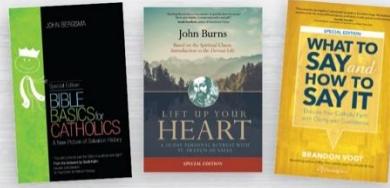




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CLERGY COMMUNICATIONS

100 E Eighth Street Cincinnati, OH 45202

ACTION REQUIRED

OCTOBER COUNT 2020

The annual October Count tabulation for all parishes and institutions where regular weekend Masses are celebrated begins the weekend of October 3-4. As a reminder, all regular scheduled Masses that fulfill the precept should be included as well as all special Masses that occur between 3:00 p.m. Saturday and midnight Sunday. Click on [October Count 2020](#) to access the instructions and the online form. Please SUBMIT the completed form by **Friday, November 6, 2020**. NOTE: As was requested last year, the form is to be completed online. For your convenience, a worksheet is available as well to help keep track of your weekly count. If you have questions, please email [Rosie Morena](#) in the Pastoral Planning Office or call 513.263.6692.

RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY

This year's upcoming Respect Life Sunday will be held the weekend of **October 3-4**. All pastors should be receiving their annual respect life packets, full of links to materials for use in your bulletin and homily helps for that Sunday. Please let your parishioners know that is also the weekend of the Respect Life Fund collection, which provides needed support for many local agencies, all right here in this archdiocese.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY COLLECTION, OCTOBER 18

As the Covid pandemic is taking an extra heavy toll on our 1,150 mission dioceses this year, it is especially crucial that our parishioners be fully motivated to support the Holy Father's Pontifical Mission Societies this October. Parish bulletin, social media, and pulpit announcements at masses before the collection would be most appreciated!!

Collection envelopes and a packet from the Pontifical Mission Societies' national office in New York will be coming to all parishes shortly with posters to display, homily helps, mission petitions, education resources, and more. These resources may also be found on their [website](#). Please send all the donors' envelopes and contributions to: **Mission Office, Archdiocese of Cincinnati, 100 E. Eighth St., Cincinnati, Ohio, 45202**. Feel free to call Melonise Knight (513.263.6681) or Dr. Mike Gable (513.263.6680) for any advice or support in this vital year.

OFFICIAL CATHOLIC DIRECTORY (OCD) ONLINE UPDATES

The 2021 *Official Catholic Directory* (OCD) updates will be completed online. The company handling the updates will be sending an email blast to parishes, schools and organizations that are currently listed in the directory. It is usually sent out in September or October. The email with all the information will be sent to the OCD Contact email address that was provided to them last year by your parish, school or organization, so please watch for it! It is imperative that all parishes, schools and organizations listed in the *Official Catholic Directory* complete the online update for the 2021 edition to retain their tax status. Questions? Please contact [Lisa Weber](#) (513.263.3342) in the Chancery Office.

OPTIONAL

BACK TO MISSION: BRINGING PARISH LEADERS TOGETHER – SEPTEMBER 8

Please plan to join us for Back to Mission, a web meeting focused on building vital parish life that radiates Christ. Our first session of the series will be held September 8, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. We will present a summary of the recent pastor survey results, discuss the new Vatican document on parish life, and share a preview of the upcoming pastoral planning process. Invite your staff and parishioner leaders to participate as well. Click [here](#) to learn more and to register.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE IN OUR COMMUNITIES – SEPTEMBER 9

On Wednesday, September 9, 2020, the Memorial of Saint Peter Claver, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati will offer a Mass celebrating the National Day of Prayer for Peace In Our Communities. The Mass will be held at the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Peter in Chains at 11:30 a.m. Archbishop Schnurr will be the presider and homilist. For more information, please contact [Deacon Royce Winters](#) (513.263.6640) in the Office for African American Pastoral Ministries.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH AND THE VICTIMS OF ABUSE – SEPTEMBER 11

The archdiocese will observe the third annual Day of Prayer for the Church and the Victims of Abuse on Friday, September 11. In addition to a Votive Mass of the Mystery of the Holy Cross celebrated by Archbishop Schnurr at 11:30 a.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter-in-Chains, all are encouraged to observe this day in parishes, schools, and other institutions. Sample liturgical texts and suggestions, along with a promotional flyer/bulletin insert, can be found on the website of the [Office for Divine Worship & Sacraments](#).

PRAY A MINUTE: ONE MILLION HOURS OF PRAYER FOR PEACE, JUSTICE AND GOODWILL

From now through January 1, the World Day of Prayer for Peace, Catholics across the archdiocese are invited to visit www.PrayAMinute.com and pledge to pray just one minute more than they already do, every day, for the specific intention of peace, justice and goodwill in our country – something which, as [Archbishop Schnurr notes here](#), we desperately need right now! Individuals who make a prayer pledge will receive a weekly email with an [inspiring prayer reflection and useful prayer resources](#).

