



ACTION REQUIRED

OHIO MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

On January 1, 2020, the Ohio minimum wage increased to \$8.70 per hour. The minimum wage increase is the result of a constitutional amendment passed by voters in November 2006. As a result of this increase, please make sure that none of your employees are being paid less than \$8.70 an hour beginning January 1, 2020. For questions about the minimum wage increase, contact [Rob Reid](#) 513.263.6611 or [Meg Paul](#) 513.263.3341.

OHIO & FEDERAL LABOR LAW COMBINATION POSTER

All locations, regardless of size, are required to post the Federal & State Labor Law Poster. It is your responsibility to have this poster displayed in a public location. You can readily find companies that sell a combination poster. One location we have used is [All In One Posters](#) (1.800.273.0307). The cost is \$19.95.

RITE OF ELECTION & CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION

The Rite of Election is taking place on the First Sunday of Lent, March 1, at the Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains, Cincinnati, at 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Dayton, at 3:30 p.m. ONLY. More information and the reservation form for catechumens and candidates will be posted on the [ODWS website](#) at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, January 7. **Completed reservation forms are due to the ODWS by Wednesday, January 23.** Names on forms received after this date will not be included in the program, nor will changes to a previously submitted form if received after this date. Please let us know on the reservation form if there are any individuals with special needs attending the Rite of Election so we can accommodate them accordingly.

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD – JANUARY 26

You can find resources to celebrate the first annual Sunday of the Word of God on January 26, 2020 on the [website of the Office for Divine Worship & Sacraments](#). Resources are available for parish liturgies, families, and more!

THANK YOU FOR MAILING IN BOTH MISSION COLLECTIONS:

- **Your October 20, 2019 World Mission Sunday Collection & Envelopes are requested ASAP.** On behalf of the 1,150 mission dioceses working to train their own priests, sisters and catechists, the Mission Office is grateful 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. Eighth Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202.**
- **Have you sent in your MCP (Missionary Co-op Plan) collections from 2018 and 2019?**

Many of these missionary orders and dioceses are anxious for their donations as their needs are often over whelming. Please mail in any remaining MCP collections to the same address, per above. Please indicate **which year** those funds were collected and for **which missionary organization**. New MCP selections are made in January 2020 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. Thank you so much for your hospitality and generosity to them as many serve in very difficult mission situations. Pray for them too! Any questions or comments? Email [Melonise Knight](mailto:Melonise.Knight) or call at 513.263.6681.

OPTIONAL

MEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT

The Vocations Office is hosting a Men's Discernment retreat for men college age and older on January 10-12 at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center in Norwood. There is no cost for this retreat. For more information or to register, see the [website](#) or call Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer at 513.263.3390.

VOCATION NIGHT

Mount St. Mary's Seminary of the West is hosting a Vocation Night for college age men and older on Wednesday, January 29 from 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 pm. For more information or to register, see the [website](#) or call Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer at 513.263.3390.

DISCERNMENT DINNER – DAYTON

On February 19 at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Church, 1924 Leo Street, Dayton, join other young adults in the Archdiocese to meet and learn from Consecrated men and women in the area. This dinner is open to all young adults (aged 18-35) who want to learn more about Religious and Consecrated life. We welcome everyone – from the mildly curious to the serious discerners! Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Office of Consecrated Life and Cincinnati area Vocation Directors. For more information, contact [Maria Reinagel](#) or 513.263.6683.

LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION FOR PRIESTS

The Lenten Day of Reflection for Priests will be on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at the Transfiguration Center at West Milton. Monsignor Frank Lane will be the speaker. A flyer will be mailed out in mid-February.

SPRING RETREAT FOR PRIESTS

The Spring Retreat for Priests is scheduled for March 16-20, 2020 at the Maria Stein Spiritual Center. Our speaker will be Reverend Thomas Buffer, S.T.D., of the Diocese of Columbus. More information to come.

MARCH FOR LIFE SEND-OFFS!

Please use the bulletin entry in the "Bulletin Entries" section to invite your parishioners to attend either of two send-offs for the March for Life in the Cincinnati and Dayton areas, Thursday evening, January 23.

