



Save the Date: An Evening of Confession
at all Catholic Churches in the Diocese
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH
5 - 8 PM



Catholic
Diocese
of
Cleveland

"GOD NEVER EVER TIRES OF FORGIVING US!" (POPE FRANCIS) | WWW.WELCOMECATHOLICS.COM

God's Presence Revealed

This Second Sunday of Lent celebrates all the surprising and oftentimes un-reflected ways in which God's presence is revealed. God can be present with me amid the ordinary events of life.

For Abram it happened when God told him to gaze up at the star filled night. For us, such a moment might come in gazing at the night sky as well, or gazing into the eyes of a loved one. There are many in our midst who are able to simply 'take notice'; the plumber or carpenter who takes pride in doing a job well, the person who looks in on a neighbor who is ill, the grandparent who is willing to look after the children, the student who is appreciative of the commitment of the teacher. God is revealed in very ordinary ways—if we but open our eyes to see. "God's love may be seen in the compassionate; God's understanding be seen in the patient; God's mercy may be seen in the forgiving."

In the Gospel, we hear the story of Jesus' transfiguration. It comes not long after Jesus has been telling his disciples that he is going to suffer and die, and that those who wish to be his disciples must let go of their own needs, take up their cross and follow him. Some eight days pass and he takes them up the mountain, where he prays and they rest!

Jesus has now come to the decision to leave the preaching in the region of Galilee and to turn to Jerusalem. Along the way, Jesus had to make hard choices between personal integrity and public acceptance, between going through ritual motions and true faith, between being silent and speaking out, between power and service. So too many of the choices we make along the way of our lives fall into the same categories. And the cross, our cross, is about such choices.

In the opening prayer of today's Mass we prayed: "God our Father, help us to hear your Son." Reflect on the events of your day! Where have the truths of our faith been deepened? Where have I come to understand what I must do? This may be one way 'the voice from the cloud' says to you: "Listen to Him!"

On November 18, 2015, Pope Francis spoke about the upcoming Jubilee Year of Mercy: the doors are open to everyone, "Each one of us has something that weighs on us inside, right? We are all sinners," he said. "Let us take advantage of this moment that is coming and cross the threshold of this mercy of God who never tires of forgiving, who never tires of waiting for us, who looks upon us and is always by our side. Courage! Let's enter through this door."

This Wednesday, February 24th, from 5-8pm, every door of every parish in the Diocese of Cleveland will be open to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Come and see God's presence revealed.

Rev. John J. Sullivan
Senior Associate
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Wickliffe

Second Sunday of Lent
2016 February 20/21



2015 - 2016
Jubilee of Mercy

LOVE
hopes &
bears
All Things

Diocese of Cleveland

Walsh University's Encounter Lenten Retreat

All are welcome to attend Walsh University's Encounter Lenten Retreat on February 22, 23, 24, and 25, at 8pm each night, in the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Chapel, 2020 East Maple St., North Canton. Attend one or attend them all. These events are free and open to the public. This year's schedule includes presentations by speaker and worship leader Teresa Peterson.

Monday, February 22: "Encountering Christ, the Source of Mercy," Reconciliation and Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Tuesday, February 23: "Encountering Christ in the Eucharist," Eucharistic Adoration until 3am.

Wednesday, February 24: "Creating Encounters with Christ," followed by a ministry social.

Thursday, February 25: IGNITE-Student-led Worship Night with Eucharistic Adoration.

Teresa Peterson is a Catholic recording artist out of Philadelphia, PA, and most recently, has partnered with the Penn Newman Center, Philadelphia, in starting a monthly adoration and worship night for the surrounding universities and their students. She has also led worship at events in association with the World Meeting of Families, Heart of the Father Ministries (Unbound), The Culture Project, Teresa has opened for Fr. Michael Gaitley (33 Days to Morning Glory), Archbishop Chaput, and Alanna-Marie Boudreau.

