



Spiritus Update

March 15th Spiritus Gathering with Marianist Family Council

Please join us in person or virtually on **Sunday March 15th** for a gathering with the Marianist Family Council. We will be gathering in the Madeleine room of the Chaminade Center on Mt. St. John. Our program will begin at at **3 o'clock pm** with prayer and song.

Please remember, this is our last gathering before the end of Lent. Please bring all Lenten donations with you on Sunday. The list is below of places that are in need of donations at this time. We will be serving refreshments afterwards and would love some additional help with clean up and set up. Thank you!

We would love if everyone could join us for this wonderful program. We will see you all on Sunday!

[March 15th Remote Viewing Link](#)

SPIRITUS LENTEN DONATIONS AND INTENTIONS



TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

FAMILY PROMISE – any and all cleaning supplies, bleach, bath towels, laundry detergent, fabric softener, shower gel, shampoo, conditioner, paper plates, paper cups, cleaning rags, juice

MIAMI VALLEY IMMIGRATION COALITION - \$25 gift cards to Kroger, cooking oil, masa flour, canned meat/fish, canned tomatoes, canned corn, canned tomatoes, canned chilies, cans or cups of fruit, instant coffee, crackers, and tissues, other shelf stable items and treats also accepted.

MVIC is also in desperate need of donations to assist with large bonds, lawyer fees, and a wide range of general needs. Donate via their website or mail check to MVIC C/O LEAD, 922 Riverside Dr., Dayton, OH 45405

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES – The CRS Rice Bowl has long been a Lenten almsgiving tradition. While we will not be doing that, CRS is desperate for funding since USAID has been dismantled, pulling a major source of funding for their life-saving humanitarian work. Please consider making a donation via the CRS website.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES – No new families are arriving in their Refugee Resettlement program due to government restrictions, but they are still assisting families already here. CSS also offers numerous other programs that aid seniors, children, food insecurity, and more. Due to cuts in various areas of government funding, these programs need more donations than ever. Donate via website or 922 W. Riverview Ave., Dayton, Ohio 45402

ALL DONATIONS CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE MARCH 1ST AND MARCH 15TH SPIRITUS GATHERINGS

FINANCIAL DONATIONS: We are also encouraging tax-deductible donations to organizations that aid the most vulnerable

SPIRITUS LENTEN DONATIONS AND INTENTIONS



ADVOCACY

In Pope Francis' 2024 Lenten message, he called for "action to free others from suffering." We need to speak up for justice. Please choose an issue close to your heart and use the phones and websites graciously provided by Linda Murnane to make at least one advocacy contact a week.

ADVOCACY ADDRESSES and OPTIONS

OHIO MEMBERS OF CONGRESS:

- Congressman Michael Turner - Washington office (202)225-6465; Dayton office (937)225-2843 email via website <https://turner.house.gov/contact>
- Senator John Husted - DC Office (202) 224-3353 <https://husted.senate.gov/>
- Senator Bernie Moreno - DC Office (202)224-2315 <https://moreno.senate.gov/>

OHIO STATEHOUSE MEMBERS

- Ohio House- <https://ohiohouse.gov/members/directory>
- Ohio Senate - <https://www.ohiosenate.gov/members/district-map>

MIAMI VALLEY IMMIGRATION COALITION - type organization's name into Google, click on Advocate at top of page, then click on green ADVOCACY EFFORTS box on next page, which takes you to an updated list of all addresses above, plus more. It lays out particular issues and proposed legislation.

CATHOLIC CLIMATE COVENANT - info@catholicclimatecovenant.org

MARYKNOLL OFFICE OF GLOBAL CONCERNS-maryknollogc.org

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES- into@iors.org

CATHOLIC SOCIAL ACTION ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI - Site for advocacy and social justice issues. Especially relevant to scroll to bottom of site to ACTION CENTER "Faith without works is dead."

If you do not already receive emails from the three Catholic organizations listed above, you may want to consider signing up. They offer informative updates and issues, often offering legislative petitions that require little more than your signature.

SPIRITUS LENTEN DONATIONS AND INTENTIONS

SPIRITUS PRAYERS AND PETITIONS

For Will Place, that he heals quickly

For all those who grieve, may God wrap you in love and illuminate the joy and presence of those we miss in our hearts.

Continued prayers of strength and comfort for all those in need of healing.

