

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DIOCESE

DECEMBER 3, 2017

Items added this week are highlighted in Advent Green

[Events & Info from Outside Our Parish—many which have more info on the bulletin board by the parking lot door:](#)

§ [Follow Bishop Thomas on Facebook](#) at Bishop Daniel E. Thomas, on Twitter @BishopDEThomas and on Instagram at BishopDEThomas. The Diocese is on Facebook at Diocese of Toledo, on Twitter @DioceseToledo and Instagram at DioceseToledo.

§ [NaProTECHNOLOGY\(r\)](#) - it is a woman's restorative health care solution. If your goal is to learn what every woman has the right to know to be a healthier woman, have a healthier marriage, and for a healthier family – contact Theresa Schortgen for an in person or remote option @ 260-494-6444 or @ theresa.a.schortgen@frontier.com <mailto:theres.a.schortgen@frontier.com> to begin transforming essential health care goals - one Creighton Model stamp at a time. The Creighton Model System is scientifically tested and Holy Mother Church approved! Transforming women's health care one Creighton Model stamp at a time.

§ [Are you searching for a method of family planning](#) that is effective, healthy, "green", free of synthetic hormones and chemicals, and in line with Catholic teaching? Go to www.live-the-love.org to find out more!

§ [VIDEO BROADCAST OF THE BISHOP'S CORNER RADIO SHOW NOW AVAILABLE!](#) Annunciation Radio's longest running program, "The Bishop's Corner," now offers a video broadcast of the show via the Diocese of Toledo YouTube page on your computer, tablet or smartphone. The show airs weekly at 8 p.m. Thursday on Annunciation Radio, and an audio podcast is also available at www.annunciationradio.com. Submit your question for Bishop Daniel Thomas to answer on the show by emailing bishop@annunciationradio.com or visiting www.facebook.com/toledobishopscorner.

§ [Hope after Abortion "I don't deserve to be happy."](#) God wants to restore your happiness. Come back to God who is love and mercy. For hope and healing after an abortion, contact the local confidential

[Will you hear God on the Radio?](#)

Check out the Stations in the area:
Redeemer Radio, 89.9FM (Fort Wayne, IN),
Holy Family Radio, 88.9FM (Glandorf/Leipsic),
Annunciation Radio, 89.7FM (Toledo)

Project Rachel Helpline at 1-888-456-HOPE or projectrachel@toledodiocese.org. Learn more at www.hopeafterabortion.org.

§ [The Bishop's Survey](#) ~ The Bishop is asking all young people to take this survey:

https://docs.google.com/a/toledodiocese.org/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdOr1wHKU6qSLmJ1NtVpdcVZcwQ2lpu51qK_MBAJ1omXTI-Q/viewform?c=0&w=1

§ [Yoga Classes on Wednesdays \(5:15-6:15pm\) at St. Francis Spirituality Center, 200 St. Francis Ave., Tiffin, OH.](#) A \$7.00 donation is requested, if possible, and if the participant does not have a mat and belt, they are provided. Do come and honor yourself for an hour each week or give it a try for a certain period of time to see if this effort benefits you, and you enjoy it. All are welcome, at any level of Yoga experience. No registration or experience required. Drop in anytime or come weekly. For more information call Sr. Paulette Schroeder at **419-447-0435, ext. 136**.

§ [Defiance Area Society for the Handicapped](#) wants you to be aware of their services for Pharmacy, merchandise, gas vouchers. An application must be completed to determine income eligibility. Medical Equipment Loan Closet, wheelchair, shower chair, canes, etc. Loans are free; donations are accepted. Gas vouchers, this program offers vouchers for out of town medical appts only. Pharmacy Vouchers offer financial assistance to the uninsured and under insured. Merchandise Voucher assists people with covering the cost of handheld showerheads, adult briefs, etc. **DASH** is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00-4:00. Phone 419-782-1399.

§ [Support scholarships for Catholic schools with a gift to the Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund.](#) In the 2016-2017 school year over 600 need-based scholarships were awarded to students to attend a private school for grades K-8 or for homeschool expenses. Your gift to the NOSF will assist a family by providing an educational choice for their children including Catholic Schools. To learn more about the Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund or to make a gift go to <http://nosf.org/donate-now> or contact the NOSF office at (419) 720-7048..

