



CLERGY COMMUNICATIONS

100 East Eighth Street Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

(To be filed in loose leaf binder and kept in parish archives)

WISHING YOU GOD'S PEACE IN THIS NEW YEAR!

CHRIST AT THE CENTER

An invitation from Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr



PROCLAIM: Equipping Disciples for a New Missionary Age

Cincinnati Archdiocesan Summit 2014

October 6 & 7, 2014

Dayton Convention Center, Dayton Ohio

I invite you as Archdiocesan leadership to join me on October 6-7, 2014 at the Dayton Convention Center for a time of prayer, learning and growth in the New Evangelization. When Blessed John Paul II called for a “New Evangelization” he explained that it called for the “dawning of a new missionary age” with its own opportunities and challenges. All Catholics – both laity and clergy are called to engage in this “new missionary age”. This summit will offer us the opportunity to consider what this new missionary age looks like in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

Events will include keynotes, workshops and professional forums for priests, deacons, principals, catechetical leaders, liturgical ministers, seminarians, business managers, and Archdiocesan and parish leadership. We will be welcoming speakers from around the country and locally including author and presenter, Sherry Weddell of the Catherine of Sienna Institute and Fr. Frank Donio of the Catholic Apostolate. Additional presenters will soon be announced.

It is my hope that together we will commit to further growth in discipleship and will develop skills and explore methods and resources needed to proclaim Christ in our time.

Please mark your calendar now and watch your email for more information and registration in the coming months.

SACRAMENTAL MINISTRY UPDATE

The AOC Sacramental Ministry Committee continues to partner with parishes exploring new possibilities and approaches to sacramental ministry. The committee is focusing its efforts on

parishes who committed to pilot “Revitalizing Sacramental Ministry: A Framework for Parishes.” Members of the committee and other pastoral ministers recently participated in an orientation for serving as consultants to the pilot parishes. There will be a retreat at the end of January for all pilot parishes and their teams as we embark on this journey together.

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

Because I continue to hear from laity who serve as hospital chaplains that it is difficult, and sadly sometimes impossible, to locate a priest to celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick in emergency situations, I wish to republish a letter I wrote one year ago.

December 11, 2012

My dear brother priests,

“Are there any who are sick among you? Let them send for the priests of the Church, and let the priests pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick persons, and the Lord will raise them up; and if they have committed any sins, their sins will be forgiven them. Let us therefore commend them to the grace and power of Christ that he may save them and raise them up.” (*Pastoral Care of the Sick* 117)

At a recent meeting of the Archdiocesan Deans, I was informed that in some areas of the Archdiocese it has become more difficult to locate a priest for the anointing of the sick in an emergency hospital situation. Some deaneries have a plan in place to ensure that coverage is assured for these situations. Other deaneries are struggling in this area with many of the same priests responding to emergency calls, while other priests are not available and do not provide their after-hours contact information.

I strongly encourage each of our eleven deaneries to review plans for a pastoral response in these emergency situations. Plans will necessitate catechesis on the Sacrament of the Anointing of the sick for parishioners and hospital personnel alike. It is my expectation that priests will provide necessary contact information to the Dean so that the burden of responding to these emergency requests does not fall only on a few of our brothers.

While often a pastoral response in an emergency is not always convenient, it is certain that “all priests to whom the care of souls has been entrusted have the duty and right of administering the anointing of the sick for the faithful entrusted to their pastoral office.” (*Canon* 1003 §2) I am continually grateful for your pastoral ministry to the sick and suffering in our midst.

Wishing you the blessings of this Advent Season, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Dennis M. Schnurr
Archbishop of Cincinnati

DEPARTMENT OF EXECUTIVE SERVICES

CHANCERY OFFICE

CLERGY COMMUNICATIONS INDEX 2013

The *Index* for the 2013 Clergy Communications is included with this mailing.

RECORD SEARCH

We have been asked to search for the baptismal record of **Timothy Richard Andrews**, born December 9, 1950; the parents' names are Rosemary Neske and Robert Lee Andrews. Please search your baptismal register books and if this record is located please contact the Chancery Office at 513.421.3131x2842. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

TRIBUNAL OFFICE

REVISED FORMS

When you next receive a statement about non-observance of required Canonical Form, you may notice that the tribunal forms have changed as of 3 December 2013. Such a situation technically does not involve a declaration of nullity but includes a statement that the tribunal has done an investigation for the parish and determined that, in this case, required canonical form was not observed so the marriage in question is invalid. The changes to the forms are minor but eagle-eyed priests, deacons and procurator/advocates will notice the differences. Thank you for working with the tribunal office to assist your parishioners. The forms you submit for a lack of form are the same from the Tribunal Handbook. What you receive back has been revised. Eventually we will revise what you submit which will change only the last line of page 20 of the Tribunal Handbook: "I swear (attest) to the truthfulness of the above information and request A STATEMENT OF NON-OBSERVANCE OF lack of canonical form." For now, it is not worth the cost of re-doing all the handbooks for that minor change. The official statement from the tribunal will be correct.

OFFICE OF SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH

VIRTUS® TRAINING SESSIONS

Any person who plans to attend a VIRTUS® Training Session must register electronically in advance or he / she will not be admitted to the Session. We can no longer allow "Walk-Ins" who do not advance register because such persons often do not set up VIRTUS® User Names and Passwords after they attend. Lack of advance VIRTUS® electronic registrations seriously complicate our efforts to electronically match the results of SELECTiON.COM® background checks with VIRTUS® training records in the VIRTUS® Master Reports.

BACKGROUND CHECK UPDATE

Effective January 1, 2014, SELECTiON.COM® will begin doing all background checks, both through fingerprints and electronic database searches, for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. To access the Webinar re-run, which explains this change, please go to the Archdiocese of

Cincinnati website. Then, go to the “Protecting God’s Children” link across the top. When that opens, you will see another link (in blue) that takes you to the page that allows you to register for the Webinar re-run.

