



A weekly publication of the
Catholic Diocese of Cleveland

Fund a Dream tuition assistance program gets a boost at luncheon

About 150 people with an interest in making Catholic education affordable to more students attended a special lunch program to learn more about the Fund a Dream initiative on April 24 at The Union Club in downtown Cleveland.

Special guests included Bishop Edward Malesic, Gov. Mike and First Lady Fran DeWine. Roberto Nicolas-Vazquez, counsel of Mexico in Detroit, Michigan, who was a guest of immigration attorney Margaret Wong, also attended.

Lorraine Dodero, Fund a Dream chair and a Catholic Community Foundation board member, organized the event with the foundation.

[Read more>](#)



'Jesus is our light,' bishop tells St. Michael students

It was a chilly, dreary and rainy day outside when Bishop Edward Malesic visited St. Michael School in Independence on April 24 to celebrate Mass for the school community. But he received a warm welcome from the students, teachers and parents who gathered for the liturgy.

Concelebrating the Mass were Father Matt Jordan, who will be installed soon as St. Michael's pastor; Father Jeff Liptak, parochial vicar at St. Basil the Great Parish in Brecksville, and Father Tom Haren, a retired priest in residence at St. Michael.

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St. Joseph Parish, Avon Lake marks 75th anniversary with Mass, reception

When the Diocese of Cleveland established St. Joseph Parish 75 years ago, Avon Lake was a growing township with a population of about 4,300. Established after World War II, there were many bungalows popping up to meet the housing demands of baby boomers. The community also included many farms, vineyards and lakeside cottages.

Father Ron Wearsch, St. Joseph pastor, said his own family was among those living in the area during the parish's early years.

Today, Avon Lake is a city of nearly 26,000 and the parish is a bustling community with a large school and many active ministries.

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A promotional graphic for Ursuline College. It features a blue background with a stained-glass window pattern on the right side. The text is overlaid on the left. At the top, it says "Theological & Pastoral Studies" and "Online Summer Classes:". Below that, in a larger, bold font, is "Ministry & Spirituality and Trinity". At the bottom, it shows the Ursuline College logo (a stylized cross or flower) and the contact information "ursuline.edu/tps | 440.646.8119".

36th annual Catholic-Jewish colloquium examines impact of war on groups' relations

As the conflict between Israel and Hamas continues into its sixth month, a group gathered at the Center for Pastoral Leadership to examine the impact of the war on the relations between Catholics and Jews.

It was the 36th annual Sam Miller Catholic-Jewish Colloquium, an interfaith dialogue that rotates host sites between the two faiths. The colloquium evolved from a friendship between the late Cleveland Bishop Anthony Pilla and the late Miller, a prominent businessman and Jewish leader.

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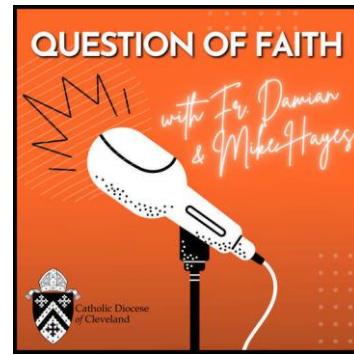
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Scripture reflection: Fourth Sunday of Easter

In his weekly Scripture reflection, Bishop Edward Malesic notes the Fourth Sunday of Easter typically is called "Good Shepherd Sunday" because the day's Gospel always focuses on the protective, strong and self-sacrificing leadership of Jesus. "I am the good shepherd," Jesus said. "A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." And Jesus did just that when he laid down his life for us on the cross. He also gathers his faithful flock around his cross, saying when he is lifted up, he will draw all people to himself.

Read the entire reflection [here](#).



And finally...

Did you know that the [Office for Worship](#) offers [formation sessions](#) for extraordinary ministers of holy Communion? Those interested in this special ministry should contact their pastor for information about registering for a formation session.

The [Cleveland Catholic Committee on Scouting](#) will host "Called by the Spirit," its annual adult retreat, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 27 in Meeting Room A (lower level) at [St. Albert the Great Parish](#). Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. and the event concludes with the 4 p.m. vigil Mass. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. A \$5 registration fee will be collected at the door. Email clecatholicscouting@gmail.com to register.

The second annual [Hearts for Music](#) gala will be at 7 p.m. May 7 at Akron Civic Theater. The [St. Mary](#) Children's Choir (Hudson) and the Akron Symphony Orchestra will be among the performers. HFM is a special needs orchestra for children, teens and adults with

intellectual and developmental disabilities. St. Mary, [St. Bernard](#) (Akron) and [St. Rita](#) (Solon) parishes are among the group's partners. Some of the gala proceeds will be used to help finance a trip to Rome in 2025 where the musicians will perform for the jubilee events. Click [here](#) for more information about the group or to purchase a gala ticket.

May 8 is the registration deadline for the [Christ Child Society of Cleveland](#)'s annual Red Wagon Luncheon on May 22 at the Holiday Inn-Independence. Individual tickets are \$50. Click [here](#) for details or reservations. The event includes vendor tables, sweets, treats, a fashion show, basket and jewelry raffles and more.

[Earth Day](#), which was established in 1970 to foster environmental awareness, was celebrated earlier this week (April 22). As Catholics, we show respect for our Creator by our stewardship of our earthly home. Pope Francis penned his encyclical [Laudato Si](#) (On Care for Our Common home) in 2015 to encourage and achieve real, lasting solutions to the ecological crisis threatening earth, our common home.

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