Jesus, during this season of Lent, You walk with us in our struggles. May our hearts and hands join the lonely elderly and people experiencing homelessness, and those

trapped by poverty and inequity. May we act on what we see and bring Your hope and healing to all we serve. Amen.

THANK YOU FROM BERGAMO CENTER



BERGAMO CENTER for Lifelong Learning at Mount Saint John

4400 Shakertown Road
Beavercreek, Ohio 45430-1075

March 11, 2026

Spiritus Marianist Lay Community
Bergamo Center
4400 Shakertown Rd.
Beavercreek, OH 45430

Dear members of Spiritus Marianist Lay Community,

Thank you so much for your generous \$3,000 grant to Bergamo Center. I am deeply grateful for your past generosity and faithful support of our retreat center. Please know that your generosity continues to make a lasting impact, and we are truly thankful for your partnership in our mission.

We continue to move forward with enhancements and upgrades to our center, with the goal of providing the best possible hospitality to all of our guests. As you know, we recently upgraded our audio/visual equipment. Our guests have been utilizing the new equipment and have been very appreciative of it. We are also moving forward with the installation of new locks on all bedroom and outside entrance doors. All of this could NOT have been possible without your very generous support and the support of other donors!

Your grant will help fund our next project of enhancing our main conference area spaces, which will eventually include new carpet, furniture, painting the walls, and general redecorating. Our goal with all of these upgrades is to keep our center relevant, updated, and welcoming to our guests. These spaces were last updated between 12 and 35 years ago. We are deeply grateful that you have chosen Bergamo as one of your grant recipients, and you can be assured we will be careful and responsible stewards of your gift. We hope you will have the opportunity to experience firsthand the positive impact of your generosity during a stay at Bergamo.

If you haven't done so already, please consider following us on social media (Facebook or Instagram) and/or Constant Contact in order to receive our quarterly newsletter and other updates about Bergamo. All links can be found on our newly designed website: www.bergamocenter.org.

Thank you again for blessing Bergamo Center with your support! I am so grateful for our partnership.

Many Blessings,

Kelli D. Kinnear
Executive Director

Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. No goods or services were exchanged for your contribution, and your gift is tax-deductible. Please retain this letter for your tax records.

bergamocenter.org

937.426.2363

info@bergamocenter.org

UPCOMING SPIRITUS EVENTS

March 15th: Spiritus Gathering - Madeleine Room - 3 PM

April 4th: Marianist Family Easter egg hunt - 10 AM

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Jan Futrell from Miami Valley Immigration Coalition asked if anyone from Spiritus would be interested in joining their Accompaniment group. The following is an explanation of what that group does:

The accompaniment group is one of 2-3 informal working groups in MVIC that were started to fill in gaps in services. It meets once a month and makes decisions about direct aid (rent, medical, legal) to folks who are part of the circles of care in our area (known folks, in other words) and about new folks who come to us thru personal relationships or because we helped to bond a family member out of detention or such. In addition, we make decisions by email when the need is immediate. We also help to coordinate or connect people who want to contribute or deliver food or transport folks to appointments and other needs. Our meetings are wide ranging as we sort thru ways that we can accompany our migrant neighbors. In the past month we provided rent and food for a family, assisted with the other \$500 needed for legal expenses and connected with a friend with medical resources beyond what we had already provided. We coordinate needs in several circles for particular migrant families.

The informal bond group is separate from this but reports to the accompaniment meetings. If you are interested in possibly joining the MVIC accompaniment group, please contact Chris Bohmer Stewart, bohmerstewart_1@hotmail.com who will connect you with Jan Futrell.

From Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley.

Your Spiritus Marianist Lay Community Lenten Love in Action post is live as of February 25, 2026. Click the following to access their **Facebook** page and their **Instagram** page. You will be able to see the post from there to share and interact.

COMMUNITY MEMBER INFO

MESSAGE FROM LINDA FOLMAR: I will be selling Dennis' car soon. I want to offer it to anyone in Spiritus who has need of a vehicle with an excellent wheelchair and wheelchair lift. He bought it brand new in 2016 and has only 21,264 miles on it. It is in excellent condition. The Kelly blue book asking price is \$16,700. I am open to an offer. ~ Linda Folmar

If you are interested, please respond to this email and I will send you photos and contact information for Linda. Thank you! Maggie

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