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## CLERGY COMMUNICATIONS

100 E Eighth Street Cincinnati, OH 45202

*Clergy Communications is a monthly publication of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati*

### **ACTION REQUIRED**

#### **RITE OF ELECTION & CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION**

Due to the ongoing public health concern, the Rite of Election & Call to Continuing Conversion will take place in **parishes** on the First Sunday of Lent (February 21, 2021), not in large archdiocesan celebrations. Archbishop Schnurr delegates the priests and deacons of the Archdiocese to celebrate this liturgy in their parishes, with preference being that the pastor celebrate the rite if possible (cf. RCIA #12, 34, 121). This replaces the Rite of Sending which would normally take place in the parish on this day (cf. RCIA #106). More guidance on celebrating this important Lenten liturgy can be found on the [ODWS website](#).

#### **THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU**

This annual archdiocesan-wide synchronous celebration of the Sacrament of Penance will not take place in 2021. As always, parishes are encouraged to ensure ample opportunity for the faithful to celebrate this sacrament.

#### **SAVE THE DATE FOR SPRING CONVOCATION FOR PRIESTS**

A one-day Spring convocation for priests is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21 at Incarnation Parish. The main topic is Racism.

#### **NEW CLERGY SAVE THE DATE FOR SUMMER PROGRAMS**

- Newly Ordained Priest Formation (for priests ordained in 2018, 2019 and 2020):  
**June 7, 2021 through June 21, 2021**
- Recent Pastor Formation (for first-time pastors appointed in 2018, 2019 and 2020, and those ordained 2006 and after):  
**June 14, 2021 through June 17, 2021**
- Continuing Intellectual Formation (for all priests). Theme – “The Wrath of God”.  
**June 21, 2021 – June 24, 2021.**

These programs will be held at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary & School of Theology.

## **OCT. 2020 WORLD MISSION SUNDAY COLLECTION & ENVELOPES REQUESTED ASAP**

Many of the 1,200 mission dioceses are struggling with the pandemic as they strive to train their own priests, sisters and catechists. So, the Mission Office is very appreciative to our parishes for their quick response in mailing in their World Mission Sunday collections and envelopes to: **Mission Office, Archdiocese of Cincinnati, 100 E. 8<sup>th</sup> St., Cincinnati, OH 45202.**

## **HAS YOUR PARISH SENT IN YOUR MISSIONARY CO-OP PLAN (MCP) COLLECTIONS FROM 2019 AND 2020?**

The Mission Office is very grateful for the many pastors who still took up the collections for various mission organizations this year despite the pandemic. As you can imagine, these missionary orders and dioceses are now especially anxious for their donations as their needs are greater than ever. So please quickly mail in any remaining MCP collections to the **Mission Office, Archdiocese of Cincinnati, 100 E. 8<sup>th</sup> St., Cincinnati, OH 45202.** Please indicate **which year** those funds were collected for **which missionary organization.** New MCP selections are made in January 2021 and we wish to not confuse these collections with last year's donations. **Please do not** send those donations to the missionary organization as they must first be recorded by the Mission Office for the Vatican. Any questions or comments? Contact [Melonise Knight](mailto:Melonise.Knight@archdioceseofcincinnati.org) at 513.263.6681.

## **OHIO MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE**

On January 1, 2021, the Ohio minimum wage increased to \$8.80 per hour. The minimum wage increase is the result of a constitutional amendment passed by voters in November 2006. The amendment requires the Ohio minimum wage to increase on January 1 of each year by the rate of inflation. The increase is tied to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the prior 12-month period as of September 30, 2020. As a result of this increase, **please make sure that none of your employees are being paid less than \$8.80 an hour beginning January 1, 2021.** For questions about this increase, contact [Rob Reid](mailto:Rob.Reid@archdioceseofcincinnati.org) 513.263.6611 or [Meg Paul](mailto:Meg.Paul@archdioceseofcincinnati.org) 513.263.3341.

## **OHIO & FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT COMBINATION POSTER**

All locations, regardless of size, are required to post the Federal & State Employment Poster. It is your responsibility to have this poster displayed in a public location. You can find companies that sell a combination poster. One location we have used is [All In One Posters](http://www.allinoneposters.com) (714.521.7720). The cost is \$19.95. A laminated poster is \$21.95.

## **OPTIONAL**

### **LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION FOR PRIESTS**

The Lenten Day of Reflection will be on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at the Transfiguration Center in West Milton, Ohio. Our speaker will be Monsignor Frank Lane. Coffee will be available at 10:15 a.m. and Morning Prayer (Lauds) at 10:45 a.m., with the program following. There will be a catered lunch and an opportunity for the Sacrament of Penance. The day ends about 2:30 p.m. Watch for a flyer with more information.

