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## **ACTION REQUIRED**

### **OHIO MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE**

On January 1, 2019, the Ohio minimum wage will increase to \$8.55 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, 2018. As a result of this increase, **please make sure that none of your employees are being paid less than \$8.55 an hour beginning January 1, 2019.** For questions about the minimum wage increase, contact Rob Reid [ext. 6611] or Meg Paul [ext. 2841] at 513.421.3131.

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

All locations, regardless of size, are required to post the Federal & State Poster. In the past it was communicated to parishes that since the Archdiocese of Cincinnati displayed the poster, this covered the requirement for all locations. This is not the case. It is your responsibility to have this poster displayed in a public location. You can find companies that sell a combination poster. One source we have used is [All In One Posters](http://AllInOnePosters.com) (1.800.273.0307). The cost is \$19.95.

### **THE ADDICTION CRISIS: A CATHOLIC AND LUTHERAN RESPONSE – TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2019**

Each parish from all Catholic and Lutheran churches in the 19 counties of the Archdiocese is asked to send two representatives to this educational event. The scourge of addiction is so prevalent that the Gospel compels us to tackle it together. This workshop will take place at Good Shepherd Catholic Church (8815 E. Kemper Rd., Cincinnati, OH). It will be an all-day event, involving prayer, plenary sessions on the opioid/addiction crisis and the faith community's response, and breakout conversations with addiction and mental health officials from nearly all of our counties. Register through the Catholic Social Action Office or by calling 513.421.3131x2660. **The priority registration deadline is January 1.**

### **PLEASE MAIL IN YOUR MISSION SUNDAY AND MCP COLLECTIONS**

On behalf of the 1,000+ mission dioceses that benefit from Mission Sunday collection, and on behalf of missionaries who visited your parish via Missionary Co-op Plan (MCP), thanks for your support! If you have not already done so, please mail your Mission Sunday collection and form as well as any funds that have been collected this past year, or last year, to benefit the visiting missionaries through the MCP. **Please indicate the year in which those funds were collected.** Send these to: Mission Office, Archdiocese of Cincinnati, 100 E. 8<sup>th</sup> St. Cincinnati, OH 45202. Any questions, contact Melonise Knight at: [mknight@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:mknight@catholiccincinnati.org) or phone 513.421.3131x2631.

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

Sunday, March 10, 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. Please note the following deadlines:

- Memo, information document, and reservation form for Candidates and Catechumens **will be posted on the ODWS website at 12:00 noon, on Monday, January 7, 2019.**
- Completed reservation forms **are due to the ODWS on Wednesday, February 6, 2019.** 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.

## **REGISTER NOW FOR THE AMAZING PARISH CONFERENCE**

The [Amazing Parish Conference](#) is coming to Cincinnati May 13-15, 2019. [Register](#) before December 15 to take advantage of \$350 in early bird discounts. Unsure about who to include on your Parish Leadership Team? Contact [Sean Ater](#) or [David Kissell](#) for guidance.

## **OPTIONAL**

### **ADVENT DAY OF REFLECTION**

The Advent Day of Reflection for Priests will be on **Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at the Transfiguration Center for Spiritual Renewal in West Milton.** Father Steve Beseau, STD, Assistant Professor of Moral Theology at Mount St. Mary's Seminary of the West, will be our speaker. Coffee will be available at 10:15 a.m. The program begins with Morning Prayer at 10:45 a.m., and ends at 2:30 p.m. We need an accurate lunch count. If you would like to attend, please contact Sarah Frohmiller at 513.421.3131x2651 or [sfrohmiller@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:sfrohmiller@catholiccincinnati.org) by Wednesday, November 28.

### **SPRING RETREAT FOR PRIESTS – SAVE THE DATE**

The Spring Retreat for priests has been scheduled for **Monday, March 25, 2019 - Friday, March 29, 2019 at the Maria Stein Spiritual Center.** Our speaker will be Father Robert Robeson, PhD of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, former rector of Bishop Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis.