To pay for a SELECTION.COM® background check, volunteers or employees can pay online with personal credit cards / debit cards / PayPal at the time of service. They can also use a Fastrax Token which their parish or school will pre-pay. **Parishes and schools can pre-purchase Fastrax Tokens directly from SELECTION.COM® by contacting Stephanie Whalen by phone at: 513.522.8764x3020, or by email at: swhalen@selection.com** Please see page two of the FAQs, inserted with this mailing, for more details on the Fastrax Token system.

If you would like a SELECTION.COM® **mobile fingerprinting unit** to visit your parish, school, or other Archdiocese institution, please contact LeAnn Bick at: customersupport@selection.com or by telephone at: 513.522.8764 to schedule this visit. In your message, please state (i) your location, (ii) the date(s) that you would like a mobile unit to visit, and (iii) approximately how many persons would be fingerprinted so they can schedule the mobile units efficiently. We ask that you have at least 12 persons to fingerprint so we can schedule the mobile units efficiently. You can coordinate with other local parishes or schools to meet the 12 person minimum requirement.

VOCATIONS OFFICE

ORDINATION DATES FOR 2014

This year’s priestly ordination will take place on Saturday, May 17, 2014, 11:00 a.m. at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral. Ordination for transitional deacons will take place on Saturday, April 26, 2014, at 11:00 a.m., also at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral.

VOCATION NIGHT AT MOUNT ST. MARY’S SEMINARY

On Wednesday, January 29, 2014, Mount St. Mary’s Seminary will host the annual Vocation Dinner. The evening begins with Mass at 5:15 p.m. and includes social time and dinner with seminarians and concludes with a presentation on life in the seminary by the seminary faculty. If you know of a man, college age and older, who has the gifts for the priesthood, please consider inviting him to attend. For information and/or registration, please contact Fr. Kyle Schnippel in the Vocation Office: 513.368.4715x2890 or email kschnippel@catholiccincinnati.org.

RUN FOR THE CALL

Run for the Call is now a partner charity of the Flying Pig Marathon. All runners and walkers who want to run in the weekend events of the Marathon on May 3-4th are invited to join our team and help us to raise money for seminarians while promoting a culture of vocations throughout the Archdiocese. To help prepare for the big weekend, Run for the Call is also establishing running clubs throughout the Archdiocese. For more information and to sign up, visit <http://runforthecall.wordpress.com>.

CAST YOUR NETS

On Sunday, February 23, 2014, Cast Your Nets will return to Holy Redeemer Parish, New Bremen. Ryan Lopez of NET Ministries will be the guest speaker and music will be led by St.

Henry Youth Minister, Kevin Schulze. This year's Cast Your Nets will once again include practical workshops, dinner, opportunity to engage with members of religious communities and Eucharistic Adoration. Cost for the event is just \$10 which includes an event t-shirt. Please encourage your youth minister to attend, as this is the only Cast Your Nets event happening this year. Registration will open in late January.

MARTHA DINNER

On January 14 there will be the opportunity for high school and young single women to meet Sisters from both monastic and apostolic religious communities, pray together and share a meal, spend time with other young women exploring a call to religious life and to hear from Archbishop Dennis Schnurr. This event will take place at Ascension Parish in Dayton from 6:00 -8:00 p.m. Please visit www.thecatholictelegraph.com/event-calendar?yr=2014&month=1&dy for more information and for registration. Printable flyers can be downloaded at: <http://www.cincinnati vocations.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Martha-Dinner-poster-2014.pdf>.

DIACONATE OFFICE

LECTOR INSTALLATION

The deacon candidates will be installed as Lectors on Sunday, February 16, at 10:00 a.m. The ceremony will be held with Bishop Foys at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption in Covington, Kentucky. The deacon candidates are:

Robert L. Brazier: St. Thomas More, Withamsville
Paul W. Feie: Guardian Angels, Cincinnati
Thomas M. Gaier: St. John Fisher, Newtown
David B. Gillespie: St. Patrick, Troy
John B. Homoelle: St. Ignatius, Monfort Heights
Thomas P. Jabs: St. Columban, Loveland
Phillip A. Kenzora: St. Teresa, Springfield
Jerold A. Kosey: Sacred Heart, New Carlisle
Mark J. Machuga: Our Lady of Victory, Delhi
Michael H. Meyer: St. Remy, Russia
Patrick M. Minnich: St. John the Baptist, Maria Stein
Michael J. Montgomery: Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Dayton
Charles W. Roemer, Jr.: Sts. Peter & Paul, Reading
Johannes Schade: St. Maximilian Kolbe, Liberty Twp.
John M. Schaefer: Our Lady of Sorrows, Monroe
John A. Schuler: St. Mary, Hyde Park
Thomas M. Sipniewski: Church of the Ascension, Kettering
Matthew R. Skinner: Our Lady of the Rosary, Greenhills
Paul L. Timmerman: St. Michael, Fort Loramie
Michael A. Trimpe: Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains

Please keep these men and their families in your prayers.

DEACON GRANTED SENIOR STATUS

Deacon Joseph (Jack) L. Pitts, Jr., ordained on April 28, 2007, has been granted Senior Status effective on December 11, 2013 from his assignment as a deacon at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Centerville. Deacon Pitts retains his faculties as a deacon of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and the title deacon. He will continue to serve the people of the Archdiocese as he is able.