### **SPRING RETREAT FOR PRIESTS**

The Spring Retreat for Priests has been scheduled for Monday, March 8, 2021 through Friday, March 12, 2021 at Maria Stein Spiritual Center. The speaker will be the Most Reverend Bernard Schlessinger, Auxiliary Bishop of Atlanta. Watch for a flyer with more information.

### **BEACONS OF LIGHT EMAIL LIST**

You may recall from the Presbyteral Convocation that we are planning to begin monthly communications about Beacons of Light early in the new year. Priests will automatically be included in the e-newsletter distribution list of these monthly updates, but hope that parish staff, other parish leaders and interested parishioners will sign up for the e-newsletter as well. [Sign up here](#) and please share the notice in the Bulletin Entries section across all of your media.

### **PERMANENT DEACON APPLICATION CYCLE TO BEGIN**

Men of the Archdiocese who are interested in applying for the Permanent Deacon Formation class which will begin in September 2022 should email [Deacon Mark Machuga](#), Director of the Office of the Diaconate, or call 513.263.6641. The application cycle for the next class will begin in early 2021. Prerequisites, qualifications and procedures will be discussed with each man considering the Diaconate.

### **ENGAGE WITH CATHOLIC CHARITIES**

As we begin the new year and are able to look forward to a day when we are able to gather together again, the time is right to consider new ways for parishioners to unite in learning and in service. Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio offers both, with a wide array of volunteer opportunities along with speakers on topics ranging from mental health to immigration and refugee services to food distribution in our rural counties. If you would like to learn more, visit [our website](#). Mary Anne Bressler, Parish and Community Engagement Coordinator, is available to discuss ways in which Catholic Charities can partner with parishes to serve the Lord by serving others. Call 513.762.3714 or email [mbressler@ccswoh.org](mailto:mbressler@ccswoh.org).

### **NOW AND AT THE HOUR OF OUR DEATH:**

#### **ONLINE WORKSHOP FOR FUNERAL AND MEDICAL PRE-PLANNING**

**Wednesday, February 3, 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm or Thursday, February 4, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

It's never too soon to begin thinking about our own funeral, end-of-life care, and who will be making decisions on our behalf. Join us to learn about how to get started on planning a Catholic funeral and what the Church teaches on key end-of-life issues. Topics include pre-planning the three stages of the Catholic funeral, what the Church really teaches about cremation, how to approach difficult end-of-life decisions (life support, medical power of attorney, etc.) with your loved ones from a Catholic perspective, and more. [Register for free online](#).

### **VOCATIONS DIRECTOR AVAILABLE TO SPEAK AT YOUR PARISH OR SCHOOL**

Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer, Director of Vocations, is available to come to your parish to preach on vocations at weekend Masses, celebrate school Masses, speak to the students in their classrooms, or speak to PSR classes, youth groups and young adult groups. If you would like to schedule a time, or if you know of a young man in your parish who may be discerning a vocation to the priesthood, please contact [Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer](#).

### **SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD (JAN. 24)**

Celebrate the 2nd annual Sunday of the Word of God in your parish. [Explore resources from the U.S. Catholic Bishops here](#).

## **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

### ***ASH WEDNESDAY 2021 COLLECTION***

The collection to aid the Church in Central & Eastern Europe or the Church in Africa will take place on **Ash Wednesday, February 17**. Please send the collection money to the Archdiocesan Finance Office in a timely manner for forwarding to the USCCB office. Be sure to designate to which collection fund – Central & Eastern Europe or Africa – the monies should go.

### ***CLERGY COMMUNICATIONS - INDEX 2020***

The *Index* for all the 2020 *Clergy Communications* is posted on the [website](#).

### ***CONSECRATED AND RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS MINISTERS AVAILABLE TO SPEAK AT PARISHES AND SCHOOLS***

The Office of Consecrated Life has a panel of speakers with a 45 minute presentation on the vocation to consecrated life as well as a list of individual Vocation ministers who are available to visit schools and parish religion classes throughout the school year. Please consider having a consecrated religious woman or man come speak with your students about vocations **in person or virtually**. For more information, email [Maria Reinagel](#) or call 513.263.6683.

### ***CHAMPIONS OF MERCY: PARTNERS IN HOPE***

The works of mercy Catholic Charities provides to the poor and vulnerable would not be possible without the partnership of other local agencies, parish communities and individuals, many of whom stepped up and exemplified sacrifice and above-and-beyond service to ensure that families had food, kept their housing and could seek new employment in face of the challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic. Some of those community members were celebrated on November 10 at Catholic Charities' online event, *Champions of Mercy: Partners in Hope*. We will need the help of many more Champions of Mercy as we continue into 2021. A recap of the event, showcasing the efforts of our partners, can be found [on the Catholic Charities website](#).

