



CLERGY COMMUNICATIONS

100 East Eighth Street Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
(To be filed in loose leaf binder and kept in parish archives)

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

Recently I received correspondence from Lorenzo Cardinal Baldisseri, the Secretary General of the Synod of Bishops regarding the upcoming XIV Ordinary General Assembly.

The III Extraordinary General Assembly which took place last October focused on *The Pastoral Challenges of the Family in the Context of Evangelization*. The final document of this extraordinary synodal assembly, the *Relatio Synodi*, is the preparatory document or *Lineamenta* of the XIV Ordinary General Assembly, scheduled to take place in the Vatican from October 4 – 15, 2015, to consider the topic: *The Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and Contemporary World*. In this way, the two synodal assemblies share the same topic of the family and become part of a single synodal process. The intervening time between synods is an opportunity to reflect on the reaction of the first synod and to make a thorough theological examination of the Church's pastoral activity.

The process of preparing for the Ordinary Synod begins with a consultation in each of the world's dioceses. Our Archdiocese of Cincinnati Pastoral Council will be discussing the *Lineamenta* at its next meeting on March 7. Additionally, all the faithful of the Archdiocese will have the opportunity to participate as well. On the Archdiocese of Cincinnati web page we have posted the *Lineamenta* and the accompanying questionnaire. The link is:

<http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/lineamenta/>

There is also a link to the USCCB website which provides further information and answers to frequently asked questions.

I encourage you to make this information available to your pastoral councils and interested parishioners.

NEW DEANS NAMED

The Archbishop's Office has announced the following appointment of Deans:

Reverend Richard Walling, Saint Marys Deanery
Reverend Christopher Worland, Dayton Deanery
Reverend Kyle Schnippel, Saint Margaret Mary Deanery
Reverend Michael Bidwell, Saint Lawrence Deanery

Reappointed for another term -

Reverend Timothy Bunch, Saint Andrew Deanery
Reverend Larry Tharp, Hamilton Deanery

The four-year appointments are effective immediately. Terms of office are staggered among the eleven deaneries.

Other deans are:

Reverend Todd Grogan, Cathedral Deanery
Reverend Del Staigers, Saint Francis de Sales Deanery
Reverend William Wagner, Saint Martin Deanery
Reverend Steven L. Shoup, Sidney Deanery
Reverend Edwin F. Gearhart, Springfield Deanery

DEPARTMENT OF EXECUTIVE SERVICES

CHANCERY OFFICE

NEW ARCHIVIST HIRED

Sarah Patterson has joined the Archdiocese of Cincinnati as the new Archivist. The Chancery Archive of the Archdiocese collects, preserves and administers church records and artifacts of permanent historical value. Ms. Patterson, a native of Lebanon, Ohio, holds an undergraduate degree from Franciscan University at Steubenville and a Masters in Library Science from the School of Library and Information Science at Indiana University. Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Sarah. She may be reached at spatterson@catholiccincinnati.org or 513.421.3131x3002.

ASH WEDNESDAY 2015 COLLECTION

The collection to aid the Church in Central and Eastern Europe will take place on **Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2015**. This special collection supports seminaries, social service programs, youth ministry, pastoral centers, schools, church construction and renovation, and the spreading of the Gospel message through Catholic mass media. Please send the collection money to the **Archdiocesan Finance Office** in a timely manner so that we might forward the collection to the USCCB office. Thank you.

LENTEN REMINDERS – FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2015, and Good Friday, April 3, 2015, are days of abstinence from meat and also days of fast, that is, limited to a single full meal. The other Fridays of the season of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. **The law of abstinence binds all Catholics 14 years and older. The law of fasting binds all Catholics from their 18th birthday until their 59th birthday (canons 97 and 1252).** With regard to Good Friday, the teaching of the Second Vatican Council should be recalled.

Let the paschal fast be kept sacred. Let it be celebrated everywhere on Good Friday and, where possible, prolonged throughout Holy Saturday, so that the joys of the Sunday of the Resurrection may be attained with uplifted and clear mind (*Constitution on the Liturgy, No. 110*).

With regard to the obligatory days listed above, however, there are frequent questions about the degree of seriousness of the matter. The teaching of Pope John Paul II may be simply paraphrased: the obligation to do penance is a serious one; the obligation to observe, as a whole or “substantially,” the penitential days specified by the Church is also serious. No one should be scrupulous in this regard; failure to observe an individual day of penance is not considered serious. People should seek to do more rather than less. Fast and abstinence on the days prescribed should be considered a minimum response to the Lord’s call to penance and conversion.

CONFIRMATION AND THE FACULTY TO CONFIRM

The following might be helpful for you regarding Confirmation at the Easter Vigil. For priests who have been granted the faculties of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, these are the instructions for the Faculty to Confirm as found in the *Pagella*, Clerus Cincinnatiensis, Volume XII, No. 1, pages 260-261. The mandate is given to all priests in the Archdiocese:

1. **to baptize and confirm** in accordance with canon 883.2 persons who are no longer infants whom the priest judges suitable for Catholic baptism;
2. **to admit into full communion** with the Catholic Church **and to confirm** in accordance with canon 883.2 previously baptized persons who are no longer infants whom the priest judges suitable for admission to the Catholic Church;
3. **to readmit into full communion** with the Catholic Church **and to confirm** in accordance with the response to the Pontifical Commission for the Interpretation of the Decrees of the Second Vatican Council, April 25, 1975, persons beyond infancy who were baptized Catholic but not confirmed and who later became an apostate or a heretic, whom the priest judges suitable for readmission to the Catholic Church. (If you have any questions about whether or not someone later became an apostate or a heretic, please call the Chancery.)
4. **Priests do not have the faculty to confirm a baptized but never confirmed Catholic** who simply has not been active in the practice of the faith without becoming a member of another Church and now desires to be confirmed and be actively involved in the Church’s life. **In these cases, individual delegation of the archbishop is needed.** Priests can seek such delegation in writing from the Chancery, giving reasons why the delegation is sought, the name of the person to be delegated, the name of the candidate, and the intended date of the ceremony.

If you need to request a faculty to confirm, please do so in ample time to receive it before the Easter Vigil. Also, if you have more than one parish, please include the name of the parish where the Confirmation will take place. Thank you.

RECORD SEARCHES

We have been asked to search for the baptismal record of the following individuals:

Kenneth R. Payne, born December 30, 1947; parents: Lloyd Payne and Sue Mae Murphy.

Kathy Clayton, (maiden name: O'Brien), born February 8, 1946; parents: George O'Brien and Ethel Carson. She believes she might have been baptized in Dayton, Ohio.

We have recently received a *Notification of Confirmation* from Mexico for a **Carlos German Garibay Corral**. Carlos was baptized on May 31, 1998 and his parents' names are Ruben Garibay Corona and Ivonne Corral.

Please search your baptismal sacramental register books and if any of the above records are located, please contact the Chancery Office at 513.421.3131x2842. Thank you.

TRIBUNAL OFFICE

The Tribunal office is going through a major computer change-over to a new records system. Please be patient when there are delays due to this massive undertaking. We will continue to process cases in a timely manner but if you call to check on the status of a case, we may need to call you back with that information until the computer transformation to the new system is completed.

VOCATIONS OFFICE

FEBRUARY 12: MONTHLY HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Join the Children of Mary at a Holy Hour for Vocations on Thursday, February 12, from 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center in Norwood, Ohio. All are welcome and encouraged to come. This event will happen every second Thursday of the month.

FEBRUARY 26 - MARCH 2: COME & SEE MISSION TRIP

Glenmary Home Missioners is hosting a discernment mission trip February 26 through March 2, 2015. This trip is open to single men, ages 18-46, who are discerning a call as a missionary priest or brother. Please contact Br. David at 513.881.7411 or vocations@glenmary.org.

FEBRUARY 27 – MARCH 1: LISTENING RETREAT FOR SINGLE WOMEN

St. Walburg Monastery – Covington, Kentucky. For additional information, please contact: Sr. Cathy Bauer, OSB, at bauerosb@yahoo.com or 859.331.6324 or text message 859.468.6040.

MARCH 12 - 14: JOSEPHINUM LIVE-IN WEEKEND

On March 12-14, 2015, the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio and the Office of Vocations will host a College Live-In for young men who are juniors and seniors in high school, or college students who are interested in knowing more about seminary life. The Live-In schedule will include a tour of the campus, discussions, meals and prayer with the college seminarians, attendance at classes, and time for recreation. There is no charge for the weekend. For further information, please call the rectory or either of the following individuals at the Josephinum: Fr. John Rozembajgier, Assistant Vice-Rector for the College, at 614.985.2244; or Mrs. Arminda Crawford, Administrative Assistant, at 614.985.2241. www.pcj.edu

MARCH 15: COFFEE AND CONVERSATION SUNDAY

The Franciscan Sisters of the Poor welcome you for coffee and conversation Sunday, March 15 after the 10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Clare Chapel. This is also a great opportunity for those

discerning a religious vocation. For more information, please contact Sr. Jo-Ann at 513.761.9040 x156 or visit www.sfp-vocations.org. Also, as a reminder, there will be an Open House and Tour of St. Clare Convent and campus on Sunday, February 8.