Please help promote this prayer movement with your parishioners. [Turnkey promotional tools](#) are available on the campaign website. Also see the Bulletin Entry section.

NATIONAL FAITH & BLUE WEEKEND – OCTOBER 9-11

Archbishop Schnurr encourages parishes to visit the website [Faith & Blue](#) to learn about an initiative to incorporate the Catholic Church into building stronger relationships between law enforcement professionals and the community. Parishes are encouraged to participate, in whatever manner they find appropriate, in National Faith & Blue Weekend which is planned for Oct. 9-11, 2020. Information about the weekend can be found on the website. Please keep in mind social distancing and other safety protocols in place for COVID-19.

FALL RETREAT FOR PRIESTS

The Fall Retreat for Priests has been scheduled for Monday, October 5, through Friday, October 9, 2020, at Maria Stein Spiritual Center. Barring the unforeseen, the retreat will go on as scheduled. Watch for a flyer with more information.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION WORKSHOP

This event will be a virtual workshop presented in two parts: Wednesday, September 23 and Wednesday, September 30, both days from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Look for a flyer in the coming weeks to learn how to participate in this event. It will be possible to call in or to participate via Zoom.

GOSPEL WORKSHOP

Presently, we plan to have the Gospel Workshop, featuring The Gospel of Mark, in early November. Barring further problems from the Covid-19 pandemic, Dr. Matthew Genung will present the workshop at the Athenaeum on Wednesday, November 4, 2020, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., and at St. Joseph Parish in Wapakoneta, Ohio on Thursday, November 5, 2020, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. If we are unable to gather in person for the workshops, we hope to hold it via webcast. Watch for a flyer in late September.

NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR THE 2020 ARCHDIOCESAN RESPECT LIFE AWARD

The deadline for nominations is **October 30, 2020**, and will be awarded by Archbishop Schnurr at a special Mass on Sunday, January 24, 2021 at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral. For information, click [here](#).

IVOTECATHOLIC.ORG

For this election season, we are offering a seven-week discernment toolkit for parishes, schools and families leading up to election day. We'll delve into one of the themes of Catholic Social Teaching each week to help you sort out your questions and sift through the noise swirling around. We'll explore how we can use the seven themes to help form our consciences and determine for whom and for what we will vote. This is not voting Democrat or Republican...this is voting Catholic! Please visit [iVoteCatholic.org](#) and contact [Andrew Musgrave](#) with any questions.

APPROACHING THE ELECTION WITH FAITH AND CIVILITY - ZOOM EVENT

Our times are divisive. We – as Catholics – have an obligation to engage with our community and political process and to do so with a well-formed conscience, a spirit of compassion and the skills to enter conversations with civility and peace. In partnership with [Braver Angels](#) we will build skills to communicate with people who differ from us politically and explore how we can do so with our faith as our guide. Join us via Zoom <https://catholiccincinnati.zoom.us/j/94428908376> on **Tuesday, September 22, at 7:00 p.m.** for this highly interactive event. Please contact [Becky Kunkler](#) with any questions.

THE COMMUNITY WITHIN: DISCOVERING AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY IN RURAL OHIO – ZOOM EVENT

The Social Action Commission and the Rural Life chapters invite you to join them for an evening of learning with Prof. Rick Sheffield from Kenyon College. Many rural areas in Ohio have long-established black communities that are often invisible to the larger white communities in which they reside. This program relates the adventure of reclaiming the lost history of African Americans in Knox County, Ohio while explaining the benefits of including minority populations within celebrations of heritage and sharing strategies for undertaking such projects. Join us via Zoom at <https://catholiccincinnati.zoom.us/j/94428908376> on **Tuesday, September 29, at 7:00 p.m.** Contact [Andrew Musgrave](#) with any questions.

LAUDATO SI' COMMUNITIES RECOGNITION EVENT – ZOOM EVENT

On **Sunday, October 4 – the Feast of St. Francis – at 2:00 p.m.**, the Care for Creation Task Force will recognize our third class of Laudato Si' Communities. These parishes and schools have committed themselves to the care of God's creation, and we will honor them for their hard work. Please join us via Zoom at <https://catholiccincinnati.zoom.us/j/98064457964> to join us in celebrating these communities and learn more about the program. Contact [Andrew Musgrave](#) with any questions.

FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP ON OCTOBER 6, 2020

St. John Parish, West Chester and the Social Action office are hosting a Faithful Citizenship presentation on Tuesday, October 6 at 7:00 p.m. With another election cycle in full swing, we are faced with the challenges of living our faith, loving our neighbors, and being good citizens in a divisive political climate. This presentation will explain why Catholics must be engaged in the political process and provide guidance on how to do so faithfully and with civility. To register, please send an email to amesewicz@stjohnwc.org by October 1.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE SR. DOROTHY STANG AWARD DUE SEPTEMBER 15

Honor one of your parishioners! The Mission Office invites all pastors to offer a name to the Mission Office of a parishioner or family who lives out some of the values of our own Sr. Dorothy Stang of Dayton, martyred in Amazon forests in 2005. Is there someone in your school or parish who reaches out to the poor and across cultures, really cares for God's creation, or lives out Catholic Social teaching? For a nomination form, please contact [Sr. Eileen Connelly](#). **Nominations are due September 15, 2020.** A certificate will be mailed to you by the end of September to be given at Mass, preferably on October 11, the weekend before World Mission Sunday.

WITH ZEAL AND PATIENCE: THE ROLE OF THE PARISH WORSHIP COMMISSION

Tuesday, September 15, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Encourage your new, potential, and veteran members of the parish worship commission to participate in this online workshop on their role in promoting the sacred liturgy in our faith communities. [Find more information and register here.](#)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

ONE-DAY CONVOCATION FOR PRIESTS

This event scheduled for Tuesday, October 20 has been cancelled. Instead look for information for special deanery meetings regarding future planning for parish ministry in the Archdiocese.

NO SENIOR CLERGY LUNCHEON THIS FALL

There will be no Senior Clergy Luncheon this fall due to the Covid-19 concerns. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Frohmiller at 513.263.6651.

TWO DEACONS GRANTED SENIOR STATUS

Deacon John Corson, ordained on April 24, 2004, has been granted Senior Status effective August 1, 2020 from his assignment as a deacon at Corpus Christi Parish in Cincinnati. Deacon Corson retains his faculties as a deacon of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and the title deacon.

Deacon James A. Miller, ordained on June 21, 1986, has been granted Senior Status effective August 1, 2020 from his assignment as a deacon at St. Columban Parish in Loveland. Deacon Miller retains his faculties as a deacon of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and the title deacon.

BICENTENNIAL EVENTS DELAYED

Because of Covid-19, the events and initiatives related to the Archdiocesan bicentennial (June 19, 2021) are now scheduled to begin in spring 2021 and will continue through spring 2022. This change will hopefully allow activities to take place at a time when there will be fewer precautions necessary. The events planned for spring 2021 (including a Marian pilgrimage, anniversary vespers, and anniversary Mass) are expected to take place as scheduled. **Per Archbishop Schnurr's January 2020 invitation, please continue to plan ways to celebrate this milestone at your parish and/or school.**

FROM THE SAFE ENVIRONMENT OFFICE

As the school year begins, we would like to remind all parish/school employees and volunteers of the requirements of the Decree on Child Protection. All employees and volunteers are required to have attended live VIRTUS training (Protecting God's Children) once. In addition, employees are required to complete an online background check, manual fingerprint, and B4 form once prior to beginning employment. Ohio Department of Education licensees may have additional requirements and should check with their school office or athletic departments if there are any questions. Volunteers are required to complete an online background check prior to volunteering with youth. Employees and volunteers are required to stay current in reading monthly VIRTUS bulletins.

Local Safe Environment Coordinators will inactivate any VIRTUS account if all background requirements are not complete or if an individual is 3 or more behind in reading monthly bulletins. Any person with an inactive account is not permitted to work with or volunteer with youth.

Please check with your local Safe Environment Coordinator if you have any questions regarding these requirements. Thank you for all you are doing and please stay safe and healthy!

A REQUEST FROM THE HR DEPARTMENT

The HR Department respectfully requests that when you email HR, please include an address block with your location and, above all, a phone number. Doing so makes it much easier for us to efficiently respond to the volume of emails we receive. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Rob Reid at 513.263.6611 or Meg Paul at 513.263.3341.

THANKS FOR ACCOMMODATING THE MISSIONARY COOPERATION PLAN!

The Mission Office deeply appreciates the patience, generosity, and kindness of our pastors toward the missionaries who were assigned this summer to take up donations for their dioceses and religious orders. Working around the Covid pandemic has been very difficult for us all.

