



## CLERGY COMMUNICATIONS

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

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# FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati is home to two chapters of Courage International, an apostolate of the Church in helping those who experience same-sex attraction. Through a small group format, Courage helps individuals find fellowship and spiritual support in living out the Church's teaching to chastity and fruitfulness of life. Priests are the biggest advocates for Courage, as this topic so often arises in pastoral counseling and/or the confessional. If you would like more information regarding Courage International, please visit <http://couragerc.org/clergy/> or contact Fr. Kyle Schnippel, Chaplain of the Cincinnati Chapter of Courage 513.742.0953x16 or Fr. Ron Haft, Chaplain of the Dayton chapter 937.473.2970. To refer individuals to our local Courage group, please encourage them to send an email to [courage@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:courage@catholiccincinnati.org) or call our confidential phone line at **513.488.1291** for the Cincinnati chapter or [couragenorth@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:couragenorth@catholiccincinnati.org) and **937.684.8839** for the Dayton Chapter. Brochures describing the goals and ministry of Courage are also available upon request. Please keep this ministry and those who avail themselves of it in your prayers.

## *PRIESTS' PERSONNEL OFFICE*

### **FEDERAL INCOME TAXES FOR PRIESTS**

The Federal income tax system is complex for priests. There are some resources available to priests who are interested in learning more about this topic. These resources include:

- *Income Taxes for Priests Only*, 2016 edition, which is available at <http://shepherdsadvisor.org/income-taxes-for-priests-only/> and
- *The Income Tax Guide for Clergy for Tax Year 2016*, which is available at <https://nfpc.org/product/income-tax-guide-for-clergy-for-tax-year-2015/>.

## *PRIESTLY FORMATION OFFICE*

### **WINTER SPRING RETREAT**

The Winter/Spring Retreat for priests will be at Maria Stein **March 6 – 10, 2017**. We are pleased to have Father W. Shawn McKnight of the Diocese of Wichita Kansas as our retreat master. Fr. McKnight has a doctorate in Liturgy from the Institute of Sant' Anselmo. He has seminary teaching and administrative experience. He has also served as the Director of the

USCCB Office of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations. He is currently a pastor of a large parish in the Diocese of Wichita.

### **MULTI-DAY CONVOCATION**

The multi-day Convocation for Priests will take place **June 19 - 22, 2017** at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Dublin, Ohio. Registration information will be coming in March.

### **VOCATION OFFICE**

#### **RUN FOR THE CALL**

Once again this year, the Vocation Office is looking for extra support for our seminarians as we promote a culture of vocations through our Run for the Call team. There are many ways to join the Run for the Call efforts:

- February 18 – Family Friendly Square Dance Fundraiser at Annunciation parish in Cincinnati from 6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
- Order Run for the Call team shirts for \$15 each
- Sign up to be a prayer partner for a seminarian
- Join the Run for the Call team at the Flying Pig Marathon on May 6-7

All of these opportunities allow people to spread the message of vocations and show our support for our seminarians and for all who are discerning God’s call in their lives.

#### **NATIONAL CATHOLIC SISTERS WEEK**

National Catholic Sisters Week is celebrated every year from March 8-14. Originally celebrated in 2013, this week is a time to honor the history of Catholic Sisters throughout the United States and to celebrate the good work they continue to do for both those inside and those outside the Church. Please add a special intention for Catholic Sisters at your March 11-12 Sunday Masses and encourage people to visit [www.nationalcatholicsistersweek.org](http://www.nationalcatholicsistersweek.org).

#### **WELCOME WEEKEND AT THE SEMINARY**

This year’s welcome weekend at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary of the West is March 17-18. Please reach out to any young man in your parish, college age and older, whom you believe would make a good priest and ask him to consider attending. If he is interested, have him contact Fr. Schmitmeyer or register online at [www.cincinnati vocations.org](http://www.cincinnati vocations.org) and click on “Events.”

#### **NEW ONLINE VOCATION MATERIALS ORDER FORM**

The Vocation Office now offers a very simple way of ordering vocation-related materials for your parishes, religious communities, schools or homeschool communities. Simply go to the Vocation Office website, click on the Resources button in the right sidebar, then click on “Vocation Materials Order Form” link. To link directly from here go to <http://www.cincinnati vocations.org/additional-resources/vocation-culture-materials-order-form/>.

## **SAVE THE DATE: DINNER FOR YOUNG WOMEN IN DISCERNMENT**

Are you a pastor, a parish young adult minister, or a campus minister who knows a young woman you think may have a call to the Consecrated Life? If your answer is “yes,” consider inviting her and accompanying her to a gathering at St. Francis de Sales Parish in Lebanon on April 26, 2017. This will be an opportunity to be with Archbishop Dennis Schnurr, to meet young women in one of the varied consecrated life options present in the Archdiocese, to meet with other young women considering this call and to meet vocation ministers. Further details will be available along with how to register. For now, please consider whom you might invite and mark your calendar.

## **FEBRUARY/MARCH 2017 EVENTS TO ANNOUNCE**

Please see the Bulletin Announcements section for more information on each of the following:

- **February 9:** CHOSEN: Monthly Holy Hour for Vocations
- **February 11-12:** BE NOT AFRAID: Discernment Retreat for women
- **February 14:** Evening of Inquiry with the Children of Mary
- **February 17-19:** Glenmary Home Missioners Come and See Retreat
- **February 17-19:** Fathers of Mercy Come and See Retreat
- **February 18:** Run for the Call Square Dance
- **February 18:** Called to Love Retreat with Sisters of St. Joseph the Worker
- **March 8-14:** National Catholic Sisters Week
- **March 17-18:** Mount St. Mary’s Seminary Welcome Weekend
- **March 31-April 2:** Live Joyfully Retreat with Sisters of Providence of SMOTW

## **IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR**

- ❖ National Catholic Sisters Week: March 8-14, 2017 (part of Women’s History Month)
- ❖ Marian Dinner (St. Francis de Sales, Lebanon): Wednesday, April 26, 2017
- ❖ Diaconate Ordination (Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains): Saturday, April 29, 2017
- ❖ Religious Brothers Day: May 1, 2017
- ❖ World Day of Prayer for Vocations: May 7, 2017
- ❖ Priesthood Ordination: Saturday, May 20, 2017

## **DEPARTMENT OF EXECUTIVE SERVICES**

### ***CHANCERY OFFICE***

#### **ASH WEDNESDAY 2017 COLLECTION**

The collection to aid the Church in Central and Eastern Europe will take place on **Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017**. 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, March 1, 2017, and Good Friday, April 14, 2017, 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 18<sup>th</sup> birthday until their 59<sup>th</sup> 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.)

**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.

## ***OFFICE OF THE DIACONATE***

### **SENIOR STATUS**

Deacon Jim Olinger has petitioned Archbishop Schnurr for a deferral of Senior Status. He has requested that he be deferred so that he may continue in active ministry at St. Rita Parish. The Archbishop accepted his petition and deferred Deacon Olinger's Senior Status effective December 21, 2016.

Thank you, Deacon Olinger for your service to God and his Church.

