

Catholic Information Center

Friends of the Center October 2021 Newsletter

catholicinformationcenter.org



Dear friends of the Center,

As I reflect on my first season of ministry here at the Catholic Information Center, what stands out the most is the opportunity to meet and get acquainted with many of you, the friends of the Center. From program team members to those who have attended programming over the summer to those who have reached out either by phone or stopping in, I am grateful for the warm welcome as a new staff member. And I look forward to the opportunity to get acquainted with those of you I have yet to meet.

One opportunity we have is Thursday, Oct. 14 when the front gathering space will be rededicated in honor of Irene Strom. We are busy updating the look, feel and future use of the space - keeping with the spirit of hospitality that Irene is so well known for. The café continues to be a place where everyone who walks through the door finds a warm welcome, a listening ear, and yes, a good cup of coffee. I invite you to attend this evening of prayer and celebration.

Another opportunity is this year's Gallagher Talk, Thursday evening, October 28. We are delighted to share that Brother Mickey McGrath, OSFS, will be reflecting on the life and message of Servant of God, Franciscan Sister Thea Bowman. Through a collection of paintings and his stories on her life and teaching, McGrath celebrates the spirit of one of the great prophets and spiritual guides of our time. It is a message that makes one rejoice in life and say Amen!

I warmly invite you to attend this year's presentation, either in person or via live stream. Details are on the back of this letter and on the website.

I also invite to come to view Brother Mickey's art which will be on exhibit here at the Center, Oct. 25 - Nov. 19. Celebrating Black Catholic History month, we are exhibiting Brother Mickey's Sister Thea Bowman series and Black Madonna series.

In this new season of ministry, I look forward to getting to meet and know each of you better. Until then, be assured of my gratitude for your partnership in this ministry. Your prayerful and financial contributions to the Center provide both the place where all are welcome and the opportunity to grow in a life of faith. Thank you.

Peace and all good,



Mark Mann
Director of Programming and Institutes

Pray for :

Andrews Family
Richard Anthony
Janet Baumgartner
Irene Blanchard
Alan Demascus
Caleb Dennis
Michael Duba
Sheila Jennings
Robin Kaleta
Theresa Miller
Kelly Muniz
Barbara Robinson
Joan Schuster
Siterlet Family
Kristen Skope
Kate Sullivan

Need a quiet place with Wi-Fi and good coffee? The CIC café area and office are open:

Monday — Thursday,
9 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday — Thursday
6 — 8:30 p.m.

Friday,
9 a.m. — 1 p.m.

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

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

Annual Gallagher Talk



Let Your Light Shine: The Life and Message of Sister Thea Bowman

Thursday, October 28, 7-8:30 p.m.

Presented by Br. Mickey McGrath, OSFS

Franciscan Sister Thea Bowman (1937-1980) integrated her Catholic faith and African American pride and serves as a beacon for the Church to celebrate diversity, inclusiveness, and love for all God's children. Through her ministry of public speaking, she touched countless people, bearing a message of faith and hope rooted in the Gospels and the wisdom of the spirituals. Brother Mickey McGrath is among those whose life was changed by her witness and story. Inspired by her message that God wants each of one of us to "let our little light shine" he found his own vocation as a religious artist.

Choose to attend in person or connect on Zoom.

Brother Mickey McGrath paints, writes, and tells stories, then travels telling the many stories behind what he paints and writes. Brother Mickey majored in Art at Moravian College and later received an MFA in Painting at the American University. For eleven years, he was an associate professor of Studio Art and Art History at De Sales University. Since 2009, he has lived and worked in Camden, NJ where he furthered his art education in the context of social justice and finding beauty in the margin. He will be celebrating 43 years as a Religious Brother in the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales this year.

The annual Gallagher Talk honors the life and work of Father Joseph V. Gallagher, CSP, (Catholic Information Center Director, 1978-1982). The annual talk helps the Catholic Information Center meet our mission of connecting with those who are seeking to understand the teachings of the Catholic Church and continue making the "future brighter than any past".

Doors open at 6 p.m. with the opportunity to view the new exhibit and meet Brother Mickey. The presentation will start at 7:00 p.m. Space is limited. The presentation will also be live streamed via Zoom. Please register online or by calling the Center at (616) 459-7267.

For more information on this year's Gallagher talk as well as upcoming classes visit www.catholicinformationcenter.org

Your gifts through the Green Envelope make it possible for us to help adults learn, celebrate, live and pray their Catholic Faith.

Because of your generosity, many of our programs remain free and donation based.

Please consider signing up for regular monthly donations through online giving at bit.ly/CICGive

Thank you!



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

Friendship Corner

Highlighting longtime Catholic Information Center member Dan Pierson and the 2021 Spirit of Hecker Award recipient

Dan Pierson has been connected to the Catholic Information Center since his childhood. In fact, it was at the Center where Dan and his wife Margaret first met.

In his ministry, he has served the Diocese of Grand Rapids as the director of the secretariat for parish life. Today, Dan provides consultation and resourcing especially in the field of catechetics. Dan is the model for networking and has a ready answer for the parish minister or one of our staff looking for a new program, resource, or person to connect with.

After Irene Strom passed away in January, Dan stepped in with a willingness and generosity to assist the Center's staff with setting up programs through the winter and spring. His connections and ideas helped the Center continue to provide the quality of formation programs that we are known for.

The Paulist Fathers are pleased to present Mr. Dan Pierson with this year's Spirit of Hecker award. Watch the award presentation live on Saturday, November 6, 8:30 p.m. at paulist.org/heckerawards.

