



Dear Friends of the CIC,

Growing up, we anticipated with much excitement the last day of school. Summer break represented a stage of the year radically different than the others. For this long stretch over the course of the summer, we no longer had to attend school everyday. Instead of waking up early, we could sleep later. Instead of learning math in a classroom, we could play outside. Instead of eating lunch at the same time everyday, we could eat when we wanted.

There was a certain freedom experienced with the school summer break. We were no longer bound by the orderliness of a schedule but rather had more freedom to do whatever the day brought forth. This month students will experience again the transition from the orderly school season to the more flexible summer break.

The Church, on the other hand, does the opposite. We are now entering Ordinary Time, the season of the liturgical year in which the days and weeks are “ordered” so that we can follow the life and ministry of Christ. The other seasons - Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter - revolve around the great mysteries of our faith, the birth, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ordinary Time, on the other hand, focuses us on everything in between.

It may seem odd that the Church is entering Ordinary Time when the rest of our lives are becoming less ordinary. But maybe there is a blessing here. School breaks, vacations, and camps tend to break up our schedules in a way that disrupts our routines. And we humans are creatures that do well with routines. Ordinary Time, and its consistency, can keep us on a good path throughout the summer while other parts of our lives become less routine.

It is good to have both routines and breaks in the routine. And we are offered both this summer. The same can be applied to our lives of faith, especially in our lives of prayer. Break out of your routine by trying something new. Have you ever tried Lectio Divina or Centering Prayer? Or start a new routine of prayer this summer such as praying the Rosary.

But we also need to ground ourselves in prayers that regularly sustain us. All clergy and religious brothers and sisters are expected to pray the Liturgy of the Hours, which helps mark the day in prayer. Do you set aside time to pray each morning and each evening? Do you consistently pray in a way that marks out the day for you?

This summer, keep a consistent prayer life that helps you through the disorder that comes with summer. But try something new as well. And if you are not sure where to start, come see us or call us at the Catholic Information Center. We would be happy to help.

Have a blessed summer,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Mike Cruickshank, CSP".

Rev. Mike Cruickshank, CSP  
Associate Director

## Pray for:

- † Joseph Chirco  
Cote Family
- † Fr. Chuck Cunniff, CSP  
Tycen Daniels
- Fr. Joseph Dean, SCJ
- † Obinna Ezeh
- † Crystel Imperi  
Karen Ragauss
- † Norine Simmons

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

*Please include your prayer intentions with your green envelope or email them to [cicoffice@catholicinformationcenter.org](mailto:cicoffice@catholicinformationcenter.org)*

# Upcoming Programs

## Exploring the Psalms through Faith, Music, and Song

Tuesday, June 18

10 – 11:30 a.m. ET

New discoveries. Losses. Questions. The Psalms express all of these in the full range of human emotion. These timeless prayers invite deep reflection, spiritual renewal, and emotional resilience. Discover the wisdom of the Psalms with guitarist, song writer, and music minister **Glenn Bulthuis**. Bulthuis is a founding member of the band the “Tonedeads” and leads music for Oakhill Presbyterian Church in Grand Rapids. This presentation is part of the 55 *Plus Series*, exploring spirituality and vitality in the second half of life.



# Lending Library

In the depths of linguistic history, the term for a library was once "bochord," literally meaning a "hoard of books." In this spirit, the Catholic Information Center has evolved into its own modern-day "bochord." Now, we're thrilled to unveil our Lending Library, inviting you to partake in our collection. Dive into works spanning Catholic scholars, personal growth, theology, and a myriad of other enriching subjects. After selecting your literary companions, you're welcome to unwind by reading them in the Irene Strom Café, or carry them home for leisurely exploration. Should a particular book resonate deeply with you, feel free to

make it a permanent part of your own collection. And in the spirit of fostering community, we extend an invitation to contribute to our shelves by donating any beloved religious texts you may have outgrown. Join us as we celebrate the joy of shared knowledge and the boundless possibilities of learning.

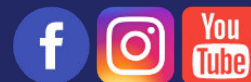
Thank you to Kyle Mackesey for your tireless work making this library happen!



For information about upcoming programs, visit [catholicinformationcenter.org](http://catholicinformationcenter.org) or call 616-459-7267

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.



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

## Friendship Corner **Young Adult Leadership Institute Graduate Kyle Mackesey**

**When and where did you first encounter the CIC and Paulist Fathers?** I had just moved to Michigan, from California and was looking for “my spot”. Everyone I met at the CIC and Cathedral of Saint Andrew had such a saintly vibe about them and made me feel welcome.

**When and where did you first encounter the CIC and Paulist Fathers?** I am not a very enthusiastic person, yet I wanted to lead but didn't know where I fit in. Fr. Cruickshank met me personally to discuss how I might be able to help. The fact that he took time out of his day to help me meant so much. Fr. Cruickshank recommended the Young Adult Leadership Institute.

**How has the ministry of the CIC impacted your spiritual journey?** The CIC has been incredibly influential in my spiritual journey. The Young Adult Leadership Institute provides a platform to jump into Catholic life. It was also super FUN! Meeting new people, praying with them, and sharing your soul has changed me forever.

**Share a personal memory that reflects why Paulists are important to you.** One thing that is particularly hard for me is the sacrament of Reconciliation. I feel the Paulists are incredibly talented at leading one through the sacrament in a way that helps the root of the sin in a loving way. No matter how hard it is for me. No matter how long the confession line is.

