



Saint Anthony Church

15 Church Street

White River Jct. Vermont 05001

First Sunday of Advent – November 29, 2020

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

E-mail: stanthonychurch@vermontcatholic.org

Website: <https://stanthony.vermontcatholic.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: By appointment only. Please call Father Danielson to schedule.

Baptism: Parents must contact 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

Bishop Christopher J. Coyne reminds us that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains lifted until further notice. We join Bishop Coyne in asking those with a cough or fever of any sort and anyone feeling sick to not come to the church for a visit or to attend liturgy. Those who are at a higher risk from COVID-19 or those caring for the sick are asked to stay home.

Saturday, November 28	4:00 P.M.	In thanksgiving to Saint Anthony by JLD
Sunday, November 29	8:30 A.M.	The People of Saint Anthony Parish
Monday, November 30	9:00 A.M.	Gene Dyke by Tim & Nancy Dyke
Friday, December 4	9:00 A.M.	Hilda Bilodeau and family by Linda Milman
Saturday, December 5	4:00 P.M.	Gene Dyke by Tim & Nancy Dyke
Sunday, December 6	8:30 A.M.	The People of Saint Anthony Parish



John Patterson
Catherine McKenney
Frank Klymn
Richard Avicelli

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:

"Aunt" Maggie Scelza
& Ernie C. Gour



Sacrificial Giving Report

To meet our expenses we need:	\$ 3,700.00
Offertory collection November 21-22:	---
Human Development:	---
<i>We're sorry. Figures were not available. The total will be included next week. Thank you for understanding.</i>	

Bless You: Saint Anthony Parish wants to thank those parishioners who have been 'catching up' on their offertory envelopes. Our parish is truly blessed to have so many generous, caring folks who continue to support us with their donations. We also understand that many of you have, and continue to experience financial hardship. We know that you are praying for us and with us, and we are praying for you. Only through prayer and trust in the Lord will we get through this together.

Thank You! We would like to take this opportunity 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 sitting near you today or worshipping from home, quietly donate their time year after year. We ask our good Lord to bless them, and all of our parishioners.

Let us pray for one another and for all those impacted in any way by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Message from Fr. Rick:

First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020



“Advent has a two-fold character, for it is a time of preparation for Christmas in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time.” Thus, from the First Sunday of Advent til December 16th the focus of the prayers of the Mass is on this Second Coming. Whereas beginning December 17th til the 24th these days serve to prepare more directly for Christ’s First Coming among us as the babe of Bethlehem.

As we move into these uncertain winter months, I want you to know that we at Saint Anthony are here for you. We miss you. We invite you to come back to Mass if you have been away, even if it is one of our weekday Masses with fewer people present. I am also available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation or the Anointing of the Sick. For Catholics, the Sacraments are instituted by Christ to give us grace. Pope Francis reminds us that Communion is not a reward for good behavior but medicine for the sick. We all need Christ’s help during these difficult times. Take time out each day for your own prayer. Pray as a family before meals. Watch Mass online or on TV if you don’t feel safe coming to Mass, and join in the online offerings that our parish and diocese offer. I am here for you and pray daily for you. This is my duty and blessing for me as a parish priest.

God bless,

Fr. Rick

Confessions: Due to the confined space of the confessional at St. Anthony Church, the Sacrament of Reconciliation continues to be offered by appointment only. Please call Fr. Rick if you wish to make an appointment.

Wreaths: Wreaths are available for ***pick up this Saturday, November 28th from 9:30-3:30 and after Mass.*** Wreaths will also be available for ***pick up this Sunday, November 29th from 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.*** If these times are not convenient, call Jim Flanagan at (802) 738-4600 to schedule a pick-up. Our wreaths are a great symbol of our unity! Thank you for your support. For questions contact Dan Smith at (802) 356-3527.

Weekly Bulletin: Our bulletin is on our website <https://stanthony.vermontcatholic.org>. For those who do not have web access, or who prefer a printed version, you may pick up a bulletin outside the parish office in a plastic container on the small porch near the office door. Also in the box, we have *The Magnificat Advent Companion* and *Living Faith* booklets. Bring one to a friend or neighbor if you know someone who would like it. The box is being sanitized, and is replenished as needed.

