



Lent 2017

Office for Social Concerns

Catholic Diocese of Columbus

Latest Updates



CRS RICE BOWL Catholic Relief Services' Rice Bowl is a Lenten faith formation program for use in parishes, schools, religious education programs and by families and individuals in the home. Using CRS Rice Bowl materials, participants prepare to celebrate Christ's resurrection by reflecting and acting on His mission of love for those in need. Pray together; give things up, or fast in solidarity with those who hunger; learn about our global community and the challenges of hunger and poverty around the world; and give sacrificial donations to those in need. CRS Rice Bowl ensures that the Catholic community of the United States is present in nearly 100 countries worldwide, serving the poorest among us through CRS. For more information, contact the diocesan Office for Social Concerns at (614) 241-2540 or socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org or visit the CRS website at www.crsricebowl.org.

FOR FAMILIES: LOOKING FOR A GREAT FAMILY LIFE ACTIVITY? DO THE CRS RICEBOWL CHALLENGE!

Participate in the CRS Rice Bowl Family Lenten challenge. Each day your family does a daily suggested activity in the CRS Rice Bowl Lenten calendar, check that day's completion box in the upper left hand corner. At the end of Lent, add up the number of daily CRS Rice Bowl activities your family accomplished and write the total. Complete the form at <http://socialconcerns.colstdioc.org> and mail in by April 28. Your family will be in a drawing for a fair trade basket! This project is in partnership with the diocesan Office of Marriage & Family Life and the Office for Social Concerns.

MARCH IS DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES MONTH

The National Catholic Partnership on Disability (NCPD) facilitates the implementation of the Pastoral Statement of U.S. Catholic Bishops on People with Disabilities by

Lent 2017
GIVE UP, TAKE UP, LIFT UP!

Want to strengthen your relationship with God and neighbor?

For resources, visit www.usccb.org/lent.

"Lent is a new beginning, a path leading to the certain goal of Easter, Christ's victory over death. This season urgently calls us to conversion. Christians are asked to return to God "with all their hearts" (*Joel* 2:12), to refuse to settle for mediocrity and to grow in friendship with the Lord. Jesus is the faithful friend who never abandons us. Even when we sin, he patiently awaits our return; by that patient expectation, he shows us his readiness to forgive."

Pope Francis - From his Message for Lent 2017, "The Word is a gift. Other persons are a gift."

calling for inclusion of people with disabilities in the life of the Church and society. Many of NCPD's helpful resources can be found online at www.ncpd.org. Interested in learning more about the S.P.I.C.E. program (Special People in Catholic Education)? The S.P.I.C.E. program is in several of our diocesan Catholic schools, visit <http://www.spiceatstcatharine.com>.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE is March 1 to April 9. Faithful believers are praying that this effort will mark the beginning of the end of abortion in America. This peaceful

prayer vigil will take place at an abortion facility in Columbus. Participants are asked to volunteer for one-hour shifts and sign a statement of peace. For details, visit Greater Columbus Right to Life at www.40daysforlife.com/columbus.

ONE ID COLUMBUS The BREAD Organization will host a meeting on a municipal ID program for all Columbus residents. Presentations will be made by representatives from other cities which have a municipal ID program. For more information, visit www.oneidcolumbus.org, email: oneidcolumbus@gmail.com, or 614-220-9363.

SPIRIT OF HOPE GALA of Catholic Social Services will be held on Saturday, March 11, 2017, 6:30 p.m. at the Hilton Columbus Downtown, 401 N. High Street, Columbus. The annual event benefits Catholic Social Services' fourteen programs designed to strengthen individuals and families, provide crisis relief, and help seniors age with grace and independence in the 23 counties of Central and Southern Ohio. To purchase tickets, call (614) 221-5891 or visit www.colssc.org.



God's Creation, Our Common Home

Presenter: Bishop Frederick F. Campbell
Bishop of Columbus

In his presentation "God's Creation, Our Common Home" Bishop Campbell will reflect on the encyclical, *Laudato Si*, which speaks of our relationship with God through creation. He will touch on the social, environmental, and moral issues facing all creatures of God. The Bishop will address the suffering caused by the **opiate addiction crisis**. We are entrusted with God's gift of life, life for all, which requires valuing, care, and protection. The Bishop's message will help families explore, embrace, study, share, and act on the true beauty and grandeur of God's gift to us.

