

Theology on Tap Akron

Theology on Tap Akron is excited to again be at the Winking Lizard Tavern (1615 Main St, Peninsula, OH 44264) Wednesday, March 8 at 7pm! Theology on Tap welcomes all young adults to come listen to Rev. Marty Miller speak on "A Short History of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the Catholic Church." Admission is \$5 and includes appetizers. The bar will be open for those who would like to purchase beverages. Come experience faith, fellowship, and food with other young adults in their 20's and 30's at Theology on Tap Akron!

Experience God's Mercy

Wednesday evening, March 15 for the annual diocesan-wide "Evening of Confession" at Mother of Sorrows and all churches in the diocese will have confessors available from 5-8pm. Come and encounter the experience God's loving mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As our Holy Father, Pope Francis has reminded us, "God never tires of forgiving us." This is an excellent Lenten practice as we prepare for Easter.

Demkee Family Scholarship Fund

The Demkee Family Scholarship Fund of the Catholic Community Foundation provides an annual academic scholarship to a registered parishioner of a Catholic parish in Summit or Wayne County who is presently enrolled at The University of Akron or satellite branch. Scholarship applications available at www.catholiccommunity.org/grants or by calling Colleen Rigo toll free at 800-869-6525 x4080. Students eligible to apply: are currently accepted to, or enrolled in, as part time or full time students at The University of Akron or any satellite branch of the University; can document a minimum scholastic achievement of 3.0 GPA; and are registered in a Catholic parish in Wayne or Summit County. Though financial need will be considered, it is not the sole factor in award selection. The 2017 scholarship award will be \$1,015. Applications due by May 1 to The Catholic Community Foundation. Written notification to the awardee will be mailed by May 15.

You Did It for Me

Thank you for your prayers and donations for the Catholic Charities Appeal! This appeal represents the chance for all Catholics to make a significant pledge, payable in installments, to Catholic Charities, Diocese of Cleveland in order to support its mission of a society that stands united in its support of the "least among us." If you would still like to donate, please fill out a Catholic Charities Annual Appeal envelope found in your pew. If you have received the mailing, please respond to it. Your support of the 2017 Catholic Charities Annual Appeal helps us to carry out the mission that Jesus entrusted to us: I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.' Please consider a generous gift that will change the lives of the 400,000 who are served each year in Northeast Ohio. Please pray for the success of the appeal, which provides for essential programs and services in need throughout all eight counties of the Diocese of Cleveland. On behalf of the poor and needy of Northeast Ohio, thank you! View more stories of inspiration as well find more info at www.catholiccommunity.org/2017Appeal.

Young Catholic Professionals (YCP)

The mission of Young Catholic Professionals (YCP) is to encourage young adults working in various professions to 'Work in Witness for Christ'. As a national organization, YCP membership consists of young adults in their 20s and 30s, single and married, who are highly motivated to achieve personal and professional success while seeking a greater understanding of their Catholic faith. We also welcome professionals who may not be Catholic, but are interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith. YCP Cleveland invites young professionals to join us for our upcoming Executive Speaker Series featuring seasoned professionals sharing how they have embraced the Catholic Faith within their careers:

Tuesday, March 14 – 6:30-8:30pm

Featuring Rich Costello at Magnificat High School (20770 Hilliard Blvd, Rocky River, OH 44116)

Saturday, March 18 – 9am-12:30pm

St. Joseph the Worker Retreat at St. Clarence Parish (30106 Lorain Rd. North Olmsted, OH 44070)

Tuesday, April 11 – 6:30-8:30pm

Featuring Sandra Pianalto at St. Ignatius High School Breen Center (2008 W 30th St. Cleveland, OH 44113)

For more information, visit www.ycpcleveland.org or email info@ycpcleveland.org.

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

Saturday Program

Do you know an adult, age 21 and over, with a cognitive disability who is looking to further their education, meet new friends, go on fun field trips and more? Maybe the Saturday Program is what you are looking for? For 28 years, the CAEP has provided educational and social skill building for adults with developmental disabilities. Participants enhance their skills in math, reading and history. They also work on the computer, make arts & crafts and have fun making friends, watching movies and having holiday parties! Participants also learn about their local community by going on field trips. The Saturday program meets at OLA/St. Joseph Center (2346 W. 14th St., Cleveland, OH) from September - May. Call 216-334-2962 or email Marilyn Scott at mjscott@ccdoble.org to set up an appointment to visit this program to see if it is the right fit for you!

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 Rd., Avon, OH 44011. For more info and to register, visit www.clevelandencounter.com or call Alex and Lily Fuentes at 216-849-3769. The dates for 2017 are March 17-19, May 19-21 and September 15-17, 2017.

Chance to Win an iPad

Win an iPad. Register as a new subscriber for the Northeast Ohio Catholic e-newsletter between March 1 and March 31, 2017 and be entered into a drawing for a chance to win an iPad Air-2. Visit www.dioceseofcleveland.org/enewsletter to register. Winners must meet eligibility requirements. Complete rules, including eligibility requirements, are available at www.dioceseofcleveland.org/enewsconterules.

Night at the Races

Join the Christ Child Society of Akron on Saturday, March 11 at Zwisler Hall - St. Sebastian Parish from 6-11pm for a fun and exciting night at the races! The event will support the Society's ongoing service to area children in need. Tickets are \$25, which covers dinner and beverages. Wagers are \$2 per race. \$25 buys an individual horse with chances at additional prize money for winning horses. Individuals and businesses can sponsor a race, buy a horse, place an ad in the event program, or make a general donation to the Christ Child Society of Akron. Please visit www.christchildsofiakron.org for more information, to purchase tickets or to donate to the Christ Child Society of Akron.

2017 First Step Programs

Marriage and Divorce in the Catholic Church

Attempting to pick up the pieces of one's life after the tragedy of divorce is an area that can impact a person's relationship with God and the Church. One of the significant issues that a person faces is their place in the Church. Does the Church still care about me even though I am divorced? Am I allowed to go to Mass? Can I receive communion? How can the Church help me heal? If I decide to marry again, what do I have to do?

The Tribunal of the Diocese of Cleveland offers its First Step Program to help individuals deal with these questions in order to renew and/or strengthen their relationship with God and the Church. This program is offered to help everyone, especially those who have experienced divorce, learn more about Catholic teaching regarding marriage, divorce, and remarriage. Representatives from the Ministry to the Divorced Office of the Department for Marriage and Family Ministry will also be present to explain the resources they offer to the divorced.

Everyone is welcome to deepen their knowledge of the Church's teaching on marriage, learn about the Church's ministry to the divorced/separated in the Diocese, hear about the annulment process and how to submit a case, and discover a path to healing after divorce in order to strengthen and/or renew a relationship with God and the Church.

In any endeavor, taking the "first step" is always the most difficult. The First Step Program helps individuals to navigate the path of healing and closure.

*The schedule for the general meetings in 2017 is:
Tuesday, March 21, at St. Peter Parish, Lorain, at 7pm.*

Tuesday, May 16, at St. Mary Parish, Chardon, at 7pm.

Tuesday, Sept. 12, at St. Paul Parish, Akron, at 7pm.

Tues., Oct. 10, at St. Ambrose Parish, Brunswick, at 7pm.

The Diocese of Cleveland no longer requires any fees for this process. For more info, call the Tribunal at 216-696-6525/800-869-6525, x4000 or visit www.dioceseofcleveland.org/tribunal.