### **PERMANENT DEACON CANDIDATES TO BE INSTALLED AS LECTORS**

The twenty men who are candidates in formation have petitioned to be installed to the Ministry of Lector. This is the first of the minor ministries into which the men will be installed on their path towards ordination to the Permanent Diaconate. The Rite of Installation will take place at the Basilica Cathedral of the Assumption, Covington, Kentucky at 10:00 a.m. on February 12, 2017, with the Most Reverend Roger J. Foys, Bishop of Covington, presiding at the Mass. Please keep our deacon candidates in your prayers as they continue their discernment and formation.

## ***OFFICE OF SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH***

### **BACKGROUND CHECK / CHILD PROTECTION REQUIRMENTS**

All "clergy," "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.

All new employees must complete both manual and an electronic background check through SELECTiON.COM® at time of employment with no further requirement for a manual fingerprint completed in the future. This was effective March 1, 2015. Current employees must sign up for an electronic background check through SELECTiON.COM® within five years of their last manual fingerprinting or December 31, 2018, whichever is sooner. This requirement was effective January 1, 2014. **Remember:** Manual fingerprints are completed once and not required again for Youth Protection purposes. The electronic check is completed once and it is done.

**Important note:** The State of Ohio has additional requirements for selected occupations which are not addressed by the *Decree*. Individuals should contact the Schools Office for assistance.

All new regular volunteers must complete an electronic background check through SELECTiON.COM®. Current regular volunteers must sign up for electronic background checks through SELECTiON.COM® within five years of their last manual fingerprinting or December 31, 2018, whichever is sooner. This requirement was effective January 1, 2014. **Remember:** The electronic check is completed once and it is done.

All clergy and employees who have contact with youth must have a B.4 Form completed, submitted to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and approved prior to having contact with youth.

All clergy, employees and regular volunteers must stay current (less than three behind) on the monthly VIRTUS bulletins. This requirement was effective July 1, 2014.

### **VIRTUS® ACCOUNTS CLEANUP**

The electronic background check through SELECTiON.COM® became mandatory on January 1, 2014. Individuals who had manual fingerprints (BCI or FBI) completed in 2012 are required to complete the electronic check in 2017. Individuals who had manual fingerprints completed in 2013 are required to complete the electronic check in 2018.

The Safe Environment Office will be identifying individuals who are **significantly out of compliance** and will be inactivating their accounts on the following schedule.

**February 2017** – We will start inactivating anyone who had manual fingerprints completed January – June 2014 and did not complete an electronic check through Selection.com.

**March 2017** – inactivating anyone who had manual fingerprints completed July – December 2014 and did not complete an electronic check through Selection.com.

**April 2017** – inactivating anyone who had manual fingerprints completed January – June 2015 and did not complete an electronic check through Selection.com.

**May 2017** – inactivating anyone who had manual fingerprints completed June – December 2015 and did not complete an electronic check through Selection.com.

## ***TRIBUNAL OFFICE***

### **TRIBUNAL TRAINING NOTICE**

The Tribunal Training class will be offered beginning in April 2017 by Sister Victoria Vondenberger, RSM, JCL through the Lay Pastoral Ministry Program to train Procurator/Advocates to assist people in their parishes to present cases to the Tribunal. This year tuition is half the cost for lay students due to a grant from the Archdiocesan major fund campaign: One Faith, One Hope, One Love. If you have someone in your parish who is willing to serve, who is mature, respectful of others, has good listening skills, as well as capable of learning procedures and then applying them to individual situations, who can handle college level work whom you would recommend to assist you in this ministry, please have that person contact LPMP (513.231.1200) to register for the class. The classes are Saturday afternoons from 1:00 p.m. to 3:40 p.m. from April through June. **There is still time to register but please call**

**soon.** Because of the nature of the building of information, it is essential that the person be able to attend all the classes. If that is not possible at this time, perhaps the person might try to register next year.

## **DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **OHIO MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE**

On January 1, 2017, Ohio's minimum wage increased to \$8.15 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, 2016. As a result of this increase, please make sure that none of your employees are being paid less than \$8.15 an hour beginning January 1, 2017.

For questions about the minimum wage increase, contact Rob Reid at 513.421.3131x6611.

### **FEDERAL & STATE 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 requirement covered 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 location we have used is All In One Posters. You can access them online at <http://www.allinoneposters.com/Ohio-Federal-Combo-English.html> or call 1.800.273.0307. The cost is \$19.95.

## **DEPARTMENT OF PASTORAL LIFE AND EVANGELIZATION**

### ***OFFICE FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN PASTORAL MINISTRIES***

#### **EUCCHARISTIC LITURGY CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY**

On Sunday, February 12, 2017 at 6:00 p.m., the Archdiocese of Cincinnati's Office for African American Pastoral Ministries and the University of Dayton's Campus Ministry Office sponsors the annual Eucharistic Liturgy celebrating Black History. The Mass will be held at the University of Dayton's Immaculate Conception Chapel. Deacon Royce Winters will be the homilist, and the music will be led by the African American Catholic Gospel Choir under the direction of Mrs. Deborah Shipps and Mr. Glen Glenn. For more information, contact Deacon Royce Winters at 513.421.3131x2640 or [rwinters@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:rwinters@catholiccincinnati.org).

#### **PROMOTING PEACE IN OUR COMMUNITIES**

On Tuesday, February 28, 2017 the Archdiocese of Cincinnati's Offices of African American Pastoral Ministries, Social Action, and Divine Worship and Sacraments, and Xavier University's Institute of Spirituality and Justice are sponsoring a conversation on "Promoting Peace In Our

Communities.” The homilist and guest speaker will be the Most Rev. Joseph E. Kurtz, Archbishop of Louisville and the past President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The events will be held on the Xavier University Campus: *Eucharistic Liturgy: Promoting Peace In Our Communities*, at 4:00 p.m. at Bellarmine Chapel; and *Carrying Out Our Prophetic Ministry In Times of Racism and Violence*, 7:00 p.m. at the Cintas Center. For more information, contact Deacon Royce Winters at 513.421.3131x2640 or [rwinters@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:rwinters@catholiccincinnati.org). A flyer for this event is included with this publication.

## **OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP AND SACRAMENTS**

*PLEASE NOTE: If you are looking for the Worship Office website on the AOC front page, we are now listed under “Divine Worship and Sacraments.”*

## **LITURGICAL CALENDAR UPDATE**

**Ash Wednesday is March 1, 2017. The Rite of Election is on Sunday, March 5, 2017.** More information to follow. **The Solemnity of St. Joseph** is transferred to Monday, March 20, 2017 because the Third Sunday of Lent takes precedence over the Solemnity.

**Date/Time for the Easter Vigil:** The Easter Vigil is on April 15. 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. For information on celebrating the Triduum in parish clusters and pastoral regions, visit <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Triduum-and-pastoral-regions.pdf>.

## **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, March 5, 2017**. The information packet and reservation forms may be downloaded at <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/worship/>. They are due no later than February 3, 2017. If your reservation form was submitted electronically, the person who submitted the form should have received an email confirmation from the ODWS. If you have not received an email confirmation, please call Kathy at 513.421.3131x6609 or email her at [kschmidt@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:kschmidt@catholiccincinnati.org). If you have not submitted your form, please do so immediately. Finally, we will email a link to the seating charts to all RCIA coordinators no later than March 16, 2017. The seating charts will also be posted on the ODWS website.

