in dreams. Sometimes it is the only occasion you find us still and quiet. Quiet enough to hear your voice. Still enough to grab our attention.

You whisper to us throughout the day, reminding us you are present and that you delight in us. But we cannot hear you.

So you come to us in our sleep, the liminal space between this world and the one where your glory dwells. Is this why sometimes it is only rest that will comfort us? When we have run our bodies and our minds ragged until we collapse? In sleep, we find ourselves in your arms.

Wendell Berry said, "Sleep is the prayer the body prays." Is this why sometimes our first waking thoughts are prayer? Connecting the two worlds together?



The Dream of Saint Joseph, Francesco Solimena, c.1700, ink and chalk on paper, National Galleries Scotland.

You spoke to Joseph through a dream. Betrothed to Mary, he discovered she was pregnant. He knew he could not go through with the wedding, but he loved her and was kind. He decided to end it quietly.

He did not want to expose her shame. To do so, meant Mary would have been judged publicly — and then stoned. A frightening position to think of our dear mother in, the mother of our Lord.

You spoke to Joseph through a dream. Just like his namesake so many years before, the one who's dream raised him to the house of kings. Joseph, son of Jacob. Living in the house of Pharaoh, Joseph could save your people when famine ravaged the country and Israel was out of food.

Joseph knew you through his dreams and saw that the harm his brothers inflicted on him, you meant for good. He had come to his royal position for a time such as this, to save your people, your remnant, again.

But this Joseph, the carpenter, the one who would raise your Son here on earth, you spoke to him through an angel in a dream. The angel said, "Do not be afraid to take Mary into your home."

The child within her was conceived through the Holy Spirit. The same Spirit who spoke through the prophets, saying, "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son." The angel told Joseph that this child "will save his people from their sins" and "they shall name him Emmanuel." Emmanuel, "God is with us." God came down from heaven to be with us. To remind us that you love us, that you delight in your children. That you want to be with us. You are with us in our dreams, in our breath and in the Eucharist that saves us from the famine that ravages our own hearts, keeping us from you.

And Joseph woke from his sleep, rested and sure of you. He did as you commanded and took Mary into his home. In his rest, he saw your truth, that they were placed in a lowly position for a time such as this. Joseph listened and was able to be part of your story for eternity.

As we ponder the mystery of Emmanuel, God with us, speak to us in our sleep, O Lord.

May our bodies pray the prayers we cannot speak during the day. May our restless souls rest in you. May we hear your words — and listen. May we be certain that you are here with us.

Connect your worlds together in our sleep so that we may find you more clearly in our waking hours.

— Shemaiah Gonzalez, Catholic News Service

UPCOMING EVENTS

12|02 MONDAY
Love and Mercy: St. Faustina Movie Screening
Palace 9 Cinemas, South Burlington • 7 pm
There will be a one time showing of Love and Mercy, a new movie which sheds light on the life and vision of St. Faustina.

12|03 TUESDAY
Knights of Columbus Annual Christmas Party
St. Mark, Burlington • 6 - 8:30 pm
Prayer service and lighting of the Christmas tree with a potluck. The celebration is open to all families and friends.

12|05 THURSDAY
A Day of the Eucharist
St. Thomas, Underhill Center • 8 am - 8 pm
This day of Eucharistic adoration will begin with Holy Mass at 8 am. At the beginning of each hour we will pray various Catholic devotions throughout the day. **FOR MORE INFO: Parish office (802) 899-4632.**

12|07 SATURDAY
Our Lady of Fatima Devotions
Holy Family, Essex Junction • 8 - 9:30 am
First Saturday of every month, come to Our Lady of Fatima Devotions. Rosary and reconciliation begin at 8 am and Mass at 8:30.

12|06, 08, 15
Christmas Concert Series
All in one concert, 17 Christmas and seasonal carols will be presented in a community sing-a-long with organist and music director, Dr. William Tortolano, professor emeritus of fine arts and music at St. Michael's College. The program will be presented at three churches of acoustical, and historic interest:

Friday, 12|06 • Blessed Sacrament, Stowe • 7:30 pm

Sunday, 12|08 • Immaculate Conception, St. Albans • 3 pm

Sunday, 12|15 • St. Michael's College, Colchester • 3 pm

The concerts are free and open to the public. A free will donation will be accepted.