DSWC

A "Caring and Sharing" session for those struggling with divorce, separation or widowhood will be held **Monday, February 22 from 7:30-9pm** at **Immaculate Heart of Mary's Convent Building, 1945 Portage Trail, Cuyahoga Falls.** **Marlene Maruna**, a Licensed Independent Social Worker, will facilitate this session. Open at no charge to people of all faiths. For more info, call Marlene at 330-607-6284.

Journaling with Scripture during Holy Week

Come pray the Scriptures in a deeper way, using journaling as a prayer and meditation practice on Monday, February 29, from 6:30-8pm at Ursuline Educational Center (2600 Lander Rd., Pepper Pike, OH 44094). Bring a pen and notebook. You can bring a Bible or a book of readings for Lent/Holy Week if you have one. Grace will be provided by God! Presenter will be Sr. Elaine Berkopec, OSU, has a Master's Degree in Ministry from Ursuline College. Please register by February 26. Contact Sr. Madonna Marie at 440-449-1200 x251 or mdickus@ursulinesisters.org. \$5 payable at the door; cash or check made out to Ursuline Academy of Cleveland.

You can vote for your favorite Fish Fry at www.livingbreadradio.com! And don't forget to listen to AM 1060 to help you grow in your Catholic faith!

In Your Charity

Please remember in your prayers, *Cynthia Ligan*, sister of parishioner David (Amy) Ligan, and aunt of parishioners Madison, Ben and Tyler Ligan; *Timothy M. Schaefer*, brother-in-law of Deacon William Staab (brother of Maryellen). May Cynthia, Timothy and all who have died live forever in the joy of the Resurrection and may their families and friends be granted consolation. Amen.

K of C Fish Fry

The Knights of Columbus of Holy Family Catholic Church are holding their Lenten Fish Fry each Friday during Lent thru March 18. Held in the Lower Church Hall of Holy Family Church (3179 Kent Rd., Stow). Menu items include entrees of Baked Tilapia, Fried Beer Battered Cod, Jumbo Butterfly Shrimp, Mac & Cheese and Cheese Pizza. A choice of any two side dishes are included: French Fries, Hush Puppies, Seasoned Rice, Mac & Cheese, Pierogies, Salad, Cole Slaw, or Veggie Pie. Coffee & Punch are provided along with a Roll and Butter. Bottled water, soft drinks and assorted desserts available at a nominal charge. **Dinners served from 4:30-7pm. Come enjoy a delicious meal and fellowship!**

Famous Fish Fry

Come enjoy Visitation of Mary's famous Fish Fry every Friday this Lent (not including Good Friday) from 4:30-7pm. \$9 for adults, \$8.50 for seniors and \$4 for children 12 years & under. Held in the school building cafeteria at 88 Kent St. in East Akron. Excellent menu including baked or fried cod, scalloped potatoes or French fries, Spanish rice, macaroni & cheese, vegetable, cole slaw, coffee, tea & lemonade; Massoli's bread. Desserts and soft drinks also available. See you there!

NFP

Natural Family Planning classes will begin again on **Thursday, March 3.** Come learn the technique and theology behind the only means of family planning approved by the Catholic Church. Whether you are planning your wedding or are married with children, this effective method of family planning has proven to be a great blessing to those who practice it. **For more info on time and location or to register, contact Steve and Julie Mosholder at juliemosholder@gmail.com or 330-554-6770. Your marriage and family will thank you!**

AM1060 Catholic Radio

The Living Bread Radio Network on-air pledge drive Catholic radio on the air, on the web, and on your phone. Call in your pledge to 888-966-2093 or at www.livingbreadradio.com.

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



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24 LENTEN WEEKDAY
Threatened with Resurrection

During the decades of political violence in her land, Guatemalan poet Julia Esquivel penned the poem, “Threatened with Resurrection.” Her words cut to the heart of the Lenten journey and Christian life: “There is something here within us / Which doesn’t let us sleep, which doesn’t let us rest, / Which doesn’t stop pounding deep inside . . . in this marathon of Hope, / there are always others to relieve us / in bearing the courage necessary / to arrive at the goal which lies beyond death.” The goal of our journey is Resurrection; to attain it we must face death and trust that all we give now will lead us to new life.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28 (232).* “*The Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve.*”

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25 LENTEN WEEKDAY
To keep a true Lent

The 17th-century poet and clergyman Robert Herrick asked himself the same questions we do today during Lent. Why are we fasting? Is it “to keep the larder lean”? Is it to fast from meat, but “fill the platter high with fish”? Is it to fast long and look sour? No, says Herrick, “It is to fast from strife, from old debate, and hate.” It is to “starve thy sin, not bin.” And that is how to keep “thy Lent.”