## **LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU**

The date will be the **Tuesday after the Second Sunday of Lent, March 14, 2017 from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

## **NEOPHYTE MASS**

This year’s Neophyte Mass is at **11:00 a.m. on April 23** at the Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains.

## **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. This four-evening retreat-like experience will be held on Monday evenings from 7:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. on March 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2017 at St. Mary Church, Hyde Park. Parish discounts are available. For more information and registration, please visit <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Lex-Orandi-St.-Mary-Hyde-Park-2017-Flyer.pdf>.

### **NPM YOUTH MUSIC MINISTRY INSTITUTE (A LA LAUDATE-STYLE!)**

**Save the date!** July 10 – 13, 2017. Youth involved in music ministry will not want to miss this music ministry formation program. It will have many of the same aspects of Laudate, but will take place in the context of the National NPM Convention. Housing and meals will be at Xavier University (Cincinnati), while participation in several of the national convention activities will take place at the Cincinnati Convention Center. Students will have the opportunity to meet and learn from some of the finest church music ministers and composers in the country. Don't miss out on this opportunity! For more information, go to:

<http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/worship/npm2017-youth-institute/>.

Plan to attend the NPM Annual Convention being held in Cincinnati July 10 – 14, 2017! There are excellent speakers for the Plenum addresses as well as the pastoral liturgy institute (for those new to music/liturgical ministry), and the series of Hovda Lectures on Eucharist and Ecclesiology. For more information and registration, go to: <http://www.npm.org/index.html>.

### **ARE YOU RECEIVING THE WORSHIP OFFICE E-NEWS?**

If you have not signed up for the Office for Divine Worship and Sacraments' newsletter, you can do so by going to <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/worship/join-our-email-newsletter/>.

### **OFFICE FOR HISPANIC PASTORAL MINISTRY**

#### **WHAT IS A QUINCEAÑERA AND HOW DO WE AS A PARISH RESPOND TO A REQUEST FOR ONE?**

Many families with cultural roots in Mexico and Central America celebrate a girl's 15<sup>th</sup> birthday in a special way. Part of that has to do with the Church. Please see the USCCB website at <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/sacraments-and-sacramentals/sacramentals-blessings/quinceanera/fifteen-questions-on-the-quinceanera.cfm>.

If you are asked about it there are three things you should know:

1. It is a great opportunity for evangelization. The Office for Hispanic Pastoral Ministry offers a formation program and retreat for the girls and their mothers. The retreat this year will be Saturday, April 22 at St. Susanna Parish, Mason from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information contact Karla Eysoldt at [keysoldt@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:keysoldt@catholiccincinnati.org) or 513.448.8994.
2. Karla Eysoldt is also available to answer related questions such as "What is appropriate for the quinceañera in church?"
3. Many of these young people are actually more comfortable in English than in Spanish so even if parish clergy is not comfortable in Spanish the celebration can be done in English.

The USCCB approved ceremony is available in both languages. A pdf can be obtained from the Office for Hispanic Pastoral Ministry.

### **WONDERING ABOUT MARRIAGE FORMATION FOR SPANISH-SPEAKING COUPLES WHO APPROACH YOUR PARISH?**

Spanish-speaking Catholics live throughout the 19 counties of the Archdiocese. You might very well have some within your parish boundaries. The Office for Hispanic Pastoral Ministry wants to help you in your ministry. A marriage retreat, suitable for Spanish-speaking engaged couples, will be offered on Saturday, April 1 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at St. Susanna Parish. Flyers in both English and Spanish are available. Please contact Karla Eysoldt at [keysoldt@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:keysoldt@catholiccincinnati.org) or 513.448-8994.

### ***OFFICE FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE***

#### **NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK: FEBRUARY 7-14**

Visit <http://www.foryourmarriage.org/celebrate-national-marriage-week-usa/> for ideas and resources on how to celebrate National Marriage Week in your parish.

#### **CATHOLIC'S DIVORCE SURVIVAL GUIDE LEADER TRAINING: MARCH 2**

Author/speaker Rose Sweet will lead a training day for any clergy, parish staff, or others who are interested in beginning a divorce recovery ministry at your parish. The training will be held on Thursday, March 2 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at St. Maximillian Kolbe Parish. More details and registration information will be sent to your parish.

#### **AN EVENING FOR DIVORCED CATHOLICS: MARCH 3**

An evening for divorced Catholics, *Healing the Divorced Heart*, with author/speaker Rose Sweet will take place on Friday, March 3 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at Ruah Woods. Please visit the Ruah Woods website at [www.ruahwoods.org](http://www.ruahwoods.org) to register or learn more.

#### **LENTEN MISSION FOR MARRIED COUPLES: MARCH 20**

The Office for Marriage & Family Life is co-sponsoring a Lenten Mission for Married Couples on Monday, March 20, from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at St. Peter Parish in Huber Heights. The mission will feature Steve Bollman, Founder of Paradisus Dei and developer of the *That Man is You!* program and *The Choice Wine* couples program. With 100,000 participants, many couples have found these programs to be life transforming. Dinner will be provided from 6:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m. The evening will feature a “Lourdes Experience” with healing waters brought in from Lourdes, France. Married couples will leave with an identifiable path to a superabundant marriage.

Please note that couples will be invited to the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the Lourdes Experience. Confessors are needed from 8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. If you are available to help with confessions or for more information, contact Dan Thimons at 513.421.3131x2621 or [dthimons@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:dthimons@catholiccincinnati.org).

## **WITNESS TO LOVE**

*Witness to Love* is a new approach to marriage preparation that has been successful in connecting young couples to the local parish community and increasing their involvement in the life of the parish well beyond the wedding day. Visit <http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/heres-something-that-might-save-catholic-marriage-prep-76212/> to learn more. Contact Dan Thimons at 513.421.3131x2621 to learn more about piloting *Witness to Love* in your parish.

## **DAYTON AREA SINGLE ADULT MINISTRY**

A group of single adults are in the process of planning and developing a Single Adult Ministry for the Dayton area. **They are looking for a Spiritual Director** and a **“Parish Home”** to help them in this endeavor. If you are interested in helping this group, please contact Noreen Wendeln at 937.222.0227 or email [NWendeln@CatholicCincinnati.org](mailto:NWendeln@CatholicCincinnati.org) or call Tom Fagan at 937.361.7483.

## **OFFICE FOR MISSION AND PONTIFICAL SOCIETIES**

### **HELP LENT/EASTER COME ALIVE FOR YOUR PARISHIONERS & STUDENTS**

**Learn from and support our fellow Catholics in mission dioceses.** Please contact the local Missionary Childhood Association Coordinator, Teresa Phillips, of our Mission Office for a wide variety of programs, materials, missionary guest speakers, etc. Our office can bring and teach the WORLD MISSION ROSARY to build global solidarity. Returned missionaries in our archdiocese are ready to come to your Lenten adult programs, and to your school or religious education programs to share their love for this vital mission work. Sensitize your students to the struggles, needs and gifts of children their ages in our 1,150 mission dioceses in Africa and Asia. What a great way to make Lent/Easter come alive!