2020 Bishop’s Annual Appeal: As of November 20th Saint Anthony Parish has reached 53% of our BAA pledge goal of \$36,876. with donations totaling \$19,592. We are grateful to those who have been able to participate.

Please Do Your Part: We are doing our best to keep conditions in the church safe for all who attend. Please sit *only* where pew seats are marked. If someone else is in that row and a six-foot distance cannot be maintained, *please look for another seat*. We appreciate everyone's cooperation.



Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church Campaign: Isaiah 7:14 *"Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel."* It is with great joy and excitement that we welcome Advent and the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior. Jesus is God's greatest gift to mankind. He is the perfect present received every Christmas. John 3:16 – *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life"* – serves as a reminder of God's love and the sacrifice made on our behalf.

Along with celebrating God's wonderful gift, Advent is a time when we enjoy giving a little more. It is an opportunity to give a little more of our time, a little more of our love and a little more of the gifts we've received from God. So we invite you, this Advent season, to join your brothers and sisters in Christ with a *Christ Our Hope* campaign commitment. Remember your gift will make a difference as we address our needs at Saint Anthony Parish. But don't forget it will also support the many needs of those most vulnerable among us, while enhancing our ability to educate others.

As of November 20, Saint Anthony Parish has reached 6% of our 3-year COH pledge goal of \$252,678, with donations totaling \$16,387. Remember that whatever we raise in the Christ Our Hope campaign will be used to spread the Good News by building vibrant parishes, strengthening our faith formation programs and serving the most vulnerable among us. All for the glory of God. Find out more at <https://christourhopevt.org>. Please return your completed pledge form or go online to christourhopevt.org/donate to make your gift. Watch Bishop Coyne's brief new video on the campaign by visiting <https://vimeo.com/vermontcatholic>.

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 de Goësbriand, we pray this through Christ Our Lord, Amen. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

Pandemic Home Blessing: Almighty and eternal God, our refuge in every danger to whom we turn in our distress: In faith we pray make this home a sanctuary from illness and disease, and keep far from it all anxiety and fear. May Christ dwell here, among us and within us. Bless those who reside here. As we face restrictions and quarantines, help us seek your face. Grant us the courage to follow the heart of your Son, who often retreated to quiet spaces to seek solace and intercede on behalf of others. Look with compassion on the afflicted, grant eternal rest to the dead, comfort to mourners, healing to the sick, peace to the dying. Give strength to healthcare workers, wisdom to our leaders, and the courage to reach out to all in love, so that together we may give glory to your holy name. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Christmas Light Display: Our Lady of La Salette Shrine, 410 Rte. 4A, Enfield, NH opens their annual Christmas Light Display Thanksgiving, and continuing to January 3, 2021. The theme this year is ***Bringing Hope!*** A wonderful way to enjoy some prayerful time and peace while you safely enjoy the display. Be sure to visit the International Manger display featuring mangers from around the world. Shrine weekend Masses are Saturday at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Daily Mass is offered Wednesday through Friday at 6:00 p.m. Confession is at 5:15 p.m. before Mass or upon request. Please call (603) 632-7087. The Gift shop is open Wednesday - Sunday, 12:00 - 6:00 p.m. and during Light Display. Closed Monday & Tuesday.



Catholic Mass on TV: The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended, especially for those in a high-risk category. We encourage you to view the celebration of Sunday Mass by Bishop Coyne at 10:00 a.m., livestreamed on our website, or watch the following:

Sunday mornings at 6:00 a.m. on WCAX-TV, channel 3; **Sunday** mornings at 10:00 a.m. on WNNE-TV, channel 13 (or consult your local listings.)

Televised Masses may be found on The CatholicTV Network, cable channel 166 (or consult your local listings) **Sunday** at 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 7 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. Daily Mass is Monday through Friday at 9:30 a.m., with rebroadcasts at 7 and 11:30 p.m.

Televised Masses may also be found on EWTN, channel 38 (or consult local listings) **Sunday** 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon. Daily Mass is Monday through Saturday at 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Prayer for Making a Spiritual Communion: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most holy Eucharist. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Haven: The Haven's Food Shelf is open to anyone in our community. Shop via curbside pick-up for a week's worth of groceries, once a month, for anyone. Visit uppervalleyhaven.org/foodshelffaq/ for more information. Curbside pick-up is available Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. and Sunday from 12-3 p.m. Supplemental items including produce, bread, desserts and prepared food are also available. Takeout prepared meals are available Monday-Friday between 9 and 10 a.m.