TODAY’S READINGS: *Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31 (233).* “*For the Lord watches over the way of the just, but the way of the wicked vanishes.*”

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26 LENTEN WEEKDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE
Feed my soul

The Fridays in Lent are days of fasting and abstinence, when Catholics are asked to abstain from eating meat and snacking between meals and to keep nutrition basic. Why do this? You can fast and abstain to purify your mind and body, to offer sacrifice for the needs of the world, to acknowledge your need to make amends for failures. And in doing so, you can become mindful of the poor and hungry of the world who struggle to have enough to eat every day. As Doctor of the church Saint John Chrysostom put it centuries ago: “Dost thou fast?” Then give us proof of it by your works: “If thou sees a poor man, take pity on him!” As you fast today, reach out to those with less, and pray for the grace to made amends with someone you have hurt or excluded.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46 (234).* “*When the brothers saw that their father loved him best . . . they hated him . . . and they would not greet him.*”

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27 LENTEN WEEKDAY
Step-by-step penance

It’s one thing to feel sorry for a wrong you’ve committed, but another to fully repent. Saint John Chrysostom offers guidance on how to do that in his Five Paths of Repentance: condemnation of your sins, forgiveness of your neighbor’s sins against you, prayer “that is fervent and careful and comes from the heart,” almsgiving “whose power is great and far-reaching,” and humility. He said, “We have learned how to heal those wounds of ours, let us apply the cures. Then . . . we can approach the Holy Table with confidence, go gloriously to meet Christ.”

TODAY’S READINGS: *Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 (235).* “*Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.*”

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2016 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
Take and drink

The word *covenant* is used often in scripture and the liturgy. It’s a bond, in some ways like a contract, but far more serious. The flame and smoke in the Genesis story were signs that God approved of the arrangement, but the remains of slaughtered animals were a grim reminder: May this be the fate of the one who breaks this bond. At every Mass, we remember Christ’s words about the “*new and everlasting covenant*” as he bids us share his cup, his blood. When we do, our bond with God is sealed by far more than the blood of beasts. Consider the language you use today, the choices you make. Do they show that you are everlastingly sealed to Christ?

TODAY’S READINGS: *Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 9:28b-36 (27).* “*On that occasion the Lord made a covenant.*”

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22 FEAST OF THE CHAIR OF PETER THE APOSTLE
Approach God’s throne of grace

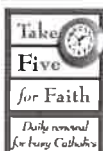
The Latin for “chair” is *cathedra*, and it is the place from which someone in authority presides and teaches. When the Holy Father teaches *ex cathedra*, “from the chair,” his teaching has the assurance of God’s infallibility. Your diocesan cathedral has a bishop’s chair. In biblical language, it is better called God’s “Mercy Seat,” the “Throne of Grace.” Christ placed his trust and authority in Peter and his successors, and today we remember not only to *seek* God’s mercy, but also to lead others to it. Anyone need your forgiveness? Do you need to forgive yourself? No better day than today.

TODAY’S READINGS: *1 Peter 5:1-4; Matthew 16:13-19 (535).* “*I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.*”

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23 FEAST OF POLYCARP, BISHOP
From age to age and from east to west

His name might sound odd to our modern ears, but Polycarp is a pretty popular guy, especially for someone who died back in the *really* olden times—like the year 167! The wisdom of his writings is embraced by churches of all stripes—from Roman Catholic to Eastern Orthodox, from mainline Protestant to every other type of Christian. Some researchers even think Polycarp was the one who first compiled, edited, and published the collection we now revere as the New Testament. Maybe that’s why he was named Polycarp, which means “rich in fruit.” Here was one fruitful author you want to remember! Thank all who came before you and left you this great legacy of faith.

