

## **071228 newSpin**

### **News with some Spin**

### **Edited by Bill Lewellis**

The *newSpin newsletter*, published six to eight times monthly, is intended especially for clergy, members of diocesan commissions or committees, wardens, vestry members, anyone who has leadership responsibility for ministry in a congregation. Any interested parishioner may be added to the list. Send your email address to [Bill Lewellis](#). The newsletter may be found also on the *newSpin blog*. **Bookmark the [newSpin blog](#) on your browser.**

*[From Bishop Paul and the Diocesan Staff]*

**May you experience New Joy and New Hope in the New Year.**

### ***New Hope Campaign news***

(1) St. Paul's, Montrose, gave its entire Christmas offering to the New Hope Campaign for Kajo Keji. It's likely that the amount will wind up being over \$1,000. Read the news release they sent to local newspapers [here](#).

(2) As of Dec. 21, some 723 people in our Diocese have made commitments surpassing \$2.95 million, roughly 82% of our *New Hope* campaign goal of \$3.6 million.

### **The Rev. Eugene A. Monick**

The Rev. Eugene A. Monick, Ph.D., 78, of Glenburn, died on Christmas Day. His wife is the former Barbara Blair Platt. Father Monick had been the vicar of the innovative St. Clement's Church in the Hell's Kitchen area of Times Square, New York City, from 1965 to 1975. Upon graduation from the C. G. Jung Institute for Analytical Psychology in Zurich, Switzerland, 1977, he entered private practice as a Jungian psychoanalyst. He was the author of several Jungian texts on the links between masculinity, male aggression and male spirituality. He received a doctorate in psychoanalysis from the Union for Experimenting Colleges and Universities in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1985. He practiced psychoanalysis in New York City and Scranton until 2007. He was licensed to officiate as a priest in the Diocese of Bethlehem. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, December 29, at 11:00 a.m. in the Church of the Epiphany, Church Hill Road, Glenburn, preceded by a private burial for the family. [See the obituary in the [Times-Tribune](#), Scranton, December 27.

### **Parish Newsletters**

Download parish newsletters [here](#).

### **Infinite differences and unique joy**

Archbishop of Canterbury's Christmas Day sermon [[Episcopal News Service](#)] -- To grasp that God has made the material world, "composed", says John of the Cross, "of infinite differences", so that human beings can see his glory is to accept that the diversity and mysteriousness of the world around is something precious in itself. To reduce this diversity and to try and empty out the mysteriousness is to fail to allow God to speak through the things of creation as he means to.

### **Diocesan Life.January**

Download it [here](#). Find the Calendar and the Cycles of Prayer on page A7.

### **10, 9, 8, 7 ...**

You may enjoy this version of [Once In Royal David's City](#). I understand that the young boy who does the first-verse solo in this annual performance from Kings College in Cambridge [does not](#)

[know he will be the one](#) singing it until some ten seconds before the actual broadcast. [Thanks to Andy Gerns for this pointer.]

## Mystery Worshippers

[Thanks to JB Chilton at [Episcopal Café](#)] The *Sunday Telegraph* this week [reported](#) that measured by regular attendance, Catholics now outnumber Anglicans in England. Church of England representatives disputed the figures, but even by their numbers it's close and average Sunday attendance is less than 1 million. Why don't people attend church? Is it bad memories from childhood? Ruth Gledhill of *The Times* [reports](#) that the research organisation [Christian Research](#) has commissioned the company [Retail Maxim](#) to send mystery worshippers in unannounced to judge the sermon, welcome, atmosphere, warmth, comfort and appearance of churches around the country ... that the churches might gain an insight into how they are viewed from the “outside-in” by non-churchgoers.

## The first step



## Christmas Dinner in Montrose

More than 25 volunteers from St. Paul's, Montrose, assisted with the annual Christmas Day dinner at the Montrose Senior Center. They welcomed 80 guests to a traditional dinner of roasted turkey and baked ham with all the trimmings, and a cornucopia of desserts. The free dinner began six years ago for Endless Mountains Health Systems clients who had no nearby relatives, or those who would be eating alone. Anonymous donors have made it possible to continue this event each year. Read the story and see two photos [here](#).

