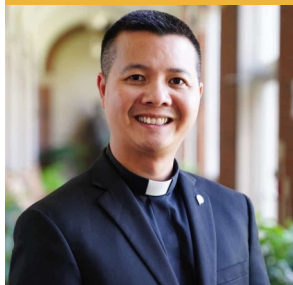


Catholic Information Center

Friends of the Center · December 2023 Newsletter

catholicinformationcenter.org



Dear friends,

In a world continually scarred by violence, both on a global and domestic scale, the need for peace and hope becomes ever more poignant. As we find ourselves amid the Advent season, the Catholic Information Center is committed to bringing light to a world that often seems overshadowed by darkness. Our programs this month embody the essence of this mission.

The 55Plus program, “Christmas Traditions Around the World” aims to foster cultural understanding and unity during this season of hope. We invite you to join us on Tuesday, Dec. 5, 10-11:30 a.m., for an interactive tour at the Meijer Gardens where we will explore traditions celebrating the birth of Jesus and share your own family traditions.

On Thursday, Dec. 7, 6:30-8:30 p.m. ET, we present “An Evening in December: Behold!” The word “behold” is not just an invitation to look, but an affirmation that the divine is at work. This ecumenical event, sponsored by several local faith communities, reminds us that the good news and great joy of Christ’s coming are meant for all - bringing hope, peace, and love to the world.

Finally, on Tuesday, Dec. 12, 7-8:30 p.m. ET, we offer “Following Jesus in a Warming World.” Rev. Kyle Meyaard-Schaap will provide insights and advice to address the climate crisis, offering hope to those who seek to turn concern into action.

These events highlight the kind of programming that we have offered over the past year. To date, we have hosted 44 programs, including our leadership institutes, with more than 1,500 enrolled from 31 states and 6 countries. And because our programs are recorded, past presentations are available on our YouTube channel, so that our message can reach people far and wide.

It is your partnership that empowers us to continue this mission of spreading peace and hope in a world desperately in need. We are ever grateful for your financial contribution, and hope that you will consider us for any special year-end gift of cash or assets to fund our ongoing mission. Together, we can bring light to the darkest corners and warmth to the coldest hearts.

In this season of Advent, may we prepare our hearts to embrace the good news and great joy of Christ’s coming, meant for all; and may it bring hope, peace, and love to our troubled world.

In gratitude and hope,

Fr. Dat

Very Rev. Dat Tran CSP
Executive Director

Pray for:

**Terri Dickman
Kate Lynn
Chris McMullin
Roger Szczepanski
Trish Woolpert**

**Monthly Mass for CIC
Intentions:
Sunday, Dec. 10,
5:30 p.m. at the
Cathedral**

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

Upcoming Events *and* News

**Christmas Traditions
around the World**
Tuesday, December 5
10-11:30 a.m. EST
Attend in-person



Discover and explore cultural traditions celebrating the birth of Jesus and share your own family traditions during this interactive tour at the Meijer Gardens. This presentation is part of the 55 Plus Series, exploring spirituality and vitality in the second half of life.

**Following Jesus in a Warming
World**
Tuesday, Dec. 12
7-8:30 p.m. EST



Using stories from the field, **Rev. Kyle Meyaard-Schaap** will offer a theological and scriptural exploration - and practical advice - to offer hope to Christians paralyzed by the scale of the climate crisis and turn it into action.

Save the Date!
Becoming a Eucharistic People
Friday, Feb. 23, 2024
6:30-8:30 p.m.



Hear **Timothy O'Malley**, academic director of the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy and a member of the executive planning team for the US Conference of Catholic Bishops' Eucharistic Revival, at an evening of reflection on the mystery of Christ's Body and Blood. Hosted at the Basilica of Saint Adalbert.

THANK YOU

Your support made Giving Tuesday a success for the CIC.

Catholic Information Center

OUR STORIES
75 Years of Paulist Mission
in West Michigan

Grateful for the Past
Anchored in the Present
Hopeful for the Future

Inspiration. Positivity. Joy.
This is what you will find in this collection celebrating 75 years of Paulist ministry as told by Friends of the Catholic Information Center.
Everyone who makes a donation of \$50 or more this month will receive a copy of "Our Stories."

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.

For information about upcoming programs,
visit catholicinformationcenter.org or call 616-459-7267

AN EVENING IN DECEMBER

Behold

AN ECUMENICAL COMMUNITY-WIDE
ADVENT EVENING OF REFLECTION

12.07.2023 AT 6:30 PM

ATTEND ONSITE OR ONLINE

SPONSORED BY
BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN
CATHEDRAL OF SAINT ANDREW
ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN

THE EVENT IS FREE
PLEASE RSVP ONLINE.
A DONATION FOR COMMUNITY
FOOD CLUB IS REQUESTED.
FOR MORE INFORMATION:
616.459.7267

CATHOLIC INFORMATION CENTER
360 DIVISION AVE S. GRAND RAPIDS

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