### ***THE HR DEPARTMENT RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS THAT...***

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.

### ***TERMINATION/UNEMPLOYMENT WORKSHEET***

When completing the Termination/Unemployment Worksheet, if it is a voluntary separation, under the line of contesting unemployment, you should check the "yes" box rather than the "no" box. If you have any questions, please contact [Rob Reid](#) at 513.263.6611.

### ***NEW EFFORT BY DAYTON RIGHT TO LIFE TO CLOSE LOCAL ABORTION CENTER***

There is a new campaign organized by Dayton Right to Life in an effort to end the transfer agreement between the abortion clinic, Women's Med Center, and the Wright State Physicians. More information can be found at [www.daytonlife.org](http://www.daytonlife.org). If you have any questions concerning this campaign, please do not hesitate to contact Dayton Right to Life directly at [info@daytonlife.org](mailto:info@daytonlife.org).

## **CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL (CMA) RESOURCES**

All resources for the 2021 CMA are available at [www.aocstewardship.org/cma/](http://www.aocstewardship.org/cma/) under the "CMA Info for Parish Staff" section. The password to access this section is "cma2007".

## **KEY WEEKENDS FOR THE 2021 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL (CMA)**

- Announcement Weekend: January 23/24, 2021
- Commitment Weekend: February 6/7, 2021

*Please Note:* There will be a weekend in between the Announcement and Commitment weekends to allow for Catholic Schools Week celebrations in parishes.

## **2021 CMA VIDEO**

To help promote the CMA, parishes are asked to share this year's CMA video on websites and/or social media pages. The video is posted at [www.aocstewardship.org/cma/](http://www.aocstewardship.org/cma/). If you need help embedding the video on your website, or for more information or questions about the CMA, please email [Matt Reinkemeyer](mailto:Matt.Reinkemeyer) or call him at 513.263.6672.

## **BULLETIN ENTRIES**

**EXPLORE RELIGIOUS LIFE** - Avow Discernment Group will be meeting Tuesday, January 12, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at the Holy Spirit Center, 5440 Moeller Avenue, Norwood, OH 45212. Build relationships and community with others on a similar spiritual journey and discover what your discernment steps could look like. Men and women welcome. #Cincyconseclife Maria Reinagel 513.278.8220.

**PERMANENT DEACON APPLICATION CYCLE TO BEGIN** - Men of the archdiocese who are interested in applying for the Permanent Deacon Formation class which will begin in September 2022 should contact Deacon Mark Machuga, Director of the Office of the Diaconate, at 513.263.6641 or [deaconoffice@catholicaoc.org](mailto:deaconoffice@catholicaoc.org). The application cycle for the next class will begin in early 2021. Prerequisites, qualifications and procedures will be discussed with each man considering the Diaconate.

**"PRAYING IN SOLIDARITY" WEEKLY LIVE-STREAMED PRAYER SERVICE** - Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio and the archdiocesan Catholic Social Action Office invite you to join us every Monday at 11:00 am on <https://www.facebook.com/CatholicCharitiesSWOhio> to pray for the needs of our community. Everyone is invited to submit prayer intentions at <http://www.ccswoh.org/prayers>. Catholic Charities is seeking volunteers to co-present the prayer service. Fluency in another language is welcome but not required. To learn more or to volunteer, contact Mary Anne Bressler at [mbressler@ccswoh.org](mailto:mbressler@ccswoh.org). Your participation and prayers are appreciated.

**VOLUNTEER CAREGIVING OPPORTUNITIES** - Are you at home looking for an opportunity to communicate with those that are Homebound? Would you like to brighten someone's day with your friendly voice by phone? Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio, <https://www.ccswoh.org> has the perfect opportunities for you! We need help making phone support calls through our Heart of Mary Phone Reassurance Program. We also need class leaders for Powerful Tools for Caregivers (PTC), an evidence-based self-care class for caregivers. All materials and training provided, VIRTUS certification required. Call 513.535.2291 for more information or visit <https://tinyurl.com/CCSWOHSCSS> to apply to become a Heart of Mary phone support specialist or PTC class leader today!