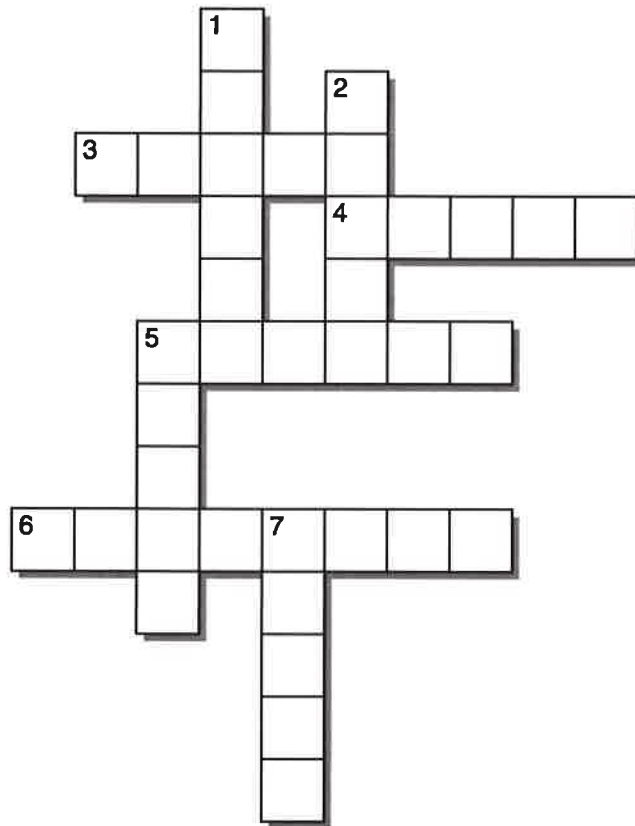
TODAY’S READINGS: *Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12 (231).* “*Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted.*”



Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

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CatholicMom.com Gospel Activity – Luke 9:28B–36



Across

3. What color did Jesus' clothing become after the transfiguration?
4. Peter and his companions had been overcome by ____.
5. "This is my ____ son; listen to him."
6. Jesus took Peter, John and James up the ____ to pray.

Down

1. The two men conversing with Jesus were Moses and ____.
2. "After the voice had spoken, ____ was found alone."
5. A ____ came over them while Peter was still speaking.
7. Peter wanted to make three ____ for Jesus, Moses and Elijah.

Second Sunday of Lent Bulletin Announcements for February 21, 2016

"Sounds of a Bright Future"

Holy Cross Academy Catholic Schools is proud to invite you to the 2nd Annual Benefit Concert featuring the international recording artist, **Ronan Tynan**. Also performing are **The Salvatonas** a vocal ensemble from NYC, Directed by Daniel Brondel, St. Patrick's Cathedral, popular Irish vocalist, **Dana Scallon** will act as Mistress of Ceremonies. It is a packed musical event you won't want to miss! **Held Monday, March 7, at 7pm (doors open at 6pm) at the Zimmermann Symphony Center/Umstadt Hall (2331 17th St. NW, Canton, OH 44708).** Ticket prices range from \$35-\$75. Funds raised will benefit the Be A Student's Friend Scholarship Program & Cultural Arts Programs in the schools. **For group discounts, call Suzanne at 330-526-8366. You can purchase tickets at the Canton Symphony Box Office, by calling 330-452-2094, or at www.cantonsymphony.org.**

2016 First Step Programs

During this Holy Year, the Jubilee of Mercy, we are called to renew our relationship with God and the Church. The First Step Program helps individuals navigate the path of healing and closure and helps anyone learn more about Catholic teaching regarding marriage, divorce, and remarriage. 2016 general meetings schedule: Tuesday, March 8 at St. Peter Parish, Lorain, at 7pm; Thursday, May 19 at St. Noel Parish, Willoughby Hills, at 7pm; Tuesday, September 13 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Cuyahoga Falls, at 7pm; Tuesday, October 18 at St. Ambrose Parish, Brunswick, at 7pm. Representatives from the Ministry to the Divorced Office of the Department for Marriage and Family Ministry will be present to explain the resources they offer to the divorced. Note that the Diocese of Cleveland no longer requires any fees for this process. Visit www.dioceseofcleveland.org/tribunal or call the Tribunal at 216-696-6525/800-869-6525 x4000 with any questions.