Saint Anthony Parish has long supported the Haven by collecting food in the basket at the entrance of the church before and after Masses. Even now, with the resumption of Mass, ***we remain temporarily unable to continue collecting food or supplies for the Haven at the church.*** Instead we ask that you bring your donations directly to the Haven.

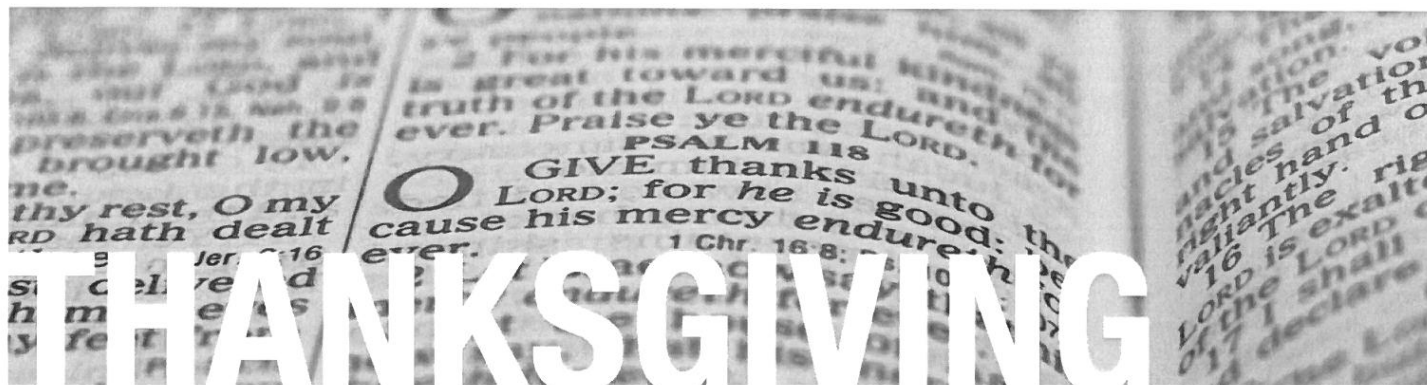
The **Most Needed Food Shelf Items** this week include pasta, pasta sauce, soup, canned fruit, sliced bread and peanut butter. **Other Needs** include gravy mix packets and canned gravy, new or like-new winter coats, hats, gloves, mittens & scarves for all ages and baking ingredients (baking mixes, flour, sugar, etc.), gift cards to local grocery stores, can openers and personal care items. Thank you!

We pray that you and your family stay safe and healthy.
We are glad to safely welcome you back to Saint Anthony Church!

NEWS FROM The Inland See

November 28 – December 4, 2020

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON



Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Col 3:16-17).

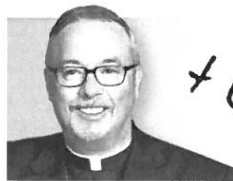
There are certain patterns to our public prayer. You may have noticed that at Mass and the other liturgies of the Church, the prayer is almost always directed to God the Father, through the Son, in the power of the Holy Spirit. There are also patterns in the content of the prayers. Normally, we begin by offering praise and thanksgiving to God, acknowledging what He has done and what He continues to do, and then asking in intercessory prayer for more of His blessings to be poured forth upon us. Notice it is out of the act of thanksgiving that we then ask for God's intervention and help. This starting point places us in the right relationship to God: It is from Him that all blessing flow. May His name be praised!

The starting point is very important in many parts of our lives. For example, in meetings in which a proposal is made for something new or to try something different I always ask people to start with, "What is good about this proposal? How can we make it work?" We then move into the question, "What are some of the concerns you have or challenges you see in this proposal?" I have found that the positive starting point leads to a whole different conversation than when we allow the conversation to go negative right away.

So it is in our prayers, in our words, in our actions, in our gatherings and in our lives. We certainly find ourselves in a time of significant challenges: the world-wide catastrophe caused by the Covid-19 virus, the resultant downturn in the economy, the loss of jobs and benefits, the polarization within our country that has brought about significant divisions in our midst, the continuing struggle against the sin of racism, the reality of global warming and climate change and, finally, the "throw-away" culture that treats human life as a commodity and not as gift from God lived as brothers and sisters. If these challenges are the place where we "start" in our lives we can certainly find ourselves in a real "rabbit hole" of negativity. But if we begin instead with an "attitude of gratitude" coming out of a place of thanksgiving, then we have a sure foundation from which we can confront these challenges.