12|07 SATURDAY
Blood Drive
St. Isidore, Montgomery • 9 am - 2 pm
Hosted by St. Isidore Parish and sponsored by Montgomery Emergency Services. Local raffles with prizes. To schedule an appointment, go to www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS Walk-ins are welcome!

12|07 SATURDAY
Marriage Preparation Retreat
St. Peter, Vergennes • 10 am - 5:30 pm
Come take a break from wedding preparation and spend time in prayer, sharing and fellowship with your fiance and other engaged couples. Lunch and materials will be provided — prior Registration is required.

12|08 SUNDAY
Basket Raffle
St. Raphael, Poultney • 11 am - 3 pm
Admission and 1 sheet of 25 tickets is $5. Additional ticket sheets are $2 each. There were be special item raffles and 50/50 raffles. Lunch concession will be provided. This fundraising event is one of many to benefit our capital project for replacing our church's roof.

12|08 SUNDAY
Annual "Messiah Sing"
Our Lady of the Snows, Woodstock • 4 - 6 pm
Our parish's contribution to Woodstock's Wassail Weekend. There will be a professional orchestra and solloists; but anyone who wishes to sign may join the Chorus. Just bring a libretto. The event is open to the public, and is a truly enjoyable Advent tradition.

12|11 WEDNESDAY
Vermont Catholic Professionals Christmas Social
Holy Family Parish Hall, Essex Jct. • 6 - 8 pm
Join VCP for a Christmas Social with guest speaker Mary Beth Pinard, Executive Director of Vermont Catholic Charities. Donations will be collected for Vermont Catholic Charities' Advent Appeal. Beverages to be provided — please bring a dish to share.

DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON **CAREERS**

Diocese: Respect Life Coordinator

Diocese: Senior Accountant

Diocese: Technical Support Specialist

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Williston: Administrative Assistant

The Loretto Home, Rutland: Residential Care Positions

Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Randolph: Administrative Assistant

Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Fair Haven: Organist or Keyboardist/Choir Director

St. Joseph Residential Care Home, Burlington: LPN

Vermont Catholic Charities: Counselor

For More Info: **vermontcatholic.org/careers**

12|14 SATURDAY
Bingo
All Saints, Richford • 11:30 am - 5 pm
Doors open at 11:30 am, games start at 1 pm. Refreshments and pull tickets will be available. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

CRAFT FAIR & MARKET DIRECTORY

12|06
- **Our Lady of Seven Dolors Christmas Bazaar**
  St. Mary's School, Fair Haven
  11 am - 6 pm
- **Christmas Bazaar**
  Our Lady of the Angels, Randolph
  2 pm - 5 pm

12|07
- **Christmas Bazaar**
  All Saints Dorion Hall, Richford
  9 am - 2 pm
- **St. Paul's Christmas Bazaar**
  Town Hall, Orwell
  9 am - 2 pm
- **Christmas Bazaar and Craft Fair**
  St. Patrick, Fairfield
  9 am - 3 pm
- **Old Fashioned Christmas Bazaar**
  St. Frances Cabrini, West Pawlet
  10 am - 2 pm
- **Christmas Bazaars** (two)
  St. Rose of Lima, South Hero
  St. Joseph, Grand Isle
  9 am - 3 pm
- **Old Fashioned Christmas Bazaar**
  St. Frances Cabrini, West Pawlet
  10 am - 2 pm
- **Christmas Fair**
  Bishop Marshall School, Morrisville
  9 am - 3 pm
- **Christmas Bazaar**
  St. Anthony, Bethel
  9 am - 2 pm

12|14
- **Christmas Bazaar**
  St. Jude, Hinesburg
  9 am - 3 pm

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

To see more events or to submit your event to the diocesan calendar: **vermontcatholic.org/events**

Sunday, Dec 01, 2019

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Twenty-five reasons to smile

It's Advent! Jesus is coming soon. Colored lights dance against the dark. Carols exalt us (and the "Jingle Bells" dogs make us laugh). John Lennon, who imagined a world without religion, couldn't imagine one without Christmas. Holiday cards keep on coming. Tinsel. Evergreens. Angels. Lighting family Advent wreaths. Sleigh bells. Generous hearts. Visitors. Parties. Cookies with sprinkles. Sparkly sweaters. Fuzzy mittens. Manger scenes. Nativity plays. Flash mobs singing "Messiah" at the mall. Children's faces. Reconciliations. The hope of peace on earth. Good will within reach everywhere.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44 (1). *"At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."*

