

## Celebrating 130 Years

*St. Mary School, Akron, Ohio is celebrating 130 years of Catholic Education in Akron and 100 years in our current building. All are welcome for mass on September 9, 2017 at 4:30 pm at St. Mary Church, 750 S. Main St. Akron OH 44311 with Celebrant Fr. Dan Reed. Following mass, join us on the courtyard for hors d'oeuvres, drinks, cakes and music. There will be school tours.*

## Adult Day Services

Catholic Charities - Summit Adult Day Service provides daytime care and support for older adults Monday-Friday who would benefit from a social and interactive program addressing the physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual needs of participants, engaging activities, companionship, fitness, nutritional meals, medical monitoring and supervision. Participants attend full-time or on a part-time basis. For more information, or to schedule a tour, call the Social Worker at 330-762-2000

## Ozanam Center

After September 9<sup>th</sup>, the Ozanam Center will no longer accept furniture or requests for furniture. We thank everyone who has shared furniture with us over the years. Unfortunately, the building we are using as a furniture bank is no longer adequate for our needs. **The clothing and food operations of the Ozanam Center will continue to operate as usual from 9:30AM to 12:00 on Saturdays. Thank you**

## School Dance

Our Lady of the Elms is holding a Back to School Dance Party for students in grades 6-8 on Friday, September 8, from 7-10 p.m. Admission is \$3 at the door. Snack bar, live DJ and adult chaperones will be onsite. Questions? Contact Melanie Drouin at 330.703.2622 or [mdrouin@theelms.org](mailto:mdrouin@theelms.org).

## Pope Francis asks Youth

The Catholic bishops of the world are planning to meet in October 2018 for the 15<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops. The theme of this gathering is "Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment." In preparation for this major synod on youth, Pope Francis wants to gather input from the Catholic faithful. Consequently, the Diocese of Cleveland has made available a survey questionnaire to gather information on the current state of the young in our diocese that will be included as part of the pre-synod discernment document. The survey can be found on the diocesan website home page, [www.dioceseofcleveland.org](http://www.dioceseofcleveland.org). All are invited and encouraged to participate by taking this short survey. The bishops of the United States pray that the results of this survey will help them more fully understand the experience of young people in our Church and in our country -- their hopes, dreams, fears and struggles -- so that the synod may bear fruit in offering more insight and direction to our ministry with young people.

## Sacred Steps to Peace for Teens

This program for teens whose families have experienced a divorce, is open to anyone from the ages of 12-17. The purpose of this program is to help teens deal with the effects of divorce, as well as having time together socially. **The group meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month from 7-8:30pm at St. Joseph Parish, (12700 Pearl Rd., Strongsville, OH 44136) in the Holy Family Center, Room 1.** The facilitators are **Carol Petro**, MSW from the Marriage and Family Office, **Deacon Bob Lester** of St. Joseph Parish, and **Deacon Bob Sabol** of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Columbia Station. Participants are welcome to join at any time. **Contact Deacon Bob at 440-238-5555 x110 for more information.**

## Volunteers Needed

Catholic Charities Community Services of Summit County is in need of volunteers to assist at our **Tuesday Dinner at Visitation of Mary Parish, Akron.** Volunteers assist with meal prep and in serving hot meats to those in need. Please consider volunteering today. **Complete an application at <http://ccdacle.org/volunteer> or call 330-762-2961 x209 for more information.**

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

## Engaged Encounter

Catholic Engaged Encounter is a comprehensive weekend of marriage preparation held three times a year at the St. Leonard Retreat Center, 4076 Case Road, Avon, Ohio 44011. For additional information, please call Alex and Lily Fuentes at 216-849-3769. Next weekend is Sept. 15 - 17, 2017. Visit [www.clevelandencounter.com](http://www.clevelandencounter.com) for more information and to register.

### *Retrouvaille Weekend – September 8-10, 2017*

#### *A Lifeline for Troubled Marriages*

Has your marriage become unloving or uncaring – your relationship cold, distant – thinking about a separation or divorce? Are you already separated/divorced but both of you want to try again? Then the Retrouvaille program may help. RETROUVAILLE (rediscovery), which is supported by the Catholic diocese of Cleveland, but open to couples of all faiths, consists of a weekend experience for couples and six follow up sessions. A registration fee of \$150 is required to confirm your reservation. For information concerning the program or to register please call Marce or Liz Gliha at 440.357.6580 or 1.800.470.2230, or visit [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org).

## Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Cleveland's "Protecting God's Children" program is a continuing effort to instruct and inform everyone about the protection of children from sexual abuse. To report any past or present **suspected inappropriate behavior** toward children by priests, deacons, religious lay ecclesial ministers, or personnel associated with the Church, please contact **Diocesan Response Service** at **216-334-2999** or [response\\_services@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:response_services@dioceseofcleveland.org). You are also asked to immediately inform the local authorities about inappropriate behavior.

## LEAF Ministry

Know someone who because of the incarceration of a loved one, experiences isolation, shame, guilt, and an overwhelming sense of being alone? The LEAF Ministry has been formed to be of support to families. Groups meet monthly offering an opportunity to listen and share community, network and learn from others who understand their situation, challenges, fears and emotions. All faiths are welcome! No registration necessary. It is our intention to continue to form additional groups in the various areas of the diocese. **If interested in beginning a group, call Sr. Rita Mary, SND at 800-869-6525 or 216- 696-6525 x2200. For more information/locations/schedules, please call 216-696-6525 ext. 3500 or go to our website [www.leafministry.org](http://www.leafministry.org).**

### *SVDP at Work*

The monthly statistics for the Fr. Hilkert Ozanam Center for the month of August, 2017 follow:

1. Food Pantry  
Total number of people served was 915.  
Total number of households served was 318.  
Total number of children served was 298.  
Total number of seniors served was 132.
2. Clothing Bank  
Total number of families served was 236.  
Articles of clothing given away: 2963
3. Furniture Bank  
Total number of clients served was 29.  
Couches given away: 11  
Armchairs given away: 13  
Mattresses/box springs: 22  
Dressers given away: 10  
Misc. given away: 71  
New cribs given away: 1

We were busy each of the four Saturdays this past month, but our volunteers kept everything moving smoothly. Thank you all for your constant support.

*Jim and Cathie Perusek*