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS COLLECTION

Checks are arriving gradually and it will be quite some time before we will know what the Archdiocese will be able to send to the National Office this year. Thank you for your support of this still much needed source of income for so many religious communities of women and men. Here is a first. A check arrived from an individual and on the back it read “Sister Marilyn, \$20 of this donation is from a non-Catholic friend who was touched by the TV Commercial.” This is the first year we have done a “local” TV Spot. And it could not have been done without the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur sharing footage they already had and the generosity of Jeff Gardner of Optasia Productions, LLC. If you are interested in seeing the “commercial” go to www.catholiccincinnati.org – Ministries & Offices – Religious – TV Spot.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING OFFICE

PARISH SOFTWARE

We are in the process of scheduling morning and afternoon training meetings in January. On Wednesday, January 22, we will have morning and afternoon sessions at the Archdiocese. On Thursday, January 30 we will have morning and afternoon sessions at the Pilarczyk Center in Dayton. Please contact Anne Morrow (amorow@catholiccincinnati.org) with suggested topics and for registering. We will be handling a variety of topics and can add more meetings if needed. **Remember to close each month when you have completed your transactions.** This will help you in that you will not need to enter new dates when you enter transactions and will also help prevent you from recording transactions in the incorrect month. For those of you who need additional overall training, please contact Dan Umberg (dumberg@catholiccincinnati.org) or Anne Morrow (amorow@catholiccincinnati.org) as soon as possible so we can arrange to bring you up-to-date.

FINANCIAL REPORTS – PARISHSOFT

The Finance Office utilized the Statement of Activities – Columnar by Entity report to calculate the General Assessment bill. You can view/print this report by clicking on the following.

1. Reports
2. Statements
3. Statements of Activities – Columnar by Entity
4. Under Fiscal Period Ended, select the month and year.

5. Under Entity, select the entities which you have set up in your system (if you select none of the entities, it will show them all – many with zero balances).
6. Under Define Report Group, select Category in section 1 and Account in section 2. Leave others “unused”.

You can then preview the report and print.

Please note that the Finance Office used the Parish, Rosary Alter Society, Seniors, Capital Campaign, Other 1 and Other 2 entities to calculate the General Assessment bill. The Finance Office would appreciate receiving a copy of the Statement of Activities – Columnar by Entity report (include all Entities with activity) as well as a Statement of Financial Position report from each location that utilized ParishSoft figures for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013. Please send these reports as well as the Parish Financial Report certification page (available on the Archdiocesan website under Finance Office Documents) via email to sburger@catholiccincinnati.org. Please contact Steve Burger at 513.421.3131x2850 with any questions.

GENERAL ASSESSMENT PAYMENTS

Payment of the first half General Assessment billing was due by December 31, 2013. All parishes were invoiced in December. Please notify Anne Morrow in the Finance Office at 513.421.3131x6604 if you did not receive an invoice. Please note that if payment was not received by December 31, 2013, a late payment fee of 1% will accrue each month on the unpaid first half balance. If you have not completed your financial report for the year ended June 30, 2013, your General Assessment invoice was an estimated bill based on the prior year figures. You will receive an adjusted invoice upon receipt of the actual completed report. However, payment of the estimated first half amount was still required by December 31, 2013. Please contact Steve Burger at 513.421.3131x2850 with any questions.

MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE

The Internal Revenue Service has issued the 2014 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business purposes. The standard mileage rate for the use of a car (including vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be **56.0** cents per mile for business miles driven in 2014. As usual, this reimbursement rate is for mileage incurred for business travel and excludes mileage to and from work. As a practical matter, it may be beneficial to review rental car rates for business trips over 150 miles. In some cases, it may be more economical to have an employee rent a car and pay for gas rather than reimburse the employee at the standard mileage rate. If you have any questions regarding the mileage reimbursement rate, please contact Steve Burger at 513.421.3131x2850.

NEW RATE ON INVESTMENT NOTES

The interest rate paid on Archdiocesan investment notes for the period January 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014 will be adjusted to the December 2013 Fifth Third Pooled fund rate, rounded up to the next 1/10 of a point. This rate will be posted on the Finance Office section of the Archdiocesan website in mid-January. Please contact Steve Burger at 513.421.3131x2850 with any questions.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE CENTRAL OFFICES OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI

The Financial Statements of the Central Offices of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013 are available on the Archdiocese of Cincinnati website under Ministries and Offices – Finance. Please contact Steve Burger with any questions at 513.421.3131x2850 or sburger@catholiccincinnati.org.

BENEFITS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

After 23 years of service to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Barb Walsh has retired. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Barb for her expertise, loyalty and professionalism throughout the years. We also would like to introduce Charlotte Carpenter as the new Director of Benefits and Risk Management. Please contact Charlotte at 513.421.3131x2852 or cmcm manis@catholiccincinnati.org with all benefit and insurance inquiries.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

ROBERT J. REID, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Greetings to all! My name is Rob Reid and I am extremely pleased to introduce myself as the new Director of Human Resources for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

By way of background, I have worked as an attorney practicing labor and employment law for the past 20 years. Nearly half of that time was spent representing the Archdiocese in employment law matters while practicing at Dinsmore & Shohl. I am certified as a Specialist in Labor and Employment Law by the Ohio State Bar Association. Given my past association with the Archdiocese, I cannot express in words how happy I am to be a part of this wonderful family.

I am an avid believer in the pivotal role that human resources plays in our organization. I know all too well that addressing personnel issues can at times be a difficult and an unwelcome task. That is why I would like to encourage everyone out there to utilize the services that we offer in Human Resources. No question is too “small” or “minor” in our view. We are only a phone call away and we would love to hear from you about any “minor” issues before they become “major” issues.

I am very excited about the future of the Human Resources Department at the Archdiocese. I look forward to continuing and even expanding upon the excellent work of Bill Hancock. With the addition of Meg Paul to our staff as Employee Relations Consultant for Parishes and Schools, I believe we will have the resources and the expertise to provide enhanced education and training on critical human resources matters throughout the Archdiocese. If you ever have any questions or need any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 421-3131 ext. 6611 or rreid@catholiccincinnati.org.

Thank you so much and I look forward to working with each and every one of you.

Signed,

Sincerely,

Robert J. Reid, J.D.