And...do know anyone seeking advice for missionary work, for mission trips, or parish twinning? Contact Teresa Phillips or Dr. Mike Gable at: 513.421.3131x2632 or [mission@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:mission@catholiccincinnati.org).

### **HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR PAST MCP AND MISSION SUNDAY COLLECTIONS?**

If your parish has not yet sent in the MCP (Missionary Co-op Plan) and/or Mission Sunday collections from past years, please do so today. For proper recording for the Vatican, please do not send donations to the missionary organizations but through the Office for Mission and Pontifical Mission Societies at 100 E. 8<sup>th</sup> St., Cincinnati, OH 45202.

If you are unsure if your parish has mailed in these donations, please contact Melonise Knight at: (513) 421-3131x2631 or [mknight@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:mknight@catholiccincinnati.org).

*Thanks for all you and your parishioners do to support of the vital work our mission dioceses and missionary organizations!*

## ***OFFICE FOR RESPECT LIFE MINISTRIES***

### **NINE MONTHS IN THE WOMB WITH CHRIST**

From March 26 to December 25, 2017, we are again encouraging all parishes to join us in participation of this Respect Life Prayer Campaign, first introduced in 2015. 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 fetal development in their bulletins. We are also asking everyone to **pray daily our special prayer to Christ in the womb**. Check out our website at [www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/respect-life-2](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/respect-life-2) and click on the "9 Months with Christ" image for more information.

### **PROJECT RACHEL**

Project Rachel is a ministry of the archdiocese that serves anyone who has experienced a loss of a child due to abortion. There are a variety of ways persons can engage in this ministry for healing from a recent loss or a loss that occurred decades ago: one-on-one conversation with a peer, priest or deacon, consultation with a priest (we can accommodate a need for consulting in Spanish); a day of reflection for anyone who has experienced loss (mother, grandparent, father, sibling, friend, etc.); support groups; and retreats for mothers who lost their child due to abortion. All conversations and email are confidential.

Dates for 2017:

- Day of Reflection (anyone suffering loss from abortion) – Cincinnati – Saturday, February 25
- Retreat for Women (who are post-abortive) – Dayton – March 24-26, 2017

For more information, contact:

Project Rachel Help Line, 513.784.0531 OR  
Bob Wurzelbacher, Director 513.421.3131x2624 OR  
Noreen Wendeln, Dayton Office, 513.421.3131 x5027

### **CONFERENCE: DEMENTIA AND MEMORY CARE**

Xavier University and Episcopal Retirement Services' Parish Health Ministry are collaborating to offer a two-day conference devoted to dementia care which targets caregivers, health care professionals, and anyone whose lives are affected by people living with dementia and Alzheimer's. The Refresh Your Soul Conference and XU Dementia Care Summit take place March 13-14. It will feature John O'Leary, BSBS, CPE, the bestselling author of *ON FIRE: The 7 Choices to Ignite a Radically Inspired Life*; Teepa Snow, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA, advocate for those living with Alzheimer's and a leading educator on dementia; Lisa Vaughan, PhD, professor who promotes health equity through participatory research methods; Loretta Ann Woodward Veney, MA, CPP, caregiver and inspirational speaker; and other breakout sessions. The event will take place at the Cintas Center on Xavier University's campus. For program and registration information on the ERS Parish Health Ministry Refresh Your Soul conference on Monday,

March 13, visit [parishhealthministry.com/RYS](http://parishhealthministry.com/RYS) and for the Xavier University Dementia Care Summit on Tuesday, March 14, visit [xavier.edu/dementia-summit](http://xavier.edu/dementia-summit).

### **ARCHDIOCESAN-WIDE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITION**

**Let us assist you in this area!** In response to the USCCB's Document "When I Call For Help," the Office for Respect Life Ministries has an Archdiocesan-wide Domestic Violence Coalition Commission. This Domestic Violence Coalition is made up of Archdiocesan employees, various parish employees and area agencies who deal with domestic violence on a daily basis.

We have members from agencies in every county within the archdiocese. These agencies are more than willing to come to your parish and develop a partnership with you. They can build awareness, provide resources, and educate staff, parents, youth, and the entire faith community.

Domestic violence cannot be satisfied with just the hard work accomplished by a secular group. They and the people they work with need the involvement of the religious communities. We ask that as a Catholic community, you include the viewpoint of FAITH in working with this serious social problem. Invite these agencies and your Archdiocesan Domestic Violence Coalition Commission into your parish communities and together we can "work VIGOROUSLY against this social atrocity." For more information please visit this website at:

<http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/respect-life-2/life-issues/domestic-violence/>.

Your local agencies can be found at:

<http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/DV-Parish-Resource-List.pdf>.

You can read the Domestic Violence Coalition's Mission and Objectives on the Office for Respect Life Ministries' website at:

<http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/Domestic-Violence-Commission-Mission-Statement.pdf>

If you have any questions about the Domestic Violence Coalition Commission, please call the Office for Respect Life Ministries at 513.421.3131x2624 or 937.222.0227x5027.

### ***OFFICE FOR EVANGELIZATION AND DISCIPLESHIP***

#### **ARCHBISHOP SHARES NEW VISION FOR CATECHETICAL CERTIFICATION**

All priests of the Archdiocese have received a letter from Archbishop Schnurr regarding the Catechetical Institute (CI), the exciting new means for catechetical certification for parish catechists, Catholic school teachers and more. The letter is reproduced as an insert with this publication, just in case you missed it.

It is evident Archbishop Schnurr is excited about this accessible, consistent and affordable tool enabling our certification process to attain its full potential and transform our parishes and institutions. Pastors and catechetical leaders will be empowered as they issue the call to ministry and service with confidence, knowing that formation through the CI has prepared the right individuals, confident in vocation, to answer the call.

Can't wait to see it? Development continues as the OED is presently forming a Catechetical Certification Advisory Committee to advise and provide feedback while content development continues. In addition, an invitational pilot (April/May) will lead to our exciting launch (June/July). We are targeting an 80% or better engagement of teachers and catechists as we jump in. We know we can count on your support and advocacy as you extend an invitation to all, especially those called to be catechists.

## **OFFICE FOR THE NEW EVANGELIZATION**

### **PROMOTE YOUR EVANGELIZING PARISH EVENT**

Do you have an evangelization event or program that you would like to get the word out about? We would like to help through our outreach webpage [www.stirintoflame.org](http://www.stirintoflame.org). Send us information about the event and we will add it to our "What's Stirring" calendar. Send your information to Sean Ater at [sater@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:sater@catholiccincinnati.org).

