

Catholic Information Center

Friends of the Center January 2022 Newsletter

catholicinformationcenter.org



Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! As we transition from 2021 to 2022, we have an opportunity to reflect on the past year and look ahead to the new one. We all know that 2021 brought many difficulties for all of us. While COVID seemed to be receding in the Spring and early Summer, another heavy resurgence hit our region as the year ended. People lost loved ones and local hospitals were overwhelmed, most especially the nurses and doctors who have given so much.

At the same time, we saw some bright spots. The vaccines seem to be effective and are keeping vaccinated people healthy. World leaders made some important steps in addressing climate change, a key concern for Pope Francis. And at the Catholic Information Center, we navigated a “hybrid” world in which some people want to safely gather in person while some prefer to participate from home.

As we look to the year ahead, we continue to pray for an end to this pandemic and for meaningful action in the fight against climate change. We also look excitedly toward the Catholic Information Center’s future endeavors, including a new Digital Media ministry which will seek to reach those beyond our church walls.

Looking more short-term, this month we are offering presentations on songs of the season (Jan 5th), making connections through technology (Jan 13th), the Gospel of Luke, (Jan 20th), and in Spanish on La Epifanía del Señor/Día de Reyes (Jan 12th/19th). These are some great opportunities to learn and interact.

More personally, many of us mark this time by creating New Year’s resolutions, and while well-intentioned, studies show that most people break their resolutions before January is over. This year, let’s not make unreasonable commitments that we are unlikely to keep. Rather, let’s make incremental steps toward a closer relationship with God and those we’re surrounded by. Because it is not simply a new calendar year that energizes us to change but rather Christ’s coming. So let’s change, grow, and participate not simply because we start 2022 but more importantly because the God who loves us and came close to us invites us to do the same.

Blessings,

Rev Mike Cruickshank, CSP

Fr. Mike Cruickshank, CSP
Associate Director of the Catholic Information Center
and Associate Pastor of the Cathedral of Saint Andrew

Pray for :

Darril Fosty
+Judy Mate
Millie De La Osa
+Barbara Robinson
Rudolf William Solomon
+Arie Pieter vanLeeuwen

January Mass for CIC
Intentions:
Sunday, January 9
5:30 p.m. at the
Cathedral

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

Celebrate!

We met our goal!

Thank you to each of you who prayed and gave to help secure the future of the Paulist Fathers. Every prayer and gift makes a difference!

Final Campaign Update: We announced a few weeks ago that a major donor from Grand Rapids has donated to fund the construction of the new Paulist Office of Evangelization to be located in the new seminary building. That gift was \$1M! Because we met (and surpassed) our goal, the new offices will be dedicated in honor of the Cathedral and Catholic Information Center in Grand Rapids.

The Paulist Fathers are humbled by your support of them and their mission, not only in your giving of \$1.9M, but with 53% participation. It truly means the world that so many of you joined in this effort. **We want to especially thank our volunteer ambassadors** for your support of time and effort in this campaign. You were invaluable to its success. God bless each of you.

Upcoming Programs



Twelfth Night: Songs of the Season
Wednesday, January 5, 7-8:30 p.m. EST
Presented by the Grand Rapids NPM
Join us online (Zoom only)
Registration required

The season of Christmas is exactly that – a season. Tradition observes the season as twelve nights between Christmas and the visit of Magi on Epiphany. Different traditions and songs have been handed down from one generation to the next.

Join the **National Pastoral Musicians** for an evening of reflection and caroling, celebrating the music from different cultures, all sharing faith in the Incarnation of Jesus.

La Epifanía del Señor- Día de Reyes
Miércoles 12 y 19 de enero de 2022,
7-8:30 p.m. EST
Facilitada por el Padre Luis García
Evento en persona (espacio limitado) y
en línea (Zoom)
Se requiere registro

Trabajar para comprender el significado de la Epifanía del Señor en la Historia de la Salvación y cómo afecta la propia vida, revisar las diferentes formas de celebrarlas en todo el mundo e incorporar oraciones de este tiempo en nuestra vida espiritual.

El Padre Luis García asistió a la Universidad de Santa María del Lago en Mundelein IL donde obtuvo una Maestría en Divinidad. Actualmente es el vicario parroquial de la parroquia de St. Anthony of Padua, Grand Rapids.

Technology: Making Connections

Thurs., Jan. 13,
10-11:30 a.m.

Presented by
Rob Frans
\$15 donation
(lunch included)

Join us in
person or online
Registration required



An interactive dialog about how we all adapt to the rapid changes of technology. This presentation is part of the Encore series, for those exploring spirituality and faith in the second half of our lives.

Rob Frans whose forty years of domestic and international education includes business experience at Steelcase Inc., Grand Valley State University, and Grand Rapids Public Schools.



The Gospel of Luke

Thursday, January 20, 7-8:30 p.m. EST

Presented by Sr. Barbara Reid

Join us in person or online
Registration required

This year, we hear stories from the Gospel of Luke proclaimed at Mass. Explore how the passages heard each Sunday fit into the whole story of Jesus' life and ministry.

Barbara Reid, OP, PhD is the President and Carroll Stuhlmüller distinguished professor of New Testament Studies at Catholic Theological Union (CTU) in Chicago.

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

In Memory of longtime CIC staff member Irene Strom

It was a year ago that we lost our beloved Irene Strom to COVID. We remember her life of love and devotion to her family, her Scotty dogs, and the Catholic Information Center. She was especially missed this past Christmas. Irene lit up even brighter at Christmas time, and anything that could be decorated was. The running joke was that if you stood too long in one place, Irene would "deck" you. Her extended family included the Paulist Fathers, her co-workers, ministry collaborators, and every one of you who were a part of the Catholic Information Center. That is why we dedicated our Welcome Cafe to her memory. So when you get the chance, stop by, have a cup of coffee, and say a prayer for our beloved Irene.