Director of Human Resources

DEPARTMENT OF PASTORAL SERVICES

FAMILY AND RESPECT LIFE OFFICE (FARLO)

COUPLES FOR CHRIST

On November 4, 2013, Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr renewed a welcome to Couples for Christ. Couples for Christ is a lay movement dedicated to the renewal of family life through evangelization, formation and support of couples and families that began in 1981 in the Philippines and has spread to over 158 countries. Archbishop Pilarczyk welcomed Couples for Christ to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati in 2001. For information on Couples for Christ, please go to <http://www.couplesforchristusa.org/> or contact the Family and Respect Life Office.

FOCCUS CHANGES COMING IN 2014

During the past two years, the FOCCUS team has conducted a systematic review of marriage preparation resources with input from marriage educators across the country and internationally, in both Catholic and non-Catholic settings. Attention was given to the Inventory and related materials for couples, facilitators and trainers. The input received was instrumental in the research and development of FOCCUS 4th Edition.

FOCCUS 4th Edition meets the real life needs of today's couples and those who are preparing them for marriage by building on the strong research base and cost effective, trusted user-friendly FOCCUS format. Updates include an all new Catholic edition supporting critical areas of evangelization and formation for couples preparing to enter into a lifelong marriage in the Church. Additionally a new section, Couples with Children, is offered for couples when one or both are bringing children to the marriage.

Incorporating changes to 85% of the previous Inventory, FOCCUS 4th Edition includes new statements addressing pornography, technology, prayer in marriage and pets along with Manuals in English and Spanish and Inventories in Catholic, Christian, General, and Orthodox Christian. An Alternate Inventory, developed at a third grade reading level, is available and recommended for use with individuals who do not speak English as a first language or who have intellectual or developmental disabilities. FOCCUS 4th Edition offers professional translation of our most requested materials in Spanish and Traditional Chinese with additional translations planned for the future according to need and available resources. The new, updated binders will be available at a discounted price of \$25.00 + shipping for a period of 6 months, **January 1, 2014 – June 30, 2014**. Effective **July 1, 2014** the binders will cost \$50.00 + shipping. Your parish must be registered with www.FOCCUSincusa.com in order to receive the discounted price. We suggest that parishes check NOW to see if their facilitators are registered. A FOCCUS Application is provided at: <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/family-life/for-clergy/foccus-facilitator-training/> for Parish FOCCUS Facilitators to use for registration. We have also provided a Pre-Order Form at the link above for Parishes to order FOCCUS supplies. Please contact Louise Davis (FOCCUS clerk, Ext. 2621) or Bonnie Mack (FOCCUS trainer, Ext. 2623) at 513.421.3131 for further information.

FOCCUS TRAINING

Saturday, January 18, 2014 at St. Bernard Parish, Springfield, Ohio, 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., \$55.00 per couple (includes binder). Please call Louise Davis at 513.421.3131x2621 or Bonnie Mack at 513.421.3131x2623 to register.

FREE FINANCE WORKSHOP OFFERED TO NEWLY ENGAGED COUPLES

Wednesday, January 22 or February 12, 2014, at St. Vivian Parish, Cincinnati, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. You must register one week before the event through the Family and Respect Life Office email: farlocincinnati@catholiccincinnati.org or call Linda at 513.421.3131x2653.

THE LIGHT IS ON

In preparation for the evening of March 18, 2014, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., “The Light is On” (for confession) FARLO is creating a **resource packet** for the parish confessional and “first responders”. We would appreciate hearing from you regarding situations you encounter so we can compile helpful responses and resources. Please forward any thoughts to our office email: farlocincinnati@catholiccincinnati.org.

MARCH FOR LIFE – WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2014

Archbishop Schnurr will be joining the March for Life in Washington, DC. Our venue for the Youth Rally and Mass is the Verizon Center, 601 F St. NW, Washington, DC. Please note that the Mass will be at 9:30 a.m. this year, **which is a half hour earlier than in previous years**. Our liturgy send-off for the March for Life is Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at Good Shepherd Parish, Montgomery. Bishop Binzer will be presiding. Your prayer for the end of abortion and the safety of all travelers is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please call Caron Bergen at 513.421.3131x2620.

A NEW WEBPAGE IN SUPPORT OF MARRIAGE

FARLO has a new page to assist parishes and parishioners in taking steps to support marriage. Go to: <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/family-life/family/divorce-and-separation/divorce/> for a variety of resources.

NEW “CATHOLIC” DIVORCE HEALING PROGRAM! 2014

When a Catholic divorces civilly, make no mistake about it: there’s a real divorce. It’s the tearing apart of a marriage and family, a rip in the fabric of the whole human family, and the perceived end to one’s hopes and dreams. There is great loss, pain and suffering, and every divorced or separated Catholic needs our love, support, and understanding; not our judgment and finger-wagging. The new Catholic Divorce Ministry series, *The Catholic’s DIVORCE SURVIVAL Guide*, will soon be taking place in the Dayton area at Emmanuel Catholic Church, 149 Franklin Street, Downtown Dayton (across from Chaminade Julianne High School). This series is a carefully designed 12 week program that reminds the divorced Catholic that it’s the fiery flame of God’s love that can melt the icy pain of divorce. It is scheduled to begin weekly on Tuesdays from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. **starting on Tuesday January 14, 2014 through Tuesday, April 1, 2014**; the fee is \$20.00 per person. Call Noreen Wendeln in The Family and Respect Life Office at 937.222.0227 or email nwendeln@catholiccincinnati.org for more information. To register online, please visit: <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/61915/catholic-divorce-survival-guide/>.

**WORLD MARRIAGE DAY, FEBRUARY 9,
2014/NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK, FEBRUARY 7 - 14, 2014**

The Family and Respect Life Office reminds you that each year **World Marriage Day** is celebrated on the second Sunday in February. Worldwide Marriage Encounter, which sponsors World Marriage Day, offers many ideas that churches, groups and couples can use to mark the day. Please visit the website at: <http://wmd.wwme.org/> for more information.