### **THE AMAZING PARISH CONFERENCE MARCH 13-15, 2017 | ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

**You Can Bring More People to Christ and His Church!**

I know that you are dedicated to building a robust parish life that helps people grow in their faith, so I want to share with you an incredible opportunity. The mission of Amazing Parish is to support pastors and their parish leadership teams as they strive to live Christ's great commission to "Go and make disciples of all nations." This spring they are inviting pastors and their leadership teams to focus on a clear vision for parish leadership and gain the tools they need to implement it. Learn from business and church leaders such as Matthew Kelly, Jeff Cavins, Curtis Martin, and Patrick Lencioni how to lead your parish in a way that will bring more souls to Christ! In addition, Amazing Parish is offering every priest and parish leader a free e-copy of *New York Times* best-selling author Patrick Lencioni's book *The Better Pastor*, a fable that tells the story of one priest who recognized the obstacles his parish leadership was facing and how he overcame them.

Members of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Central Offices plan to attend this conference in March. We would like to invite Parish Teams to join us! Fr. Jan Schmidt, Director of Pastoral Life and Evangelization, has attended this conference in the past and would be happy to answer any questions. Register at <http://amazingparish.org/>.

### **SCHOOL OF FAITH: BUILD CATHOLIC IDENTITY AND A CULTURE OF DISCIPLESHIP AT YOUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

Lifelong education and formation in missionary discipleship is very important for our Catholic School teachers. These individuals are ministers of the faith, or catechists, and "The call to the ministry of the catechist is a vocation, an interior call, the voice of the Holy Spirit. (NDC 54.8)."

It is for this reason that Archbishop Schnurr has endorsed the School of Faith and invited them to minister in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. School of Faith is a program of adult catechesis designed to provide doctrinal and spiritual formation for Catholic school teachers, administrators, spiritual mentors and individuals. Its purpose is to lay the theological foundation

upon which an authentic Catholic culture can be developed. It is comprehensive in its content, but always with the goal of explaining the faith in a simple and engaging way.

The mission of School of Faith will be to provide ongoing doctrinal and spiritual formation for Catholic school teachers in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati through catechetical programs that stress the call to prayer, virtue, and holiness of life. This formation not only benefits the teachers themselves, but also equips them to build a solid Catholic environment in our Catholic schools.

The School of Faith is currently ministering in the following schools:

- St. Ignatius Loyola
- St. James, White Oak
- St. Andrew/St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
- Purcell Marian High School
- St. Jude
- Our Lady of the Visitation

For more information on the School of Faith, go to [www.schooloffaith.com](http://www.schooloffaith.com) or contact John Leyendecker at [john@schooloffaith.com](mailto:john@schooloffaith.com).

### **ARE YOU READY TO BUILD A CONTAGIOUSLY CATHOLIC PARISH?**

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati Office for the New Evangelization, in partnership with the Evangelical Catholic, is offering a unique service to parishes committed to becoming completely mission-oriented.

### **Contagiously Catholic Parish Alliance**

A Contagiously Catholic Parish Alliance is a partnership between the parish and the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Office of the New Evangelization. With the help of the Evangelical Catholic, we will mentor you to be equipped to implement a strategic process of evangelization.

### **What makes the Contagiously Catholic Parish Alliance Different?**

- This is not about implementing a new program, or giving you a plug and play manual for evangelization. This is about equipping parish leadership with the vision, the skills, and the motivation to create a culture for evangelization.
- We are not offering an easy solution or easy answers. Successful Parish Alliances will find themselves hard at work! This will change the way your staff works and how you use parish resources. We promise that it will get messy because evangelization is messy.
- A Parish Alliance is a major investment of time and resources from the Office of the New Evangelization. Instead of trying to do everything for everybody we have made a strategic decision to work very hard with a few parishes at a time. In the long run, we know that this will be the best use of our time.

### **What will this cost us?**

The cost for the Parish Alliance is being paid through the annual Catholic Ministries Appeal and is therefore free to parishes. A Parish Alliance 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.

### **Who else is doing this?**

1. St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish, Liberty Township
2. Our Lady of Grace Parish, Dayton
3. Queen of Martyrs Parish, Dayton
4. Coldwater Cluster Parishes, Coldwater

If you are interested, please contact Sean Ater at [sater@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:sater@catholiccincinnati.org). For more information go to [www.contagiouslycatholic.com/evangelization-training/parish-alliance/](http://www.contagiouslycatholic.com/evangelization-training/parish-alliance/).

### **FOCUS SHARE**

Within the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Archbishop Schnurr has granted permission for FOCUS Share – a parish-based evangelization effort connected with FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students). The goal of FOCUS Share is to offer a message of hope and tell the story of missionary activity with the Catholic faithful – stories of conversions, vocations, and the ways in which the Holy Spirit is changing the lives of young men and women on campuses across the United States. There is no financial request or second collection; instead, the FOCUS priest comes to share good news, gather prayer intentions, and offer free evangelization resources.

Please consider inviting FOCUS to your parish for a weekend of your choice – they will send a Roman Catholic priest in good standing to cover Masses and Confessions and will handle all visit logistics and paperwork within the archdiocese. If you need to take a weekend away or would like to bring this program to your parish, please contact Sarah Harris who is available to answer questions and assist in scheduling at [sarah.harris@focus.org](mailto:sarah.harris@focus.org) or 303.630.1888, or visit [www.focus.org/share](http://www.focus.org/share).

St. John Paul II charges us to “never, ever give up on hope, never doubt, never tire, and never become discouraged.” Join us as we embrace his charge and as we spread a message of hope.

Watch the FOCUS Share video including a local priest who has participated in FOCUS Share <https://youtu.be/DktqK4hx1Eo>.

### **NEW EVANGELIZATION REFLECTION**

The New Evangelization has been described as being new in ardor, new in methods, and new in expression. Consider having Sean Ater facilitate a conversation with your parish leaders on how your parish will respond to the call for a new evangelization. The format of this reflection is flexible but will lead participants to consider new methods and expressions for evangelization.

The goal of this reflection is to inspire a new ardor for evangelization for those in parish ministry. This reflection would be appropriate for parish staff, Pastoral Council, Evangelization Committees, or other key parish leaders. Contact Sean Ater at [sater@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:sater@catholiccincinnati.org).



## **WEB RESOURCES FOR THE NEW EVANGELIZATION**

[www.ContagiouslyCatholic.com](http://www.ContagiouslyCatholic.com) This webpage will offer ways for pastors, parish leadership, and parishioners to become informed and equipped as Missionary Disciples. The site will highlight resources, workshops, blogs, and events sponsored by the Office for the New Evangelization and partner offices and organizations working to build a culture of witness in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

[www.Stirintoflame.org](http://www.Stirintoflame.org) This is an outreach webpage sponsored by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and managed jointly by the Office for Evangelization & Discipleship and the Office for the New Evangelization. This webpage is a resource for reaching those who are curious about the Catholic faith or are open to growing in their Catholic faith.

## **OFFICE FOR YOUTH EVANGELIZATION AND DISCIPLESHIP**

### **ABIDE 2017**

Abide is a conference that is specifically designed for your teens who have had previous retreat experiences, who have been to youth conferences (NCYC or Steubenville, for example)...in short, teens who have had some sort of conversion experience and are asking questions like: What's next? How do I pray? How do I live my faith more radically at home or at school? How do I share my faith with my friends? Abide is a week-long, “going deeper” experience that spends the first two days digging deep in the spiritual life, so that our teens are rooted and abiding in the Lord, before we “flip the switch” and start looking outward. We spend the last three days exploring evangelization, providing practical equipping workshops, and actually taking the teens out to get real-time experience in having conversations with people, praying with them, etc. This truly makes Abide a one-of-a-kind!