### **VOCATIONS DIRECTOR AVAILABLE TO SPEAK AT SCHOOLS AND PARISHES**

Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer, Director of Vocations is available to visit schools and parish religion classes throughout the school year. Please consider having Fr. Dan come speak with your students about vocations. You may contact him at 513.421.3131x2890 or email at [dschmitmeyer@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:dschmitmeyer@catholiccincinnati.org).

### **RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS COLLECTION**

This collection takes place on December 8 and 9. Retired religious count on your support for this much-needed collection. If you would like a fact sheet or a picture of this year's billboard, please email or call Sr. Marilyn Kerber ([mkerber@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:mkerber@catholiccincinnati.org) or 513.421.3131x

2865). Or find both of these resources at <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/religious/rfr/> along with this year's TV Spot. Should you have questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Sr. Marilyn.

### **2019 CMA – REGIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOPS**

The Regional Training Workshops for the 2019 CMA will be taking place in early December. These workshops are for pastors, parish staff, CMA chairs, and anyone helping with the CMA. Each workshop is identical to the others. Dates, times, and locations are listed below:

- Monday, December 3 – 10 a.m. @ St. Peter, Huber Heights (Dayton Area)
- Monday, December 3 – 2 p.m. @ Holy Redeemer, New Bremen (Northern Area)
- Wednesday, December 5 – 10 a.m. @ St. Saviour (Cincinnati Area)
- Wednesday, December 5 – 1 p.m. @ St. Ignatius (Cincinnati Area)
- Tuesday, December 11 – 10 a.m. @ Our Lady of Sorrows, Monroe (Middletown area)

### **2019 CMA – KEY APPEAL WEEKENDS**

**Announcement Weekend** – January 19/20, 2019

**Commitment Weekend** – February 2/3, 2019

*Please Note:* There will be a weekend in-between Announcement and Commitment Weekends to allow for Catholic Schools Week celebrations in parishes, which begin on Sunday, January 27.

Questions? Contact Ryan Lopez at 513.421.3131x2882 or email [rlopez@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:rlopez@catholiccincinnati.org).

### **NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS – TUITION ASSISTANCE GRANTS**

The Catholic Education Foundation for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati is currently accepting applications for 2019-2020 **elementary school** tuition assistance grants. All grants are needs-based and can be used at any Catholic elementary school within the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Awards range from \$250 to \$1,000 per student.

How to apply: [www.catholicbestchoice.org](http://www.catholicbestchoice.org)

Deadline: January 31, 2019

Amount: Up to \$1,000 per child

The Catholic Education Foundation tuition aid program began in 2017-18, funded by the One Faith, One Hope, One Love Capital Campaign. Due to the generosity of your parish, the Catholic Education Foundation will again be able to offer over \$2,000,000 in financial aid! For more details and to apply, visit: [www.catholicbestchoice.org](http://www.catholicbestchoice.org).

### **HAVE A GREAT PARISH STORY?**

20% of the One Faith, One Hope, One Love capital campaign funds collected go back to local parishes to help renew, expand, and enhance parish life. We want to highlight how parishes are using the rebate money and share the great work going on in parishes. Submit your parish rebate story idea to Jennifer Schack, Director of Media Relations, at [jschack@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:jschack@catholiccincinnati.org).

## **NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE**

The National Night of Prayer for Life takes place **from 9:00 p.m. December 8 through 1:00 a.m. December 9**. The National Prayer for Life is a pro-life prayer service consisting of Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, a full 20 decades of the rosary, a prayer to St. Michael, silent prayer and hymns. We invite all parishes to consider organizing a local prayer event if they can, using resources provided [here](#). If your parish cannot organize a special event, please use the paragraph in the bulletin entry section to invite parishioners to pray a rosary on their own.

## **PRO-LIFE INTERVIEW SERIES**

Let your parish know about the Being Pro-Life interview series. With a new subject each month, each interview tells an engaging story on an important topic and ends by showing people how to get involved. Check out the latest [here](#). See the Bulletin Entry section.