PROJECT RACHEL

A post-abortive healing ministry in the Catholic Church is offering a retreat March 7 - 9, 2014, at the Bergamo Center in Dayton, Ohio. If interested or for more information, please contact Caron Bergen at 513.784.0531, a confidential phone line.

PROJECT RACHEL DAY OF REFLECTION FOR OTHERS

A post-abortive healing ministry in the Catholic Church is offering a Day of Reflection for others affected by the trauma of abortion, Saturday April 5, 2014, at the Jesuit Spiritual Center in Milford, Ohio. If interested or for more information, please contact Caron Bergen at 513.784.0531, a confidential phone line.

CANA II

Are you utilizing the Archdiocese's Cana II Program? This archdiocesan-wide marriage preparation program replaced the second marriage tract that was traditionally part of Cincinnati's Pre-Cana program and the second marriage programs that have been offered in Dayton and Sidney. It is a wonderful program made up of "Team Couples" who are living in successful "Second Marriages" and is designed specifically for engaged couples when one or both have been previously married. This beneficial marriage preparation program also, continues to search for couples who can be assets to each Cana II team. If you have couples in your parishes who could contribute to this program, please contact the Family and Respect Life Office with the names and phone numbers of these potential team couples. Please note that there has been a **change in 2014 Cana II dates** and is not reflected in the brochures that have already been mailed to parishes. ***The February 8th date has been changed to March 1, 2014.*** 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-2014.pdf>. Couples may also register online at: <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=4e3d0e>. **Please distribute this information to those couples who can benefit from this marriage preparation experience.** If you have any questions about the Cana II Marriage Preparation Program call the Family and Respect Life Office at 513.421.3131x2624 or 937.222.0227x5027.

ARCHDIOCESAN RESPECT LIFE AWARD

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati's Family and Respect Life Office is pleased to announce the first 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 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 included with this mailing and is also available on our website at <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/family-life/respect-life/respect-life-award-candidate-submission/>. 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, 2014.

PRIESTLY FORMATION OFFICE

NEW DIRECTOR OF THE PRIESTLY FORMATION OFFICE

Father Andrew Umberg is the new Director of the Priestly Formation Office, beginning December 1, 2013. He continues as Pastor of St. William Parish in Cincinnati. We are grateful for his service!!

WINTER RETREAT FOR PRIESTS

Monday, February 24, 2014 – Friday, February 28, 2014 at the Maria Stein Spiritual Center. More information to follow.

NEWER CLERGY OVERNIGHT

Sunday, March 23, 2014 through Monday, March 24, 2014 at Maria Stein for classes 2010 to 2013. On Sunday, arrive by 4:00 p.m. We will use the breviary for Vespers. Depart after noon lunch on Monday. RSVP to sfrohmiller@catholiccincinnati.org.

LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION FOR PRIESTS

Wednesday, March 26, 2014 with Father Francois Rossier, S.M. at the Transfiguration Center for Spiritual Renewal, 3505 Calumet Road, Ludlow Falls, OH 45339; 10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Please watch for the flyer, or call Sarah Frohmiller if you wish to register, 513.421.3131x2651. Thank you!!

WORSHIP OFFICE

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 9, 2014**. We will not be mailing hard copies of the information sheets and reservation forms; but rather, we will place all of the forms on the Worship Office home page on January 13, 2014. Pastors or RCIA coordinators will be able to download all of the documents and send their reservation forms to the Worship Office via email, fax, or postal mail. On January 13, we will email a letter with a link to the documents to all RCIA coordinators. If you do not receive the email, please call the Worship Office at 513.421.3131x 6609 or go directly to the website at: <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/worship/>. The reservation form deadline will be February 3, 2014. Please remember that seating is determined on a first come first served basis.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BAPTIZED CANDIDATES: DISCERNMENT, FORMATION, RECEPTION

February 26, 2014 at St. Peter Parish, Huber Heights from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. for team members and coordinators who are unable to attend the full-day workshop; and **February 27, 2014 at Our Lady of Sorrows, Monroe from 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** for clergy, pastoral ministers, and RCIA coordinators and team members. Presenter: Ms. Rita Ferrone, an award-winning writer and speaker on issues of liturgy, catechesis and Christian initiation in the Roman Catholic Church. For more information and registration, please go to <http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/2-2014-flyer.pdf>.

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 four-evening retreat-like experience will be held on **Thursday evenings from 7:00 – 8:45 p.m. on March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 2014 at Corpus Christi Parish, Cincinnati.** Parishes can take advantage of registration discounts. For more information and registration, please go to www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/worship/ and scroll down to upcoming events.

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU!

Parish resources are being prepared and will be provided to parishes in the near future. Please refer to the article under the Family and Respect Life Office for additional information.

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/>.

OFFICE OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT (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>

JANUARY 2014 UPDATE: ARCHDIOCESAN YOUTH ATHLETICS INITIATIVE

(Important: Pastors, parish and school leaders are asked to keep their athletics leadership posted and up-to-date with developments regarding the Youth Athletics Initiative.)

HOLY GOALS, February 11, 2014, 7:00 p.m., McAuley High School.: All adult athletics leaders are invited to a special evening with the **Most Reverend Thomas Paprocki, author of *Holy Goals for Body and Soul: Eight Steps to Connect Sports and Faith.*** Bishop Paprocki plays ice hockey, runs marathons, and serves as bishop of the Diocese of Springfield, IL. This is a free event and open to the public. Cosponsored by the OYYAM, the Schools Office and the St.

James Project of the Athenaeum of Ohio. (McAuley High School located in College Hill (Cincinnati), 6000 Oakwood Ave.)