Here are the basic details:

**Why?** Form and commission teen missionary disciples to root their lives in Christ through His Church, and to share this joy that has been given to us with others.

**When?** June 14-18, 2017

**Where?** Mount St. Joseph University in Cincinnati

**Who?** Incoming 10th graders through outgoing 12th graders

**How much?** \$275 for youth participants/\$175 for adult chaperones (within the AoC)

**Speakers?** We are bringing in Jim Beckman, Megan Mastroianni, Ben Walther (worship leader), and many others!

In the past, we have required adults to attend with their teens...so you had to come as a group with a group leader. While this is still the preferred way to attend Abide (it is a phenomenal experience for youth ministers to go through with their teens), this year we are opening Abide up to individual participants. So, if you have a few teens, or even just one, who would love to attend Abide, or who you would like to see attend, please register him/her today!

We are also happy to come out to your parish to present to interested parents/teens, should you wish. Just let us know!

You can find all of the info about Abide at [www.abidecinci.com/](http://www.abidecinci.com/).

### **MIDWEST AMP FEST 2017**

Our youth are the future of our parishes, and this year's Midwest AMP Fest on June 24 strives to remind them — and us — that they don't have to wait to make a difference and hear His call.

With nearly 250 youth group attendees last year, the AMP team anticipates doubling that number this year. The afternoon and evening event includes recreation time, Adoration, speakers, dinner, and Mass celebrated by Archbishop Schnurr. Music will be provided throughout the day by His Own and ALOB. Ryan Mahle is a confirmed speaker.

This year's theme, *Fearless*, will expound upon 1 Timothy 4:12: *Let no one disregard you because you are young, but be an example to all the believers in the way you speak and behave, and in your love, your faith and your purity.*

For more information about this event for 7-12th graders (including graduated seniors) please visit our website [www.MidwestAMPFest.com](http://www.MidwestAMPFest.com). AMP Fest is located at the Lange Estate, which is 20 minutes northwest of Dayton, Ohio.

### **NET MINISTRIES**

**Four Day Retreat** - NET Ministries is offering a dynamic four-day retreat this summer, June 19-22 at the Maria Stein Retreat Center just outside Sidney, Ohio. The cost is \$200, which covers everything but travel. More information please visit [www.netusa.org/dweekregistration/](http://www.netusa.org/dweekregistration/).

**Retreats for Parishes and Schools** - NET Ministries will begin scheduling retreats for parishes and schools in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati on March 1 for the school year of 2017-2018. Please contact Lauryn Coules at 651.450.6833x203 or e-mail her at [laurync@netusa.org](mailto:laurync@netusa.org).

## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

### ***CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SOUTHWESTERN OHIO***

#### **INSTRUCTOR LIMITED LITERACY ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL)**

Catholic Charities is looking for volunteers to work with adults with four years of schooling or less who are learning English. They help students to learn English vocabulary and communication skills. Duties include helping teach basic critical thinking skills, reading, writing and “numeracy” (arithmetic). There are three levels of ESOL volunteers could teach, level 1 being primarily for clients with no English background, and limited literacy. Volunteers must be Virtus trained. (Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.) For information on this volunteer role, contact Katie at [khannah@ccswoh.org](mailto:khannah@ccswoh.org) or 513.672.3715.

## **EDUCATION SUPPLIES NEEDED**

Catholic Charities teaches English as a Second language to several hundred people each year. Each participant receives a pen, notebook and a two-pocket folder. While these three items don't cost a lot of money, it adds up when you are providing 200-300 in a year. Catholic Charities is looking for donations of pens, two-pocket folders and notebooks for each student. Even those notebooks your children only used part of during the school year can be useful to our students. If you can make a donation of any of these items, please contact Rachel Wiers at [rwiers@ccswoh.org](mailto:rwiers@ccswoh.org) or 513.672.3749.

## **SAVE THE DATE**

Su Casa, a ministry of Catholic Charities is celebrating 20 years of service. On Thursday, April 27, 2017 the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Su Casa Hispanic Center Awards Dinner will be held at Xavier University's Cintas Center. Questions? Email [RSVPSuCasa@ccwoh.org](mailto:RSVPSuCasa@ccwoh.org). Buy your tickets online by April 7 at [www.ccswoh.org/sucasa/dinner](http://www.ccswoh.org/sucasa/dinner).

Or consider volunteering at the dinner to ensure a successful event. Sign up today at [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/4090449ACA92FAAFC1-sucasa](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/4090449ACA92FAAFC1-sucasa).

## **FOOD PANTRY OUTREACH COORDINATOR POSITION**

Catholic Charities Food For All program involves feeding the poor in our rural counties. Catholic Charities is seeking a part-time person to fill the role of Coordinator. This position is responsible for continuing current relationships with our partners in the eastern counties of the Archdiocese and running five mobile pantries for communities in need. For more information go to <https://ccswoh.org/careers/> or email your resume to [HRD@ccswoh.org](mailto:HRD@ccswoh.org).

## **CAREGIVER RESOURCE GROUP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

If you have had past caregiving experience or are a retired professional, the Caregiver Assistance Network, a program of Catholic Charities of Southwestern Ohio, needs you! Caregiver Resource Groups meet once a month for an hour and a half in Hamilton, Clermont, Butler, and Warren counties. Training is provided and the time commitment is about three to four hours per month. If you have a listening ear and would like to help those who need support and compassion, call Angie Homoele at 513.672.3834 or visit [www.ccswoh.org/how-to-get-involved/volunteer](http://www.ccswoh.org/how-to-get-involved/volunteer).

## ***CATHOLIC SOCIAL ACTION OFFICE***

### **TASTE THE FOOD AND SEE YOUR NEIGHBORS AROUND THE WORLD**

Learn about your neighbors worldwide by visiting a neighboring parish locally. That's the "ticket" for the Taste and See Journey, fashioned by the Archdiocese's Catholic Relief Services Committee for this Lent. Parishes participating in CRS Rice Bowl are encouraged to share their Global Solidarity events, such as soup suppers or speakers, with the wider Archdiocesan community.

Catholics will be encouraged to not only attend their home parish global solidarity events, but also to "travel" to neighboring parishes to learn more about a featured country. Paper "passports" will be issued and travelers can get a stamp or a sticker to commemorate their visit to another parish and country. Details will be posted in late January about the participating parishes and the

countries they will be showcasing on the Catholic Social Action website [www.catholiccincinnati.org/socialaction](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/socialaction)

Catholic Relief Services is spotlighting India, Zambia, El Salvador, Mexico, Ethiopia and the city of Honolulu, Hawaii this Lent. If you have traveled to these countries and would be willing to speak about your experience, the Catholic Social Action Office would like to meet you. Please call Pam Long at 937.224.3026x5018 or email [plong@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:plong@catholiccincinnati.org).