PROMOTE CATHOLIC UNIVERSAL SOLIDARITY THIS LENT! ... IN YOUR ADULT ED, SCHOOL AND/OR PSR!

In Pope John Paul II's encyclical *On Social Concerns* he urged that the Christian response to increasing interdependence in the world should be the moral and social attitude, the virtue, of solidarity. In our archdiocese we are blessed to have missionaries returned from or who are originally from Mexico, Central and South America, Caribbean, Appalachia, U.S. Southwest, Chile, Uganda, India, Vietnam, etc. They wish to share their love for the Lord and solidarity with others by sharing their experience and stories with your students and adult groups. Let the Mission Office help your PSR director, adult ed. leader, and school principal organize a visit or longer program of global solidarity this Lent. Email [Dr. Mike Gable](mailto:Dr.Mike.Gable) or call 513.263.6680.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL)?

Currently, deaf individuals (not just deaf Catholics) are hindered from participating fully in most Churches due to the communication barrier. This is a great opportunity to bring the New Evangelization to your parish and share the Word of God with those on the extreme margins of society. Currently, only one or two priests in the entire Archdiocese of Cincinnati knows ASL. If you would like more information about learning ASL, please contact [Adam Frazier](mailto:Adam.Frazier).

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES (CRS) RICE BOWL - IMPORTANT UPDATE

Every few years, CRS goes through a clean-up process in order to be better stewards of our CRS Rice Bowl resources. For this coming year only, **parishes need to make a proactive order or they will not receive rice bowls.** CRS has and will continue to send notices about this with a response card. Parishes can send in the card or can make their order [online](#).

BRING LENT TO LIFE WITH CRS RICE BOWL

Through CRS Rice Bowl, we journey with members of our global human family and commit our Lenten prayers, fasting, and almsgiving to deepening our faith and serving those in need. There is something to deepen everyone's Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. There are lessons and prayers for all ages, videos, reflections, Stations of the Cross, and even delicious yet simple recipes to share as a community or a family. Contact [Sara Seligmann](mailto:Sara.Seligmann) for more information or visit [here](#).

2020 GLOBAL SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE: "FOR I WAS HUNGRY..."

February 29, 9:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m. University of Dayton – Kennedy Union Ballroom. Keynote speaker: Olga Canelas is the system administrator for M.E.A.L. at CRS Honduras. The food for education project in Tegucigalpa improves the literacy of school-age children by providing student meals and materials, and training for teachers and community members. **2 Vocare credits available** and a discount for 3+ registrants from one parish. To learn more and to register, [click here](#).

ADVERTISE WITH THE CATHOLIC TELEGRAPH

To reach 135,000 Catholic households with your message, please contact [Deacon Graham Galloway](mailto:Deacon.Graham.Galloway), Advertising Sales Director with *The Catholic Telegraph*, at 513.263.6638. We offer both print and digital advertising options. We are happy to collaborate on the right advertising strategy and even create your ad, if needed.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

SERVANT OF GOD LUISA PICCARRETA AND DIVINE WILL

Within the last couple of months, the Office of the Archbishop has once again received a number of inquiries regarding the Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta and Divine Will gatherings based upon her writings and spirituality. The Archbishop wrote on this matter in September 2010 and January 2016.

The directive of the Archbishop of Trani, where Luisa lived and died, remains in place: "individuals, groups, and associations anywhere in the world that are inspired by the spirituality of Luisa Piccarreta must keep constantly in touch with the bishops of their own diocese in order to submit to their discernment any of their activities such as conventions, days of retreat or prayer meetings."

In the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Archbishop Schnurr has not given approval for conventions, days of retreat, or prayer meetings inspired by the spirituality of Luisa Piccarreta.

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.

CLERGY COMMUNICATIONS - INDEX 2019

The *Index* for the *2019 Clergy Communications* is posted on the [website](#).