CHARTER ON YOUTH ATHLETICS: The Presbyteral Council has reviewed the fifth draft of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Youth Athletics Charter and has recommended some revisions prior to final approval. These revisions are under way so that by the next meeting on February 3 the document will be suitable for final review and approval by the Archbishop. In the next version there will be a clarification regarding athletics activities on Saturday and Sunday evenings, addressing the confusion about scheduling during those times. Although not yet approved, the revision likely will clarify that on Saturday and Sunday evenings there's no problem with scheduling away from the parish or on-site at the parish if the activities don't distract from Mass, create parking problems, etc. The current draft is available for review at: [Charter Draft Five http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Archdiocese Youth Athletics Charter DFT5.pdf](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Archdiocese_Youth_Athletics_Charter_DFT5.pdf). A synopsis of the consultation steps and Task Force meetings that led to the development of the Charter can be reviewed here, along with a proposed time line for implementation: [Charter Synopsis http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Charter-Intro_8-13.pdf](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Charter-Intro_8-13.pdf).

SCHEDULE A NET RETREAT FOR THE WINTER OR SPRING

Plenty of dates remain to schedule a NET retreat in the winter or spring. NET (National Evangelization Team) Ministries offers high-impact retreats for youth in grades 7 through 12. To book a NET retreat call Andrea Parker in our Dayton Office at 937.223.1001x5051, or for more information, please visit our website:

[Schedule NET http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/youth-ministry/services/net-ministries/](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/youth-ministry/services/net-ministries/).

IGNITE FOR JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH, MARCH 21-23

IGNITE is a high-energy, weekend discipleship retreat for youth in grades 7 - 8 who demonstrate leadership potential. Help ignite your JH kids to be disciples in their parishes and schools. More information is available at: [IGNITE 2014 http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/youth-ministry/services/youthleader/ignite/](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/youth-ministry/services/youthleader/ignite/).

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS

CHRIST AT THE CENTER...

Please see the infusion bulletin for Ordinary Time – January 19 – March 2, 2014, inserted with this mailing. The **Spanish** edition is also included with this mailing.

DR. MIKE CAROTTA TO LEAD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

On Tuesday, March 11, 2014 Dr. Mike Carotta, former executive director of the National Catholic Educators Association—Department of Religious Education 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.,

Cincinnati Religious Educators' Association. Mike Carotta's titled talk: ***Called to Teach, Lead, and Serve***, will challenge us to find ways to illuminate, in the light of faith, what is happening in people's lives, in order to transform Christ's teaching to real life situations. The 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. event will be held at the Savannah Center in West Chester and cost is \$50 per person. Registration forms will be available in January. Questions may be directed to Bill Frantz, bill@stveronica.org.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SOUTHWESTERN OHIO

JOB LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

Job seekers join others who are troubled by the stresses related to job loss. Participants can share their concerns, gain support, and get ideas for employment strategies. Individuals of all faith backgrounds are welcome to come to as many or as few support group meetings as they wish. Wednesday, **January 8 & 29** from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in the Lourdes Room (7820 Beechmont Avenue, Cincinnati 45255). Please contact Sandy Keiser for more information, skeiser@ccswoh.org or 513.241.7745.

PARENTING EDUCATION CLASSES

Catholic Charities offers Parenting Education Classes in Hamilton and Middletown. Parents can register at any time. Cost is free for Butler County residents and \$60 single/\$80 couple for non-residents (for 8 sessions). There are three options for classes. In Hamilton, there is a Thursday class for Parents of Little Ones (ages 0-5) that starts on January 9 and a Monday class for Parents of School-Age Children (ages 6-12) that starts on January 13. In Middletown, there is a Tuesday class for Parents of School-Age Children (ages 6-12) that starts on February 4. Hamilton classes are held at the Catholic Charities' Hamilton office (1910 Fairgrove Avenue, Suite B, Hamilton Ohio) and the Middletown class is held at Holy Trinity Church (201 Clark Street, Middletown). For more information, please contact Pam Mortensen at 513.863.6129x26.

REFUGEE SERVICES VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS NEEDED

Catholic Charities is looking for individuals to serve in our Refugee Resettlement Program. The refugees are men, women and children fleeing war, poverty and persecution in Third-World countries. They are brought by the U.S. Government to the United States to live in Cincinnati; and are served by the Catholic Charities Refugee Program. They are trying to start a new life and create a new home in the Cincinnati. We need help with the following:

- Volunteers with a valid driver's license who can assist in driving people who are our refugee clients to appointments.
- Volunteers to help individuals fill out SI and WIC applications.
- NEW volunteers for the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes. Volunteers do not need to know a language other than English. English is the main key to establishing a beachhead for life in America. One full-time ESOL Lead Teacher aided by a corps of volunteers serve as many as 60 students a day. Volunteering can be a few hours a month, or a week, or a day, to aid in the continuation of this vital program.

- Gently used or like-new household furnishings and kitchen equipment/utensils.

For any of these opportunities to serve, please contact Jim Beiting for more information, jbeiting@ccswoh.org or 513.241.7745.

CAREGIVER ASSISTANCE NETWORK

The Caregiver Assistance Network has several workshops during January for caregivers. All are free. Contact Margaret Iannaci at 513.929.4483 or miannaci@ccswoh.org.

