

Reflection Thursday 1st Week Advent 2022

I once helped out in a church that was built near the bottom of a steep hill. While I was there the cracks in the wall were growing wider and wider. A survey discovered, much to the horror of the parish, that the foundations had gradually been washed away by the water descending through the foundations over 60 / 70 years. It was decided to make a raft on top of tons of concrete so that in the future the whole church would move along with the raft and remain intact.

The rock or raft on which we are built is the Church. No wonder it was built on Peter, the Rock.

"A novice master once responded when asked about a life lived in Christian authenticity, said that to be a Christian was not to know the answers but to begin to live in the part of the self where the question is born....He was speaking of an attitude of listening, of awareness of presence, of an openness to mystery." Wendy M. Wright,

An Advent Reflection (Fr. Brian Cavanaugh, TOR)

"During Advent opportunities for works of charity abound calling out for Christians from every side: a sack of food for a needy family, money dropped in a Salvation Army kettle, a donation to an Indian school, a toy for 'Toys-for-Tots,' etc.

Unfortunately, these works of charity so easily can assuage the Christian conscience, while doing nothing to bring about a solution to the root causes of the problem.

*"Works of justice, on the other hand, follow **the road less traveled** of Advent's hope to pursue solutions for difficult problems. Hope comes through works of justice rather than simply performing works of charity."*