## **MARCH FOR LIFE YOUTH TRIP!**

If you want your high school youth to go on Archdiocesan busses to the January March for Life in Washington, DC, **forms are due by December 7**. For more information, [click here](#).

## **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

### **2019 VOCATION POSTER**

By now you should have received this year's poster. Some were damaged in the mail. If you received damaged posters, contact Sr. Marilyn Kerber at [mkerber@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:mkerber@catholiccincinnati.org) or 513.421.3131x2865. To link your parishioners to the iMovie *The Faces of Consecrated Life Today* (all 75 women and men on the poster), go to: <https://youtu.be/T4R9jabwSF8>.

### **GUIDANCE ON PAYMENTS TO VOLUNTEERS**

We have received numerous inquiries from parishes regarding volunteers and whether they can receive any form of payment or reimbursement for expenses. Especially this time of year, a parish may want to pay a volunteer as a "thank you" for being loyal to the parish. Please read the recommended guidelines on payments to volunteers by clicking [here](#). If you have any questions or concerns please contact [Rob Reid](#) [ext. 6611] or [Meg Paul](#) [ext. 2841] at 513.421.3131.

### **KAREN KANE – A WORD FROM FR. JAN SCHMIDT**

With great appreciation for her many years of service to our Archdiocese, and more than a little sadness, I share the news that Karen Kane has moved on to new endeavors in ministry. Karen's last day was Friday, November 16, after serving more than twenty years in the Office for Divine Worship and Sacraments. Karen has accepted a position at St. John's Parish in Harrison, Ohio.

Karen has worked diligently to ensure that liturgies in the Archdiocese were celebrated correctly and well, leading to the full, conscious, and active participation of the faithful, to which the liturgical documents point. Karen shepherded the parishes in the Archdiocese through the changes of the Third Edition of the Roman Missal, using the occasion to prompt a renewal in the

spiritual life of our people by reinvigorating attention to prayerful execution of the liturgy throughout the Archdiocese.

Karen is a national leader in matters of liturgy, contributing to the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions, the North American Forum on the Catechumenate, and the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. Karen was instrumental in bringing recognized leaders, programs, and training to pastoral musicians and those responsible for liturgical ministry throughout our Archdiocese. Please join me in expressing deep gratitude and heartfelt best wishes to Karen at this time. Our prayers go with Karen as she embarks on a new chapter of service at St. John's.

### **LITURGICAL CALENDAR UPDATE**

Even though the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** falls on a Saturday, December 8, it remains a holy day of obligation. However, the Saturday evening vigil Mass should be celebrated as the Second Sunday of Advent. Also, Tuesday, January 1, 2019, the **Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Holy Mother of God** is a holy day of obligation.

### **RENEWAL: DECEMBER 19, ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION, SPRINGBORO**

Renewal is a day retreat for youth ministers, campus ministers, and volunteers. Fr. Dave Pivonka will give talks on the Holy Spirit. Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Dennis Schnurr. Renewal is a chance to rest in the Lord through silent prayer, talks, Mass, Adoration, Confession, and fellowship. [Visit here](#) for more information.

### **NIGHT OUT FOR YOUTH/CAMPUS MINISTERS: JANUARY 26**

Join Youth/Campus Ministers' Night Out for dinner at Ferrari's Little Italy Restaurant in Madeira followed by the CSO's performance of Mozart's Requiem. Dinner will feature a talk on Mozart's Requiem by Mrs. Catherine Fishlock. [Visit here](#) for more information.

### **NOVA: JANUARY 29 (PIQUA, OH) AND JANUARY 30 (CINCINNATI)**

Join Fr. John Ignatius, SCJ and youth/campus ministers for a day of spiritual formation. Nova will feature a deep-dive into the life of St. Ignatius of Loyola, his rules for discernment of spirits, and the application of these rules into ministry. The day will also feature Mass, lunch, and small group discussion. Nova will count for 2 Vocare credits. [Visit here](#) for more information.

### **ACRE CHANGES FOR PARISHES AND SCHOOLS FOR 2018/2019 SCHOOL YEAR**

The NCEA ACRE test, which is the archdiocese's student religion assessment, is now being administered by a new company, *My Catholic Faith Technologies*, and with that comes a few changes. Please [click here](#) for all of the information you need to administer this year's test in your parishes and schools.

