



OFFICE OF PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

Suggested Intercessions for the Month of February

February 1st FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For those who are near death this day, and for all who accompany them on their last journey, that these final precious moments may deepen our gratitude to God for the inestimable value of the gift of life;

We pray to the Lord:

February 8th FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For those preparing for holy matrimony, that as married couples they may open their hearts to God and to the gift of children; *We pray to the Lord:*

February 15th SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For those who have been condemned to die: that God might grant them the grace of repentance, and might teach us how to love them with his redeeming love; *We pray to the Lord:*

February 22nd SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For all who have grown very old age, that we might cherish their presence in our midst and drink deeply of their wisdom; *We pray to the Lord:*

February 29th FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

For a spirit of repentance and conversion, that the culture of death may be defeated by the power of the cross of Jesus Christ; *We pray to the Lord:*

Suggested Bulletin Messages for the Month of February

May the radiance of your birth light up the night of the world. May the power of your message of love thwart the proud snares of the evil one. May the gift of your life make us understand ever more clearly the worth of the life of each human being. Too much blood is still being shed on earth! Too much violence and too many conflicts trouble the peaceful coexistence of nations! – Pope John Paul II Christmas Homily 2003

Children are a sign of hope. -John Paul II, Lenten Message, 2004

There can be no true peace without respect for life, especially if it is innocent and defenseless as is that of the unborn child. - John Paul II, May 22, 2003

A society that would only make room for fully functional members, completely autonomous and independent, would not be society worthy of the human being. – John Paul II, Symposium on the Dignity of the Person with Mental Disabilities, January 9, 2004

The primary means to be employed in restoring respect for all human life is prayer, especially prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. –Synod V Act, p. 434, n.218

Suggested Stewardship Bulletin Inserts for February/March

February 1, 2004 (4th in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Jeremiah declares that the Lord knew him before he was born and dedicated and appointed him to his role as prophet even before he drew breath. We, too, are known and sent by the Lord. What deeds of love and service are mine to perform?

February 15, 2004 (6th in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

“Happy are they who hope in the Lord.” As good stewards, firmly grounded in that hope, may we bear fruit in due season – assisting the poor, feeding the hungry, and consoling the sorrowful whenever we have the chance.

February 29, 2004 (1st Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Today’s first reading describes the offering of first fruits the people of Israel were to present to the Lord in thanksgiving for their deliverance from Egypt and the gift of the promised land. Is my offering at today’s Mass an appropriate response to the many blessings the Lord has given me?

March 7, 2004 (2nd Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Peter wanted to build a “booth” for Jesus and just stay on the mountain where His transfiguration took place. But the Son of God, the Chosen One, knew that He must instead keep moving toward His Crucifixion. We, too, must rise from worship and use our time, talents and material goods to hasten the coming of the Kingdom.

March 21, 2004 (4th Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The stewardship message in the parable of the Prodigal Son is that it is never too late to become a good steward. Blessed is the elder brother who had been a good steward all along, but blessed, too, is the prodigal who had to lose all he had in order to understand the value of what he was given.

February 8, 2004 (5th in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today’s readings, both Isaiah and Peter hear the call of God and feel themselves unworthy. But, reassured by the Lord, both answer and follow. Do I hear the Lord asking, “Whom shall I send?” Am I prepared to answer “Here I am. Send me!”?

February 22, 2004 (7th in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Today’s Gospel has encouraging words for good stewards – “Give and it shall be given to you. For the measure you measure with will be measured back to you.” What encouragement to give generously of the resources entrusted to our care!

March 14, 2004 (3rd Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The parable in today’s Gospel clearly warns that we, like the fig tree, will be judged by our fruit. While God mercifully provides us with time and opportunity, let us give witness to our faith with deeds of kindness and generosity!

March 28, 2004 (5th Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today’s second reading, St. Paul says, “For his sake I have forfeited everything; I have accounted all else rubbish so that Christ may be my wealth.” Do I use my gifts in a manner that suggests I feel the same way?