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Catholic Schools Week for 2020 begins on Sunday, January 26. During this week, we will celebrate the distinguished history and excellence of our Catholic schools. Our schools are planning many events in recognition of this week. Bishop Binzer will celebrate Catholic Schools Week Mass in Cincinnati on Tuesday, January 28 at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral. Representatives from all Cincinnati-area Catholic schools will be present. The Mass begins at 10:00 a.m. Archbishop Schnurr will celebrate Mass in Dayton on Wednesday, January 29 at St. Luke Church in Beavercreek. The Mass begins at 10:00 a.m. The Northern Area Catholic School Mass is at Lehman High School on Tuesday, February 11. Mass will begin at 10:00 a.m. If interested in attending any of these masses, please contact the Catholic Schools Office at 513.263.3456.

WITH GREAT JOY WORKSHOP FOLLOW-UP

It was wonderful to gather with nearly 300 priests, deacons, and lay ministers to explore the new *Order of Baptism of Children* and to share best practices for welcoming and evangelizing families of young children. The [Office for Divine Worship and Sacraments](#) (ODWS) has developed a [webpage of resources](#) to assist you in this ministry. In addition to slides, handouts, and video from the recent workshops, there are also other resources you may find helpful. Stay tuned over the coming months as we receive the new ritual book and parishes develop new initiatives for baptismal ministry.

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU

This archdiocesan-wide celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place on Tuesday, March 24 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in each parish or pastoral region. Resources for pastors and parish leaders are available on the [ODWS website](#). Parishioners will find resources and general info at www.encounterpeace.org/.

NEW LITURGICAL TEXTS FOR FEASTS OF SAINTS

Rome has confirmed the English translation of the Preface of St. Mary Magdalene, and the proper texts in honor of Pope Saints John XXIII and John Paul II for use in the dioceses of the United States. These texts are now part of the *Roman Missal* and *Liturgy of the Hours*, and are [available for download](#) in English and Spanish from the USCCB along with other recent additions to the liturgical calendar.

LOOKING TO STRENGTHEN MARRIAGE AND FAMILIES IN YOUR PARISH?

The Cana Family Institute is focused on strengthening marriages and families by deepening each participant's faith and prayer life. Using a curriculum focused on the writings of St. John Paul II, Scripture, and the Catechism, the Cana Family Institute offers leadership formation and support to form a community of parents of young children who are continually drawn closer to the Heart of Christ and His Church. To learn more about The Cana Experience, contact [Erin Flege](#).

RETRouvaille: HELP FOR TROUBLED MARRIAGES

The Retrouvaille Program consists of a weekend experience combined with a series of 6-12 post-weekend sessions over 3 months. It provides the tools to help a struggling couple put their marriage back on track. **Upcoming 2020 Weekends: January 11-13, March 29-31, September 6-8.** For information or registration, click [here](#) or [click here](#) to listen to a recent podcast featuring the local Retrouvaille leaders.

GENESIS RETREAT FOR ENGAGED COUPLES

The schedule for the first three months of Genesis Pre-Cana days in 2020 is now online. Additional Genesis days will be released online 3 months in advance. Please have engaged couples visit <https://genesismarriage.org/> for information and registration.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL (CMA)

Materials for the 2020 Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA) will be shipped to parishes in early January. All resources are also available at [here](#) under the “CMA Info for Parish Staff” section – the password to access this section is “cma2007.”

KEY WEEKENDS FOR THE 2020 CMA

- Announcement Weekend: January 18/19, 2020
- Commitment Weekend: February 1/2, 2020

Please Note: There will be a weekend in-between Announcement and Commitment Weekends to allow for Catholic Schools Week celebrations in parishes, which begins on Sunday, January 26.

2020 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/. If you need help embedding the video on your website, please contact Matt Reinkemeyer. His contact information is listed below.

Have questions about the CMA? Email [Matt Reinkemeyer](mailto:Matt.Reinkemeyer@dioceseofcincinnati.org) or call him at 513.263.6672.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR LIFE

For those unable to travel to Washington, D.C. for the annual March for Life, St. Margaret of York Parish (9499 Columbia Road, Loveland, OH 45140) invites you to join them as your time permits for a Day of Prayer for Life on January 24 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. There will be opportunities throughout the day for Mass, Adoration, and praying the Rosary. To download the flyer, click [here](#). See bulletin entry below.

