



Keep Christ in Christmas

Your Knights of Columbus council is again offering for sale this beautiful outdoor nativity scene, featuring the Holy Family within a Christmas tree. The sturdy 4-foot tall display is made of double-walled plastic and available in white or yellow. The cost of each Nativity Tree is \$70, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting your local KofC council. Please consider buying one for yourself or as a gift to remind passersby that Christ is the true meaning of Christmas. These units can be delivered at no cost to your residence. **Contact Ron Crock (330-677-9829) or Bob Eikenburg (330-528-0308) to purchase one this Advent!**

Lay Ecclesial Ministry Information Night

If you or someone you know has expressed a sense of being called to lay ministry in the Diocese of Cleveland, the Pastoral Ministry formation and certification process may be of interest to you. The Pastoral Ministry process assists in the education, training, and formation of lay people leading to certification as a Lay Ecclesial Minister. Those certified in the Diocese of Cleveland serve in a variety of leadership roles such as pastoral associates, catechetical leaders and ministers of sacramental preparation, youth ministers, social outreach coordinators, bereavement ministers, music ministers, campus ministers, and ministers of adult faith formation. Certified Lay Ecclesial Ministers work in collaboration with the ordained to serve the needs of parishes and Catholic institutions. **An Information Night for those interested in Lay Ecclesial Ministry will take place at the Center for Pastoral Leadership from 7-9:30pm, Wednesday January 18, 2017.** For more info, call the Pastoral Ministry Office at 440-943-7670.

Lay Ecclesial Ministers & Parishes

The Pastoral Ministry Office can assist those who are seeking positions in parishes, as well as those who are looking for a lay ecclesial minister for their parish. Confidentiality is maintained at all times. Call 440-943-7672 or email pastoralministry@dioceseofcleveland.org if you would like more information.

Chaplain Services at the Prisons and Jails

Have a loved one incarcerated in one of the eight counties of the Diocese and would like to have a priest, deacon or one of our lay volunteer ministers visit with them? Please call the Parish Life Office at 800-869-6525 or 216-696-6525 x3500. The Diocesan Ministry to the Incarcerated has a presence in the three state prisons, the county jails and the juvenile facilities located within our diocese. We would be glad to have someone visit with them.

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

Thank You!

The 2016 Catholic Charities Annual Appeal is experiencing support from the faithful throughout the diocese. As of November 30, \$12,127,861 has been pledged from 51,470 donors resulting in 155 parishes exceeding their goals for the Appeal. This amount not only exceeds our \$11.5M goal, but provides additional support for programs and ministries that would otherwise be unfunded.

84 parishioners of Mother of Sorrows Parish have pledged \$34,019 towards our parish goal of \$15,092. That is 225.41% of our overall parish goal! Your support of the 2016 Catholic Charities Annual Appeal is an act of mercy that will change the lives of over 400,000 of your brothers and sisters in Christ. If you have not yet donated, please consider a generous gift to the Catholic Charities Annual Appeal. **Please contact Karen Joyce at 800-869-6525x1910 to make a gift by phone or make a secure online gift at www.catholiccommunity.org/ccdonate.** *On behalf of the poor and needy of Northeast Ohio, thank you!* We invite you to view the stories of inspiration on how your kind gifts impact real people, at www.catholiccommunity.org/2016Appeal.

Enrich Your Faith

For the faithful and faith leaders alike, a new six-part series of 10 minute monthly videos is now available. Intended to deepen one's faith, the first in the series is entitled "Air" and evokes the invisible, but intimate presence of God who comes to us in the person of the Holy Spirit. Hosted by pastor and seminary instructor, Father George Smiga, the series can found at www.dioceseofcleveland.org.

2017 MASS FOR LIFE

Join Bishop Richard Lennon to observe a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children, remembering the anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision. Held Sunday, January 22, 2017 at 10:30am at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Cleveland OH. Individuals, schools and parish groups are encouraged to **join us for Mass and a Rosary for Life afterwards.** Spread the word using #Mass4LifeCLE on facebook, twitter, and instagram! **Please call 216-334-2965 for more info and to register your group!**

Department for Marriage & Family Ministry

Visit www.ForYourMarriage.org for the latest news, Catholic teaching and practical helps. **Perfect for engaged couples, married couples, parents and young adults.** Also, find and like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/clevelandmarriageandfamily.