§ **Pope Francis will launch the “Share the Journey” campaign for refugees and migrants on September 27, 2017.** The aim of the campaign is to promote the culture of encounter in communities where migrants and refugees leave and return to, where they travel through and where they choose to make their homes. Please join the Holy Father in prayer and action for migrants and refugees beginning at Masses on **October 7-8 through October 14.** A website with resources for parishes and schools will be launched no later than September 1. Key dates of the “Share the Journey” campaign include: - **September 27** – campaign launch - **October 8-14** – as part of Respect Life Month, connect the plight of migrants and refugees with respect for each person’s life, particularly within the context of “Be Not Afraid,” the 2017-19 Respect Life theme - **December 12** – Our Lady of Guadalupe: prayers, Masses and processions to open our hearts to migrants and refugees - **December 18** – International Migrants Day - **January 7-13, 2018** – National Migration Week: Masses, cultural events interfaith prayers - **February 8, 2018** – St. Josephine Bakhita Day - **Lent 2018** – CRS Lenten campaign will focus on refugees and migrants with the theme “Share the Journey” - **June 20, 2018** – World Refugee Day.

§ **Culture Project Missionaries in the Diocese of Toledo.** *The Culture Project* is returning to the Diocese of Toledo! Five missionaries from the Culture Project will be staying in the Diocese of Toledo **October, 2017, through May, 2018** and are available to give presentations on human dignity and living the virtue of chastity. They are available to speak with your high school, junior high school, youth group, or homeschooling group. To learn more, email Peter Range at prange@toledodiocese.org. Join the movement and let's help to restore a culture of life! The Culture Project is an initiative of young people set out to restore culture through the experience of virtue. They proclaim the dignity of the human person and the richness of living sexual integrity, inviting our culture to become fully alive. You can learn more about and schedule the Culture Project at www.restoreculture.com.

§ **United Way Agency Designations** As you fill out your United Way donation form this fall, please consider donating to Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo or the Catholic Club, an educational youth and child care center in downtown Toledo. Donation forms and designation opportunities vary by county and by company. However, all forms have a write-in option where you

can designate an organization to be the recipient of your United Way donations. Since both are 501c3 non-profits, you may write in either Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo or the Catholic Club in the space designated on the bottom of the form for the agency name. You may also call Catholic Charities to set up an automatic monthly payment directly with Catholic Charities. Please call Sharon Marshall at 419-214-4909 or email smarshall@toledodiocese.org. Last year, Catholic Charities served more than 100,000 people throughout Northwest and West Central Ohio by providing crisis navigation services, food, shelter, emergency rent assistance, jail and prison ministries, adult advocacy and guardianship services to the elderly, and respect life ministries and support. Thank you and God bless you for your generosity!

§ **Calendar Raffle Fundraiser Supports St. Francis Spirituality Center** St. Francis Spirituality Center is currently selling “31 Days of Winning” calendar raffle tickets with 31 great opportunities to win either cash or a gift card for various businesses throughout the Region. The prizes are valued between \$50 - \$500. **A winner’s name will be drawn daily during the month of December.** Each raffle entry is eligible to win multiple times. Winners will be posted daily on our website and Facebook page. You may enter as many times as you wish. The cost of each ticket is \$10 or six entries for \$50. Tickets will also be sold through our website, www.franciscanretreats.org and at our center through December 30. Surprise yourself or a loved one with an unexpected gift during the Christmas season, and at the same time support St. Francis Spirituality Center’s programs for healing, reconciliation and renewal.

DECEMBER 2017

§ **Shop Local and Catch the Spirit of Advent and Christmas at SpiritSpace Gift Shop located inside the St. Francis Spirituality Center, 200 St. Francis Ave., Tiffin. Open daily: 1:00-4:00pm and Saturdays 10:00am- 4:00pm. Unique Gifts, Fine Art, and much more!**

§ **Tree of Hope Memorial Lighting Ceremony - Join us Saturday, December 2, 2017** for the annual Tree of Hope lighting ceremony. Just as we celebrate that Jesus is the Light of the World, we invite you to honor those who brought light to your life with a memorial light on the Tree of Hope. The evening will begin in prayer as we recognize all those who hold a special place in our heart before we proceed outside to gather around the tree for the lighting, inviting all who attend to place an ornament

on the tree. Carols to be sung by the St. Ann / St. Joseph Combined Youth Choir. Homemade cookies, coffee and cocoa will be available after the ceremony.

§ **Support scholarships for Catholic schools with a gift to the Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund.** In the 2016-2017 school year over 600 need-based scholarships were awarded to students to attend a private school for grades K-8 or for homeschool expenses. Your gift to the NOSF will assist a family by providing an educational choice for their children including Catholic Schools. To learn more about the Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund or to make a gift go to <http://nosf.org/donate-now> or contact the NOSF office at (419) 720-7048.