BULLETIN ENTRIES

VOCATION DISCERNMENT RETREAT FOR MEN - Are you a college age man or older and wondering who God wants you to be? The Vocation Office for the Archdiocese is hosting a Discernment Retreat at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center in Norwood on January 10-12. The retreat starts at 6:00 p.m. and concludes on Sunday by 11:00 a.m. There is no cost for the retreat. For more information or to register, see the website at www.cincinnati vocations.org or call Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer at 513.263.3390.

VOCATION NIGHT - Mt. St. Mary's Seminary is hosting a Vocation Night on Wednesday, January 29 from 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. The night is for men college age and older who are discerning who God wants them to be. For more information or to register, see the website at www.cincinnati vocations.org or call Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer at 513.263.3390.

EXPLORE CONSECRATED LIFE - Meet with local Consecrated men and women over dinner on Wednesday, February 19, 6:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Church (1924 Leo Street, Dayton, OH 45404). This dinner is open to all young adults aged 18-35 – from the mildly curious to the serious discerners – who want to learn more about Religious and Consecrated life. For more information, contact Maria Reinagel at mreinagel@catholiccincinnati.org or 513.263.6683.

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO MENTOR REFUGEE YOUTH - Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio (Cincinnati) Refugee Resettlement Services is recruiting volunteers to serve as mentors for refugee youth ages 15-24 to promote positive civic and social engagement and to support their educational and vocational advancement. Volunteers must be 18 or older and able to commit 4-8 hours monthly for a minimum of six months. No foreign language skills needed. If interested, contact Donald Foley at dfoley@ccswoh.org.

MANAGING CAREGIVER STRESS - Reduce stress and gain hope! Join us at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at Chesterwood Village, 8073 Tylersville Road, West Chester, OH 45069. Caregivers will learn the steps for effective stress management, discuss tools to reduce stress, develop an action plan and try a relaxation activity that is easy to incorporate into their daily life. Questions? Call Angie Homoele at 513.672.3834 or visit www.ccswoh.org/caregivers.

FOOD FOR ALL - Nutritious, affordable food is not readily available to every person in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Hunger exists in our communities. Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio travels to where hunger is located. Interested in reducing food insecurity, volunteering at a mobile pantry or learning more about hunger in our area? Contact April Hoak, Food for All coordinator, at 513.672.3720 or ahoak@ccswoh.org.

BEING PRO LIFE - Each month an important respect life topic is covered in an engaging interview with someone personally affected by a particular issue. You can find each *Being Pro-Life* column in *The Catholic Telegraph* and can watch the video or listen to the podcast by going to www.catholiccincinnati.org/Being-Pro-Life. This month's topic is Mental Illness. Invite parishioners, family and friends to check out the link.

ATTEND AN ARCHDIOCESAN SEND-OFF FOR THE MARCH FOR LIFE - Hundreds of youth attending this year's March for Life in Washington, DC will be gathering at Good Shepherd Parish (8815 E. Kemper Rd., Cincinnati 45249) on Thursday evening, **January 23, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.** for our annual Archdiocesan send-off prayer service. Our Dayton area send-off is at St. Francis of Assisi Parish (6245 Wilmington Pike, Centerville 45459). Please consider attending and lending your support to some of our young people witnessing to life!

HOW TO LIVE OUT THE MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS IN THE NEW YEAR? - One way is to join the 9 Days for Life, a digital pilgrimage of prayer and charitable action. 9 Days for Life unites thousands of Catholics nationwide each year in prayer and action in support of the gift of life. Join us nationwide in this 9 day virtual pilgrimage from Tuesday, January 21 – Wednesday, January 29, 2020. Download a FREE mobile app, or sign up for daily email or text messages. For these and other ways to join this "virtual pilgrimage" visit www.9daysforlife.com!

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.

Clergy Communications is a monthly publication of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati at
100 East Eighth Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202 - Chancery Office. Tel: **513.263.3342** Fax: **513.421.6225**.
Website: www.CatholicCincinnati.org Email: Communications@CatholicCincinnati.org.