Please do not send these collections to the AOC Finance Office or the missionary organizations. They need to be properly recorded in the Mission Office for Vatican records at: **Mission Office, Archdiocese of Cincinnati, 100 E. Eighth St., Cincinnati, Ohio, 45202**. Any questions or problems? Contact our MCP Coordinator, [Melonise Knight](#) (513.263.6681). If necessary, contact [Dr. Mike Gable](#) (513.263.6680).

PROJECT RACHEL

Project Rachel will not be offering an overnight retreat this Fall due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Rather, we are offering two Days of Reflection to serve anyone who has suffered from an abortion experience, September 12 and October 3. This is an in-person day retreat with safety measures in place to protect the health of all participating. Please click [here](#) for more details.

GIVING TUESDAY INITIATIVE – NEW GIVING PLATFORM, LOWER FEES

We are excited to announce that the Archdiocese of Cincinnati will be partnering with Give Central to bring you #GiveCatholicAOC on Giving Tuesday, December 1, 2020. Give Central will be the new online giving provider and platform for Giving Tuesday as we will no longer be participating with the national iGiveCatholic organization. Give Central will provide the same type of donation page as past years, but offers a lower transaction fee per donation.

There is NO COST to participate with a donation page and parishes, schools and Catholic non-profit organizations will once again have the opportunity to raise funds online for their own local needs.

We hope that you consider being a part of the largest world-wide day of giving on Giving Tuesday. For questions about #GiveCatholicAOC, email [Teresa Meyer](#). To learn more or to register, visit www.aocstewardship.org/givecatholicaoc.

REBRANDING TO MTSM AND NEW COURSE STRUCTURE

On July 1, the Athenaeum of Ohio rebranded to Mount St. Mary's Seminary & School of Theology (MTSM). As part of the rebranding process, the institution restructured from having divisions for the Seminary, Diaconate Program and Special Studies into two distinct components – the Seminary and the School of Theology.

"Our Seminary prepares candidates for the priesthood both in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and nationally," said Fr. Anthony Brausch, Ph.D., President & Rector at MTSM. "Additionally, our Seminary is a leading center for forming deacons through our Diaconate Program. Our School of Theology is designed to prepare lay men and women to answer the call of Christ to minister to those in need."

In the restructure, **Fr. David Endres** will continue as the Dean of the Seminary while **Fr. Ryan Ruiz** will serve as the Dean of the School of Theology.

"Fr. Endres and Fr. Ruiz are both highly credentialed experts in their fields," said Fr. Brausch. "Their leadership skills and dedication to excellence in providing a theological education will help us achieve our mission of forming men and women to faithfully follow Christ by fulfilling their vocations in the Church."

In addition to serving as the Dean of the Seminary, Fr. Endres is the Associate Professor of Church History & Historical Theology and the Editor of *U.S. Catholic Historian*. He completed his seminary studies at MTSM and was ordained in 2009. Following his ordination, he was assigned to St. Albert the Great Parish in Kettering, Ohio and to the faculty of Bishop Fenwick High School in Middletown. Fr. Endres has been a faculty member at MTSM since 2011. He received his B.A. from Xavier University, his M.Div. from MTMS, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the Catholic University of America.

"We're excited about the opportunity to maintain and enhance the quality of academic programs at MTSM," said Fr. Endres. "With nearly 200 students registered for the coming year, we're looking forward to providing an engaging and personalized experience for them."

Fr. Ruiz will continue his role as the Director of Liturgy at MTSM in addition to serving as the Dean of the School of Theology. He is also the Assistant Professor of Liturgy & Sacraments. He completed his seminary studies at MTSM and was ordained in 2008. Fr. Ruiz has been a faculty member at MTSM since 2016. He received his B.A. from Denison University, his M.Div. and M.A. from MTSM, and his S.L.L. and S.L.D. from Pontificio Istituto Liturgico, Sant'Anselmo in Rome.

"As our country continues to find a new normal as a result of COVID-19, we're ready for our students to continue their studies this fall," said Fr. Ruiz. "We have a renewed sense of purpose and gratitude and look forward to preparing our students for their vocation of serving Christ."

MTSM is the Archdiocese of Cincinnati's graduate-level Catholic Seminary and School of Theology with nearly 200 full and part-time students. Founded in 1829, our 75-acre campus provides preparation for ordination to the priesthood and permanent diaconate as part of Mount St. Mary's Seminary. In addition, our School of Theology offers classes for graduate, non-degree and certification programs for laity, clergy, and religious.

For additional information about MTSM or to schedule a tour please contact advancement@athenaeum.edu or 513.231.2223.