Monday, Dec 02, 2019

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Warming up to Advent

Today is the first weekday in Advent, and the readings underscore the season's sense of warmth and joyful anticipation. As our days grow cooler, Isaiah provides an image of God protecting the Israelites from the elements: "the Lord's glory will be shelter and protection." The psalm, too, trumpets a sense of joy and protection under God: "Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord." Then the gospel brings us an Advent sense of happy expectation, with Jesus envisioning the faith-filled centurion at the heavenly banquet. Today, as you slip on a sweater to fight a chill, or share a meal with others, take heart in being part of the worldwide Christian community beginning our Advent season of warmth and joyful anticipation.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 4:2-6; Matthew 8:5-11 (175). *"Many will come from the east and the west, and will recline with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob at the banquet in the kingdom of heaven."*

Tuesday, Dec 03, 2019

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Welcome everybody

How can you live out Catholic teaching to defend the sacred life and dignity of every precious human being? In lots of way, of course. But one for today is the observance of International Day of Persons with Disabilities, promoted by the United Nations since 1992. Think about how you can support the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities and help include them "in every aspect of political, social, economic, and cultural life." Promote awareness and celebrate their achievements; and if you yourself have a disability, celebrate your own achievements as well! Order an event pack for your organization at idpwd.org.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24 (176). *"Blessed are the eyes that see what you see."*

Wednesday, Dec 04, 2019

MEMORIAL OF JOHN DAMASCENE, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Come to your senses

Saint John of Damascus is famous for opposing the Iconoclast heresy of the 700s. Iconoclasts said it was wrong to venerate sacred images of any sort, but John wrote three different treatises to explain why ours is essentially a "smells and bells" religion, honoring the Incarnation by using all five senses God gave to both us and Jesus. "When we see the crucifix, we remember Christ's saving Passion," he wrote. "We fall down to worship not the piece of wood, but the One who is imaged." And when one of John's mentors berated him for writing hymns—saying they weren't a worthy spiritual pursuit—it is said that the Blessed Mother berated the mentor in a dream! Be sure to enjoy the sights, sounds, and tastes of this holiday season—remembering our Creator, who asks that we don't love abstractly but "in the flesh."

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37 (177). *"They all ate and were satisfied."*

Thursday, Dec 05, 2019

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Can you lend a hand?

December 5 is the day set aside by the United Nations General Assembly as International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development. It is a long title but its purpose is something we all understand: to encourage governments to recognize volunteer efforts that promote development and peace. Advent is a season of hope, and volunteers by their generosity of hearts and hands give us reason to hope for this world. Say a prayer of gratitude for volunteers throughout our world whose sacrifices promote the common good. Ask for grace to be a sign of hope today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27 (178). *"None of those who cry out, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of God but only the one who does the will of my Father."*

Friday, Dec 06, 2019

MEMORIAL OF NICHOLAS, BISHOP

Protect the innocent

In every household where children live, shoes could be lined up outside the door this morning, full of candy and tiny treats. This brief preview of Christmas is mercifully given to assuage the plaintive query, "Will we ever get there?" From spare biographical details about Saint Nicholas, bishop of Myra in the fourth century, marvelous legends have arisen. All underline his protection of children, so let's invoke him during an era of terrible child exploitation. In his honor, place the National Human Trafficking Hotline in your phone or on your fridge: 888-373-7888. Call if anything seems amiss.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31 (179). *"But a very little while . . ."*

Saturday, Dec 07, 2019

MEMORIAL OF AMBROSE, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Uproot income inequality

Saint Ambrose (c. 340–397) was the bishop of Milan and one of the four original doctors of the church along with Augustine, Jerome, and Gregory the Great. Ambrose taught the necessity of being united with the poor. He said that charitable giving was not an act of generosity but rather a restitution of resources that God had originally provided to all but have been taken over by the rich and powerful. Speaking in the United States in 2014, Pope Francis said that income inequality in our society was the "root of all social evil." Catholics need to fight against income inequality.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8 (180). *"His heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd."*

Take Five for Faith
Daily renewal for busy Catholics

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