MARCH 20 - 21: WELCOME WEEKEND AT MOUNT ST. MARY'S SEMINARY

All men college age and older are invited to a welcome weekend on March 20-21, 2015 at Mount St. Mary's Seminary of the West. The weekend runs from 5:00 p.m. on March 20 through 7:00 p.m. on March 21. Men who are discerning the call to the priesthood will have the opportunity to join in the prayer life of the seminarians while gaining more information about the four pillars of formation that take place in the seminary. For more information or to register for the weekend, please contact Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer at 513.421.3131x2890 or vocations@catholiccincinnati.org.

APRIL 29: SERVER RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITY WITH THE CINCINNATI REDS AND SERRA CLUB OF CINCINNATI

To assist your parish recruiting and retain good servers/sacristans, and in recognition of the service by your school children as altar servers and sacristans in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Serra Cincinnati and the Cincinnati Reds are making available discounted View Level tickets for \$5.00 for the Reds-Brewers game at 12:35 p.m. on April 29 at Great American Ball Park. Tickets may be purchased by having a school or parish representative call the Cincinnati Reds, Ryan Kirkpatrick, at 513.765.7457 with a credit card. Tickets must be purchased on or before April 15, 2015. "Recognition for Service" certificates that can be personalized are available by emailing CincinnatiSerra@gmail.com.

PARISH MEMBERS IN FORMATION IN RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

The Sisters of the Precious Blood are initiating the **2015 Women and Men in Religious Formation** poster. Please send the names of any woman or man from your parish that is in religious formation in any Congregation or any woman or man from another diocese presently living or ministering in this Archdiocese. Please send the name of the individual/s and her/his Congregation by **February 20** to the **Sisters of the Precious Blood, 4000 Denlinger Rd. Dayton, OH 45426** or Communications Office 937.274.2707 or communications@cppsadmin.org.

DIACONATE OFFICE

REGIONAL MEETINGS

In an effort to better manage the Deacon Regional Meetings from a travel and logistics standpoint, we are going to divide the Archdiocese into 4 regions instead of the current 3. This allows us to better serve the deacon community and is based on deaneries. The new regions are:

Cincinnati West – Cathedral, St. Lawrence, St Margaret Mary, Hamilton Deaneries

Cincinnati East – St. Andrew, St. Francis De Sales, St. Martin Deaneries

Dayton – Dayton and Springfield Deaneries

North – Sidney and St. Mary's Deaneries

These changes went into effect in January, 2015.

DEACON OFFICE UPDATE

We continue to make changes to the communications aspect of the Deacon Office. Our objective is to be responsible with our resources. If you no longer wish to receive communications from the Diaconate Office or you have a change of address, please notify the Diaconate Office at dprofitt@catholiccincinnati.org or 513.421.3131x2641.

WORKSHOP ON THE DIACONATE WITH FR. SHAWN MCKNIGHT

We are pleased to announce that Fr. Shawn McKnight will be coming to the Athenaeum on Saturday, February 14, for a workshop on the diaconate. The title of the workshop will be: “Betwixt and Between: The Deacon as Symbol of *Communitas* and Social Intermediary among the People of God.” Fr. McKnight has served at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops as the Executive Director of the Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations since June 2010. He earned the License and Doctorate in Sacred Theology from the Pontifical Athenaeum of St. Anselm in Rome, specializing in sacramental theology and writing on the permanent diaconate. Seating will be limited to the first 100 deacons and priests who sign up. The workshop will go from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and will include lunch. There is no cost to the deacons. Sign-ups are available through the deacon website or can be called into the diaconate office. You may also register by sending an email to dprofitt@catholiccincinnati.org. Any priests who are interested in attending may contact the office as well.

OFFICE OF SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH

BACKGROUND CHECK / CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING

All “employees” and “regular volunteers” as defined in the July 1, 2013 *Decree on Child Protection (Decree)* must receive an acceptable background check and must attend a VIRTUS® Child Awareness Session on the *Decree* before they can have contact with children. **If any employee or regular volunteer has not received an acceptable background check result and / or not attended a VIRTUS® Child Awareness Session on the *Decree*, that employee or regular volunteer is not approved to have contact with children and may not have contact with children.** In addition, all new employees within the Archdiocese of Cincinnati must complete and sign a B.4 Form and send them to the Office of Safe Environment for the Protection of Children and Youth before the new employee can begin having contact with children.

CHANGE TO EMPLOYEE MANUAL FINGERPRINTING AND ELECTRONIC BACKGROUND CHECKS

Background

As a result of the 2011 USCCB audit, a background check through the use of manual fingerprinting was required every 5 years. In January 2014, the Archdiocese contracted with SELECTION.COM® to complete all manual fingerprinting and electronic background checks. Additionally, all employees are required to complete an electronic background check through SELECTION.COM® by December 31, 2018. In October 2014, the Archdiocese received an onsite audit. The Office of Child and Youth Protection at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the USCCB external auditors, and external legal counsel were consulted regarding the requirement for ongoing background checks and our use of the quarterly

checks through SELECTION.COM®. Our proposal was new employees at offices, parishes, schools, agencies or institutions of the Archdiocese must complete both manual fingerprinting and an electronic background check at time of employment with no further requirement for manual fingerprinting in the future. Additionally, all employees will receive quarterly electronic background checks. The consensus was that this is a new gold standard for other Dioceses to use.

CHANGE TO CURRENT POLICY

All new employees must complete both manual fingerprinting and an electronic background check at time of employment with no further requirement for manual fingerprinting in the future. Current employees are required to complete an electronic background check through SELECTION.COM® within 5 years of their last manual fingerprinting or December 31, 2018, whichever is sooner. This will only affect individuals being manually fingerprinted for compliance with the *Decree*. This does not apply to individuals that require fingerprinting for regulatory compliance (teachers, high school coaches, etc.). **This policy becomes effective March 1, 2015.**

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING OFFICE

“YELLOW PAGES” ALERT

Once again, please be aware of email or phone solicitations requesting you to sign up for advertising in the “Yellow Pages.” Please make all of your employees aware that they should not agree to any solicitation by email or phone from the “Yellow Pages.” One of their methods is to tape record the phone conversation and try to elicit some agreement to their terms. Our attorneys and the Attorney General of the State of Ohio have both been working on this scam. Please contact either Rich Kelly 513.421.3131x2840 or Steve Burger 513.421.3131x2850 in the Finance Office if your location is contacted by the “Yellow Pages.”

DESIGNATED COLLECTIONS

Parishes should send the monies collected for Archdiocesan Designated Collections shortly after the collection date to the Finance Office, with the exception of the Mission Sunday collection which should go to the Mission Office. These funds are not the property of the parish and should not be used for operating expenses. Thanks for your cooperation. Please contact Steve Burger in the Finance Office at 513.421.3131x2850 with any questions.

FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS (FSA) AND DEPENDENT CARE (DC) BENEFIT TIMELINE

The monthly FSA and DC deductions are drafted from the parish or school account on the last business day of each month. Please be sure to reconcile the employee payroll deductions with the BAS election amount and the amount drafted by the Finance Office each month. Please be sure to update your payroll deduction amounts for the Plan year for employees who have either terminated their participation or newly elected to participate in the Plan. Please call Steve Burger, 513.421.3131x2850, Charlotte Carpenter, ext. 2852, or Annie Zoz, ext. 2853 in the Finance Office with any questions.

ACH PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BAS INVOICE

Locations can have their monthly BAS invoice paid automatically via an ACH draft by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. There are a number of locations that have chosen this option of payment. The Finance Office will draft the monthly premium amount from the location bank account on the 5th day of the month for the current month billing (December premium drafted on December 5th). Please contact Steve Burger with any questions or to sign up for this option at 513.421.3131x2850 or sburger@catholiccincinnati.org. **For those locations paying by check, please review the mailing address to make sure your check is being mailed to the proper address (P.O. Box 636819, Cincinnati, Ohio 45263-6819).**

RATE ON INVESTMENT NOTES

The interest rate paid on Archdiocesan investment notes is currently 2.60%. The rate will change on March 16, 2015 and will remain in effect from March 16, 2015 through September 15, 2015. This rate is posted on the Finance Office section of the Archdiocesan website. Please contact Steve Burger at 513.421.3131x2850 with any questions.

PARISH ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE

While reviewing the financial reports for the year ended June 30, 2014, we discovered that some bank accounts were not being recorded in the ConnectNow system. All bank accounts and the related transactions pertaining to the parish should be recorded in the ParishSoft system. We also noted that some parishes enter restricted donations and expenditures into liability accounts rather than income/expense accounts. To enhance the reporting of restricted amounts, we have added an "Entity" named "Restricted" to the parish available chart of accounts. The code for this entity is 55. All donations received which are **restricted by the donor** should be entered either in entity 50 Capital Campaign, 55 Restricted, or 91 Other. Expenditures for the restricted purpose can also be entered in the entity being used (50, 55 or 91). If you have questions regarding the recording of the restricted funds, please contact Steve Burger (sburger@catholiccincinnati.org) or Dan Umberg (dumberg@catholiccincinnati.org).

If our parish auditor contacts you regarding a review of your accounting system, he/she may require access to your ConnectNow system. The administrator can grant access by creating a new user with read-only privileges. The process for setting this up (including "read-only privileges") is included in the user guide in your ConnectNow package. If you have questions regarding this, please let us know.

