
DSWC

A "Caring and Sharing" session for those struggling with divorce, separation or widowhood will be held **Monday, February 27 from 7:30-9pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary's Convent Building, 1945 Portage Trail, Cuyahoga Falls. Marlene Maruna, a retired Social Worker, will facilitate this session. Open at no charge to people of all faiths. For more info, call Marlene at 330-607-6284.**

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!

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. **Visit www.christchildsofakron.org for more info, to purchase tickets or a program ad, or to donate to the Christ Child Society of Akron.**

Passion and Purpose

St. Francis de Sales Parish, Akron is hosting a **Regional Retreat for Women, March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation, from 9am-3pm.** The theme is "Living with Passion and Purpose". There will be inspiring talks, Adoration, confession, and fellowship. The cost is \$15 (includes light breakfast and lunch). **Registration and more info can be found at www.stfparish.com, or email therese@stfparish.com.** Bring a friend and come for a day to see what delights the Lord has in store for you.

First Friday Club of Greater Akron

On Friday, March 3 at Tangier Restaurant (532 W. Market St. Akron 44303), five high school students will speak about "How God has walked with me through high school". The students are Autumn Naragon of Archbishop Hoban High School, Joel Garvin of Cuyahoga Falls High School, Chase Bills of Our Lady of the Elms High School, Mitchell Adamczyk of St. Mary High School, and Michael Girard of Walsh Jesuit High School. Doors open at 11am. Visit www.firstfridayclubofgreaterakron.org for more information or for reservations.

PREP Marriage Skills Workshop

PREP fulfills the Pre-Cana requirement for engaged couples and offers enrichment to married couples. Held Sunday, March 12, 2017 from 8:30am to 4:30pm at Holy Spirit Catholic Church (410 Lear Rd., Avon Lake, 44012). Mass at noon. Please register by March 3. \$125 per couple. Also held Saturday, April 29 from 9am to 6:30pm at Holy Martyrs (3100 Old Weymouth Rd., Medina, OH 44256). Mass at 5:30pm. Please register by April 21. Also \$125 per couple. For more information about PREP, call 216-334-2978 or visit www.ccdocle.org/program/prep.

Young Adult Retreat

Are you experiencing a lot of change in your life? Perhaps this retreat can help you in that journey by offering an opportunity to meet other young adults and reflect on your transitions as they connect with Jesus' journey to resurrection. The "What Next" retreat will be held at **Bethany Retreat Center in Chardon, OH.** It starts on **Saturday, March 25 at 8:30am and concludes at noon on Sunday, March 26.** Mass is included in the retreat. The cost is \$45 and includes meals and supplies. Scholarships are available. **For additional information or to register, visit www.CharisMinistries.org or contact Sr. Kelley Rush, SND at krush@ndec.org or 440-241-3124.**

March 2017

Holy Father's Intention for Evangelization: Support for Persecuted Christians... That persecuted Christians maybe supported by the prayers and material help of the whole Church.

K of C 3410 Lenten Fish Frys

2055 Glenmount Ave., Akron, OH 44319

330-773-3410

Every Friday during Lent

4:30-7pm

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & April 7 & 14.

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!

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 are available at www.catholiccommunity.org/grants or call 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. Note: 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.

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.

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

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 it's 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 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...*
- *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.

Donation Summaries

Requests for 2016 donation summaries may be placed in the collection basket with your name, address, phone number, email, and envelope number.