Christ Child Society of Cleveland

Ladies, are you familiar with the Christ Child Society? Would you like to know about us and share our mission? This year we are celebrating our 100th Anniversary in the Diocese of Cleveland. **We are a non-profit organization dedicated to serving at-risk children, in the love and spirit of the Christ Child.** Our purpose is to "foster a personal love of Christ expressing itself in service for needy children regardless of race, color or creed". If your answer is "perhaps" or "yes", please come to learn more about The Christ Child Society. You are cordially invited to attend the **Christ Child Society's Informational Coffee, March 9 at 10:30am, at Parmadale, Cottage #14, 6753 State Rd., Parma, OH 44134.** For reservations or for more info, call, **Annette Gorris at 440-526-6138 or Carol Janas at 440-526-5972.**

Living with Benedict

The Benedictine Monks of St. Andrew Abbey in Cleveland invite single, Catholic men between ages 18-45 to their next **Special Lenten "Living with Benedict" monastic experience weekend retreat.** Held **March 4-6** at the abbey (**10510 Buckeye Rd. - near University Circle**). No charge, but reservations needed. **Contact Fr. Finbar at 216-721-5300 x273 or finbar@cbhs.edu.**

Visitation of Mary Parish Lenten Mission

Visitation of Mary Parish Lenten Mission 2016 will be with **Benedictine Abbot Isaac Camacho, OSB** from St. Leo Abbey, St. Leo, Florida. Abbot Isaac will share Lenten reflections on our lives as Catholics in a changing world. Held at Visitation of Mary Parish, **87 Broad St., Akron, OH 44301** on **Sunday, March 13 at 5pm, Monday, March 14 at 7pm, Tuesday, March 15 at 7pm.**

Feast of St. Joseph Celebration

Joseph's Home, a ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System, will host a **celebration of the Feast of St. Joseph Friday, March 18.** Admission is free and all are invited. **Mass begins at 4pm in Holy Trinity Chapel, located in St. Vincent Charity Medical Center, 2351 E. 22nd St., Cleveland, OH, 44115.** A reception will follow in the **St. Vincent DePaul room.** Validated parking tickets will be provided for guests who park in the lot directly across from the St. Vincent Charity Medical Center main entrance on East 22nd St. **Please RSVP by March 16!** For full event information, directions and to RSVP visit **www.josephshome.com/events.html** or contact Joseph's Home Director of Development Nathan Munn at **216-875-4634 or nmunn@sistersofcharityhealth.org.**

Pre-Cana Day

St. Rita Parish will have a Pre-Cana day for engaged couples Saturday, March 19. This one day marriage prep program satisfies diocesan requirements. **Program is \$70 per couple. For more info, call Heidi or Drew Samuto at 440-836-3401 or stritchprecana@gmail.com.**

Tutors Needed!

Seeds of Literacy, provides free basic education and GED prep to adults in the Cleveland area. Volunteer tutors help students one-on-one at a variety of skill levels and subjects. Tutor training sessions held **Saturday, March 19, 9am-3pm (Seeds West), Friday, April 22, 9am-3pm (Seeds East), Saturday, May 21, 9am-3pm (Seeds West) and Wednesday, June 15, 5-8pm (Seeds West).** Contact Alexandria Marshall at **216-661-7950 x15, alexandriamarshall@seedsofliteracy.org** or visit **seedsofliteracy.org.** Seeds West: 3104 West 25th St., 3rd Floor, Cleveland, OH 44109. Seeds East: 13815 Kinsman Rd. Cleveland, OH 44120

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

Volunteers Needed!