Presentations will be held:

Monday, March 13, 7-9 p.m.
St. Francis de Sales Parish, Newark

Tuesday, March 14, 7-9 p.m.
St. Peter Parish, Columbus

Thursday, March 16, 7-9 p.m.
Bishop Ready High School, Columbus

Saturday, March 18, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Notre Dame High School, Portsmouth

All are Welcome to Attend. For additional information, contact Ellen at the Office of Development and Planning at 614-241-2550 or eweilbacher@columbuscatholic.org.

Sponsored by: The Diocesan Pastoral Council and Office for Social Concerns, Catholic Diocese of Columbus

THE VOCATION OF AGRICULTURE: TO TILL & KEEP GOD'S CREATION. Saturday, March 25, 2017, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Joseph Church Parish Hall, 670 W. Main St., Plain City, Ohio. Please join with Catholic rural leaders throughout Ohio as we dialogue and reflect upon the important vocation – call – of being a farmer. We will examine the many blessings and challenges that face life on the land. Panelists from the fields of faith formation, agribusiness, environment, and public policy. If interested in attending, contact the diocesan Office for Social Concerns at 614-241-2540 or socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org.



GOOD FRIDAY WALKING STATIONS OF THE CROSS Many facets of faith and justice will be the focus of the annual Walking Stations of the Cross. The walk begins with opening prayer at St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus, at 8 a.m., Friday, April 14, 2017. Hundreds of participants from across the diocese will process to locations throughout downtown Columbus to recognize

Jesus Christ's suffering and crucifixion as well as to reflect on current areas of social concern. Open to all ages. For more information, contact the diocesan Office for Social Concerns at (614) 241-2540 or the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at (614) 241-2565.

CLEANING GREENER Wednesday, April 19, 7-9:30 p.m. Shepherd's Corner, 978 N. Waggoner, Road, Blacklick. Learn how to avoid toxic commercial cleaners harmful to you and the environment. Make your own cleaners with ingredients you may have in your house. Facilitated by Sr. Marguerite Chandler, OP, and Miranda Land. Donation: \$5. Register: 614-866-4302 or www.shepherdscorner.org.

CORCORAN AWARDS - ST. VINCENT FAMILY CENTER, MONDAY, MAY 15 at noon. The annual luncheon celebrates community leaders who are making outstanding contributions in the areas of service and supports the efforts of St. Vincent Family Center to make good kids better. The event will be held at the Easton

Hilton. Individual tickets and tables can be purchased in advance by calling (614) 252-0731 ext. 1132, email: dhuff@svfc.org. Learn more at www.svfc.org/events/corcoran-awards.

DIOCESAN SENIOR CITIZENS DAY CELEBRATION TUESDAY, JUNE 6. The diocesan Senior Citizens Day Celebration will be held at St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Bishop Campbell will celebrate Mass at 10:30 a.m. Mass is followed by a luncheon. This annual event is a great opportunity for seniors to meet with other seniors from around the diocese. Registration for the celebration is \$10. To register, send a check payable to the Office for Social Concerns, Catholic Diocese of Columbus, 197 E. Gay Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. For questions, call 614-241-2540 or email at socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org. Registrations are requested by June 1.

Resources For additional resources visit <http://socialconcerns.colstdioc.org>.

ARCH - ACCOMPANING RETURNING CITIZENS WITH HOPE You can make a real difference for a person who is reentering society from incarceration. Live out a Corporal Work of Mercy. Learn more about this new ministry in the diocese. Invite a speaker, become a mentor, hire returning citizens, help families of the incarcerated. Visit <http://www.svdpcolumbus.org/arch> or call 614-241-2540.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS – CATHOLIC LEGAL IMMIGRATION NETWORK (CLINIC). In light of new federal immigration enforcement orders, CLINIC developed resources in English and Spanish for the immigrant community, <https://cliniclegal.org/resources/know-your-rights>.

WORLD MEETING OF POPULAR MOVEMENTS In February, the regional meeting in Modesto, CA, to address structural change for social, economic and racial justice. Read Pope Francis's letter and watch video of taped sessions at www.popularmovements.org.

WE ARE SALT AND LIGHT. This USCCB online resource provides a wealth of information on how to promote Catholic Social Teaching in parishes and schools. www.wearesaltandlight.org

START A CREATION CARE TEAM IN PARISH OR SCHOOL By starting a creation care team and hosting a Feast of St. Francis event, you help spark a passion for

solutions in your community and around the world. Everything is provided to host a successful program is online. To learn more visit www.catholicclimatecovenant.org.