Remember that Videos, Release Notes, the User Guide and Online Help Articles are available to review on your "Ledgers and Payables" screen in the ConnectNow System (ParishSoft). These sources provide answers to many common and not-so-common questions regarding bookkeeping and the accounting system.

We would like to remind the users of ConnectNow System that assistance with ConnectNow accounting is available by contacting the Archdiocesan Finance Office. Various parish business managers and parish accountants also have volunteered to assist/train employees of other parishes. If you need individual assistance, please contact Dan Umberg (dumberg@catholiccincinnati.org) or Anne Morrow (amorrow@catholiccincinnati.org).

NOTE: We will be removing the Parish Master Financial Report Form from the website. This report will no longer be used since all reports should be generated through the ParishSoft Software system.

FROM THE DESK OF THE SENIOR AUDITOR

I would like to welcome **Debbie Wait** to the audit group. She has extensive background in internal auditing and has been a business manager at Immaculate Heart of Mary and Our Lady of Victory. She is a great addition to the team and will be a valuable resource for all our locations. One of the goals of the audit group is to assist parishes and schools to improve their controls and financial reporting. To assist parishes and schools in putting together policies and procedures we are producing guidelines. Each guideline will address a specific area, will be made available in a Microsoft Word “read only” format, and will be uploaded to the Archdiocesan website. Guideline # XVIII Priest Compensation is now available and will be uploaded to our website.

In keeping with last month’s fraud discussion, we will look at a second way our former business manager, Sean Martin, was able to take advantage of his former employers.

THE FRAUD

Disbursements and access to electronic payments was another area that was targeted. At several of his former locations he was a signatory on the bank account and the only individual who had access to the bank statements and online banking. He completed several types of frauds in this area.

1. The parish was still on QuickBooks, which allowed a check to be printed in his name and then the vendor name was changed in the system to cover up the disbursement.
2. An electronic payment was made to various vendors for personal expenditures and the expense was hidden in various accounts.
3. The business manager was a sole signatory on the account so checks were printed for personal expenses and changed against various expense codes.

Red Flags

- Invoices are not reviewed and approved by the requesting individual.
- The same individual processes the invoice, prints the check, then signs and sends the check.
- The Pastor or second signatory on the checks fails to review the invoice prior to signing the checks.
- The Pastor or his designee never reviews the bank statement.
- The Pastor or his designee never reviews the bank reconciliation.

Bank statements were not reviewed monthly therefore the fraud was able to go undetected for an extended period of time.

PREVENT, DETECT OR DETER

The above case illustrates one of the possible ways a fraud can occur at your location. It may not be possible to eliminate all fraud; it is possible to reduce the risk. Implementing standard controls may allow an organization to **prevent, detect or deter** a fraud. The following are suggestions that may have accomplished these goals:

Review Bank Statements and Bank Reconciliations

We recommend that the Pastor or his designee review the bank statements for any unusual checks or other transactions and initial the statements before giving them to the business manager, bookkeeper or other individual to perform the reconciliation. The review of the bank statement will ensure that unusual items are investigated on a timely basis. In addition, the Pastor or his designee should periodically review, approve, and sign the bank reconciliation.

Document Receiving

We recommend that all invoices be marked “OK to Pay” or a rubber stamp providing spaces for such approvals be adopted and that employees responsible for making such approvals be instructed to insert their initials in the spaces provided. Reviewing and approving documentation supporting payments of vendor invoices will help ensure that all payments are for valid expenses and reduce the risk of fraud and errors.

Supporting Documents Accompany Checks Submitted for Signature

We recommend that invoices and supporting documents bearing the appropriate approvals and other information accompany checks submitted for signature.

Automated Clearing House (ACH) Payments

Automated Clearing House (ACH) payments refer to a mechanism by which banks are able to transfer money directly from one account to another (held by a different party) at the request of the owner of the first account. Many online banking services allow users to conduct small transfers of this type automatically, often hidden within an option such as "make a payment." We recommend that all ACH payments be reviewed by the Pastor or his designee and marked “OK to Pay” or through the use of a rubber stamp providing spaces for such approvals. Reviewing individual charges and approving supporting invoices will ensure that all payments are for valid expenses and reduce the risk of fraud and errors.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati (AOC) Human Resources Department continues to provide guidance and support to the many parishes and schools throughout the AOC. Recently we have received a number of inquiries about FMLA leaves for the birth of a child; more specifically, how these leaves are paid and for how long. We always refer the person back to the parish policies with the understanding that each parish makes this determination. Given the number of calls we have had about this subject, however, we encourage you to review your FMLA maternity/paternity paid leave policy. We would also like to remind you that there are model policies for parishes on the Human Resources page of the AOC website. Know that the HR Department is here to provide guidance and direction should you need it. Questions are welcome.

On a broader note, with a new year upon us, we encourage all parishes to make sure that they have personnel policies in place at their location. Again, the Human Resources Department can assist parishes with this task, providing as much or as little guidance as each parish desires.

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February and March are the prime recruitment months for school principals. In the event your school principal is not intending to return, you will want to know this sooner rather than later as the recruitment season is upon us. That said, January through mid-February is a good time period in which to provide your principal with his/her “Intent to Return” form.

DEPARTMENT OF PASTORAL SERVICES

FAMILY AND RESPECT LIFE OFFICE (FARLO)

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AND RESPECT LIFE COORDINATOR

Caron Bergen is the new administrative assistant for The Family and Respect Life Office and also is the Respect Life Coordinator. She may be reached at cbergen@catholiccincinnati.org or 513.421.3131x2653.

FOCCUS

Questions concerning FOCCUS and/or FOCCUS scoring may be addressed by contacting Bonnie Mack, bmack@catholiccincinnati.org, or Caron Bergen, cbergen@catholiccincinnati.org, or call the Family and Respect Life Office at 513.421.3131x 2653. Deacon John Corson will be training as a volunteer in our office to help with FOCCUS scoring. We ask for your patience during this period of transition.

FOCCUS FACILITATION MANUALS

Remember, the new edition FOCCUS Facilitation Manual belongs to the facilitator and not to the church/organization. If the facilitator is transferred to a new church, the manual will go with him/her. This is the reason for the manual numbers and why the manual number is added to each facilitator's account. Please inform your FOCCUS couples of this. If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie Mack, FOCCUS trainer at bmack@catholiccincinnati.org or 513.421.3131x2623.

FOCCUS ANSWER SHEETS

Please make sure you are using the 2014 FOCCUS answer sheets, not just the 2014 inventory. The top of the answer sheet should look like this:

FOCCUS© 2014 - QuickScore Answer Sheet

For use with the 2014 FOCCUS© Pre-Marriage Inventory

The demographic questions have been changed and do not match the old answer sheets. You can either download the new answer sheets from the FOCCUS website (www.foccusinc.com), from our webpage (<http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/family-life/engaged-couple-programs/foccus/>) or contact the Family and Respect Life Office.

FOCCUS BROCHURE

The FOCCUS brochure for engaged couples has been updated and is available online by clicking here: <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/FOCCUS-BROCHURE-2014.pdf>.

NINE MONTHS WITH CHRIST IN THE WOMB

From March 25 to December 25, 2015, we are encouraging all parishes to join us in participation of a Respect Life Prayer Campaign entitled, “**9 Months with Christ in the Womb.**” Promoting a consistent ethic of life, this campaign offers a monthly reflection on a different biblical story during the earliest moments of Christ's time on earth. Each reflection will discuss the importance of a different social issue such as immigration, death penalty, care for the elderly, concern for the disabled, etc. Additionally, short weekly reflections will be available for parishes to prayerfully chart Christ's development in their bulletins. Prayer cards and special events will also be available throughout the nine month period. All resources will be available beginning in February at www.respectlifecoordinator.com.

MINISTRY TO LGBT

We now have a *Courage* Apostolate in the Cincinnati area. *Courage* is an international apostolate of the Catholic Church, which has been ministering to persons with same-sex attractions since 1980. Small group meetings are ministered by a priest using the 12-step approach to healing. For more about *Courage*, please visit: <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/family-life/respect-life/ministries-of-care/lesbian-gay-bisexual-and-transgender/>.

CHRIST AT THE CENTER: FAMILY AND HOME

Ordinary/Lent Time, February 8, 2015 – March 8, 2015, is a valuable family resource and is included with this mailing. It may also be found [here](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/evangelization-and-catechesis/):
(<http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/evangelization-and-catechesis/>)

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

We would like to promote your World Marriage Day (and Valentine's Day) events. Please send details to cbergen@catholiccincinnati.org.

CANA II – 2015 DATES

This Archdiocesan-wide marriage preparation program is a very beneficial Second Marriage-Prep Program made up of "Team Couples" who are currently living in successful "Second Marriages" and is designed specifically for engaged couples when one or both have been previously married.

You can find the Cana II brochure with a registration form on the Family and Respect Life Office's website under "Marriage Preparation" at:

<http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/CANA-II-2012.pdf>. Couples may register online at: <http://cana2.eventbrite.com/?ref=ebtn>.

