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GROWING IN FAITH

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Rooted in Faith Forward in Hope

Strengthening the Catholic Church in Northeast Ohio

*Fr. Andy Turner Takes 4th Year
Seminarians To The Streets*



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

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Seminarians Reach Out

THROUGH CATHOLIC CHARITIES

By their fourth year of studying theology at Saint Mary Seminary, these men are ready for “the messiness of ministry.” Nearing their transition to priesthood, seminarians immerse themselves in ministry to the poor, sick, and dying – all under experienced supervision. That’s the thinking behind the seminary’s Field Education program directed by Fr. Andrew Turner.

“Priests are bridge builders between God and the people,” says Fr. Turner. “I also act as bridge builder for our seminarians as they minister in the Diocese of Cleveland.” Fr. Turner facilitates the placement and evaluation of seminarians as they serve three hours a week in various ministries throughout the academic year.

Five of the seven fourth-year seminarians are currently serving in ministries organized through Catholic Charities: Saint Augustine Health Ministries, Emergency Assistance in Lorain, Disability Services, Holy Family Hospice, and Matt Talbot for Recovering Men.

Peter Morris is a seminarian serving at Matt Talbot, where men enter a 60-day residential recovery program for addiction to heroin, alcohol, or any substance abuse. They come from all walks of life,

including business people who have lost everything.

Morris sits in on group therapy sessions where men share experiences, and returns in the evening “just to hang out and get to know the men on a different level,” says Morris. “I offer to talk one-on-one, not as a professional counselor, but as spiritual help.”

Morris began the placement with some fear, thinking “What on earth am I going to say to these guys?” And he was concerned about his own shortcomings. “It’s hard for me to change my opinions,” Morris says with a laugh. “But seeing little steps the men make helped me change my perspective. Instead of boxing people in, I’m asking, ‘what might this person become?’”

Fr. Turner helps the seminarians understand the blessings and challenges these agencies face. “Once they’re ordained, the men will be able to speak from a personal standpoint about the positive impact Catholic Charities is having in the Diocese of Cleveland.”

Peter Morris agrees. “I saw people come in withdrawn and hopeless, and leave transformed, going out with enormous

hope. Catholic Charities became much more real – and right in our own backyard.”

Not only has Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope provided ongoing support for priestly formation, but Matt Talbot and other Catholic Charities sites have also received significant funding for capital expansion and renovation through the Charitable Works case component.



Peter Morris and Fr. Andy Turner

CATHOLIC PARISHES AND SCHOOLS AWARDED \$1.9M IN GRANTS

Earlier this year, The Catholic Community Foundation made a distribution in the amount of \$1,934,054 to the Office of Catechetical Formation and Education to provide assistance to a total of 144 parish catechists and Catholic schools in the Diocese of Cleveland. Schools submitted 90 grants and parishes submitted 54 grants to help fund sacramental preparation programs, technology, school curriculum and capital improvements.

The distribution was funded through the generosity of all parishes in the Diocese – pastors, parochial vicars, volunteers and parishioners – through the historic *Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope* fundraising campaign, which has distributed

nearly \$92 million in support of campaign case components that benefit diocesan and parish ministries in the eight counties of the Diocese of Cleveland.

“This distribution reaffirms the intention of the faithful to support Catholic education and catechetical formation for youth in the Diocese of Cleveland,” says Patrick Grace, Executive Director, Catholic Community Foundation. “We are seeing the fruits of *Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope* building forward momentum for the Church in Northeast Ohio, which is benefiting today’s Catholics as well as generations to come.”

John & Rosella

GROWING AROUND EVANGELIZATION



John and Rosella Miranda have always cherished their Catholic faith. They met at St. Rocco Parish while still in college, and have continued to be active members. John realizes not everyone has stayed as close to their faith. “It hurts me to see people leaving the Catholic Church,” says John. “Many people know about Jesus, but they don’t *know Jesus*. That is why it is more important than ever to focus on Christ and renew the faith around evangelization.”