### ENCOUNTER LENT WITH CRS RICE BOWL

Today CRS Rice Bowl offers families, schools and faith communities an opportunity to prayerfully encounter our neighbor and our God through Lent.

- Through prayer, we encounter Christ, present in the face of every member of our human family.
- Through fasting, we encounter the obstacles that prevent us from loving God and neighbor.
- Through almsgiving, we encounter our brothers and sisters around the world, sharing God's gifts with others.

Find out what's in store for CRS Rice Bowl this Lent, visit <http://www.csricebowl.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Rice-Bowl-2017-OnePager.pdf>.

There are 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday, and CRS Rice Bowl offers resources for each one of them — and for everyone in your parish.

- **Families:** Visit the “Family Page” to find resources — like the “Lenten Kit for Families” — to bring Lent to life in the home.
- **Religious Education:** Visit the “Educators’ Page” to find the “Educator’s Guide,” full of lesson plans and activities to bring Lent to life in the classroom.
- **Youth & Young Adult Ministry:** Check out the “Youth Page” to find the “Youth in Solidarity Reflections” to animate youth ministries, and don’t forget to explore the “Community Reflections” for young adult faith-sharing.
- **Hispanic Ministry:** The “Reflexiones para la Pastoral Juvenil Hispana” — available only in Spanish — accompanies youth and young adults throughout the season of Lent.
- **CRS Global Fellows:** Invite a “CRS Global Fellow” — a priest or deacon who has been trained by CRS — to speak at your parish about global solidarity.
- **Intergenerational Events:** CRS Rice Bowl offers several ways to bring your entire parish together this Lent. Consider hosting a **simple supper** using one of our **meatless recipes** from around the world. (Don’t forget to print out a **placemat** for each guest!) And bring the parish together in prayer using the **Stations of the Cross**, the **Seven Sorrows of Mary** or the **Live Mercy: Feed the Hungry** faith-sharing resource.

Please visit [www.csricebowl.org](http://www.csricebowl.org) for all this information and website links.

CRS receives 75% of all Rice Bowl donations collected in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati to support CRS' programs around the world. The remaining 25% of all donations are distributed to local agencies to fight hunger and poverty in our Archdiocese. It's not too late to order materials. Contact Pam Long at 937.224.3026 or email her at [plong@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:plong@catholiccincinnati.org).

## **IS YOUR PARISH PRAYING FOR AN END TO RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION THIS LENT?**

The Archdiocesan One Church of Mercy Committee brings together Eastern and Western Catholic traditions, especially around the concern of the persecution of Christians and other religious minorities around the globe. We are interested in helping promote activities that parishes are doing during Lent on this topic. We also have resources that we can share with you to pray for an end to threats to religious freedom around the world. If you are organizing any activities, please let us know, so that we can include them on our website and in other communications. Contact the Catholic Social Action Office at 513.421.3131x2660, or [csa@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:csa@catholiccincinnati.org).

## **COMMEMORATING THE 500<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION THROUGH STUDY, PRAYER AND SERVICE**

The Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and the Lutheran World Federation are jointly recognizing the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. Locally, a joint task force between the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Southern Ohio Synod has developed resources to encourage Catholics and Lutherans to study, prayer and service throughout this commemoration year, anytime between now and October 31, 2017. You can download a complete packet, study guide, maps of all our congregations, a joint statement for this commemoration and other resources at the Ecumenical and Interfaith page of our website at <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/ecumenical-and-interfaith-relations/>.

This anniversary and our participation in related activities are not, of course, a celebration of the split that took place in the Body of Christ 500 years ago. However, the love of Christ compels the Catholic Church to join with our Lutheran brothers and sisters to recognize all that we have achieved through dialogue in recent times as well as the differences we still have to overcome. What we do celebrate is each other's willingness to put the gospel of Jesus Christ at the center. Ever more so today, the world needs to hear the truth of the gospel and to witness Christian unity more than division. As St. John XXIII exclaimed, "The things that unite us are greater than those that divide us."

Please share your efforts with us, or contact us with any questions, through the Catholic Social Action Office at 513.421.3131x2660 or [csa@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:csa@catholiccincinnati.org) in Cincinnati; or 937.224.3026 or [plong@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:plong@catholiccincinnati.org) in Dayton. If you have any questions concerning prayer resources or joint services with Lutheran congregations, please contact the Office of Divine Worship and Sacraments at 513.421.3131x2670.

# DEPARTMENT OF STEWARDSHIP

## CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL (CMA) NEWS & NOTES

**Commitment Weekend** – February 4-5, 2017

**Follow-up Weekend** – February 11-12, 2017

Information for these two weekends can be found in the 2017 CMA Parish Guide that was sent to parishes in December. The guide is available online at [www.CatholicAppeal.info](http://www.CatholicAppeal.info) under the “Info for Parish Staff” link – **the password to access this section is: cma2007.**

### **2016 CMA OVER-GOAL REBATE PAYMENTS**

For the 2016 Appeal, 75 parishes will be receiving 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 \$345,000 will be paid in over-goal rebates.

To see if your parish went over-goal for the 2016 CMA, go to [www.CatholicAppeal.info](http://www.CatholicAppeal.info) – click on the “Info for Parish Staff” box in the top right corner (the password to access this section is cma2007). The report is titled “2016 Goal-to-Date.pdf”

Rebate payments will be made by electronic funds transfer from our Finance Office in early February. For questions regarding over-goal/rebate payments, contact David Kissell at 513.421.3131x 2881 or email [david@CatholicAppeal.info](mailto:david@CatholicAppeal.info).

**Please submit articles for the March *Clergy Communications* by February 21, 2017.**  
**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](http://www.CatholicCincinnati.org). Email: [Communications@CatholicCincinnati.org](mailto: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](http://www.ethicspoint.com). There is also a link on the Archdiocesan website, [www.CatholicCincinnati.org](http://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).

**COURAGE INTERNATIONAL** - Courage International is an apostolate in the Catholic Church to aid those who experience same sex attraction in a healthy integration of life. Through a small group format, members share their experience and challenge one another to a greater holiness of life. For more information, email [courage@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:courage@catholiccincinnati.org) or leave a confidential voice mail at 513.488.1291.

There is also a chapter serving Dayton and the northern reaches of the Archdiocese. Contact information follows: [couragenorth@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:couragenorth@catholiccincinnati.org) phone line there is 937.684.8839.

**FEBRUARY 9: MONTHLY HOLY HOUR FOR CONSECRATED VOCATIONS - CHOSEN:** Monthly Holy Hour for those discerning a Vocation or praying for Vocations – beginning at 8:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center in Norwood, OH. Sponsored by the Archdiocese Vocation Office and the Children of Mary. Chosen: Every 2nd Thursday of the Month. Come and bring a friend!

**FEBRUARY 11-12: BE NOT AFRAID: DISCERNMENT RETREAT FOR YOUNG WOMEN** - The Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist are hosting a discernment retreat for young women ages 16-33 who are discerning God's call to the consecrated life. Come and explore the community life and Dominican spirituality while discerning who God has made you to be. The retreat takes place at Spiritus Sanctus Academy in Ann Arbor, MI and costs \$35. For more details: [sjab@sistersofmary.org](mailto:sjab@sistersofmary.org) or [vocations@sistersofmary.org](mailto:vocations@sistersofmary.org).