May 16 – Glenmary Home Missions – Fairfield

June 20 – Transfiguration Center for Spiritual Renewal – Ludlow Falls

October 17 – Glenmary Home Missions – Fairfield

November 14 – Transfiguration Center for Spiritual Renewal – Ludlow Falls

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRAINING AND INFORMATIONAL EVENTS

FARLO is planning at least two events on Domestic Violence Response Training which will be held in June 2015 (Date TBD). These workshops will center on HOW to respond and HOW NOT to respond when confronted with a victim(s) of domestic violence and explain the effects that domestic violence in the home has on children and adult victims. These workshops will also offer CEU's to school teachers.

PROJECT RACHEL DAY OF REFLECTION FOR OTHERS

Project Rachel is offering a Day of Reflection for others affected by the trauma of abortion, Saturday, April 11, 2015, in Fairfield, Ohio. The day will include prayer, witnesses, and a healing service that includes the Sacrament of Reconciliation. A continental breakfast and light lunch will be provided. There is no cost. *"I'm thankful for the powerful, healing reminder that as long as we turn to God, He will love us no matter what."* -N, past participant. For specific times and location or to register, please call the confidential hotline at 513.784.0531.

PROJECT RACHEL WEEKEND RETREAT

Project Rachel is offering a three-day retreat for post-abortive women in Dayton March 13-15, 2015. The cost is \$125 but scholarships are available and cost should not be a barrier. It's time for a second chance. Choose to accept God's love and forgive yourself. *"The women of Project Rachel supported me lovingly, and started me on the path to healing. God forgave me, but I still had to forgive myself. God does not want you to be broken-He wants you to be the Holy Person He created you to be."* -G, past retreat participant. For specific times and location or more information, please call the confidential hotline at 513.784.0531.

GOLDEN JUBILEE MASS – 2015

The annual mass will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2015 for both Dayton and Cincinnati at 2:00 p.m. (**NOT 2:30, as previously printed**). Archbishop Dennis Schnurr will preside at Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Dayton, and Bishop Joseph Binzer will preside at the Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains. Letters were sent to all pastors last month with more details along with the Parish Response card for number of scrolls and invitations needed. Please contact the Family and Respect Life Office at 513.421.3131x2653 if you have questions. Twenty-Fifth (25th) and Fiftieth (50th) anniversary certificates may be printed directly from our website as your parish needs: <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/family-life/family/marriage/golden-jubilee-mass/>.

ARCHDIOCESAN RESPECT LIFE AWARD

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati's Family and Respect Life Office is pleased to announce the second annual Archdiocesan Respect Life Award. This annual award is to recognize those who exemplify protecting the dignity of human life in "every stage and in every situation" (Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities, page 2.) An ad hoc committee of the Archdiocesan Respect Life Commission will select the recipient(s) to receive the award. The criteria used will be based on the Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities: A Campaign in Support of Life (A Statement of the U.S. Catholic Bishops, 2001). The Archbishop will have the final say on the recipient. A nomination form is available on our website at <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/family-life/resources-and-events/respect-life-award-candidate-submission/online-respect-life-award-candidate-submission-form/>. The deadline for nominations is April 1, 2015. Nominees must be Catholic, living out his or her faith in a visible way, and "proclaim that human life is a precious gift from God; that each person who receives this gift has responsibilities toward God, self, and others; and that society, through its laws and social institutions, must protect and nurture human life at every stage of its existence" (Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities: A Campaign in Support of Life. A Statement of the U.S. Catholic Bishops, 2001, page 1). The award will be presented in October, 2015.

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 2015

At this time, we are still waiting for the cost of weekend hotel and bus rates for Philadelphia for the World Meeting of Families. We will update our website as soon as we receive new information, <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/family-life/world-meeting-of-families-2015/>.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

The kick-off rally for the spring campaign will take place Saturday, February 14, at 10:00 a.m. in front of Planned Parenthood, 2314 Auburn Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio. Reverend Arnold M. Culbreath, Urban Outreach Director of Life Issues Institute, Inc., will speak of the especially

devastating impact of abortion on the African-American community and Father Kyle Schnippel will join us in prayer. Archbishop Dennis Schnurr and Bishop Joseph Binzer will be joining us during the Friday Night Vigils. Students, Respect Life groups, pregnancy center volunteers, those who regret having an abortion, the young and the elderly and people from all walks of life have joined us throughout the campaigns. Will you join us during these 40 Days for Life? For more information, please check out these resources: www.40daysforlife.com ~ Mary Clark at cincy40days@fuse.net ~ www.facebook.com/40daysforlifecincinnati.

APOSTOLIC BLESSINGS: PAPAL BLESSING ON PARCHMENT

Requests for Papal Blessings on parchment can be sent to the Elemosineria Apostolica - Office of Papal Charities only by regular post or by fax. Visit the Vatican website at http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/institutions_connected/elem_apost/documents/rc_lemosineria_doc_20130218_benedizioni_en.html for additional information and instructions. Costs will vary based on parchment size and design; payment details are included with the parchment when it is sent.

PAPAL BLESSING CERTIFICATE

A request for a Papal Blessing in the form of a printed certificate is processed only with a recommendation from a parish priest. This includes the person(s) requesting the blessing, or from a priest familiar with the person(s), attesting to his/her/their good standing in the Catholic Church. The request should be on the parish letterhead and have the parish seal. The printed certificate comes from the Apostolic Nunciature, 3339 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington, DC 20008 (please allow 2-3 months for delivery). An offering of \$20.00 is customary and should be made by check or money order, payable to the "Apostolic Nunciature" for the printed certificate. The blessing from the Apostolic Nuncio is in a letter format (8-1/2 x 11'). The Apostolic Blessing is granted for the following occasions:

1. Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation
2. Marriage
3. Priestly Ordination
4. Religious Profession
5. Secular Consecration
6. Ordinations of Permanent Deacons
7. Marriage Anniversaries (10, 25, 40, 50, 60 years)*, Priestly Ordination, Religious Profession
8. Birthdays (18, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100)*
9. Catholic individuals or families (with name and surname of the spouses united in a religious marriage).

The asterisk () indicates the need for the nihil obstat or approval of ecclesiastical authority. Requests for papal blessings for other occasions will not be accepted.*

PRIESTS' PERSONNEL OFFICE

REQUEST FOR THE ASSISTANCE OF A PRIEST

Emeritus at LongCove Pointe (an Assisted Living Community) is seeking a retired priest to assist with Mass during the week for residents. Emeritus at LongCove Pointe is located at 5535 Irwin

Simpson Road, Mason, Ohio 45040. Please contact Ms. Diana O'Keefe, Life Enrichment Director, at 513.229.3155 if you have any interest or any questions. Thanks for your consideration.

RESIDENCE FOR A RETIRED PRIEST

Father Geoff Drew, the pastor of St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Liberty Township (Butler County), contacted the Priests' Personnel Office informing us that renovations to the rectory at St. Max will allow for a residence for a retired priest in addition to the residences for Father Drew and Father Jim Romanello, the Parochial Vicar. For more information, please contact Father Drew at 513.777.4322x102 or gdrew@saint-max.org.

PRIESTLY FORMATION OFFICE

WINTER/SPRING RETREAT FOR PRIESTS

The Winter/Spring retreat for priests will be during the first full week of Lent, February 23-27, at Maria Stein Spiritual Center. Our retreat master this year will be Father Thomas McQuillen, who now serves on the Athenaeum faculty. Fr. McQuillen is a priest from the Diocese of Toledo who spent 10 years of his priesthood in Zimbabwe, teaching in the seminary and doing mission work. Please register for the retreat by February 16 (the Friday before Ash Wednesday).

For those not making the retreat at Maria Stein, here is a message that we are passing on from a University of Cincinnati Catholic campus ministry organization:

The UC Society of St. Paul is excited to announce our first annual Archdiocesan Frassati Speaker Event: "The New Evangelization and St. Paul." Matthew Leonard, executive director of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology located in Steubenville, Ohio, will present on the New Evangelization and its continuity with St. Paul and his mission to evangelize the world in the first century. **The talk will be held on Monday, February 23, 2015, from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in the Tangeman University Center Great Hall, located in the middle of campus.** Parking can be found on bordering streets as well as in the **CCM Garage, Campus Green and Woodside Garages, and University Avenue Garage.** Spread the word to everyone, invite your parishioners. This event is meant for everybody and will show them that the New Evangelization is taking hold, even on a secular university campus! The Society of St. Paul, founded at UC in 2012, is the new, comprehensive Catholic campus ministry at UC dedicated to the work of the New Evangelization, striving to call all people to dynamic faith in Christ and His Church, centered on the Eucharist. For more information on the Society of St. Paul and the Frassati Speaker Series, please visit our website: ucssp.com.

LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION

The Lenten Day of Reflection for priests of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati is tentatively scheduled for March 24 at Transfiguration Center, West Milton. Presenter: Father Earl Fernandes. More information to follow.

PRIESTS' ANNIVERSARY DINNER

This year priest's anniversary dinner will be Monday, May 18, 2015 at Bergamo. Please mark your calendars.

PRIESTS' SUPPORT GROUPS

There has been interest expressed by many priests in being a part of priests' support groups. The Priestly Formation Office is looking into ways to facilitate this. If you are a member of a present support group, you may want to consider inviting some of your confreres to join yours.