## A man convinced against his will ...

Jerome Rodale, founder of Rodale Press in Emmaus (publisher of *Prevention Magazine*, died at the age of 72 during June 1971 taping of the Dick Cavett show. In a May 3, 2007 NYTimes op-ed, Cavett reflects on how so many people are so sure they saw they show that never aired ... even after a conversation with him telling them the show never aired. Cavett mentally recites the two-line rhyme, “A man convinced against his will, Is of the same opinion still.” Read the op-ed [here](#) and browse a list of notable op-eds of 2007 compiled by the NYTimes [here](#).

## Prosperity gospel preachers under investigation

According to the Associated Press ([here](#) and [here](#)), a U.S. Senator from Iowa is bringing “new scrutiny to the underlying belief that brings in millions of dollars and fills churches from Atlanta to Los Angeles – the ‘Gospel of Prosperity,’ or the notion that God wants to bless the faithful with earthly riches. All six ministries under investigation preach the prosperity gospel to varying degrees.” The ministries are being asked “for financial records on salaries, spending practices, private jets and other perks. The investigation, coupled with a financial scandal at ORU that forced out Roberts' son and heir, Richard, has some wondering whether the prosperity gospel is facing a day of reckoning. While few expect the movement to disappear, the scrutiny could force

greater financial transparency and oversight in a movement known for secrecy.” [Thanks to [Nick Knisely's post on Episcopal Café.](#)]

### **Christmas and Epiphany Posters**

Jenifer Gamber and Richard Woodyatt have put together a program for printing and distributing a series of seven seasonal welcome posters throughout the liturgical year: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter and Pentecost, customized with your church's name. [The Christmas and Epiphany posters may be seen here.](#) There will be two posters for the Pentecost season – one sent out in May at the beginning of the season and one in late August to make the beginning of the school year activities. All posters are printed on a heavy 80# Gloss Cover Stock and have a finished size of 11x17 inches. They will be shipped flat via first class mail in a protective mailer and timed to arrive about a week before they are needed. There will also be a program of coordinating postcards for Christmas, Easter and the beginning of the school year, similar to last year's program. Pdf files describing all of this and how to participate may be downloaded at the link above.

### **Events calendar**

*Dec. 28:* Celebration of New Ministry at Trinity, Bethlehem. See the invitation [here.](#)

*Jan. 6:* Boar's Head Festival in Berks. More info [here.](#)

*Jan. 6:* Eucharist in Spanish at Trinity, Easton. More info [here.](#)

*Jan. 12:* Bishop's School new semester begins. More info [here.](#)

*Jan. 17:* Diocesan Council

*Jan. 21-23:* [Trinity Institute](#), view it online or participate via telecast at [Kirkridge](#) and at [Zion Lutheran Church](#), Old Zionsville.

*Jan. 25-26:* Bishop's Day with Youth, in NYC, Deadline to register is Dec. 15. More info [here.](#)

*Feb. 2:* Ordination of deacons, Cathedral, Bethlehem, 11:00 a.m.

*Feb. 17-19:* Clergy retreat, Mary Immaculate Center, Northampton

*March 1:* Diocesan Training for Ministry Conference. St. Stephen's, Wilkes-Barre. See below. More info TK.

*March 13:* Chrism Mass, Cathedral, 11:00 a.m.

*May 4:* St. Matthew Society Sunday. Bishop's Appreciation Reception.

*May 13:* Clergy Day

*June 8:* Clergy and spouse/guest dinner at St. Mary's Center, Scranton.

### **Bishop's School**

Spring semester, 2008. Beginning Jan. 12 (10:00 to 3:30) at St. Peter's, Hazleton. The morning class will be "Preaching" led by Bishop Paul; the afternoon class will be "Things You Need to Know for Parish Ministry" led by folks in various ministries. More info [here.](#)

### **Diocesan Training for Ministry Conference**

March 1, at St. Stephen's Pro-Cathedral, Wilkes-Barre. *Morning:* Vestry, Stewardship, Planned Giving/St. Matthew Society, Celebrating the Eucharist/Pat Malloy. *Afternoon:* Stewardship, Role of Treasurer, EYE, Parish Communication. A brochure will be sent to parishes in January. Registration deadline is February 15.

### **Back issues**

Find recent back editions of the *newSpin* newsletter: [071224](#); [071218](#); [071214](#); [071211](#), [071207](#); [071203](#); [071130](#)..

**\* Bookmark the [newSpin Blog](#) on your browser.**

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Be attentive. Be intelligent. Be reasonable. Be responsible.  
Be in Love. And, if necessary, change. --Bernard Lonergan