



Catholic Information Center

Connecting Faith and Life

CATHOLICINFORMATIONCENTER.ORG

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025

FRIENDS OF THE CENTER



Mark Mann

Director of Programming
and Institutes

PRAY FOR

Benjamin Cardenas
Roman Cardenas
Gagliardo Family
Marge Gavigan
+ Geri Patis
+ Susan Littell
David Rodriguez
Elise Webb Odell

January Mass for CIC Intentions:

Sunday, January 12 at
the Cathedral of Saint
Andrew.

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

Dear Friends,

The staff at the CIC are filled with excitement for the opportunities that lie ahead in this new year. Your unwavering support has been instrumental in our mission, and we are thrilled to share some wonderful news with you.

Last June, we were honored to receive a generous grant from the Lilly Endowment. This grant has enabled us to expand our efforts in a significant way, and we are delighted to announce the launch of a new program under our Leadership Formation Institute. This initiative is designed to cultivate future leaders within our West Michigan community, equipping them with the knowledge, skills, and spiritual foundation necessary to lead with faith and integrity.

The new Institute, set to kick off next month, will offer a comprehensive curriculum that includes theological formation, leadership training, and practical ministry experience. We are partnering with three parishes in the Diocese of Grand Rapids to equip their lay leaders with the lens of "missionary discipleship" as described by Pope Francis. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with experienced mentors, attend workshops and seminars, and participate in hands-on projects that address real-world challenges. Our goal is to foster a new generation of leaders who are well-versed in Catholic teachings and prepared to make a positive impact in their communities and beyond.

We believe that this program will be transformative, not only for the participants but also for their parishes and the entire diocese. It is through initiatives like these that we can continue to foster vibrant, faith-filled disciples who reflect the love of Christ in the world.

We know we don't do this alone. Your partnership has been crucial to the success of the ministry here. In the start of this new year, we humbly ask for your prayers and financial contributions. Your generosity will help us to continue the activities and programs that have been a mainstay for the CIC even as we embark on this new initiative.

Thank you for being a vital part of our mission. Together, we are making a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve. Be assured of our prayers – "always with joy for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now. May the One who began a good work in you continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 1: 4-6)

Peace and all good,



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UPCOMING EVENTS

CONTRIBUTE

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.



Pilgrims of Hope

Tuesday, Jan. 21
10-11:30 a.m.

Attend onsite or online

Explore the virtue of hope, especially in the face of adversity, and find encouragement to become “pilgrims of hope” in your daily life.

This presentation is part of the 55 Plus Series, exploring spirituality and vitality in the second half of life.

Paulist Father Kenneth Boyack is president-emeritus of Paulist Evangelization Ministries.

Register at:

catholicinformationcenter.org
or by calling 616-459-7267

As I Live and Breathe: Praying the Psalms

Thursdays, Feb. 6, 13, 20, & 27
7-8:30 p.m.

Attend onsite or online

From the beginnings of the Church, Christians have turned to the Psalms for inspiration, comfort, and worship of God. Discover how to incorporate these timeless prayers into your daily life, deepening your spiritual practice and connection with God.

Co-sponsored with the Catholic Biblical School of Michigan.

Doug Taylor-Weiss is an instructor with the Catholic Biblical School of Michigan.

FRIENDSHIP CORNER

When did you first encounter the CIC and Paulist Fathers?

I first learned of the Paulists, shortly after I learned how to drive. I, quite literally, drove past the CIC and decided to stop and go inside. Little did I know that this encounter would change the trajectory my faith journey forever.

How has the ministry of the CIC impacted your spiritual journey?

Their impact on me can be summed up in the passage from John 15:16, “You did not choose me, but I chose you...” It is, succinctly, a vehicle through which God let me know “There’s a place for you.”

Why the CIC is important to you?

I have several personal memories that exhibit the importance of the CIC to me, but the most important is the outpouring of care that the CIC and Paulist Fathers provided me, as a caregiver for my mother, upon her passing, last year.



Kenny Williams Buck
Communications
Coordinator