LOOKING TOWARD NEXT FALL

The Convocation of Priests is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2015 at Incarnation Parish. Fall retreat for Priests is scheduled for October 12 – 16 at Jesuit Spiritual Center at Milford.

WORSHIP OFFICE

LITURGICAL CALENDAR UPDATE

Ash Wednesday is February 18, 2015. The Worship Office will post a **Lenten Communal Penance Service** in mid-February.

TIME FOR THE EASTER VIGIL

The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* states that the Easter Vigil is to be celebrated in darkness. **Therefore, this year the Easter Vigil may begin at 8:45 p.m. or later.**

RITE OF ELECTION AND CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION

The Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion will take place on the **First Sunday of Lent, February 22, 2015**. We will be posting the seating charts on our website in early February. We will email a link to the seating charts to all RCIA coordinators. If you have not sent in your reservation form, you should do so immediately. If your reservation form was submitted electronically, the person who submitted the form should have received an email confirmation from the Worship Office. If you have not received an email confirmation, please call 513.421.3131x6609 or email lweber@catholiccincinnati.org immediately. To obtain Rite of Election information and the reservation form, please visit:

<http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/worship/rite-of-election-2015/>.

Additionally, there has been a change in presiders for each location than what was originally posted. Archbishop Schnurr will preside at the Cincinnati celebrations and Bishop Binzer will preside at the Dayton celebrations.

THE “LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU” 2015

Mark your calendars! **Tuesday, March 3, 2015, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.** We will once again open our doors to those seeking to return to the Sacrament of Penance through the “Light is ON for You” initiative. Resources will soon be posted on the Worship Office website and on the Archdiocesan website.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

LEX ORANDI, LEX CREDENDI, LEX VIVENDI

Through prayer, music, and reflection Father Larry Tensi and Karen Kane will engage participants in a deeper experience and understanding of the celebration of the Eucharist and assist them in connecting their Sunday worship to their everyday lives. Children in grades 1 – 6 will also have a separate, spirit-filled program. This five-evening retreat-like experience will be

held on **Thursday evenings from 7:00 – 8:45 p.m. on February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26, 2015 at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Centerville.** Parishes can take advantage of registration discounts. For more information and registration, please go <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/worship/> and scroll down to the upcoming events.

ARCHDIOCESAN CHILDREN’S CHOIR FESTIVAL WITH LEE GWOZDZ

Children’s choirs, directors of music, music teachers, and directors of children’s choirs from all over the Archdiocese of Cincinnati will have a rare opportunity to work with renowned choral clinician, Lee Gwozdz:

Friday, February 27, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. “A Conversation with Lee Gwozdz” – this will be an opportunity for choral directors in parishes and schools to benefit from the expertise and wisdom of one of the top children’s choir clinicians in the country. If you want to learn about children’s voices, starting a children’s choir, techniques for vocal production, including parents as volunteers, and much more, join us for this great afternoon of conversation with Lee!

Saturday, February 28, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., “Children’s Choir Festival” – register your children’s choir to take part in this extraordinary event! They will have a great experience joining with other choirs and singing under Lee Gwozdz’s leadership. For more information and registration, please go to:

<http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/worship/archdiocesan-childrens-choir-festival-february-2015/>

LAY LEADERS OF PRAYER WORKSHOP

April 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 2015 from 7:00 – 9:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Monroe. A five-evening workshop designed to train lay people to lead some of the rites of the Church when a priest or deacon is not available, (i.e. Liturgy of the Hours, Funeral Vigil, Funeral outside of Mass, Rite of Committal, Liturgy of the Word [with Communion], and the Rite of Exposition. (PLEASE NOTE: A person taking this workshop must have the approval from his or her pastor.) For more information, please call the Worship Office at 513.421.3131 or email worship@catholiccincinnati.org.

RCIA TEAM FORMATION DAY: THE NEOPHYTE YEAR

Tuesday, April 14, 2015 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Incarnation Parish, Centerville

Wednesday, April 15, 2015 from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. at St. Saviour Parish, Cincinnati

The Neophyte Year is that part of the RCIA process that we know we should be providing. This workshop is the opportunity to look at this essential part of the RCIA journey from the perspective of parish and the RCIA Team and how we can cooperate more with the grace of God who normally works through the normal. For more information and registration, please go to: <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/042015-flyer.pdf>

LAUDATE: FORMING YOUTH FOR MUSIC MINISTRY

Save the date! June 8 – 11, 2015 at Bergamo Center for Christian Living, Dayton, OH. More information and registration will be available soon.

ARE YOU RECEIVING THE WORSHIP OFFICE E-NEWS?

If you have not signed up for the Worship Office newsletter, you can do so by visiting:

<http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/worship/join-our-email-newsletter/>

MISSION OFFICE

2015 MISSIONARY CO-OP PLAN ASSIGNMENTS EN ROUTE TO YOUR PARISH

The Mission Office has mailed out the proposed assignments for new MCP (Missionary Co-op Plan) to give pastors and missionary orders, organizations, and dioceses earlier opportunities to work out dates. Please contact Melonise Knight of our Mission Office by February 9 if you wish to make a change at: mknight@catholiccincinnati.org or phone 513.421.3131x2631.

On behalf of these missionary groups, we are grateful to our pastors for accepting these MCP assignments as it allows our parishioners to learn about the development of our universal Church and to be in solidarity with those spreading God's good news globally!

If your parish has not yet sent in the MCP and Mission Sunday collections from last year, please mail them today to: Mission Office, Archdiocese of Cincinnati, 100 East 8th St., Cincinnati, OH, 45202. If you are unsure if your parish has mailed in these donations, please contact Melonise Knight at the email address or phone number posted above.

INVITE YOUR CHILDREN TO SUPPORT CHILDREN IN MISSION DIOCESES WITH A WEEK OF PRAYER IN MARCH

The Missionary Childhood Association's (MCA) Prayer and Penny Week is March 16 – 23, 2015. Have your students join children around the world for this special week of prayer! Details are here: <http://www.onefamilyinmission.org/hca/prayer-and-penny-week.html>. For more advice/support locally, please contact our local MCA Coordinator, Teresa Phillips, at 513.421.3131x2632 or mission@catholiccincinnati.org.

LENTEN REFLECTION SESSIONS FOR PARISH TWINNING TEAMS

Please invite your twinning team to either location:

Cincinnati area: Saturday morning March 14 at St. Anthony in Madisonville

Dayton and northern area: Monday evening March 16 at Maria Stein Shrine

Besides our Lenten prayer, we will evaluate new videos being developed by Maryknoll and the "3rd Wave Movement" to help parishes start and improve their twinning relationships and mission/immersion trips. Julie Lupien of "Mission to Mission" will be our guest speaker. For more information and to register, please contact the Mission Office Director, Dr. Mike Gable, at mgable@catholiccincinnati.org or phone 513.421.3131x2630.

HOLY FATHER'S MISSION/EVANGELIZATION INTENTIONS

February: Universal: That prisoners, especially the young, may be able to rebuild lives of dignity. Evangelization: That married people who are separated may find welcome and support in the Christian community.

March: Universal: That those involved in scientific research may serve the well-being of the whole human person. Evangelization: That the unique contribution of women to the life of the Church may be recognized always.

OFFICE OF YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY (OYYAM)

Important: There is far more information on youth and young adult opportunities on our website than we are able to include here. Visit our websites:

- Young Adult Ministry: <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/young-adult>
- Youth Ministry: <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/youth-ministry>

FOR YOUNG ADULTS

SERVICE IS JOY – CATHOLIC HAPPY HOUR FOR YOUNG ADULTS THE CENTENNIAL BARN, FEBRUARY 12, 6:30 - 8:30 P.M.

A coalition of young adult leaders from Cincinnati-area young adult groups and Theology on Tap programs has teamed up with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and the OYYAM to organize a special event inspired by Pope Francis, entitled “Service is Joy.” It will be an opportunity for young adults to gather, enjoy appetizers and craft beers, and visit with representatives of approximately twenty Cincinnati-area service organizations and explore how they might serve. (Note: child care will be available.) For more information, please visit: <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/young-adult/>.

Please alert your parish’s young adults, post the flyer, included with this mailing, and consider including it in your parish’s bulletin.

RETREAT FOR YOUTH MINISTERS LIVING THE BEATITUDES IN YOUR LIFE AND MINISTRY

On Monday, March 2, 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Fr. Nathan Cromly, of Eagle Eye Ministries, will offer a one-day retreat for ministry leaders who work with young people – youth ministers, catechetical leaders, campus ministers, etc. Travel on Sunday, March 1, stay overnight at Maria Stein, and enjoy a complimentary wine and cheese social on Sunday evening, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. For more information, please visit: <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/YMretreat2015/>.

CATHOLIC YOUTH ATHLETICS INITIATIVE AND CHARTER IMPLEMENTATION

Here’s a snapshot of Youth Athletics Initiative developments (please forward to your athletics leaders):

1. **Cincinnati CYO will dissolve as of the end of May:** It is with great gratitude to the board and the staff of the Catholic Youth Sports Organization, Inc. (Cincinnati CYO) that we offer this important update to Cincinnati-area leaders of Catholic Youth Athletics. On December 22, 2014, Bill Rice, President of the Catholic Youth Sports Organization, Inc., informed the Commission of their decision to dissolve as of the end of this school year. The Catholic Youth Sports Organization, Inc., (Cincinnati CYO) is an independent, non-profit organization that has served Catholic parishes and schools for fifteen years by organizing league play, competitions, and tournaments. We are most grateful for their long years of faithful service.