BECOME A GREEN SPOT – Make your parish or school a Green Spot. Take part in this local initiative. Educator's Toolkit, Green Spot Backyards, sustainability classes, business and school resources, and much more. www.columbus.gov/greenspot. Contact Rebecca Mellino at 614-645-6940 or rkmellino@columbus.gov. Also visit **Ohio Interfaith Power & Light**. They can also help churches conduct an energy audit. www.ohipl.org

HEROIN AND DRUG ADDICTION: START TALKING Families in Ohio are suffering from heroin and other drug addiction. The Ohio Bishops issued a statement on Prescription Drug and Heroin Addiction in Ohio and encouraged Catholics to participate in the Start Talking program. To read the statement visit www.ohiocathconf.org. For the Start Talking Program, visit <http://starttalking.ohio.gov>. Visit the Ohio Attorney General's website on drug abuse for resources <http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Individuals-and-Families/Victims/Drug-Diversion>.

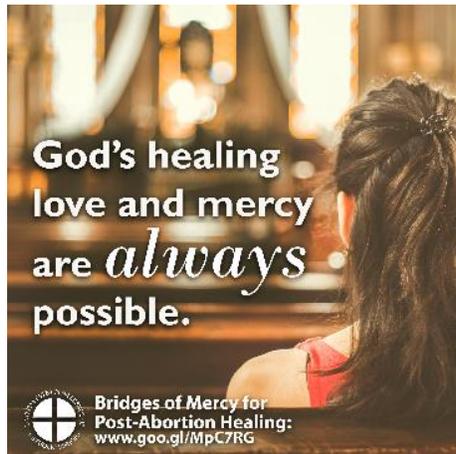
ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESOURCES Human Trafficking is modern day slavery. It's happening around the world, including Ohio. Take part in efforts to combat it. USCCB Resources: www.usccb.org/about/anti-

[trafficking-program](#) Ohio Resources:
www.ohiocathconf.org

MY HOUSE COLUMBUS - LOCAL INITIATIVE ON PORNOGRAPHY ADDICTION

My House is a local initiative that works on protection, support, and prevention. It is a valuable resource for the protection of families, an avenue of healing and support for those who have been harmed by pornography's destructive affects, and a deepening understanding of the beauty of our sexuality. For more information, visit www.myhousecolumbus.net or call the confidential hotline at 888-989-9886.

ST. PEREGRINE FUND - FOR CANCER PREVENTION AND CURE A Catholic way to help fight cancer. Please give generously to this fund. For more information, call 614-241-2540 or socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org



DEATH PENALTY The Catholic Conference of Ohio created an educational resource for use in parishes and schools about ending the use of the death penalty. To download the resource, visit www.ohiocathconf.org. Ohio is currently considering legislation to prohibit executions of individuals suffering from severe mental illness. For resources, visit <http://oamie.org>.

CATHOLICS CONFRONT GLOBAL POVERTY Join Catholics to confront poverty and human trafficking. Advocate for the care of refugees and those displaced by disasters. Visit www.confrontglobalpoverty.org.

RESPECT LIFE

SOCIAL MEDIA RESOURCES

USCCB has graphics for you to use in social networking or newsletters to promote Respect Life messages and articles? Make a post today.
<http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/2016/social-media-toolkit-2016-17-respect-life-program.cfm#serene>.

Action Alerts

For current action alerts visit <http://socialconcerns.colsdioc.org>.

Contact our elected officials about these important issues of concern:

STRENGTHEN POVERTY-REDUCING INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Catholics Confront Global Poverty
www.confrontglobalpoverty.org

USCCB International Justice and Peace
www.usccb.org/about/international-justice-and-peace

STAND IN SOLIDARITY WITH REFUGEES

USCCB Migration and Refugee Services
www.usccb.org/mrs

USCCB Justice for Immigrants
www.justiceforimmigrants.org

Add this to your To Do list.



IMPROVE AND PRESERVE ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

USCCB Domestic Social Development
www.usccb.org/about/domestic-social-development

RESPECT LIFE, ENACT CONSCIENCE PROTECTION, AND PROTECT RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Human Life Action
www.humanlifeaction.org

STATE ISSUES – LIFE, DIGNITY, & CREATION

Ohio Budget, Life Issues, Death Penalty, Criminal Justice Reform, Human Trafficking, Rural Life, Environment, Poverty, Education, Religious Liberty.
Catholic Conference of Ohio
www.ohiocathconf.org

JOIN OUR NETWORK Sign up for our **Information and Response Network** to receive action alerts and upcoming events. Email us at socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org to sign up.