



#### Friends of the Center November 2022 Newsletter

catholicinformationcenter.org



Dear friends of the Center,

At our most recent Paulist General Assembly, a gathering of Paulists elected to set the course for the next four years. We addressed what we consider to be one of the most pressing issues of our time, in our Church and in our society...Polarization. It was raised time and time again in our pre-assembly meetings with our other collaborators, and it surfaced as an issue we could not avoid in our discussions.

We came to call polarization a "first-order" problem, which means that it needs some resolution before we can address other problems. We cannot begin to talk about sensitive issues in our day (e.g., abortion, gun control, immigration, etc.) without first acknowledging the polarized state in which we have these discussions. When we acknowledge our biases, listen to the other person, and engage in humble dialogue, we can then start to move toward a common understanding and the common good.

Nothing ignites polarization like elections, and Election Day is November 8. On Election Tuesday (or before if you vote absentee), I invite you to vote with your faith in mind. I also invite you to vote with polarization in mind, or maybe more accurately with reconciliation in mind. Nothing calms polarization like reconciliation. It is the medicine that heals the deep wounds of division, and we need leaders who work for that goal.

I am happy to say that one of my Paulist brothers is one of those leaders who has the gift of reconciliation. He has brought together people over the boundaries of race, age, orientation, and faith. Fr. Steven Bell, CSP, will talk about his experiences and a vision for a better future in our Gallagher Talk on November 10. I can personally tell you that his presentation is one that you will not want to miss.

Later in November, of course we will celebrate Thanksgiving, a non-faith based holiday, that highlights one of the most important themes of faith...Gratitude. At the Catholic Information Center, we are grateful to you for your generous support. For your partnership in the mission to share the light of faith. Thank you!

As November comes to a close, we also bring our liturgical year to a close. Ordinary Time turns into Advent, the time in which we await something new, the birth of Christ. Even as our seasons change, be assured of our continued prayers for you.

Blessings,

Per Mike Cruicksbank, SP

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



Rich Brisson +Todd & Scott Gibson Marge Giesken Ken Haarstad Maggie Otis Geri Pattis Darlene Truszkowski

November Mass for CIC Intentions: Sunday, November 13 5:30 p.m. at the Cathedral

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

# Annual Gallagher Talk

Toxic polarization. We have all witnessed it but how do we deal with it?

Join us for our Annual Gallagher talk, **Thursday**, **November 10**, **7-8:30** p.m. EST, in-person or online, to hear Paulist Father Steven Bell's message of how finding a path to reconciliation fosters hope and perseverance.

### Don't miss out, registration closes soon!



Interpretación Bíblica y el Libro del Apocalipsis Jueves, 3 y 17 de noviembre 7-8:30 p.m. EST Facilitado por Dr. Orlando Benedict Únete a nosotros en persona o en línea Se requiere registro

Una serie de dos partes. El último libro de la Biblia es probablemente el más incomprendido. Está lleno de símbolos y, a veces, de imágenes aterradoras. Pero el libro de Apocalipsis es trae un mensaje de esperanza.

**Orlando Benedict** es médico y católico de toda la vida. Actualmente cursa estudios de posgrado en Teología Hispánica en Catholic Central Union. Intereses: Ministerio Hispano y Simbología Eclesiástica.

#GivingTuesday is an annual campaign encouraging online giving. The CIC participates in #GivingTuesday through the Diocese of Grand Rapids. During the 24 hours of giving on Nov. 29, you will be able to donate here: <u>bitly.com/givecatholicwm</u> (the webpage will be live on #GivingTuesday). The diocese does not charge credit card fees which means that 100% of the funds donated goes directly to the mission of the Center. Using "The Four Tendencies" to Bless Others and Ourselves Tuesday, Nov. 15, 10-11:30 a.m. EST Presented by Vicki Jansma Join us in-person or online Registration required

By learning our own/others' "tendencies" we can choose strategies to increase the likelihood that we will be able to sustain good habits--and decrease bad ones. In addition, knowing our own and others' tendencies guides us in approaching others with suggestions that will be better received, and motivate healthy change.

**Vicki Jansma** is a school social worker, speaker and music minister who loves to share her God-given gifts.



Your gifts through the enclosed envelope make it possible for adults to learn, celebrate, live and pray the Catholic Faith.

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

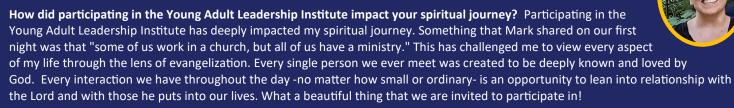
Thank you!

You Tube

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

## For more information, visit

## Fiendship Corner Cecilia Berkemeier Young Adult Leadership Institute Graduate



Why are the Paulist Fathers important to you? A memory that reflects why the Paulist Fathers are important to me is more of a collection of memories of the ways they are present in our community. Whether it's been spiritual guidance, technology troubleshooting before an event, or birthday serenades, I am so grateful for the ordinary and extraordinary ways the Paulist Fathers share their lives with us. Our community continues to be blessed by their kindness, presence, wisdom, and yes, even their dad jokes!