Through a conversation with Bishop Lennon, the couple was directed to Terrie Baldwin, Director of the Office of Evangelization. “The benefits of what Terrie is doing is really empowering to people,” says John. “And, through *Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope* we were able to self-direct our donation to support the good works of the Office of Evangelization.”

Providing a monetary pledge was only the beginning. With Terrie’s help, John and Rosella brought the Alpha Course, a popular tool for evangelization, to St. Rocco Parish. “Terrie also introduced us

to other evangelization programs available for the Catholic Church. These programs provide parishes with a lot of wonderful opportunities,” says Rosella referring to the works of Matthew Kelly, *Passion & Purpose*, and other programs.

John and Rosella are also grateful for the partnership formed between St. Rocco and St. Ambrose Parish in Brunswick. Through this partnership, the couple was able to preview the Alpha Course in progress and bring what they learned back to their own parish. St. Ambrose parishioners continue to partner with St. Rocco’s for service and social events.

This year, St. Rocco Parish will offer its fifth series of Alpha, which runs over a period of 10 weeks. Each course has attracted 30-40 participants. John explains, “Since that first conversation with Bishop Lennon, a lot of miracles have happened at St. Rocco’s around evangelization. Alpha has lightened hearts. There are good things happening in the Cleveland area around the Christian Catholic community.”

Accountability and Transparency

The Catholic Community Foundation embraces the values of Accountability & Transparency as we serve our donors and carry out our mission to foster faith-based stewardship in the community for the spiritual, educational and charitable needs of all.

The *Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope* Oversight Committee, chaired by Ronn Richard, President of The Cleveland Foundation, meets semi-annually to review financial statements and ensure stewardship of your funds throughout the Campaign.

We encourage you to visit www.catholiccommunity.org for updated financial information about the campaign, its distributions and other important Campaign news.



OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION

For more information about programs and resources offered to parishes and individuals through the Office of Evangelization, contact Terrie Baldwin, Director, 216-696-6525 x2540, or visit www.dioceseofcleveland.org/evangelization.



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THANK YOU

to the 22,349
parishioners across
our diocese who
have completed their
pledges and gifts to
the Campaign!

Help us be Good Stewards of Your Gifts! Would you prefer to receive this quarterly newsletter via email? You can choose to do so by sending an email to lcocoran@catholiccommunity.org.

Joyce Embraces God's Gift of Healing

Joyce Conley admits she didn't know what to expect when she attended a *Joyfully Gifted* retreat last year, but it didn't take long for her to discover the amazing rewards. "I didn't realize the graces that God had given me my entire life were the gifts of the Holy Spirit," says the retired nurse. *Joyfully Gifted* retreats, supported by funding from *Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope* and provided by the Offices of Evangelization and Stewardship, guide participants on a journey to discover their spiritual gifts (charisms) given at Baptism by the Holy Spirit and intended to serve God and be used for others.

A member of St. Mary Parish of the Immaculate Conception in Wooster, Joyce understood from the retreat that her spiritual offerings revolved around

healing. Her strong belief in healing through prayer has allowed her to touch lives in many ways. For example, as a member of the Lay Secular Order of the Servants of Mary, she prays monthly in the chapel of St. Vincent Charity Hospital alongside Chaplain Fr. Isidore Munishi, A.J.

Following the *Joyfully Gifted* retreat, Joyce was inspired to start up a healing ministry at St. Mary. Their first order of action was to present a Healing Service at St. Mary, led by Right Reverend Clement Zeleznik, O.S.B., of the Loyola Retreat House. Conley "contacted almost every parish in the diocese" to garner interest for the event. On a dreary December evening, the pews of St. Mary were packed with people.



"The greatest gift of all and the first gift is the healing that takes place in Reconciliation," Joyce says, adding that physical healings continued after the service. Joyce hopes for more Healing Services at St. Mary so that other lives can be touched in this way. "We all know it is God that heals," she says. "All we do is pray and trust God will answer."