

Catholic Information Center

Friends of the Center · November 2024 Newsletter

catholicinformationcenter.org



Dear friends of the Center,

It is an anxious time for our nation. If you are reading this before Election Day, you are probably waiting with trepidation for the results. If you are reading this after the results are in, you are probably anxious about the new reality.

On top of that, the holidays are approaching! To some this gives much delight - Thanksgiving turkeys, Black Friday, and Advent wreaths. To others this gives much stress - preparing

Thanksgiving dinner, buying Christmas presents, and sending Christmas cards. Either way we will soon enter a busy season, and with our anxiety around the election, our challenge is to see the divine in all of it.

Here at the Catholic Information Center, we have some opportunities to help you notice where God is at work.

Starting November 3, you can participate in a Busy Person's Retreat — designed for those looking for the Spirit's guidance in their lives, but cannot find the time to go away somewhere.

On November 12, those who are 55 years or older have the opportunity to digest the election results together and have a conversation about being a faithful Catholic citizen in the days, weeks and months after the election.

The annual Evening in December on December 2, will afford us a time to join in dialogue and prayer with fellow Christians in our neighboring churches and reflect on the preparation for the coming of our Lord.

The holidays also mark the season of giving. Often we think of all the Christmas gifts we need to buy, so we search out all the great deals on Black Friday or Cyber Monday. Let us not forget about our generosity on Giving Tuesday. On December 3, charities and non-profit organizations gladly accept donations to their cause, and the Catholic Information Center is no different.

We are so appreciative of your generosity, not only financially but the ways in which you give your time and energy to the CIC as well as the community. It is this generosity, of heart and mind, that makes our community and our Church the vibrant place that it is.

Yes, we are in an anxious and busy time, but we are also blessed by each other's faith, hope, and charity. And we are most especially blessed by our Lord Jesus Christ, who is declared King not because he rules fiercely but because he serves warmly. In this time, may the King of the Universe and Prince of Peace indeed bring us his strength and tranquility.

Blessings,

Rev. Mike Cruickshank, CSP

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Associate Director

Pray for:

Irene Blanchard

Bryan Darcy

Eva Fuller

Victoria Gillen

Kate Lynn

Rose Majewski

CJ Orban

Geri Patis

Mattie Carol Tigpen

**November Mass for
CIC Intentions:
Sunday, November 10
5:30 p.m. at the
Cathedral**

Please include your prayer intentions with your green envelope or email them to cicoffice@catholicinformationcenter.org

Upcoming Programs

A Busy Person's Retreat: Creating Space to Meet God in Everyday Life

Onsite: Sundays, Nov. 3 & 17,
2 – 4 p.m. ET or

Online: Mondays, Nov. 4 & 18,
7:30 – 9 p.m. ET

Discover peace and spiritual growth within your week-to-week schedule. This guided experience allows you to connect deeply with God. You can choose to participate in person or online. During the two weeks, you will learn and practice new ways to pray and you have the opportunity to meet with a spiritual director who will provide guidance and a listening ear.

A collaboration with the Dominican Center Marywood.



Faithful Citizenship: After the Election

Tuesday, November 12
10 – 11:30 a.m. ET

Attend Onsite or Online

Our call as Christians is to live out our faith in the public square, before *and after* an election. Drawing from Catholic social teaching, we will explore how to engage in legislative advocacy, promote policy changes that respect life, support children and families, protect the environment, and promote justice. Learn how to communicate with legislators and remain involved in the democratic process.

This presentation is part of the 55 Plus Series, exploring spirituality and vitality in the second half of life. People of any age are welcome to attend.



Your generous and regular contributions help ensure a vibrant and enduring future for the Paulist ministry at the CIC. All donations, no matter the size, make a significant impact.

Become a monthly contributor through online giving by scanning the QR code below or by visiting our website.



For more information or to register call 616-459-7267
or visit catholicinformationcenter.org

Anticipate ADVENT OF HOPE

Evening in December

An Ecumenical
Community-Wide Event

Monday, December 2

Catholic Information
Center

Join us in-person or online.



Follow us on Social
Media for the latest
updates and news.

Friendship Corner

Longtime Friend of the Center:
Marge Kosakoski

When and where did you first encounter the CIC and Paulist Fathers? The Paulist Fathers have been a part of my life since the 1970's at the CIC on Ionia Avenue. I was invited by my friends to the 6 p.m. folk Mass and a concert with the Roamin' Collars (Paulist Seminarians). After that I became a regular, where I became friends with so many people and learned what community meant.

How has the ministry of the CIC impacted your spiritual journey? The Paulist Fathers made a great impact on me when I was doubting whether I belonged in the church. Their preaching, caring, taking the time to chat, and just being there when you needed them made a lasting impression. God has a way of planting people in your life at the right time. Today that continues still to happen at the CIC and at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew where the Paulists share the challenges we are faced with and bring the hope of the Gospel.