Diocese of Youngstown
Office of Lay Ministry Formation
144 West Wood Street
Youngstown, OH 44503

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY DAY
HOLY WOMEN: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

featuring

Sr. Ruth Fox, OSB

*Director of the Benedictine Spirituality Center at
Sacred Heart Monastery of Richardton, North Dakota*

Saturday, March 6, 2004

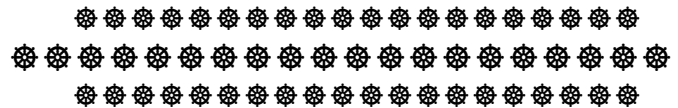
8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Ursuline Center
4280 Shields Road
Canfield Ohio

Bishop Thomas Tobin
Celebrant - Morning Prayer

Sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Youngstown Office of Lay Ministry Formation
in conjunction with the
Committee on Women's Issues in Church and Society

Sr. Ruth Fox, OSB, is a member of Sacred Heart Monastery of Richardton, North Dakota, and is a native of that state. She has been a teacher at all levels of education, prioress of her community, and campus minister at a state university. She has also served as president of the American Benedictine Academy, Great Plains Institute of Theology, and the Federation of St. Gertrude - an association of 18 monasteries of women. She has a master's degree in English from Creighton University in Omaha and in Theology from St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota. Currently she is director of the Benedictine Spirituality Center at the monastery and also writes and speaks on monastic and scriptural topics related to women.



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Where: Ursuline Center
4280 Shields Road
Canfield, OH 44406

When: Saturday, March 6, 2004
8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

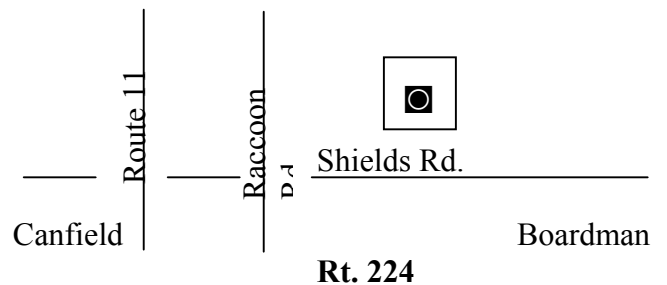
Cost: \$22 per person (includes lunch)
\$20 per person for 5 or more from one parish/institution (includes lunch) - *copy registration form - must be in same envelope.*
After February 26 - \$25 per person at the door, lunch not guaranteed. (Some scholarship money available—please call 330-744-8451 ext. 272.
Donations to the scholarship fund are gratefully accepted.)

Credit: Religious Education Certification Credit and Individual Professional Development Credit will be given for the number of hours attended up to 4 hours for the entire day.

SCHEDULE OF THE DAY

8:30	Sign in Ursuline Education Center
9:00	Morning Prayer – Chapel
9:30	Keynote Address – Chapel
10:25 – 11:30	Workshop Session A
11:40 – 12:45	Workshop Session B or Lunch
12:45 – 1:50	Workshop Session B* or Lunch
1:55 – 3:00	Workshop Session C

DIRECTIONS TO URSULINE CENTER



SESSION A 10:45-11:30

A – 1 ENGAGING MORE YOUNG WOMEN IN PARISH LIFE AND MINISTRY

Many “Holy Women” of the future are present now, but may not be connected to our programs and ministry efforts. In this workshop, we will discuss some of the trends, development issues and needs of young adult women, as well as share ideas to get them more involved.

Presenter: Ms. Cindee Case, Director, Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Diocese of Youngstown

A – 2 THERESE AND THE POWER OF SIMPLE ACTS OF KINDNESS

In our culture greatness is seen in terms of popularity and accumulation of wealth. “The Little Way” of St Therese is quite in opposition to this. Greatness is seen in trusting God and expressing the love God has for us in our relationships with each other. Simple acts of kindness become community builders that can transform our culture today. Enter the world of Therese and discover how love is actualized in everyday encounters.

Presenter: Sr. Margaret Marszal, HM, Director, Villa Maria Retreat Center, Villa Maria, PA

A – 3 THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF ST. GERTRUDE

St. Gertrude was a thirteenth century Benedictine nun from a monastery in Heflta, Germany. The nuns of this monastery were known for their scholarship and mystical prayer. Among other writings, St. Gertrude compiled a retreat for the use of the sisters of her community. She builds her reflections on the theme of “celebrate the memory.” She invites us to celebrate the sacred moments of life from baptism to death. In this workshop, we will learn more about Gertrude and reflect on some of her meditations.

Presenter: Sr. Ruth Fox, OSB, Director, Sacred Heart Monastery Benedictine Spirituality Center

A – 4 A MESSAGE ABOUT HOLINESS FROM 20th CENTURY WOMEN

This workshop will focus on the contributions and spirituality of women like Teresa of Calcutta and Dorothy Day and others who have shared contemporary spirituality and Church life.