Womankind Maternal and Prenatal Care Center in Garfield Heights is looking for caring, compassionate volunteers to provide client support during our Monday clinics and weekday mornings/afternoons at our reception desk. No experience necessary; training provided. Call Dianna or JoAnn at 216-662-5700 (M-F, 9-4) for more information or to obtain an application. For more info about Womankind, visit www.womankindcleveland.com.

Listening, Encouraging, & Assisting Families

Do you have families in your parish, who, because of the incarceration of a loved one, experience isolation, shame, guilt, and an overwhelming sense of being alone? The LEAF Ministry has been formed to be of support to these families. Groups meet monthly offering an opportunity to those who come to listen and share community, network and learn from others who understand their situation, challenges, fears and emotions. All are welcome to participate irrespective of faith affiliation. For more info and to verify schedules, call 216-696-6525 x3500 or 800-869-6525 x3500, email info@leafministry.org, or visit www.leafministry.org. No pre-registration is necessary.

Opportunity for Service

Response 2016, 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 2016 at 800-543-5046 or info@catholicvolunteernetwork.org. You can also visit www.catholicvolunteernetwork.org.

Catholic Couple Checkup

Take the online Catholic Couple Checkup to recharge your relationship! Discover your couple strengths, growth areas and personality profiles. Surveys are available for dating and married couples. Couples receive a personalized report and discussion guide! Visit www.ccdoacle.org/mfm and click on the Couple Checkup graphic at the bottom of the page.

Attention Young Adults

Looking for social, spiritual, and service activities for young adults? Visit the Northeast Ohio Catholic Young Adults Meetup Group at www.meetup.com/Northeast-Ohio-Catholic-Young-Adults. The group is free to join and the online interactive calendar is easy to use! If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Sullivan at groundsforfaith@yahoo.com or 330-217-1064 (home).

Disability Services Summer Camp Employment

Camp Happiness is currently interviewing college students and young professionals to work this summer at our three camp sites located in Wickliffe, Lakewood and Parma. This is a great opportunity to experience a job that is truly one of service and is personally fulfilling. And not to say that they don't have fun! Camp Happiness is from June 13-July 29, from 9:30am-3pm (includes one week of training and six weeks of camp). Visit www.ccdoacle.org/disability, or contact Marilyn Scott, Program Director of Catholic Charities Disability Services at 216-334-2963 or mjscott@ccdoacle.org for more info.

Summer Programs

Did you know that our Diocese offers summer programs for children and adults with disabilities? The summer programs offer respite and provide life-enhancing activities for children and adults in a Catholic setting. They are a great way to meet new friends, learn new things and just have fun! If you have a family member with a developmental disability or know someone who does, contact Dennis McNulty, Director of Catholic Charities Disability Services, for more information at 216-334-2962 or dmcnulty@ccdoacle.org.

Volunteer Opportunity

Touch a life...Become a Hospice Volunteer. As a vital part of our team volunteers come from all walks of life, and have a variety of skills, talents and abilities. Opportunities to serve are diverse: visit patients and families to provide companionship, socialization, and comfort, help with legacy work, transportation, light housework, meal preparation, run errands, make phone calls, help with clerical work, attend health fairs, make a presentation. Volunteers with specialized professional qualifications and training are also needed: attorneys, licensed hair dressers, Massotherapists, pet therapy dogs and their handlers. Volunteer education is held frequently throughout northern Ohio. Teen and most volunteers not having contact with patients take 4 hours of training while patient care volunteers have 16 hours. Call 800-707-8922 x6881 or visit www.hospicewr.org for more info.

Get Catholic News Emailed to You!

The official magazine of the Diocese of Cleveland, Northeast Ohio Catholic, is a great way to stay connected to timely news and information from the Vatican and our Catholic community. To sign up for our weekly diocesan eNewsletter, visit www.dioceseofcleveland.org. If you haven't been receiving Northeast Ohio Catholic magazine by mail and would like to, please contact Deacon Jim Armstrong, Executive Director for Communications at 216-696-6525 x3290 or at jarmstrong@dioceseofcleveland.org.

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