

# NEWS FROM AROUND THE DIOCESE

## DECEMBER 31, 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: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](http://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](http://www.annunciationradio.com). Submit your question for Bishop Daniel Thomas to answer on the show by emailing [bishop@annunciationradio.com](mailto:bishop@annunciationradio.com) or visiting [www.facebook.com/toledobishopscorner](http://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](mailto:projectrachel@toledodiocese.org). Learn more at [www.hopeafterabortion.org](http://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](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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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!

§ **Think of someone in your parish who is living with a significant disability (caused by a vision or hearing impairment, paralysis, chronic illness, intellectual disability, or mental illness) and despite any limitations, models Christian service to their parish community and beyond.**

Or perhaps you know a parishioner who is a caregiver and/or advocate for a person or persons living with disabilities. Please submit their name(s) for the 2018 Open Arms Awards. These awards will be presented by Bishop Daniel E. Thomas at the 5:00 Saturday Vigil on **March 3, 2018**, at St. Michael the Archangel, Gibsonburg, when our Diocese celebrates the gifts Catholics living with disability bring to our Church. If you have someone in mind, contact the office and we'll get you a nomination form.

§ **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](http://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!**

§ **2018 March for Life Trip** Interested in attending the 2018 March for Life in Washington D.C. on January 20, 2018? Join the College and Young Adult bus trip sponsored by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Toledo! The trip is only \$159, but for college students there is a special discounted price of \$119! Our trip includes two nights in the Marriott Hotel in Downtown Washington, D.C., as well as free time to tour the city. We depart Thursday, January 18, at 3 p.m. and will return Saturday evening, January 20. Payments by check can be made out and mailed to Catholic Charities, 1933 Spielbusch Ave., Toledo with "March for Life" in the memo line. Be sure to include name, email, cell phone and rooming preferences. If you have any questions, contact Peter Range, Director of the Office for Life and Justice, at [prange@toledodiocese.org](mailto:prange@toledodiocese.org) or call 419-214-4933. **Deadline to register is Monday, January 1.**

§ **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.

## JANUARY 2018

§ **Yoga Classes on Wednesdays (5:15-6:15 pm) and on Thursdays (6:00-7:00pm)** at St. Francis Spirituality Center (Greccio Room), 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 info, call Sr. Paulette Schroeder at **419-447-0435, ext. 136.**

§ **Thursdays, January 4, 11, 18 & 25 (7:00-8:30pm) "Conversations about Faith"** at St. Francis Spirituality Center, 200 St. Francis Ave., Tiffin. "No Hopes Barred" is an informal gathering where matters of faith can be freely discussed and explored. Participants bring their topics of interest. Although the faith lens will be primarily Roman Catholic, all faith traditions are welcome. Conversations will be guided by Sister Edna Michel, OSF, M.A. (Theology) and held in the first floor lounge. Free Will Offering. For more information or to register: Ph. 419-443-1485 or [peace@franciscanretreats.org](mailto:peace@franciscanretreats.org).

§ **Northwest Ohio Men's Fellowship 2018 Kick Off Breakfast on Saturday Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>** at St. John Catholic Church, Defiance. Our Guest Speaker will be Sheriff Doug Engel. The fellowship breakfast are an ecumenical effort of men to bring people of all faiths together to share fellowship and to gain support from one another. All men, ladies and their families and friends are invited. Coffee/Rolls: 7:30am – Breakfast / Program: 8:00am.

§ **Is your marriage going down the right road . . . or is it a little off track? Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage.** Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. For more information about our January 26-28<sup>th</sup> Retrouvaille Weekend program for couples, contact registration team: **Joe & Arlene @ 419-841-1116** or visit our website: **HelpOurMarriage.com**

§ **Sunday, January 14 (2:00-4:00pm) Straw Bale House Tour** behind the Franciscan Earth Literacy Center located at 194 St. Francis Ave., Tiffin. Tours are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at Little Portion Green. You can also enjoy a home cooked brunch using local foods at Little Portion Green for a free will donation on Saturday and Sunday mornings. **Reservations for brunch and a tour at the Straw Bale House are available by calling Sr. Jane at 567.207.5393.**