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

In consultation with the Deans, Archbishop Schnurr is once again asking parishes to schedule **The Light is On for You** evening of reconciliation on **Tuesday, March 19, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.** Please watch for more information and resource materials early in the new year.

## **STATUS REPORT ON CLERICS ACCUSED OF CHILD ABUSE**

For the past many years, a listing of the [Status Report on Clerics Accused of Child Abuse](#) has appeared on the website of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. As you can see, those on the Status Report who are living are restricted in ministry as indicated. If you have any questions, please contact Father Steve Angi at 513.421.3131x2846.

## **BULLETIN ENTRIES**

### **DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY: ONLINE ADVENT RETREAT - DECEMBER 9-13, 2018**

Meet with us on Skype or by phone to reflect on and ask questions about discerning religious life. Walk through tools and materials with a retreat director and pray with us. We're here to meet you where you are, on your time. Open to single Catholic women ages 18-40. For more information, contact Sister Virginia Ann Brooks, D.C. at [sistervirginiaann.brooks@doc.org](mailto:sistervirginiaann.brooks@doc.org) or 812.963.7559. Register online at <http://www.catholicsoncall.org/daughters-charity-online-advent-retreat-december-9-13-2018>.

**MT. ST. MARY'S SEMINARY VOCATION NIGHT JANUARY 30, 2019** - Mt. St. Mary's Seminary of the West is hosting a Vocation Night on Wednesday, January 30, 2019 for single men who want to learn more about the seminary, discernment, and the priesthood. Registration starts at 4:30 p.m. with Mass at 5:15 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m. and talks and a tour after. To register, please call Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer at 513.421.3131x2890 or email him at [dschmitmeyer@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:dschmitmeyer@catholiccincinnati.org).

**THE CATHOLIC TELEGRAPH ONLINE** - For the latest in Catholic news and events on the local, national, and global levels, be sure to visit <http://www.thecatholictelegraph.com>.

**CAREGIVER SUPPORT** - We have a new caregiver group starting in December at Mallard Cove Senior Living in Sharonville. For a complete support group calendar, please see [www.ccswoh.org/cansupport](http://www.ccswoh.org/cansupport). Call 513.869.4483 or email Angie at [ahomoelle@ccswoh.org](mailto:ahomoelle@ccswoh.org) if you have any questions, would like to arrange an educational presentation for caregivers, or have caregivers needing support.

**NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE** - Each year, the National Night of Prayer for Life takes place **from 9:00 p.m. December 8 through 1:00 a.m. December 9**, bridging the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and the anniversary of the appearance of Our Lady of Guadalupe (patroness of the unborn). The National Prayer for Life is one way of responding to Our Lady's call to pray the rosary for peace, which includes leading our nation away from a culture of death and toward respect for all life from conception until natural death. Please join this national effort by praying the rosary (a full 20 decades if you are able), sometime between 9:00 p.m. Friday, December 8 and 1:00 a.m. Saturday, December 9. Learn more at <https://sites.google.com/site/nationalnightofprayerforlife/index>.

**WORLD DAY OF PEACE MASSES: JANUARY 1, 2019** - The Archdiocese will again celebrate two Masses on the Solemnity of Mary in commemoration of the World Day of Peace on New Year's Day. Archbishop Dennis Schnurr will preside at the Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains at 11:00 a.m. and Bishop Joseph Binzer will preside at St. Charles Borromeo (4500



Ackerman Blvd, Kettering, OH 45429) at 11:00 a.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to pray for life, dignity, creation and peace in our world!

**NATIONAL MIGRATION WEEK EVENT** - Join Catholic Charities to hear how we can build communities of Welcome. Hear from those who have been separated from families, learn what life is like as a refugee and go forth with ideas of ways you can welcome your neighbors. The event will be held **January 10, 2019** at Good Shepherd Parish (8815 E. Kemper Rd.) at 6:00 p.m. For more information go to [www.ccswoh.org](http://www.ccswoh.org).