- **Everyone Needs Support: The Need to Talk** (*presented by Margaret Iannaci, Caregiver Assistance Network*) – **January 2** from 1:15 - 2:45 p.m. at St. Mary Campus Ministry (111 E. High Street, Oxford); **January 14** from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. at St. Bernadette Parish (1479 Locust Lake Road, Amelia); **January 27** from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. at St. Antoninus Parish (1500 Linneman Drive, Western Hills); **January 28** from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Sorrows (330 Lebanon Street, Monroe).
- **VA Benefits: Aid and Attendance** (*presented by Katie Weaver, U.S. Veterans Resources*) – **January 8** from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. at Morrow United Methodist Church (510 Welch Road, Morrow).
- **Aging Gracefully** (*presented by Margaret Iannaci, Caregiver Assistance Network*) – **January 13** from 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. at St. Antoninus Parish (1500 Linneman Drive, Western Hills).
- **Caring for Your Loved One with Dementia** (*presented by Kari Morgan, HomeInstead Senior Care*) – **January 22** from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at St. Susanna Parish (616 Reading Road, Mason).
- **Did a White Christmas Leave You Blue?** (*presented by Renee Zuccherro, PhD, Xavier University*) – **January 23** from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. at Hyde Park Health Center (3983 Rosslyn Drive, Hyde Park).

CATHOLIC SOCIAL ACTION OFFICE

NATIONAL MIGRATION WEEK: JANUARY 5-11, 2014 “OUT OF THE DARKNESS”

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has designated “Out of Darkness” for the theme of National Migration Week, January 5-11, 2014. A sample bulletin announcement, bulletin insert, prayer card, intercessions, and more can be accessed on the “Take Action Now!” page at www.catholiccincinnati.org/socialaction. National Migration Week is a time designated by the U.S. Catholic Bishops to remember the migration journey of the Holy Family, as they had to live in the shadows and cross the border into Egypt to escape death from the hands of King Herod. This year, we are called to remember today’s migrants, especially the most vulnerable: children, the undocumented, refugees, asylum seekers, and victims of human trafficking living in a kind of darkness. They live in darkness and fear at risk of violence and exploitation. The Church renews its call to reach out to these brothers and sisters through prayers, education about their struggles, support for their integration into American life, and advocacy for comprehensive immigration reform. Archbishop Dennis Schnurr, in a July 2013 statement, called attention to those “living in darkness”:

Our hearts also go out to the families torn apart by our out-of-balance immigration system. We are sensitive to the fears of the many undocumented residents hiding in the

shadows. Too many of them end up being exploited by unscrupulous employers who take advantage of their status. And many others avoid reporting being victims of crime to the proper authorities, because they don't want to be separated from their loved ones. We believe only comprehensive immigration reform can bring back a sense of law and order and better safeguard the God-given human dignity of those seeking a better life.

If you want to learn how to get more involved in the immigration issue or to sign a postcard, contact the local Justice for Immigrants coordinator at the Archdiocese, 513.421.3131x2611 or go online to www.justiceforimmigrants.org. You can also learn more about the impressive services provided to immigrants and refugees by Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio at <http://ccswoh.org> and Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley at www.cssmv.org.

WORLD DAY OF PEACE RESOURCES

Many thanks to all those who celebrated the 46th World Day of Peace of New Year's Day with Pope Francis, Archbishop Schnurr and Bishop Binzer at the Cathedral and St. Benedict the Moor Church. You can still access the Holy Father's profound message for world peace and a handout prepared by the U.S. Catholic bishops at <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/war-and-peace/world-day-of-peace.cfm>.

SIXTH ANNUAL LOCAL FOODS SEMINAR: JANUARY 26, 2014

The St. Martin Deanery Catholic Rural Life Conference will be organizing its annual Local Foods Seminar on Sunday, January 26, 2014 at 1:45 – 5:00 p.m. at St. George Church Hall in Georgetown, Brown County. This event has become a wonderful opportunity for local farmers, retailers and anyone who eats food to gather to learn more about how to support our local foods system in the spirit of the U.S. Catholic bishops' document, *For I Was Hungry and You Gave Me Food: Pastoral Reflections on Food, Farmers, and Farm Workers*. For more information, please contact Pat Hornshemeier at 937.378.4769 (day) or 937.378.4560 (evening).

CARING FOR ALL LIFE ALL THROUGH LIFE

Fr. Neil Kookoothe, a Cleveland Diocesan priest who is at the forefront of ending the death penalty, and Joe D'Ambrosio, who Fr. Neil helped to exonerate from Ohio's death row, will be the keynote speakers at a Saturday, March 15, Conference focused on the Consistent Ethic of Life at the University of Dayton in the Kennedy Union. The Catholic Relief Services Committee of the Archdiocesan Social Action Commission along with the Archdiocesan Offices of African-American Catholic Ministries, Catholic Schools, Evangelization and Catechesis, Family and Respect Life, Mission, Youth and Young Adult, and Catholic Social Action are collaborating on the conference. The focus of this annual global solidarity conference will be on a variety of life issues, including abortion, Project Rachel, euthanasia, assisted suicide, domestic violence, gun control and the Gospel's call to each of us to respond. Catechists can also obtain credit for the Justice and Peace course offered through the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis. For more information call or email Pam Long, Regional Director of the Catholic Social Action Office in Dayton, 937.224.3026 or plong@catholiccincinnati.org.

SETTING SOCIAL JUSTICE PRIORITIES FOR 2014

Weavers of Justice, a Dayton collaborative of Catholic parishes and organizations, will select its priority issue for 2014 at a gathering Monday, February 24, at 5:30 p.m. at the Pilarczyk Center, 1436 Needmore Road, Dayton, Ohio. Groups of individuals interested in the same social justice

topic will advocate for a suggested plan of action that attendees will vote on. In preparation for the February meeting, Weavers will dedicate its Monday, January 27, meeting, also at 5:30 p.m. at the Pilarczyk Center, as a work session where groups can ask for input or assistance in drafting their plans. For more information, please call or email Pam Long, Regional Director of the Catholic Social Action Office in Dayton, 937.224.3026 or plong@catholiccincinnati.org.

