

# Blessing Of A Christmas Manger Or Nativity Scene

God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love.

Lord,

bless all who look upon this manger;
may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus,
and raise our thoughts to him,
who is God-with-us and Savior of all,
and who lives and reigns forever and ever.
Amen.

-From "Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers"

# **Blessing Of A Christmas Tree**

Lord our God,
we praise you for the light of creation:
the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night.
We praise you for the light of Israel:
the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures.
We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son:
he is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace,
who fills us with the wonder of your love.

Lord God,
let your blessing come upon us
as we illumine this tree.
May the light and cheer it gives
be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.
May all who delight in this tree
come to the knowledge and joy of salvation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

—From "Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers"



## **CELEBRATE LIFE CONCERT**

Amanda Vernon, recording artist, singer, pianist and composer will be performing at a free concert at Holy Family Church (3450 Sycamore Dr., Stow, OH 44224) Sunday, January 11, 2015 at 7pm. Her performance is a mixture of interactive songs, scripture stories, personal testimony and a call to action. Amanda, a practicing Catholic, has brought her message to many people of all ages, in the U.S. and around the world. Immediately following the concert there will be an informal reception in the Lower Church Hall. Her performance is funded through the joint efforts of the Culture of Life Ministry at Holy Family and the Knights of Columbus, Council #10936 of Stow-Hudson; Holy Family and Saint Mary.

### 1060 AM

WILB at 1060 AM – Living Bread Radio, is available to be heard in most parts of the Diocese. Broadcasting each day from sunrise to sunset...1060 broadcasts Catholic teaching and preaching along with the Mass and many devotions. Tune in to 1060 AM...WILB!

### WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Do you know that more than 1,500,000 couples in over 92 countries have experienced a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend? They found something worth passing on. The next weekend is scheduled for February 13-15, 2015 at the Cambria Suites, Uniontown. For more info, call Scott or Lori at 330-305-9963 or visit www.wwme.org.

## **Education 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 over 25 years, the CAEP has provided educational and social skill building for adults 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. Classes meet at OLA/St. Joseph Center (2346 W. 14th St., Cleveland, OH). Students provide their own transportation. Tuition is \$88/month with an additional one time material fee of \$60; Medicaid Waivers are accepted and financial assistance may be available. Call 216-334-2963 or email Marilyn Scott at mjscott@clevelandcatholiccharities.org to set up an appointment to see if it is the right fit for you!

#### 200 Club!

You are invited to join the Visitation of Mary Parish (formerly Annunciation) 200 Club for 2015 for only \$52 per person for the year! Every month for 8 months (February through September), two lucky people will win \$100 each. Plus in March and again in September, there will be an additional drawing for \$500! Drawings are on the 3rd Friday of every month at the Visitation of Mary rectory. The first drawing will be February 20, 2015. Location for the special \$500 drawings will be announced. Hurry! Numbers are starting to sell! For more information or to sign up, contact Jerry at 330-376-9227 or 330-535-4141 x12. Maybe you will be a lucky winner!

## Our Lady of the Elms

Please join us for the Our Lady of the Elms (1375 West Exchange St., Akron, OH 44313) All Campus (PK-12) on Sunday, January 11th from noon until 2:00pm. Visit our beautiful 33 acre campus, meet our teachers, and learn how an Elms education will empower your daughter with confidence and a voice. For additional information, please call 330-836-9384 or visit www.theelms.org.

# "Living with Benedict" Retreat

The Benedictine Monks of Saint Andrew Abbey in Cleveland, OH (near University Circle) invite single men between the ages of 19-45 to experience Benedictine monastic life during a "Living with Benedict" retreat weekend, February 13-15, 2015. For more information, please contact Fr. Finbar at finbar@cbhs.edu or at 216-721-5300 x273.

## **YCN**

"Your Community News" is where residents of Township and Peninsula have shared information for over 25 years. Visit www.ycn-online.net.

## Theology on Tap

Held January 22, 2015 at Winking Lizard, Lakewood. 6:00pm - Social; 7:00pm - Brian Sinchak will speak on the topic, "Why I Choose to Work for the Catholic Church"; Cost: \$5. Northeast Ohio Theology on Tap affords young adults and their friends, married and single, in their 20s and 30s an opportunity to learn about the Catholic faith with dynamic speakers, a casual setting, and good company. For more info, please visit <a href="www.ccdocle.org/program/neo-theology-on-tap">www.ccdocle.org/program/neo-theology-on-tap</a> or contact Mark Delsander at 216-334-1261 x25 or <a href="mailto:mxx25">mxxdelsander@clevelandcatholiccharities.org</a>.