**HEADING TO THE MARCH FOR LIFE?** - If you are participating in the March For Life in Washington D.C. on January 18, *The Catholic Telegraph* is interested in your photos. We plan to feature many photos from the March online. Please send yours via email to [cteditorial@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:cteditorial@catholiccincinnati.org). Thanks!

**DIVORCED OR SEPARATED?** - Our 12-week group begins Monday, January 7 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at the St. Michael and Sts. Peter and Paul Parish Office Center, 33 Elm St., Fort Loramie, Ohio. Cost of \$25 includes materials for 12 weeks. Topics included in the series include shock, denial, fear, anger, depression, loneliness, financial issues, battles in court, custody and visitation, & annulment. Find comfort and counsel consistent with Catholic teachings. Call Rose Meyer at 937.295.2891 or [rosem@nflregion.org](mailto:rosem@nflregion.org) for more information/registration.

**RETROUVAILLE: JANUARY 11-13** - The Retrouvaille Program helps couples restore and rebuild a loving relationship. It is for couples whose marriages are struggling, not communicating well, and those who are considering marriage separation or divorce. For more information contact: [www.cincyretrovaille.org](http://www.cincyretrovaille.org) or [HelpOurMarriage.com](http://HelpOurMarriage.com) or call: 513.456.5413.

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: JANUARY 25-27** - In the ups and downs of marriage, sometimes couples need a little something to snap themselves out of the downs. The communication technique and the other tools learned on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend are often just the remedies a couple needs. For more information or to register visit [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org) or call 937.886.5196.

**SURVIVING DIVORCE BEGINS FEBRUARY 4 AT RUAH WOODS** - With the help of expert counselors, theologians, and priests, author and presenter Rose Sweet guides participants from pain and loneliness to hope and healing. Practical advice meets spiritual growth through the Sacraments, the teachings of the Church (including the Theology of the Body), and wisdom from experts and others who have suffered through divorce. For more information or to register contact Ruah Woods at [www.ruahwoods.org](http://www.ruahwoods.org) or 513.407.8672.

**PROJECT RACHEL** - A ministry of the Archdiocese that serves anyone who has experienced the loss of a child due to abortion. Persons can engage in this ministry for healing through one-on-one conversation with a peer, consultation with a priest (including in Spanish), support groups and retreats for mothers who lost a child, or a day of reflection for any related party (father, grandparent, friend, etc.). Go to [www.catholiccincinnati.org/project-rachel](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/project-rachel) or call the

Project Rachel Help Line at 513.784.0531 for information. All conversations and emails are confidential.

**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. Past topics are still available to watch on abortion and assisted suicide. This month's topic is migration. It features the story of a young man brought to the United States at four years old, and how the Dream Act made it possible for him to go to college and get a good job. Invite your parishioners, family and friends to check out the link at [www.catholiccincinnati.org/Being-Pro-Life](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/Being-Pro-Life).

**ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS - Friday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Chapel of St. Gregory the Great at Mount St. Mary's Seminary, 6616 Beechmont Avenue, Cincinnati 45230. This inspiring annual service, on the eve of the feast of the Immaculate Conception, includes the reading of seven scripture Lessons with Advent Carols and Marian hymns sung by the **Athenaeum Chorale and the Mount St. Mary's Latin Schola**. All are welcome and admission is free. Standing-room-only audiences are anticipated so guests are encouraged to arrive early. Doors to the chapel open at 7:15 p.m. **NOTE:** Due to construction there is limited access to handicapped parking. There will be signs to direct you and seminarian parking attendants on site to assist you with your parking needs.

***Clergy Communications*** is a monthly publication of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati at 100 East Eighth Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202 - Chancery Office. Tel: **513.421.3131x2842**. Fax: **513.421.6225**.

Website: [www.CatholicCincinnati.org](http://www.CatholicCincinnati.org) Email: [Communications@CatholicCincinnati.org](mailto:Communications@CatholicCincinnati.org).