MISCELLAENOUS

LE BLOND LECTURE

Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki will explain Catholic teaching regarding homosexuality with **truth and compassion** as the featured speaker of the annual **Le Blond Lecture presented by The Athenaeum of Ohio**. As Bishop of Springfield Illinois, Bishop Paprocki received national attention in 2013 when he publicly opposed the legalization of same sex marriage in Illinois. His lecture entitled: “Marriage, Same –Sex Relationships, and the Catholic Church” will be held on Wednesday, February 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Athenaeum’s Bartlett Pastoral Center located at 6616 Beechmont Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45230. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, please visit www.athenaeum.edu or contact Father Earl Fernandes at 513.231.2223x152.

**Please submit articles for the February *Clergy Communications* before January 23, 2014.
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

REPORTING ABUSE IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI - If you know someone who has been abused at any time by an agent of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati (priest, deacon, employee or volunteer), the Archdiocese urges you to contact Sandy Keiser, LISW, the Coordinator of Ministry to Survivors of Abuse of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, at **513.263.6623** as well as the victim'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).

VOCATION DINNER AT MOUNT ST. MARY'S SEMINARY - Men college age and older are invited to attend the annual Vocation Night at Mount St. Mary's Seminary on Wednesday, January 29, 2014. The evening begins with Mass at 5:15 p.m. and includes social time and dinner with the seminarians and closes with a presentation on life in the seminary by the seminary faculty. For more information or to register, please contact Fr. Kyle Schnippel in the Vocation Office: 513.421.3131x2890 or via email: kschnippel@catholiccincinnati.org.

LEARN ABOUT RELIGIOUS LIFE - On January 14 there will be the opportunity for high school and young single women to meet Sisters from both monastic and apostolic religious communities, pray together and share a meal, spend time with other young women exploring a call to religious life and to hear from Archbishop Dennis Schnurr. This event will take place at Ascension Parish Dayton from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. To register, please call Mary Yarger, CPPS at **937.999.8456** or email vocations@cppsadmin.org.

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2014/NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK, FEBRUARY 7-14, 2014 - The Family and Respect Life Office reminds you that each year **World Marriage Day** is celebrated on the second Sunday in February. Worldwide Marriage Encounter, which sponsors World Marriage Day, offers many ideas that churches, groups and couples can use to mark the day. Visit the website <http://wmd.wwme.org/> for more information.

To be printed January 18-19, 2014:

The Family and Respect Life Office reminds you that January 20, 2014, is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. As a Christian non-violent civil rights leader, Martin Luther King, Jr. understood that "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." You may want to pray these words with your family: *Gracious God, you create us and love us and make us to live together in community. We thank you for Martin Luther King, Jr. and all your children who have been filled with your vision and who have worked to bring it into reality. Guide us to live by your vision, working to build the community where everyone is welcomed and valued, power is shared, and all your children know wholeness and well-being. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.*

To be printed January 25-26 and/or February 1-2, 2014:

World Marriage Day, February 9, 2014/National Marriage Week, February 7-14, 2014 - The Family and Respect Life Office thanks all married couples for the on-going love and witness they

demonstrate to their friends and loved ones, and offers this prayer on this occasion of World Marriage Day. *Heavenly Father, we thank You for your tremendous gift of the Sacrament of Marriage. Enable us to grow in our intimacy with You and with each other. Teach us the beauty of forgiveness so we may become more and more one in heart, mind and body. Strengthen our communication with each other, and help us become living signs of Your love. Help us to be examples of commitment, love and service to our families and children. Make us a sign of the unity which Jesus prays for at the Last Supper. We open ourselves to the guidance of your Holy Spirit, who empowers us to love in Jesus' name and walk in His footsteps. Amen.*

<http://wmd.wwme.org>

“OUT OF THE DARKNESS” NATIONAL MIGRATION WEEK: JANUARY 5-11, 2014 - The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has designated “Out of Darkness” for the theme of National Migration Week, January 5-11, 2014. National Migration Week is a time designated by the U.S. Catholic Bishops to remember the migration journey of the Holy Family, as they had to live in the shadows and cross the border into Egypt to escape death from the hands of King Herod. This year, we are called to remember today’s migrants, especially the most vulnerable: children, the undocumented, refugees, asylum seekers, and victims of human trafficking living in a kind of darkness. They live in darkness and fear at risk of violence and exploitation. The Church renews its calls to reach out to these brothers and sisters through prayers, education about their struggles, supports for their integration into American life, and advocacy for comprehensive immigration reform. If you want to learn how to get more involved in the immigration issue or to sign a postcard, contact the local Justice for Immigrants coordinator at the Archdiocese, 421-3131, ext. 2611 or go online to www.justiceforimmigrants.org. You can also learn more about the impressive services provide to immigrants and refugees by Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio at <http://ccswoh.org> and Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley at www.cssmv.org.

CARE FOR GOD’S CREATION SAMPLE BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT - The Archdiocese Climate Change Task Force is providing sample bulletin announcements once a month that include a sample prayer/reflection, quote from the Holy Father, and energy-saving/care for creation tip. Please feel free to use these as appropriate.

Reflection: Gracious God, creator of all that is, you have made human beings in your image and likeness and by the work of your hands, fashioned the whole universe in beauty and majesty. Awaken in us a deeper reverence for all you have created, and renew among us an eagerness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of life.

Quote from the Holy Father: "The book of Genesis tells us that God created man and woman entrusting them with the task of filling the earth and subduing it, which does not mean exploiting it, but nurturing and protecting it, caring for it through their work." -- Pope Francis (General Audience, May 1, 2013)

Care for Creation Tip: Our motivation for trying to use energy efficiently in our parish buildings and our homes is based principally on moral considerations, rather than monetary ones, even though the latter is a welcome benefit. In reducing our electrical usage, for example, we help to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide, mercury, etc. emitted by coal-burning electrical plants, and thereby address the environmental and social justice issues relating to energy use. Families can save on their use of electricity and natural gas by being more moderate in the setting of the home thermostat in both winter and summer. For a great resource on improving heating and cooling efficiency for your home, check out Energy Star's *Guide to Energy-Efficient Heating and Cooling* at www.energystar.gov.