The Commission has begun work on plans to respond to both the immediate and long-term opportunities presented by the Cincinnati CYO’s decision. In the short-term, the Commission will be leading the way in helping develop interim plans so the parishes, schools, kids, and teams that participate in the Cincinnati CYO will continue through 2015 and beyond.

To lead the way, a special Task Force is being organized by the “Key Three” leadership of the Commission (Youth Athletics Chaplain Deacon David Profitt; Dr. Sean Reynolds, Director of the Archdiocesan Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry; and Greg Tankersley of St. Ignatius Parish and LaSalle High School). Greg will be heading up the Task Force, assisted by area athletics’ leaders and Don Back (the Commission’s Chair of its Subcommittee on Leagues). Greg and Don are happy to accept calls from booster presidents with their ideas and thoughts. *Important: parents, coaches and boosters members should direct their comments or questions to their boosters presidents rather*

than calling Greg or Don directly. Greg Tankersley's mobile number is: 513.235.7112; Don Back's mobile number is: 513.520.2333.

2. **March 15, 2015 Deadline for Boosters Compliance Materials:** Pastors and other parish leaders who read *Clergy Communications* are urged to make sure their athletics' leaders are aware of the deadline and have access to compliance materials here: <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ayatf/>. In the Cincinnati region, direct any questions to the the chair of the Subcommittee on Athletics Organizations, Gina Kelly, 513.739.0430, or gina.kelly@clorox.com. In the Dayton and Northern regions, direct questions to Tim Colbert at 937.223.1001x5050 or tcobert@catholiccincinnati.org.
3. **SportsLeader Inspirational Materials:** The OYYAM is covering the cost of providing Sports Leader's twice-weekly inspirational emails and resources to coaches, athletics' leaders and parents from January—May, 2015. **Important: Boosters leaders are to forward these materials to their coaches, athletics leaders, and parents!** To arrange for a special orientation session on how best to use the Sports Leader materials, please contact Deacon Dave Profitt, Archdiocesan Youth Athletics Chaplain at dprofitt@catholiccincinnati.org.

JUNIOR HIGH MINISTRY

IGNITE, 2015, APRIL 17-19, 2015, BERGAMO CONFERENCE CENTER

IGNITE is a high-energy, weekend discipleship retreat for youth with demonstrated leadership abilities in grades 7 and 8. As a short-term apprenticeship in Catholic discipleship of Jesus Christ, grade 7 and 8 youth will experience Catholicism as a comprehensive way of life—igniting in them the desire to live as disciples and lead their peers for living the faith in their families, schools and activities. Hallmarks of IGNITE are active and engaging learning sessions, powerful faith sharing and witness talks, prayer experiences, small group discussions, breakouts and general sessions, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and Mass. ***This year's theme: The Holy Trinity: Called to Holiness, Community and Service.*** For more information, please visit: <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/youth-ministry/services/youthleader/ignite/>.

NEXT JUNIOR HIGH RALLY IS OCTOBER 17, 2015 WITH STEVE ANGRISANO

Our next middle school and junior-high rally will happen next fall on Saturday afternoon and evening, October 17 (note: we had hoped for a spring rally, but scheduling a spring rally around Lent, Easter, Confirmations, Mother's Day, 8th grade trips, etc., proved impossible). The October 17 rally will take place at Archbishop Moeller High School in Cincinnati, and will feature Steve Angrisano, a veteran musician, composer and youth minister who has been featured at six World Youth Days, several National Catholic Youth Conferences and countless diocesan youth conventions and Steubenville Conferences. He is especially good at actively engaging large groups of young people, so mark your calendars and keep in mind there will be a parent track. To learn more about Steve Angrisano, please visit <http://www.spiritandsong.com/Steve-Angrisano>.

SUMMER CAMPS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL AND JUNIOR HIGH

A special **webinar on** summer camps for middle school and junior-high youth took place on **January 28, and the webinar is now available online, along with materials. View the**

webinar to explore how to plan and implement a middle school/junior-high week-long day camp at your parish or school. Follow the link from the OYYAM youth ministry home page.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

LAUDATE: FORMING YOUTH FOR MUSIC MINISTRY!

This popular four-day, three-night workshop features sessions in voice and other instruments used in liturgy. Teens will learn liturgy fundamentals and hear witnesses from those who work in the field. This program is designed for young people who love song, music, and faith, and want to bring them together in a fun community experience during the summer. Mark your calendars for **June 8-11, 2015 at Bergamo Retreat Center**. For information and registration, please visit the OYYAM youth ministry homepage.

ROOTED IN THE VINE,

A CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING RETREAT FOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Through collaboration of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, the Catholic Social Action Office and the OYYAM, this 6-day retreat experience for high-school students is full of fun and eye-opening opportunities that will challenge your youth to see from others' perspectives and grow in love of God and neighbor. **June 27-July 2 at St. Vincent de Paul** in Cincinnati (1125 Bank St.). For information and registration, please visit the OYYAM youth ministry homepage.

CATHOLIC SCOUTING

Boy Scouting News: We have a new Chair of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Catholic Committee on Scouting, Mr. Tom Wiles of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Cincinnati. For the past ten years, Joe Schneider of St. Bernard Parish in Taylor's Creek, has served with distinction as Catholic Committee Chair, and will continue to serve the committee by arranging for Masses and priests at scouting events. Tom is meeting with Joe, OYYAM staff, and Tom Dugger (Dan Beard Council Chief Executive), to pull together plans for the Committee, including recruiting for committees that will be responsible for religious emblems, Catholic Scouter development, religious emblems and adult awards ceremonies, and more. (Note: the OYYAM administers religious emblems and awards programs for Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and American Heritage Girls. To learn more, please visit our website or contact Monica Sellers at msellers@catholiccincinnati.org.

Celebrating 100 Years of Catholic Girl Scouting: This patch program helps girls celebrate the relationship between the Catholic Church and Girl Scouting by encouraging them to explore the rich traditions of the Catholic faith and inspiring them to become stronger members of their Catholic communities, while striving to become faith-filled Christian women. Visit the OYYAM youth ministry home page for requirements by following links to Girl Scouting, or contact Monica Sellers (msellers@catholiccincinnati.org) in the Cincinnati area, or Karen Rolfe (krolfe@catholiccincinnati.org) in the Dayton and northern areas.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE

PASTOR AND PRINCIPAL RECEIVE NATIONAL AWARDS

Two local Catholic educators were recently recognized for their outstanding commitment to Catholic school education. Fr. Jim Walsh, pastor of St. Dominic Church and School (Delhi), was named a recipient of the Distinguished Pastor Award from the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA). This national award is given to a select group of pastors who demonstrate tremendous support and passion for the ministry of Catholic school education. Similarly, Ms. Kathy Kane, Principal of Our Lady of Victory School (Delhi), is receiving the NCEA's Distinguished Principal Award. To have both a pastor and principal from the Archdiocese recognized is quite an achievement! Both Fr. Walsh and Ms. Kane will accept their awards at the NCEA Convention this April.

NEW STAFF

The Catholic Schools Office is pleased to welcome Mr. Dave Humphrey to our staff. Mr. Humphrey began serving as the Associate Director of School Finance in early January. He comes to us with a great amount of financial experience and knowledge. In the past, Mr. Humphrey has operated his own financial consulting company, and worked as CFO for JA&G Advertising, General Manager for River's Edge Indoor Sports, and Internal Audit Supervisor for US Bank. Mr. Humphrey is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA). He is a graduate of Elder High School, and holds a BS in Accounting from the University of Dayton and a Master's in Business Administration (MBA) from Xavier University. He attends Our Lady of Visitation parish, and his children attended Catholic schools. As Associate Director of School Finance, Mr. Humphrey will be tasked with advising Catholic schools on financial practices, operating our consolidating purchasing program, monitoring a variety of accounts and grant sources, and coordinating meetings of the High School Business Managers, among other duties. He will work out of the Cincinnati Catholic Schools Office. Remember that the Catholic Schools Office is poised to assist any Catholic school (and sponsoring parish) with thoughtful financial planning and enrollment management. Please contact our office if we can be of service.

DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS

Mr. Ken Gleason, Director of the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis (OEC), has announced his retirement, effective July 1, 2015. We would like to thank Mr. Gleason for 29 years of outstanding service to our department (the last 19 years as OEC Director). We are conducting a national search for his successor. Please help to spread the word to any interested party in your parish. A complete job description of the OEC Director position may be found on the Archdiocesan website (www.catholiccincinnati.org/jobs). We will be accepting applications through February 23, 2015.

OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS

DAN MULHALL TO LEAD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Revisiting & Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the National Directory of Catechesis

On Tuesday, March 10, 2015 Dan Mulhall, member of NDC draft committee, and current Director of Professional Development and Hispanic Catechesis for RCL Benziger, and nationally known speaker, will address pastors, religious educators, pastoral leaders, youth ministers and other church workers at the annual Professional Development Day, sponsored by C.R.E.A. Dan Mulhall's presentation, "Revisiting and Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the NDC", will walk us through the history and development of the NDC followed by suggestions and discussion around "where do we go from here?" The 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. event will be held at Corpus Christi Church, Cincinnati, and cost is \$50 per person. Registration form can be found [here](#).

