

Prayer for Peace in the Middle East

**God of mercy and compassion,
of grace and reconciliation,
pour your power upon all your children in the
Middle East: Jews, Muslims and Christians,
Palestinians and Israelis.
Let hatred be turned into love, fear to trust,
despair to hope, oppression to freedom,
occupation to liberation,
that violent encounters may be replaced by loving
embraces, and peace and justice could be
experienced by all.
Amen.**

**The Reverend Said Ailabouni
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Chicago, IL**

DSWC

The Divorced, Separated and Widowed Catholics of Akron is sponsoring a music event. Pastor Bud Couts of Goss Memorial Church will share his gift of vocal music. Come and join us for his singing performance. It will be held on Monday, February 9 at 7:30pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Convent Building, 1945 Portage Trail, Cuyahoga Falls. Open at no cost to single people of all faiths. Refreshments at 7:15pm. For more info call Frank (330-801-0527) or Sharon (330-612-3635).

Living With Benedict Weekend

Single Men between the ages of 18 and 45 who are interested in discerning God's Will for their lives are invited to participate in the "Living with Benedict" monastic spirituality weekend at Saint Andrew's Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland (near University Circle) that will take place February 13-15, 2015. Contact Fr. Finbar at finbar@cbhs.edu or at 216-721-5300 x273. You can also visit www.standrewabby.org. The theme will be "The Spirit of Lent".

Lecture at Walsh University

Walsh University and St. Paul Catholic School will host a free lecture by the President of National Right to Life Committee Carol Tobias "Advancing a Culture of Life", Monday, February 23, at 7:00pm, in the Barrette Business and Community Center at Walsh University (2020 East Maple Street North Canton, Ohio 44720). Open to the public. Please call 330-490-7581 for more information.

"A Final Gift" Workshop & Presentation

A Catholic Cemetery, like a Catholic Funeral is for the living, and the dead. Cemetery/funeral costs have become the third largest expense most families will pay for in their lifetime. Held Saturday, February 21 from 12:30-1:30pm at All Saints Cemetery Office (480 W. Highland Road, Northfield, Ohio 44067). Those who attend this workshop will receive a Catholic Personal Planning Guide. There will be cemetery, funeral and cremation information. Whether for ourselves or someone we love and care about, the final gift is an act of grace we can bestow on others. Peace of mind is a precious gift. This workshop is free (registration is appreciated). Light snacks and refreshments will be provided. Visit our website at www.clecem.org for all dates and locations. Please call the Cemetery office at 330-467-7951 x5 to register.

Diocesan Ministry to the Incarcerated

Are you a family member or do you know of families who, because of the incarceration of a loved one, experience isolation, shame, guilt, and an overwhelming sense of being alone? The Diocesan LEAF Ministry has been formed to be of support to these families. Groups meet monthly offering an opportunity to those who come to listen and share community, network and learn from others who understand their situation, challenges, fears and emotions. All are welcome to participate irrespective of faith affiliation. For more information, call one of the following parishes or visit www.leafministry.org. No pre-registration necessary. Childcare is provided in each of these groups. If you are interested in beginning a group or want more information, call Sister Rita Mary, SND at 800-869-6525 or 216- 696-6525x 2200.

LEAF East meets at Holy Angels Parish in Bainbridge on Thursday, February 19 and March 19 at 7pm. (Call 440-708-0000)

LEAF West a ministry of St. Ladislav Parish, Westlake and Sacred Heart Chapel, Lorain meets at St. Ladislav Parish on Wednesday, February 11 and March 11 at 7pm. This is a bi-lingual group which also provides a group for teens. (Call Paula at 216-696-6525x 3500)

LEAF Central meets at St. Agnes-Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Cleveland. The group will determine at this meeting the dates and times for future meetings. (Call 216-391-1655)

Please check the vestibule for more information on upcoming events, registration forms, prayer cards, and notices.

January statistics Fr. Hilker Ozanam Center

Food Pantry

Total number of people served was 1661
Total number of households served was 473
Total number of children served was 712
Total number of seniors served was 133

Clothing Bank

Total number of families served was 298
Articles of clothing given away: 2695
Winter coats given away: 174

Furniture Bank

Total number of clients served was 23
Couches given away: 6
Armchairs given away: 6
Mattresses/box springs: 11
Dressers given away: 9
Misc. given away: 48
Cribs given away: 1

Thus far, this winter season we have given away 945 winter coats. We should be able to hit our target of one thousand coats by the end of the season. And the food pantry and clothing bank are being well used by our clients. Thank you for all of your hard work.

Jim and Cathie Perusek

Workshop on Death Penalty

The workshop will be held on **Thursday, February 26** at **Holy Family (3179 Kent Rd, Stow, OH 44224, Phone: 330-688-6411)**. **Judge John Russo and Judge Michael Donnelly Cuyahoga County Common Plea Court and Ohio Supreme Court Task Force will speak on the Death Penalty.** In 2011, the Ohio Supreme Court created a Joint Task Force to Review the Administration of Ohio's Death Penalty comprised of judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys and academics. They met and discussed the many problems presented in a 2007 American Bar Association report. Their findings were published in April of 2014. Judges Donnelly and Russo will share their experiences in serving on the Task Force. We will also discuss ways that we can help advocate for key recommendations identified by Ohioans to Stop Executions. Refreshments will be provided. **Contact Diane Zbasnik at dzbasnik@ccdacle.org or call 330-535-2787 for more information or to RSVP.**

Prayer for Our Marriage

*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>

Search Retreat

Search is a retreat for high school teens (ages 15-18) who are interested in experiencing the Catholic faith in a dynamic way. Search helps youth enter into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and develop a fuller understanding of God and His Church. The weekends encourage young people to assume an active role in the Church. There are opportunities to meet new friends who are also trying to follow the way of Jesus in today's world. Search is planned, directed and facilitated by other youth! Youth of all faiths are welcomed. (It is a Catholic weekend open to all religious denominations.) **Cost is \$75 per person.** Next weekend held **March 6-8.** For Search information and registration materials online, visit <http://ccdacle.org/program/search>. For more information, contact Jackie Vigneault, Youth & Young Adult Specialist, 330-379-3636 x15 or jvigneault@clevelandcatholiccharities.org.

**Prize Winners in St. Vincent de Paul Society
GolfTEC Northeast Ohio Coat Drive Promotion**

Thank you to all who dropped off their coats for the poor at GolfTEC Northeast Ohio's six locations in December. **With your help, GolfTEC collected more than 250 coats for those in need this winter.** If you are one of the lucky prize winners in the GolfTEC drawing, you can pick up your prize at the GolfTEC Cleveland West center (26669 Brookpark Rd., North Olmsted). For more information, call 440-348-1757.

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