First Friday Club of Akron

*The First Friday Club of Akron will meet Friday, January 6, 2017 at The Tangier, 532 W. Market St., Akron, 44303 and will feature a Woman Religious Panel speaking on the topic **The Joys and Challenges of Consecrated Life in Today's World**. The panel includes **Sr. Ana Isabel Gonzalez**, a novice with the Dominican Sisters of Peace; **Sr. Catherine Arnold, O.P.**, a Dominican Sister of Peace who ministers with the new members as Coordinator of Formation; **Sr. Amy McFrederick, O.P.**, Co-Director of Associates, Dominican lay women and men in mission with the Dominican Sisters; and **Sr. Catherine Walsh C.S.A.**, sister of Charity of St. Augustine who lives and works at the Catholic Worker House in Akron. **Luncheon program is \$20. Doors open at 11am; program is from noon to 1pm.** For more info and for reservations, please send a check to the **First Friday Club of Greater Akron, 795 Russell Ave., Akron, OH 44307, call 330-535-7668, or visit www.firstfridayclubofgreaterakron.org, no later than the Monday prior to the event.***

To Serve Better

Community Pregnancy Center is excited to announce they are ready to staff a **new limited ultrasound services!** They are **looking to add two part-time, paid positions: sonographer and nurse manager.** They are also looking for a doctor who would be willing to remotely read the scans on a volunteer basis. **If you or anyone you know is interested in being considered, contact Diane at 330-825-1900 or diane@communitypregnancycenter.org.**

44 Years of Roe vs Wade

Holy Family "Culture of Life Ministry" presents their Annual Pro-life Vigil on January 20-21, 2017. There will be Mass at 6:30pm, a presentation by Students for Life, Akron University followed by "Evening of Prayer Through Song" featuring David Parkes, International Recording Artist from Dublin, Ireland. You will enjoy hearing David's beautiful pro-life story, including his rise to fame as a professional soccer player and musician...to his "incurable" illness...to his miraculous healing in Medjugorje. David's life is now devoted to traveling the world spreading his pro-life message and sharing his amazing vocal talent. A free will offering will be accepted. A reception will follow in the Lower Church Hall, to meet David and purchase his signed CDs. At the same time a continuous 24 Hour Rosary will begin in the Daily Mass Chapel until the regular 5pm Saturday Night Liturgy.

Living Bread Radio

The Bishop's Corner live call-in radio program on-air Wednesdays at 11AM on Living Bread Radio. Listen on AM1060, FM94.5 (Canton vicinity) or online at www.livingbreadradio.com.

Retrouvaille Weekend

The Retrouvaille program can help put troubled marriages back on track. Program supported by the Catholic diocese of Cleveland. Open to couples of all faiths. The **next Cleveland Retrouvaille weekend** will be held 1/20-22/17. Cost is **\$150**. For more info or to register, call **Marce or Liz Gliha in complete confidence at 440-357-6580, or 1-800-470-2230 or visit www.helpourmarriage.org.**

Men Making a Difference

First & Ten men's ministry (a service of Community Pregnancy Center, Barberton) is searching for a few good men to join our ranks. Be on the front line of mentoring young fathers into strong dads! If you are interested in finding out more about this growing ministry, email firstandten@communitypregnancycenter.org or call 330-825-1900 and ask for First & Ten!

Opportunity for Service

Response 2017, the most comprehensive guide of faith-based service opportunities, is now available. Volunteers serve full-time for periods of one week to one year or more across the United States and in more than 100 countries worldwide. Summer and school break opportunities are also available. **Our volunteers are from all walks of life.** Contact Catholic Volunteer Network to receive your free copy/copies of Response 2017 at **800-543-5046 or info@catholicvolunteernetwork.org.** You can also visit www.catholicvolunteernetwork.org.

Caregivers Support Group Meeting

Adult Day Services is a community-based intervention designed to care for the aging population experiencing cognitive or functional limitations, as well as to address the needs of those at risk of social isolation. Caregivers receive encouragement and guidance to bolster their own mental health and well-being which increases the likelihood for successful care for their loved one at home. **Held January 25 at 10am at Catholic Charities (812 Biruta Street, Akron 44307).** For more information, please call **330-762-2000**. Free care is available for the older adult while caregivers attend the group meeting.

Camp Christopher – Winter Family Camp

January's cold weather and short days coupled with the post-holiday blues make for a long winter. But there is relief in sight: **Winter Family Camp, scheduled for January 13-16, is right around the corner and we are now taking reservations.** For those of you have never attended, Winter Family Camp is a fantastic family bonding time. We offer the same type of high quality programming throughout each day for every age group, with great all camp programs in the evenings. **Visit us at www.campchris.org to register or for more info!**

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