Sponsored by Cincinnati Religious Educators' Association

NCEA IFG: ACRE IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI

REMINDER: The NCEA:IFG ACRE Assessment must be administered in every parish and school annually (Religious Education Policy #2108.02). High schools completed their assessments in the fall; all parish religious education programs and elementary schools, grade 5 and 8, should be preparing to offer the NCEA IFG: ACRE assessment after the Christmas break, with all answer sheets submitted for scoring by February 13, 2015. To order materials, please link to: <http://ncea.caltesting.org>.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: please link to: <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/evangelization-and-catechesis/> and click on NCEA ACRE icon, or contact Mary Montour at 513.421.3131x2732, mmontour@catholiccincinnati.org.

CHRIST AT THE CENTER...

The infusion bulletin for Lent, February 22, 2015 – March 29, 2015, is included with this mailing. The Spanish edition is also included.

OFFICE OF THE NEW EVANGELIZATION

CONTAGIOUSLY CATHOLIC PARISH ALLIANCE

Friday, February 20, 2015; 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Our Lady of Sorrows, Monroe

Are you ready to build a Contagiously Catholic Parish? The Archdiocese of Cincinnati, in partnership with the Evangelical Catholic, is looking to create alliances with a few parishes committed to becoming completely mission-oriented. Pastors, staff, and key leaders from interested parishes are invited to attend an informational meeting to begin to discern the commitment involved in this alliance. Parishes that are ready to commit to an Alliance will be equipped to implement the evangelization and discipleship methods being introduced at the Contagiously Catholic Evangelization Workshops. There will be no cost for a Parish Alliance, but it will require a significant commitment of time, energy, and personnel. We can only work with a select number of parishes at this time, so it will be very important that parishes are prepared and informed. You can view past workshops on-line at www.ContagiouslyCatholic.org – scroll down to the Media Player and click on the "On Demand" tab. For an idea of the impact of a Parish Alliance watch this video: <http://youtu.be/UI8uGagTrrM>. Please contact Sean Ater in

the Office of the New Evangelization for more information and to register your staff and key leaders.

CONTAGIOUSLY CATHOLIC

EVANGELIZATION WORKSHOP: ONE ON ONE MINISTRY

Saturday, February 21, 2015; 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Savannah Center, West Chester

Cost: \$25 per person (includes continental breakfast and lunch)

Register Now! This workshop will equip you for personal, One-on-One mentoring relationships for establishing discipleship and training for evangelization. For more Information and registration, please visit: www.ContagiouslyCatholic.org.

FUTURE WORKSHOPS: SAVE THE DATE

- Saturday, March 21, 2015: Small Group Evangelization
- Saturday, April 25, 2015: Intentional Parish Evangelization

Questions? Contact Sean Ater at: sater@catholiccincinnati.org or 513.421.3131x2733.

“ONE HUMAN FAMILY, FOOD FOR ALL”

ARCHDIOCESAN EVANGELIZATION AND FOOD DRIVE, OCTOBER 10-18, 2015

The Offices of the New Evangelization, Catholic Social Action, Catholic Charities of Southwest Ohio, and Catholic Social Services will be coordinating a diocesan-wide food drive in October in order to participate in “One Human Family, Food For All,” the world-wide Caritas initiative to end human hunger. All proceeds from the food drive will go to stock your parish or parish-sponsored food pantry. This will be an evangelization opportunity for each parish to go door to door to collect food, make personal connections and invitations within your parish boundaries. It will also be an opportunity to advocate for anti-hunger policies. More information to come.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

CATHOLIC SOCIAL ACTION OFFICE

ARCHBISHOP INVITES

PARISHES AND SCHOOLS TO USE CRS RICE BOWL THIS LENT

Archbishop Dennis Schnurr, a former member of the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Board of Directors, is inviting every parish and school in the Archdiocese to use CRS Rice Bowls for Lent 2015. To see his letter, please visit: <http://www.thecatholictelegraph.com/archbishop-schnurr-letter-encourages-participation-in-crs-rice-bowl/20984>.

Through prayer, fasting, and sacrificial donations, Catholics in our Archdiocese can respond to the Gospel call to serve our brothers and sisters in need around the world – while at the same time deepening their own faith. CRS receives 75% of all Rice Bowl donations collected in the Archdiocese to support CRS’ projects in agriculture, mother and child health, water, microfinance and education. The remaining 25% of all donations fight hunger and poverty in our Archdiocese. Last year, we were able to distribute \$21,000 to agencies that alleviate poverty and hunger in every deanery in the Archdiocese. You can order Rice Bowl materials through February 4 and still receive them by Ash Wednesday. To order these free materials, call 1.800.222.0025 or visit: www.crsricebowl.org/order. To find additional resources, click on:

www.crsricebowl.org. There you will find:

- **A new app that delivers prayers and resources directly to your mobile device**
- Lenten devotions and prayers
- Reflections for adult faith-sharing communities and youth ministry groups
- Lesson plans, videos, and activity sheets for Catholic schools and religious educators
- Ideas for community gatherings and meatless Lenten meal events.

If you would like a speaker who can tell the story of CRS' good work around the world, please call Pam Long, the CRS Diocesan Director, at 937.224.3026 or plong@catholiccincinnati.org.

CRS RICE BOWL CHALLENGE GRANT

The Archdiocese's CRS Committee again will offer two Challenge Grants of \$750 each to a parish which is participating in the CRS Rice Bowl Program for the first time and to a parish which is expanding its CRS Rice Bowl efforts. An application and information is available on the Catholic Social Action website.

CENTURY FARM REGISTRY APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 31

Catholic Rural Life of St. Marys and Sidney Deaneries is now accepting applications for the 2014 Catholic Century Farm Registry. Deadline is March 31. Families who have farmed the same land for 100 years or more are eligible for the registry. Century Family Farms will be recognized as part of the Rural Urban Mass. Information and an application for the registry are available online on the Catholic Social Action pages under Rural Life Ministry.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT INTERFAITH SERVICE EFFORT TO CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF *NOSTRA AETATE!*

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's *Nostra Aetate: Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions*, the Archdiocese is teaming up with Xavier University, Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati, Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education, and Hebrew Union College - Institute of Religion to invite groups to join together and form an interfaith working group that will engage in a community service activity. The type of activity is open: working with issues impacting the underserved, such as poverty, the environment, the disabled, animal rights, the aged, immigrants and refugees, etc. An activity that seeks to make a change, however small, for the better in our regional community is appropriate.

HOW - FUNDING: Each combined group is eligible to receive up to \$500 towards their service project.

WHO: Multiple faith groups of tweens, teens, and/or young adults. Any group in the 19 counties of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati or the Tri-state area of Cincinnati is eligible.

WHY: In celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of [Nostra Aetate](#), a seminal Catholic Church document proclaiming the importance of cooperation among people of different faiths for the betterment of society, groups of any and all faith traditions are welcome and encouraged to apply.

WHEN: Review of applications begins on February 1, 2015, and will continue until 50 projects have been selected. Contact persons will be notified beginning March 1, 2015. Service projects should take place between March 1, 2015 and January 23, 2016.

To learn more or apply for funding, please visit: www.Xavier.edu/identity, or contact the Catholic Social Action Office at 513.421.3131x2660.

LOCAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED!

Are you familiar with an organization that is empowering low-income families to tackle the root causes of poverty? If so, the organization may be eligible to apply for a local Catholic Campaign for Human Development grant, ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000. To access the application forms and view lists of organizations currently receiving local CCHD funds, please go to www.catholiccincinnati.org/socialaction and click on the CCHD links on the side menu. Or contact us at 513.421.3131x2660. Applications should be postmarked by March 16.

ST. MARTIN DEANERY CATHOLIC RURAL LIFE

The St. Martin Deanery Rural Life will be meeting on Thursday, February 12, at St. Mary Church in Arnheim at 7:00 p.m. Please contact Catholic Social Action or conference chair Pat Hornschemeier at 937.378.4769 for more information.

REFLECTING ON THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE 13TH AMENDMENT: “SLAVERY BY ANOTHER NAME”

The Archdiocese is partnering with the Cincinnati Juneteenth Committee to encourage parishes, schools, and any Catholic institution to organize small discussion groups in the Greater Cincinnati area to reflect upon the 150th anniversary of the end of slavery in the United States. The process includes watching the powerful PBS documentary, *Slavery by Another Name*. Discussion guides can be provided, including a supplemental version with Catholic teaching, prepared by the Archdiocesan Anti-Racism Task Force. For more information, please contact the Catholic Social Action Office at 513.421.3131x2660, or csa@catholiccincinnati.org.