§ **Monday, January 15 (8:00am-3:00pm) Science Day "Geology and Archeology"** at the Franciscan Earth Literacy Center, 194 St. Francis Ave., Tiffin. Become scientists for the day. What is a naturalist? What about oceanography? Join us for as

many days as you can. We will explore a different branch of science each time. And the only way to explore is to do—experiments, labs, and activities. Come ready to experience the life of a scientist. Is there a connection between geology and archaeology? Dig into our past. How do the wind, water and ice affect our landforms and what happened in the past. Make a rock collection. Grow crystals. Do a dig with a cookie. Learn the techniques of archaeologists and geologists. Please bring your lunch. Cost: \$15.00 For kids 5-10 years old. Scholarships are available. All programs will be led by Sister Shirley, a science teacher for 28 years and Matt Miller, a biology teacher. To register for the program call FELC at 419-448-7485 or email [sshafranek@felctiffin.org](mailto:sshafranek@felctiffin.org). Please register at least 3 days before the date of the program.

§ **"Entering Canaan" Day of Prayer & Healing Retreat for Women (Jan. 27) and Men (Feb. 10)**. Suffering from a past abortion? You're not alone. Connect with local support and resources and explore other women's and men's experiences. Begin your healing journey and experience God's mercy. "Entering Canaan" Day of Prayer and Healing Retreats for Women will be held **Saturday, January 27, 2018** and **April 21, 2018**. An "Entering Canaan" Day of Prayer and Healing Retreat for Men will be held **Saturday, February 10, 2018**.

The day is hosted by Project Rachel, a ministry of Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo. For more information and confidential reservations, please call 1-888-456-HOPE or 419-260-5811. Or email [projectrachel@toledodiocese.org](mailto:projectrachel@toledodiocese.org). Visit [hopeafterabortion.com](http://hopeafterabortion.com) for more information on Project Rachel.

§ **Mondays, January 22 – February 26 (6:30-7:30pm) Finding God in the Ordinary: Guided Meditations for Peace & Healing** at St. Francis Spirituality Center (Greccio Room), 200 St. Francis Ave., Tiffin. Surround yourself with gentle peace and God's gracious presence as you are led by Sister Edna Michel, OSF, in guided meditations. Dress comfortably. Suggested Donation \$6/session - Scholarships available. (Snow Alternative Days: March 5, 12) Registration preferred: Ph. 419-443-1485 or [peace@franciscanretreats.org](mailto:peace@franciscanretreats.org).

## 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. 26<sup>th</sup>. 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.

§ **Thurs., Feb. 15 Catholic Business Network: "Finding Faith In the Midst of Business"**. You're invited to the next Catholic Business Network breakfast, **Thursday, Feb. 15**. Brig Sorber, Executive Chairman of *Two Men & A Truck*, continues our quarterly speaker series with "Finding Faith in the Midst of Business." This new Catholic Charities ministry invites people of all faiths to explore ways of living and promoting Catholic values in the workplace. The free event will be held at St. Joan of Arc's Atrium, 5856 Heatherdowns Blvd., Toledo, OH. Registration, networking and a free continental breakfast at 7 a.m. precedes the hour-long program at 7:30 a.m. Limited seating is available, so please register early. Register online at Eventbrite Toledo: <https://faith-in-business-toledo.eventbrite.com>. Or call Kate Pomrenke at 419.214.4898; or email [kpomrenke@toledodiocese.org](mailto:kpomrenke@toledodiocese.org).

## MARCH 2018

§ schedule

## APRIL 2018

§ **Tickets are now on sale for the "Clean Comedy Show" Fundraiser** at the Ritz Theatre, 30 S. Washington St., Tiffin on **Friday, April 20 at 7:30pm**. Fr. Joshua Wagner returns to Tiffin, from Columbus Ohio, for the Opening Act. Fr. Wagner's presentation uses humor, scriptural reflection, and theological insight that flows directly from the Roman Catholic tradition. Headliner & Clean Comedienne Leslie Norris Townsend, of Celina, Ohio provides a blend of stand-up comedy, music and audience participation will move your audience from tears to laughter, while motivating, mesmerizing and captivating each one. Leslie has had 30+ television appearances include Comedy Central, A&E's "An Evening at the Improv" and sketches seen on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno." She was even a Grand Finalist on "Star Search". **Tickets: \$25 each. Order tickets by calling The Ritz Theatre at 419-448-8544 or online at [ritztheatre.org](http://ritztheatre.org). Proceeds benefit St. Francis Spirituality Center.**