

Sunday Announcements

On December 17th, the Church truly begins her preparations for Christmas with the beginning of what is liturgically called "Late Advent." As we begin these most solemn days of the Advent season, I would like to invite you to a special hour that evening at 7PM, especially if:

You are feeling tired or overwhelmed and need a little peace. You find the Christmas season to be hard because you are missing someone through loss, or because of separation or divorce. You find that there is something holding you back from feeling greater joy. You have something that is weighing heavy on your heart and you want the Lord to lift that burden. You find that life is going well and you simply want to take time to give thanks. You have a special intention that you want to offer to the Lord as we prepare for Christmas.

For any of those reasons or for others not mentioned, please join us for this Late Advent Holy Hour in preparation for Christmas. There will be a special opportunity for you to privately offer any special intentions that you may have at that time.

I hope to see you there.

Father House

Christ Child Shower

The Mini O'Beirne Crisis Nursery and the Pregnancy Care Center depend on donations of clothing, personal care items, certain food items and cash donations to provide needed care and services to the at-risk children and pregnant women they serve. Please place your donated items in the blue Christ Child Shower collections boxes located in the vestibule and Atrium (place cash/gift card donations in the Offertory collection basket). The list of needed items is attached to each collection box. The Christ Child Shower extends through December 20th.

Habitat Open House & Dedication

2240 East Enterprise, Grandview
The Fall Catholic Build – Habitat Build # 111 is almost finished! Dedication for this build is Wednesday, December 18, 4pm, with Bishop Thomas John Paprocki. Parking is not allowed on Enterprise Street, so please park on Wolf Street, and walk to the house. A 'welcome home' shower will take place immediately after the Dedication. Kimeka is registered at Target.

Bereavement Ministry

Cathedral hosts a weekly bereavement group, Grief Share, on Thursdays from 1:00-3:00 (except 11/28 and 12/26) in the Cathedral School Library. Grief Share offers a faith filled opportunity to grieve and heal in company with others. You are most welcome to join us at any time. For more information contact Berni Ely at 899-6637 or jackandberni96@yahoo.com

Carols at Noon

All are welcome to join us at 12 PM on December 26th for our annual Carols at Noon. Mark Gifford will provide us holiday carols on the Cathedral organ.

A Gift for Someone who has Everything

Who would have thought that you could give a cow or a bee hive for Christmas? And fit it all into a stocking! In Congo, Vietnam and so many places around the world, cows and other livestock are a daily source of nutritious milk, helping children make it past the age of 5 and helping farm families increase incomes. And beehives can provide a family with a successful and lucrative business. What's given you hope this year? Your family? Friends? The grace of God? Here's a unique way to show your love and give hope to others. Simply give a gift from Catholic Relief Services' Gift of Hope catalog at gifts.crs.org, then order a special card to be mailed to a loved one on your list. Provide a cow to a family or lunch to a student for a school year—order by December 18 to stick a special card into their stocking.

Remember to take Alpha invitations to your holiday gatherings – and be prepared to invite someone. The Lord will show you who to invite if you ask Him.

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Advent Lunch and Learn

St Joseph Worker parish in Chatham hosts an Advent Lunch & Learn that consists of a simple soup/bread/etc. lunch followed by a series of Advent reflections on the Tuesdays prior to Christmas. This year, Fr. Dominic Rankin will speak about the three gifts of the magi; gold, frankincense, and myrrh. December 17 – 12:05, O'Hara Hall

SHG JUNIOR POMS CAMP 2020

The SHG Golden Angel Poms will be hosting a Junior Poms Camp on Saturday, January 4th from 10am-1pm at the SHG East Campus. Campers will also be performing with the Golden Angels during halftime of the SHG Boys Basketball game that night. All Pre-K-8th Graders are invited to register! Email jugan@shg.org to receive a registration form or visit the SHG Facebook page. GO CYCS! **Walk-ins are welcome the day of camp, but pre-registration by Friday, December 20th is required to guarantee a t-shirt**

2nd St. Thomas School Trivia Night (Newton)

All are welcome to join us Saturday, Feb 8th at 7:30pm, doors open at 6pm at the St. Thomas Parish Center, Newton, IL. Tables are \$160 for a team of 8 and all individuals must be over 21 years old. Fun trivia questions, cash prizes, silent and live auction, games, food and more! Pulled pork and chips available for an at-will donation and beverages available for purchase. For questions or to register contact Jill Bierman or Lori Smith at St. Thomas School at 618-783-3517.

Trivia Night- The Pregnancy Care Center

The Pregnancy Care Center of Springfield, Inc. and Trivia Workshop invites you to attend Trivia Night on January 11, 2020 at the Prairie Heart Dove Conference Center from 7:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person, or \$160 for a table of 8. Bring your own snacks. There will be soda, water, beer and wine available for purchase. Registration for the event can be done by calling the Center at 525-5630.

Season Two of Dive Deep Podcast

Season two Dive Deep, the official podcast of Diocese of Springfield in Illinois, has launched. Join Andrew Hansen, Amber Cerveny, and Father Christopher House as they explore interesting and controversial topics surrounding our faith. Diving deep into Season two, they explore what the Catholic Church says about ghosts and aliens, what are the last four things, annulments, why Archbishop Fulton Sheen's beatification Mass in Peoria was postponed, the 10 things you didn't know about Christmas, and much more. Go to dio.org/podcast and click "listen and subscribe." Each Friday, a new episode will be available. You can also find the podcast on your favorite podcast platform, such as Apple Podcast, Google Podcast, Spotify and Overcast, among others. Just search "Dive Deep Diocese of Springfield in Illinois."

Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation

Did you know that obtaining a Certificate in Catechesis from the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) satisfies all the requirements for advanced level certification in the diocesan Catechist Formation Process? Classes for the next cycle are open now and include several of the required courses for the certificate. Visit <https://www.dio.org/catechesis/vlcff.html> for more information about VLCFF and how courses align with the Diocesan Catechist Formation Process.