**FEBRUARY 14: AN EVENING OF INQUIRY FOR YOUNG WOMEN** - The Children of Mary are hosting an evening for all young women 16 and over who are considering their call to the religious life. The evening will begin at the Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center at 6:30 p.m. and will include a video, a Q and A session, Adoration, evening prayer, and more. The evening is

free and anyone can attend.

**FEBRUARY 17-19: COME & SEE RETREAT: GLENMARY HOME MISSIONERS**

Men ages 18–46 are invited to visit with Glenmary priests and brothers, travel to a nearby mission, and share in community prayer and reflection. They will also have the opportunity to meet other men who are discerning their call. For more details or to register, call 513.881.7411 or email [vocations@glenmary.org](mailto:vocations@glenmary.org).

**FEBRUARY 17-19: COME AND SEE: FATHERS OF MERCY DISCERNMENT**

**RETREAT** - Single Catholic men, ages 18-40, are invited to explore the vocation to the priesthood with the Fathers of Mercy on February 17-19 at the Fathers of Mercy Generalate House in Auburn, KY. For more information, or to register contact Fr. Joseph Aytona, CPM at 270.542.4146x2 or [vocations@fathersofmercy.com](mailto:vocations@fathersofmercy.com).

**FEBRUARY 18: FAMILY-FRIENDLY SQUARE DANCE FOR RUN FOR THE CALL -**

Young adults from across Cincinnati are preparing a family-friendly square dance that will take place at Annunciation Parish in Clifton in the evening of February 18. The dance will benefit the Run for the Call fund, which provides emergency relief to seminarians to allow them to maintain their focus on the discernment of their vocation. Mark your calendars now and watch [runforthecall.wordpress.com](http://runforthecall.wordpress.com) for more details.

**FEBRUARY 18: CALLED TO LOVE: A Vocation Retreat with the Sisters of St. Joseph the**

Worker. This Vocation Retreat will take place at All Saints Church hall in Walton, KY from 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. for young women in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and older. The day will include Holy Mass, prayer, food, games, music, small groups with religious sisters and spiritual guidance talks. Any young women who are interested are asked to email Sr. Patricia Jean at [sjwvocations@gmail.com](mailto:sjwvocations@gmail.com) or call for more details at 859.912.4405. More information can be found at [ssjw.org](http://ssjw.org).

**MARCH 8-14: NATIONAL CATHOLIC SISTERS WEEK -**

Throughout these seven days we celebrate the great gift of Catholic religious sisters in our Church throughout the history of the United States. Please take the time to say a prayer of thanksgiving for all that these women have done for those in need both in and outside of the Church and to thank a religious sister who is currently generously living out her consecrated vocation. For more information visit [www.nationalcatholicsistersweek.org](http://www.nationalcatholicsistersweek.org).

**MARCH 17-18: MOUNT ST. MARY'S SEMINARY OF THE WEST WELCOME**

**WEEKEND** - The Athenaeum of Ohio/Mount St. Mary's of the West is once again hosting its annual Welcome Weekend for all men college-age and older who are discerning their call to the Catholic priesthood. The weekend begins at 4:30 p.m. on Friday evening and ends with dinner at 6:00 p.m. Saturday. There is no cost to attend. For more details or to register contact Fr. Schmitmeyer at 513.421.3131x2890 or [vocations@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:vocations@catholiccincinnati.org). You may also visit [www.CincinnatiVocations.org](http://www.CincinnatiVocations.org) and click on "Events."

**MARCH 31-APRIL 2: LIVE JOYFULLY RETREAT -** The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary of the Woods are hosting a weekend discernment retreat for women ages 18-42 at their



motherhouse in Saint Mary of the Woods, IN. The retreat is free. Register on-line at [www.comeandsee.sistersofprovidence.org](http://www.comeandsee.sistersofprovidence.org). For more details contact Editha Ben at 812.230.4771 or [eben@spsmw.org](mailto:eben@spsmw.org).

**COMMEMORATING THE 500<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION** - The Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and the Lutheran World Federation are jointly recognizing the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. This anniversary and our participation in related activities are not, of course, a celebration of the split that took place in the Body of Christ 500 years ago. However, the love of Christ compels the Catholic Church to join with our Lutheran brothers and sisters to recognize all that we have achieved through dialogue in recent times as well as the differences we still have to overcome. What we do celebrate is each other's willingness to put the gospel of Jesus Christ at the center. Ever more so today, the world needs to hear the truth of the gospel and to witness Christian unity more than division. As St. John XXIII exclaimed, "The things that unite us are greater than those that divide us." Locally, a joint task force between the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Southern Ohio Synod has developed resources to encourage Catholics and Lutherans to study, prayer and service throughout this commemoration year, anytime between now and October 31, 2017. You can download a complete packet, study guide, maps of all our congregations, a joint statement for this commemoration and other resources at the Ecumenical and Interfaith page of our website at <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/ecumenical-and-interfaith-relations/>.

**ENCOUNTER LENT WITH CRS RICE BOWL** - Today CRS Rice Bowl offers families, schools and faith communities an opportunity to prayerfully encounter our neighbor and our God through Lent.

- Through prayer, we encounter Christ, present in the face of every member of our human family.
- Through fasting, we encounter the obstacles that prevent us from loving God and neighbor.
- Through almsgiving, we encounter our brothers and sisters around the world, sharing God's gifts with others.

Find out what's in store for CRS Rice Bowl this Lent. Visit [www.crsricebowl.org](http://www.crsricebowl.org). CRS receives 75% of all Rice Bowl donations collected in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati to support CRS' programs around the world. The remaining 25% of all donations are distributed to local agencies to fight hunger and poverty in our Archdiocese.

#### **CARE FOR CREATION SAMPLE BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*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.*

*Prayer/Reflection:* Good and gracious God, help us to see our relatedness to each other and to all of creation. May our words and actions bring healing and hope to each other and be reflected in our care for all God's creation.

*Quote from the Holy See:*

*A politics concerned with immediate results, supported by consumerist sectors of the population, is driven to produce short-term growth. In response to electoral interests, governments are reluctant to upset the public with measures which could affect the level of consumption or create risks for foreign investment. The myopia of power politics delays the inclusion of a far-sighted environmental agenda within the overall agenda of governments...*

*Here, continuity is essential, because policies related to climate change and environmental protection cannot be altered with every change of government. Results take time... To take up these responsibilities and the costs they entail, politicians will inevitably clash with the mindset of short-term gain and results which dominates present-day economics and politics. But if they are courageous, they will attest to their God-given dignity and leave behind a testimony of selfless responsibility. -- Laudato Si', nos. 178,181*

*Care for Creation Tip:* Lent reminds us to make small sacrifices, even when no one else is paying attention. As Ash Wednesday approaches on March 1, let's find some ways we can reduce our impact on God's precious creation. Go to this link to check out for a variety of ideas and resources to help you improve the environment as an individual as well as a parish community: <http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/resources/reduce-your-carbon-footprint>.