

“Joy of the Gospel”

Need a New Years Resolution? Come join us at Bible Study on Mondays from 7:30-9pm for Joy of the Gospel by Pope Francis. The books are only \$5 and class begins January 2nd. If you would like to join us, please contact Chris Czerski at 330-666-0408 or cjc@gmail.com by December 20th so we know how many books to order.

OZANAM CENTER NEWS

The Ozanam Center will again be giving out winter coats to our clients. We are in desperate need of good used or new men’s and children’s coats. If you can help in this effort, we would appreciate it. The Center is open on Saturdays from 9:30-12 and someone would be happy to help unload them.

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.

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!

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

Prayer for Migrant Families

Good and gracious God,
we thank You for the gift of families.
We are grateful for all of the joy and love
that they bring into our lives,
and we ask that You provide
special protection for all families,
particularly those who face hardships
as they move in search of a better life.
Show mercy to those who travel in danger,
and lead them to a place of safety and peace.
Comfort those who are alone and afraid because
their families have been torn apart
by violence and injustice.

As we reflect upon the difficult journey
that the Holy Family faced as refugees in Egypt,
help us to remember the suffering
of all migrant families.

Through the intercession of Mary our Mother,
and St. Joseph the Worker, her spouse,
we pray that all migrants
may be reunited with their loved ones
and find the meaningful work they seek.
Open our hearts so that we may provide hospitality
for all who come in search of refuge.
Give us the courage to welcome every stranger
as Christ in our midst.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God forever and ever.
Amen.

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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.

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.

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 be found at www.dioceseofcleveland.org.

Help the Needy of Northeast Ohio

The **Cleveland Furniture Bank** provides basic home furnishings to people in need who are trying to rebuild their lives. Each year, over 3000 needy people receive couches, chairs, kitchen tables, dressers and beds to help them in this process. **If you are downsizing, remodeling, redecorating or just have good, usable furniture you no longer need, call 216-459-2265 x101 or visit www.clevelandfurniturebank.org/donate to schedule a pickup.** If you have other items, such as clothing, household goods, pots and pans, dishes, etc. they will pick those up at the same time. **A nominal \$20 fee will assist us defray a small portion of our costs to pick up items and provide them to those we serve.** Thank you!

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.***

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.**

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.

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 can be a difficult month. The cold weather and the 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 additional information!**

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.

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