This year more than ever we need Thanksgiving Day to focus on the blessings we have even in the midst of the crises we face. While the Covid-19 pandemic has certainly curtailed how we celebrate this day, it has not curtailed the reasons we celebrate.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!



Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Christopher J. Coyne

The Most Reverend Christopher J. Coyne
Bishop of Burlington

CHRIST OUR

Hope

BUILDING A VIBRANT CHURCH



Christ Our Hope Campaign Update

A portion of the funds raised through the *Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church* campaign supports these types of ministries through the faith formation fund established in the Vermont Catholic Community Foundation. This will ensure stable income for vital faith formation ministries, especially in times of crisis. To learn more about the campaign or make a gift online visit: www.christourhopevt.org.

27%

As of November 18: \$2,712,990

Goal: \$10,000,000



One of the ways the domestic church — the church at home — can celebrate the Advent Season is by creating and praying with an Advent wreath. Below, please find instructions on how to create an Advent wreath, along with a prayer of blessing, and short prayers for each week of Advent that can be said when lighting the candles. The instructions on how to create an Advent wreath is just but one example; there are many ways to create a wreath using a variety of material and you might have a favorite way you can use. As always, if you use real candles, be very careful and make sure you never leave a burning candle unattended.

DIY Advent Wreath

Materials:

- 4 battery operated votives
- Mini door wreath (or silk green picks and small plate)
- Ribbon* or Washi tape — purple and pink

*Tape or glue gun if using Ribbon

Directions:

1. Begin by cutting a length of ribbon to wrap around each votive. Cut to fit and secure to the candle with glue.
2. Continue wrapping the votives in ribbon, creating 3 purple candles and 1 pink candle
3. You can now start applying the candles to the wreath. Place a dime sized amount of glue under the candles BUT NOT OVER THE ON/OFF SWITCH. You need to be able to access this. Just apply glue to the opposite end. Then, press them to the wreath. Hold in place firmly until they have attached well. Or — place your candles on a plate, arranging the green picks as you would like.
4. You can now use your Advent wreath for kids! Just slip your finger underneath to flip the switch on the candle. You can light one week at a time and enjoy all four candles lit up on Christmas Day!

Blessing of the Advent Wreath

To be said before lighting the first candle on the First Sunday of Advent. After the blessing is said, light the first candle, then say the prayer for the first Week of Advent.

Lord God,
Your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior,
who enlightens our hearts
and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin.
Pour forth your blessings upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath;
may their light reflect the splendor of Christ,
who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting Prayer — Week 1

(Begins on November 28)

Christ our Light,
Shine in our lives with hope and promise.
Give us right vision so that we remain attentive to this holy season.
Remind us to look for you in small acts of kindness and love.
We await your coming with wonder.
Amen.

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting Prayer — Week 2

(Begins on December 5)

Christ our Hope,
Illuminate our hearts with your grace.
Enlarge our vision so that we recognize our kinship with all the people of the world.
Help us to give to others in ways that meet their deepest needs.
We await your coming with gratitude.
Amen.

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting Prayer — Week 3

(Begins on December 5)

Christ our Joy,
Brighten our homes with your presence.
Clarify our vision so that we might see you in the people we cherish.
Make every holiday activity an opportunity to spread your light and love.
We await your coming with delight.
Amen.

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting Prayer — Week 4

(Begins on December 19)

Christ our Peace,
Grow brightly in each moment.
Enlighten our vision so that we see beyond the trappings of the holidays.
Relieve us, if just for a moment, of our worries and stress.
We await your coming with serenity.
Amen.