**NOW AND AT THE HOUR OF OUR DEATH: ONLINE WORKSHOP FOR FUNERAL AND MEDICAL PRE-PLANNING** - Wednesday, Feb. 3, 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm or Thursday, Feb. 4, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm. - It's never too soon to begin thinking about our own funeral, end-of-life care, and who will be making decisions on our behalf. Join us to learn about how to get started on planning a Catholic funeral and what the Church teaches on key end-of-life issues. Topics include pre-planning the three stages of the Catholic funeral, what the Church really teaches about cremation, how to approach difficult end-of-life decisions (life support, medical power of attorney, etc.) with your loved ones from a Catholic perspective and more. To register for free online, go to: <https://resources.catholicaoc.org/event/now-and-at-the-hour-of-our-death/all>.

**CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION ANNOUNCEMENT** - The Catholic Education Foundation for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati is once again providing needs-based tuition assistance grants to elementary school students for the 2020-2021 school year. Applications will be accepted through February 8, 2021. For more information and to apply, visit [www.catholicbestchoice.org](http://www.catholicbestchoice.org).

**LEGATUS - CINCINNATI CHAPTER** - Legatus is an international organization of practicing Catholic laity who are CEO's, Presidents and Managing Partners from the business community and professional enterprises. Its mission is "To study, live and spread the Catholic faith in our business, professional and personal lives." Monthly local chapter meetings include Confession, Rosary and celebration of Mass followed by dinner and outstanding local and national speakers. We have local small-group advisory forums and two annual national conferences. Legatus also sponsors international travel and pilgrimages with fellow members to sites including the Holy Land, Oberammergau, Medjugorje, and Guadalupe (Mexico City). Interested in learning more? Contact Jim Akers at [jakers@akerspkg.com](mailto:jakers@akerspkg.com) or 513.435.0506.

**INTRODUCING BEACONS OF LIGHT: PASTORAL PLANNING FOR OUR THIRD CENTURY** - Archbishop Schnurr has announced the next phase of pastoral planning, called "Beacons of Light." The process is designed to foster vital parish life throughout the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, leading all to radiate Christ in our homes, places of work, schools, parishes and the wider world. Sign up at <https://catholicaoc.org/beacons#newsletter> to receive the free Beacons of Light e-newsletter which will provide monthly prayers, reflections and planning process updates beginning mid-January 2021.

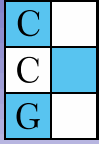
**ADDICTION RECOVERY PROGRAM AT CATHEDRAL BASILICA** - Catholic in Recovery is a nonprofit organization that serves those suffering from addictions and unhealthy attachments - including alcoholism, drug addiction, pornography addiction, sex and relationship addiction, compulsive overeating and food addictions, gambling addiction, etc. The Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains offers this program, based on twelve-step recovery and the sacramental love and mercy provided by the Catholic Church, on Sundays, 7:00-8:00 p.m., in the Undercroft. For more information, contact Stephanie Ramsey at 513.331.0358 or [skb\\_steph@yahoo.com](mailto:skb_steph@yahoo.com).

**SURVIVING DIVORCE** - The Eastside Region is pleased to announce that registration for the winter session of Surviving Divorce: Hope & Healing for the Catholic Family is now open. Surviving Divorce is for newly separated and divorced individuals as well as those still struggling with issues many years later. The winter session takes place January 27 to April 28 on Tuesday evenings, 7:00-8:30 p.m., at St. Cecilia Church in Oakley. Register at <https://eastsidefaith.org/surviving-divorce>. If you have any questions, contact Stephanie Ramsey at 513.331.0358 or [skb\\_steph@yahoo.com](mailto:skb_steph@yahoo.com).

**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/>.

**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.





# Crystal Creek Glass

COLUMBARIA



## CUSTOM COLUMBARIA

We are proud to bring the biggest innovation to columbaria in the last century, our columbaria and niches are the future of premium memorials all over the country.

## BUILT to last

*Our columbarium system is patent pending*

### 1. Stainless-Steel

- Our columbarium unit is built out of all stainless-steel plates and custom aluminum extrusion.

### 2. Ceramic Inks

- We use ceramic inks to print on 3/8" thick glass, which is then tempered into the glass surface.

### 3. Tempered Safety Glass

- The front, back, and sides are all typically, 3/8" safety glass. Tempering makes the glass five times stronger. The strength of tempered glass makes glass an excellent alternative to granite, and provides more versatility and choice of expression for customers.

### 4. Capstone

- Our capstone can be built using either granite or 3/8" thick tempered safety glass if a lighter weight option is desired.

### 5. Base

- The base of our unit can either be built using granite or concrete depending on the client's preference.

### 6. Security

- Each niche is protected by specialty stainless-steel security screws, and is also individually removable. In addition, each unit is protected from the elements by a silicone gasket.

## INSCRIPTION Options



Inscriptions engraved on the aluminum extrusion.



Inscriptions engraved on the glass niche front.



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