BULLETIN ENTRIES

BEING PRO LIFE - Each month an important respect life topic is covered by an engaging interview with someone personally affected by the issue. You can find each *Being Pro-Life* column in *The Catholic Telegraph*, but you need to go online to watch the video or listen to the podcast. This month's topic is **Bioethical Issues (ethical vaccines, birth control, ethical infertility help and extraordinary care for end-of-life issues)**. Invite your parishioners, family and friends to check out the link at www.catholiccincinnati.org/Being-Pro-Life!

PROJECT RACHEL - Join us September 12 (Cincinnati) or October 3 (Dayton) for a Day of Reflection serving anyone who has been impacted by the tragedy of an abortion experience. This could be a mother, father, grandparent, or aunt or uncle who is mourning the loss of a child to abortion. The day is a chance to prayerfully open our hearts to receive God's mercy and love in the face of our loss. There is no cost to attend. There are safety measures in place to ensure the health of all who participate. Please visit www.catholiccincinnati.org/project-rachel to register or for more information.

SIGN UP TO PRAY A MINUTE - Do you believe in the power of prayer? Do you believe that our country is in desperate need of peace, justice and goodwill? If so, then go to www.PrayAMinute.com and pledge to pray just **one minute** more than you already do, every day, for the specific intention of peace, justice and goodwill. The site also contains inspiring reflections and useful prayer resources. Catholics from across the archdiocese are uniting in prayer from now until January 1, the World Day of Prayer for Peace, for the spiritual renewal of our country. Please join this movement!

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH AND THE VICTIMS OF ABUSE - The Archdiocese of Cincinnati will observe the third annual Day of Prayer for the Church and the Victims of Abuse on Friday, September 11. Archbishop Dennis Schnurr will preside that day at 11:30 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains. Here at [Parish Name], we will observe this day at [Mass Times]. Let us join together in prayer for healing and peace.

SURVIVING DIVORCE - The Eastside Region is pleased to announce an exciting new ministry that will bring hope and healing to those who have experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage. Surviving Divorce is for newly separated and divorced individuals as well as those still struggling with issues many years later. The fall session takes place September 8 to November 24 on Tuesday evenings, 7:00-8:30 p.m., at St. Cecilia Church in Oakley. For more information or to register, contact Stephanie Ramsey at skb.steph@yahoo.com or 513.331.0358.

ANGELICO CATHOLIC ARTS GUILD - Named for Blessed Fra Angelico, patron saint of artists, the Guild's mission is to enrich the faith and work of artists; to nurture a taste for goodness, a longing for truth, and a love of beauty; to deepen the artist's relationship with God; and to create networks of artists in friendships, collaborations and mentorships. If you are a Catholic artist in the greater Cincinnati area, please find out more at <https://angelicoproject.org/arts-guild/>.

CAREGIVER NEWS - Catholic Charities encourages caregiver wellness with online groups, workshops and education sessions, telephone support calls, and limited in-person support programs, including respite services. If you know of a caregiver who needs encouragement and support, please tell them about our Caregiver Assistance Network and have them call Angie Homoelle at 513.672.3834 or visit our website at <https://ccswoh.org/programs/caregiver-assistance-network/> for the program calendar. The Caregiver Assistance Network is a program of Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio funded through the Council on Aging.

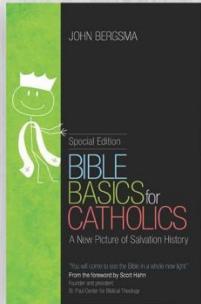
MINISTRY TO SURVIVORS OF ABUSE (REPORTING) - The Archdiocese of Cincinnati regards child abuse in all its forms as gravely sinful and criminal. Anyone who knows of or suspects child abuse by a legitimate member of the clergy or hierarchy, employee, or volunteer of the Archdiocese should first report the abuse to the appropriate secular legal authority and then to Ms. Teresa Maley, Coordinator of Ministry to Survivors of Abuse of the Archdiocese, at 513.263.6623 or 1.800.686.2724 ext. 6623.

Share the Faith

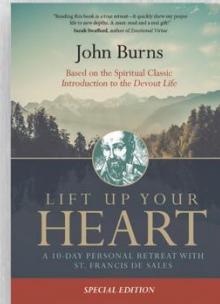
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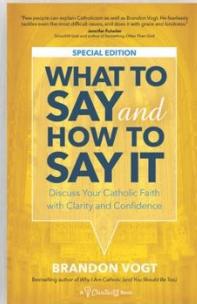
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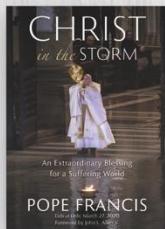
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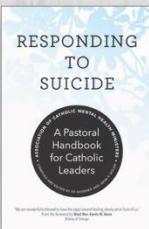


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