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ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

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

Sunday, Nov 29, 2020

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Keep your eyes open

Nothing is more empowering than a fresh start. Advent brings with it a new gospel to guide us through the new liturgical year: Mark, the shortest of the four narratives about Jesus. Consider reading all 16 chapters at the start of the liturgical year to grasp the breathless beauty of Mark's story. Reflect on other ways to stay alert to new spiritual discoveries, in keeping with Jesus' summons: "Watch!" Pay attention, not just to the news of the day but also to the movements of the Spirit in you. Where might you be prompted to forgive, be generous, get involved, or keep silent?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37 (2). "What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

Monday, Nov 30, 2020

FEAST OF ANDREW, APOSTLE

First responder

Saint Andrew has a special place in the collective heart of Scotland. He is sometimes known as the "first called" apostle because of his early encounter and following of Jesus, alongside his better-known brother and fellow fisherman Simon Peter. When confronting his own crucifixion in the year 60, it is said Andrew chose an X-shaped cross, or saltire, because he felt unworthy to be crucified on the same kind of cross as Jesus. That saltire is now Scotland's national flag. Follow the Scottish example: Give first-called Andrew a special place in your heart.

TODAY'S READINGS: Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22 (684). "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Tuesday, Dec 01, 2020

ADVENT WEEKDAY

A light shines in the darkness

In this first week of Advent, the church highlights the theme of hope. We remember that the "people who walk in darkness will see a great light." Good news at this time of long nights as we are reeling mentally, physically, financially, emotionally from the coronavirus pandemic and find it hard to cope. But today is also World AIDS Day, a time to remember another virus-borne pandemic that has killed more than 30 million worldwide, calling to mind the inspiring way our world can come together at its best to respond to terrible diseases. Pray for an increase in hope and healing today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24 (176). "There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain."

Wednesday, Dec 02, 2020

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Martyrs in our time

Forty years ago today, four American churchwomen were murdered and dumped in a shallow grave in a cow pasture in Santiago Nonualco, El Salvador. Maryknoll sisters Maura Clarke and Ita Ford, Ursuline sister Dorothy Kazel, and lay missionary Jean Donovan were victims of the country's civil war, killed by members of the Salvadoran National Guard. The women knew they faced danger and yet they could not leave the people. Jean Donovan wrote in a letter two weeks before her death: "Several times I have decided to leave El Salvador. I almost could, except for the children, the poor bruised victims of this insanity."

Inspired by the life and martyrdom of Archbishop Saint Oscar Romero, all four women shared a commitment to the church's "preferential option for the poor." Ita, Maura, Dorothy, and Jean—you walk with us still and we remember.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37 (177). "Jesus summoned his disciples and said, 'My heart is moved with pity for the crowd, for they . . . have nothing to eat.'"

Thursday, Dec 03, 2020

MEMORIAL OF FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST

Gain from apparent loss

While focus is often on Francis' youthful fervor, which sparked his missionary adventures in Asia, less emphasis falls on his maturation. In Japan, he learned to appreciate local culture, connecting it with the gospel. While ocean travel in the 16th century was perilous, long separation from Ignatius of Loyola may have been an even greater suffering. Francis was one of Ignatius' first companions at the founding of the Society of Jesus, or the Jesuits, as they are commonly known. And imagine Francis' disappointment when he couldn't reach his ultimate dream destination: China. Have you ever had a "dream deferred," an unrealized goal? What have you learned from the apparent failure that you might not have learned from success?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27 (178). "The house . . . did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock."

Friday, Dec 04, 2020

MEMORIAL OF JOHN OF DAMASCUS, PRIEST, RELIGIOUS, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

An iconic witness

History takes some strange turns. John Damascene is considered one of the great fathers of the Eastern Church, known today for its beautiful iconographic representations of the communion of saints. Yet back in the seventh century, John had to defend the use of icons against a movement in the East to ban them. And who protected him from being arrested by his powerful opponents? The Muslim caliph of Damascus under whose rule John lived and served administratively. Beneath the twists of history, search for the hidden story of salvation, unfolding through the centuries and before our eyes in these iconic times as well.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31 (179). "Then he touched their eyes and said, 'Let it be done for you according to your faith.' And their eyes were opened."

Saturday, Dec 05, 2020

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Pay it forward

Why is it that the season of Lent seems to get all the instructions of what to do—prayer, fasting, and almsgiving—but with Advent, we have no handy summary about what to actually do during the season—besides wait? Sure, we have our creches and wreaths, maybe even a Jesse tree or, better yet, an Advent calendar with chocolate hidden behind each door. While all these customs are good, how can we "effect"—that is, bring about—the new life we so eagerly await? The world may have an answer for us. Today marks International Volunteer Day. How can you put into action on behalf of others your faith and expectation of new life in God?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8 (180). "Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons. Without cost you have received; without cost you are to

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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