§ **Sunday, December 3 (6:30-8:00pm) Live Nativity** on the St. Francis Campus, 200 St. Francis Ave., Tiffin. Journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem and rediscover the wonder of Christmas! Please park behind St. Francis Home to meet your guide for the journey. Please wear comfortable shoes and warm clothes. Donations of NEW scarves, hats, gloves & socks will be collected for those in need. Sponsored by St. Francis Community. For more info, call Sr. Edna Michel at 419.443.1485.

§ **December 06, 2017 - 10:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. Lunch with Fr. Ted: *The Shepherd Who Didn't Run - Modern Day Martyr.*** Join Fr. Ted Miller as he presents on the fascinating story of Fr. Stanley Rother, mission priest from Oklahoma City who served among the people of Guatemala from 1968 until being murdered on July 28, 1981. Fr. Rother once said, "a shepherd cannot run at the first sign of danger". As a martyr of the Church, Fr. Rother was beatified (a step to sainthood) September 23, 2017 in Oklahoma. Cost: \$15.00.

§ **Wednesdays, Dec. 6, 13 & 20 (6:30-7:30pm) "Be Still...and Know That I am God"** at St. Francis Spirituality Center (2nd Floor Chapel), 200 St. Francis Ave., Tiffin, OH. Step apart from the holiday rush for an hour of Advent Centering Prayer. Each week will include a short teaching, 20 minutes of centering prayer, and shared learnings. Suggested offering is \$6/week. To register: peace@franciscanretreats.org or 419.443.1485.

§ **December 08, 2017 - Begins Friday at 7:00 P.M. Concludes Saturday at 3:00 P.M. *An Advent Overnight Retreat Just For You!*** In the middle of the preparation for Christmas, take time to prepare your own heart by waiting in the stillness of the

Advent season. Original Cost: \$80.00 - Your Price: \$50.00 (This is our gift to you!)

§ **The Domus Angelorum Retreat House**, located at 21706 State Route 114 Cloverdale, will be conducting a retreat on the topic of "*Stages of Spiritual Growth*" on **Saturday December 9th**. The day begins with Mass at 8:30 AM with registration and Adoration following Mass. The day will conclude with Reconciliation and Benedictions at 3:00 pm. Cost is \$10.00 per person and please bring a packed lunch. **All are welcome!** Retreat leader will be Father Herman Scherger.

§ **N.W.O. Men's Fellowship "Father/Daughter" Breakfast** - All area men, and their daughters, granddaughters, wife or any other important lady in your life and families are invited to join us for breakfast. Guest Speakers will be Hannah and Claire Homier and their parents Mark and Kathy. They will talk about their recent spiritual life changing experiences during their service trip to Haiti. They will share an enlightening witness about how they feel God's love and compassion for others touched their lives and enabled them to gain greater understanding of God's call of us to love and serve him. It's sure to be a great sharing, especially for the youth and those of us seeking God's understanding of love and service. In the love of Christ, we will share great insights, music, breakfast and the love of sister/brotherhood. This is a special occasion for you to share the fellowship we experience with these special ladies, and to express to them their importance in our lives. **St. John's Catholic Church, Defiance, Ohio. Saturday, December 9, 2017.** Coffee & Donuts 7:30 am – Program & Breakfast 8:00 am. For more information please call George Westrick 419-784-3975.

§ **Sunday, December 10 (1:00-3:00pm) Open House & Cookies with Santa and Mrs. Claus** at the Franciscan Earth Literacy Center, 194 St. Francis Ave., Tiffin. Meet Santa, Mrs. Claus and the new animals that are living This event is FREE and open to the public. All ages are welcome to tour the facility.

JANUARY 2018

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FEBRUARY 2018

§ **Friday, February 2 (6:00-10:00pm) Annual Mardi Gras Fundraiser** at Elizabeth Schaefer Auditorium, 190 St. Francis Ave., Tiffin, OH. Come celebrate Mardi Gras with us! Live Music, Games of Chance, Traditional Cajun Cuisine & Drinks, Live & Silent Auction, and Raffle Items. Cash Bar – 21 and over event. **Early Bird Special until Dec. 31, tickets are \$30.00, after Dec. 31, \$35.00.** All tickets purchased will be entered into a drawing for \$500.00 at the event. Need not be present to win. Deadline for reservations is Jan. 26th. Open seating unless purchasing a table of 8. Order your tickets on any of our websites or at **419.447.0435**. Proceeds benefit the ministries of St. Francis Community.