MENTORING FOR INCARCERATED AND RETURNING CITIZENS: FEBRUARY 23

Have you participated in one of the Archdiocese and St. Vincent de Paul’s “Dismas Journey” programs, or are you interested in volunteering to help minister to those in prison or those recently released from prison in the Greater Cincinnati area? If so, we invite you to an orientation program on Monday, February 23, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., at the Athenaeum of Ohio (Room 168). The event is free of charge. The purpose of this orientation is to introduce potential volunteers to the variety of prison mentoring and re-entry assistance efforts supported by the Archdiocese. In addition, participants will receive an introduction to understanding some of the cultural differences often faced between mentors and those who have experienced incarceration. We will also discuss some of the upcoming advocacy opportunities for state and federal public policies that can break down barriers for those re-entering society and looking for employment. Please note that there is no obligation to volunteer by attending this meeting, but there will be channels for volunteering for those who choose to continue the process. RSVP by contacting Christine Shimrock, Archdiocesan Prison Ministries Director, at 513.706.1177, or shimrockprison@gmail.com; or Tony Stieritz, Catholic Social Action Office Director, at 513.421.3131x2660, or csa@catholiccincinnati.org. For more information on Archdiocesan Prison Ministries, please visit www.catholiccincinnati.org/prisonmission. For more information on the Dismas Journey program, please visit www.catholiccincinnati.org/socialaction.

THE JOY OF SERVICE: FEBRUARY 12

Check out the announcement under Youth and Young Adult Ministries for information regarding an exciting gathering of young adults connecting with service and social justice opportunities!

DEPARTMENT OF STEWARDSHIP

CMA STATISTICS & PARISH PROGRESS

Totals for this year's CMA, including parish progress, can be found at www.CatholicAppeal.info under the "Info for Parish Staff" link – **the password to access this section is: cma2007.**

2015 CMA VIDEO

To help promote this year's Appeal, please consider posting the 2015 CMA Video on your parish website and/or Facebook page. The video is available on Vimeo and YouTube.

CMA Video on Vimeo – found at www.CatholicAppeal.info

CMA Video on YouTube – found at www.youtube.com/user/cincyArchdiocese

2014 CMA OVER-GOAL REBATE PAYMENTS

For the 2014 Appeal, 102 parishes received rebate payments for exceeding their CMA parish goal (*note: rebate payments are based on the actual amount paid towards the total pledged*). A total of just over \$375,000 was paid in over-goal rebates. Rebate funds were sent via ACH on 1/20/15 for deposit on 1/21/15. The memo line for the transfer reads: **OPERA0877 CMA "Parish Name" 012115**. Rebate checks were mailed to parishes that do not have electronic funds transfer capabilities. For questions regarding over-goal/rebate payments, please contact David Kissell at 513.421.3131x2881 or email: david@CatholicAppeal.info.

MISCELLANEOUS

GLENMARY HOME MISSIONERS OPEN HOUSE

Glenmary Home Missioners will host an open house on Sunday, February 8, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the society's Headquarters in Fairfield. The open house is one of the ways the U.S. missionary society of priests and brothers will be observing the Year of Consecrated Life. The open house will include tours of the Our Lady of the Fields Chapel, presentations on Glenmary's home mission ministry, light refreshments, and more. All are welcome to attend and learn about the great missionary need that continues to exist in the rural United States! The Glenmary residence is located at 4119 Glenmary Trace, Fairfield. For more information, please contact Father Dominic Duggins at dduggins@glenmary.org or 513.881.7475.

THE LAY PASTORAL MINISTRY PROGRAM (LPMP) WILL OFFER CLASSES BEGINNING AUGUST 2015

At the Pilarczyk Center in Dayton, at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish, Cincinnati and the Main Campus in Mt. Washington

The LPMP is sponsored by the Archdiocese and provides lay men and women the opportunity to grow in faith, knowledge and skills. The program takes an integrated approach to learning and incorporates the four pillars of formation: Intellectual, Spiritual, Pastoral and Personal. Over 800

LPMP graduates serve in a variety of ways: as Catechists, Campus Ministers, RCIA team members, Permanent Deacons, Bereavement Coordinators, Chaplains, Prison Ministers, DRE/CREs, Youth Ministers and in service to the poor, elderly and marginalized. They are everyday evangelists—what Pope Francis has called, “missionary disciples,” the salt and leaven so needed in our world. Each year, a significant number of students enter the LPMP because their pastor or deacon encouraged them to explore lay Catholic studies. Please invite interested parishioners to call for information or to attend a Cincinnati area Information Meeting:

- Saturday February 7, 10:00 a.m., St. Clare Parish, 1443 Cedar Avenue

OR

- Saturday February 14, 10:00 a.m., The Athenaeum, 6616 Beechmont Avenue (Rm 114)

Sessions will include the benefits of lay formation, program options and fees, questions and the application process. In Cincinnati, please call 513.231.1200 or email smcgurgan@athenaeum.edu. For information on Dayton classes or to schedule an Information Meeting or an interview, please contact Deacon Hal Belcher at 419.305.5486 or hbelcher001@woh.rr.com.

NATIVITY CRÈCHE NEEDED

Holy Cross – Immaculata Church in Cincinnati needs an indoor Nativity Crèche. Ideally, the statues of Mary and Joseph would measure about 22 inches tall, with the other statues of corresponding size. If you are able to assist, please contact Father Jeff Bacon at Holy Cross – Immaculata at: jbacon@catholiccincinnati.org or 513.721. 6544. Thank you.

**Please submit articles for the March *Clergy Communications* before February 19, 2015.
Thank You.**

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. Email: Communications@CatholicCincinnati.org

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT SHEET

MINISTRY TO SURVIVORS OF ABUSE (REPORTING) - The Archdiocese of Cincinnati regards child abuse in all its forms as a serious matter. If you are or have been abused by an employee or volunteer of the Archdiocese, or are aware of abuse currently taking place, please contact Ms. Cherie Groman, Coordinator of Ministry to Survivors of Abuse, at 513.263.6623, or 1.800.686.2724x6623. **This is a confidential, dedicated line to accept calls related to child abuse by employees or volunteers.** In addition, be sure to notify the survivor's secular legal authorities.

REPORTING FINANCIAL MISCONDUCT - In a spirit of good stewardship, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati has instituted a financial misconduct hotline to allow employees, volunteers, vendors and other interested parties to report what they believe to be financial misconduct at any level – parish, deanery or Archdiocese. As an additional safeguard, the hotline is administered by an independent third-party company, EthicsPoint. You may report a concern on this hotline either by calling one of EthicsPoint's trained specialists at 1.888.389.0381 or by visiting the website www.ethicspoint.com. There is also a link on the Archdiocesan website, www.CatholicCincinnati.org, under Ministries and Offices > Finance Office > "To Report Financial Misconduct." (on menu on left-hand side of page) > "File a Report" (at top of page).

MARY'S MANTLE PRAYER VIGIL FOR LIFE - Beginning on January 31, 2015, Mary's Mantle Prayer Vigil for Life will begin holding services on the 5th Saturday of the month (services are already held on the other Saturdays). These services will include an 8:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Name Church, 2422 Auburn Avenue, in Cincinnati, followed by a march to the Planned Parenthood Facility on Auburn Avenue for a Rosary Service, and Benediction at Holy Name Church. All are invited. Please come, and please pray for an end to abortion.

HOW DO I KNOW IF GOD IS CALLING ME TO CONSECRATED LIFE? - The Vocation Ministers of the Greater Cincinnati Area are offering an Online (email, Skype or phone) Discernment Retreat available for women ages 20-40 during Lent. A woman who makes this retreat is paired with a trained Spiritual Director, a member of a religious order. For more information, please email Cathy Bauer, OSB at bauerosb@yahoo.com; text at 859.468.6040 or phone at 859.331.6324.

REFLECTING ON THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE 13TH AMENDMENT: "SLAVERY BY ANOTHER NAME" - The Archdiocese is partnering with the Cincinnati Juneteenth Committee to encourage parishes, schools, and any Catholic institution to organize small discussion groups in the Greater Cincinnati area to reflect upon the 150th anniversary of the end of slavery in the United States. The process includes watching the powerful PBS documentary, *Slavery by Another Name*. Discussion guides can be provided, including a supplemental version with Catholic teaching, prepared by the Archdiocesan Anti-Racism Task Force. For more information, please contact the Catholic Social Action Office at 513.421.3131x2660, or csa@catholiccincinnati.org.

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CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION - *The Archdiocese Climate Change Task Force is providing sample bulletin announcements once a month that include a sample prayer/reflection, quote from the Holy See, and energy-saving/care for creation tip. Please feel free to use these as appropriate.*
Reflection: Creator God, we thank you for the gift of sabbath rest amid the busyness of our lives. May we have time to stand and stare, to reflect on the beauty of the created world, and to appreciate the many blessings of this life. Help us to be satisfied with enough, and to live within our means in relation to the earth. Quote from the Holy See: "Peace to this our Earth! May the risen Jesus bring comfort to the victims of natural disasters and make us responsible guardians of creation." -- Pope Francis, Easter 2013 Urbi et Orbi Message. Care for Creation Tip: Six Simple Resolutions for 2015

1. Turn down your thermostats a few degrees in the winter (less heating); turn up your thermostats a bit in summer (less cooling)
2. Cut back on driving to the extent that you can
3. Recycle those bottles and cans from your parties
4. Take a shorter shower; install low-flow shower heads and fix leaky faucets
5. Switch to reusable bags and not just for grocery shopping
6. Educate yourself and take the St. Francis Pledge! www.catholicclimatecovenant.org