Presenter: Rev. John Jerek, Pastor, Kent State Newman Center and Diocesan Director of Campus Ministry, Diocese of Youngstown

A – 5 SURVIVING CAREGIVING

This workshop will address many of the issues faced by women caregivers. Come pick up a survival kit for yourself which includes something to help those physical, emotional, and spiritual aches.

*Presenters: Sr. Pauline Dalpe, OSU, LPC, Counselor, Catholic Charities Regional Agency
Mrs. Christine Williams, MS/LPCC/LSW, Clinical Counselor, Catholic Charities Regional Agency*

SESSION B 11:40 – 12:45

B – 1 REFLECTING GOD’S LOVE

At work, at home...anywhere...reflecting God’s love is a way to be. Come, explore and share another connection between faith and daily life...the spirituality that can be relationships.

Presenter: Mr. John Damico, Director, Office of Marriage and Family Life, Diocese of Youngstown

B – 2 CALLED TO BE WOMEN OF VISION: FRIENDS OF GOD AND PROPHETS

As women we are called “to do what is in our power to do” (Mark 14:7). We need to be women of vision in our Church and in our world today. In order to be women of vision we must be “friends of God” and “prophets” giving voice to what we hear in the silence and depth of our beings (Wisdom 7:27).

Presenter: Sr. Susan Schorsten, HM, Member of Leadership Team, Sisters of Humility of Mary

B – 3 BEATITUDE: BE A BLESSING

This workshop will increase your understanding of the challenges involved in empowering homeless and low-income women. It will also suggest ways you can make a difference in the lives of other women and deepen your own spirituality at the same time.

Presenter: Sr. Patricia McNicholas, OSU, Executive Director, Beatitude House

SESSION B* 12:45 – 1:50

B – 4 THE GENIUS OF WOMEN – PROMOTING THE DIGNITY AND VOCATION OF WOMEN

In the decades since the great Second Vatican Council, there have been many pastoral reflections and letters issued by Popes Paul VI and John Paul II and the American Bishops seeking to dialogue on the dignity and vocation of woman especially in regard to leadership roles in the Church. This workshop will explore what the documents have to say as well as look at the lived experiences of women who exercise leadership roles in parishes, diocesan offices, our Catholic institutions and broader society.

Presenter: Mrs. Eileen W. Novotny, Director, Office of Lay Ministry Formation, Diocese of Youngstown

B – 5 PRAYING WITH WOMEN MYSTICS

How do you center your prayer? What works for you? We will use breathing, sharing, music listening and the prayer of a few women mystics to explore further possibilities.

Presenter: *Sr. Cheryl Samblanet, HM*

B – 6 SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF ST. GERTRUDE

See description session A-3

Presenter: *Sr. Ruth Fox, OSB, Director, Sacred Heart Monastery Benedictine Spirituality Center*

SESSION C 1:55 – 3:00

C – 1 “SPIRIT TENDING”

Using the scripture story of Mary and her sister Martha and the garden as a metaphor for life, we will explore the challenges of spiritual balance, “being vs. doing”, and integration which leads to wholeness and unity.

Presenter: *Sr. Gay Rowzie, HM, Director Mission Integration, Humility of Mary Health Partners*

C – 2 IS THERE ANY FACT TO THE FICTION? THE DA VINCI CODE AND CHRISTIAN FAITH

This workshop will review some of the claims of the Da Vinci Code in light of contemporary scripture scholarship and the history of the early Church.

Presenter: *Sr. Mary McCormick, OSU, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, St. Mary Seminary and Graduate School of Theology, Diocese of Cleveland*

C – 3 MARY: MYSTERY OF LIGHT FOR THE THIRD MILLENNIUM

Even the national news reported the Pope’s new “Mysteries of Light.” What really is the significance of the Rosary at the dawn of the third millennium? This session will focus on the Holy Father’s challenge to “sit at the school of Mary,” and in the rosary “contemplate the face of Christ.” Even today, the rosary remains a significant part of the journey of Christian life, and Mary, herself, stands as the preeminent “Mystery of Light” in the Church.

Presenter: *Sr. Mary Brendon Zajac, SND, Executive Director, Pastoral and Educational Services, Diocese of Youngstown*

C – 4 STEWARDSHIP WOMAN STYLE

This workshop will examine the role of women in giving of their time, talent & treasure. If you believe in God and if you put your trust in God, you are on the road to being the best steward you can be. We will examine fear, greed and doubt that creep in and close the flow of our lives if we allow it.

Presenter: *Mrs. Terry Supancic, Blessed Sacrament Parish, Warren*

REGISTRATION

Please duplicate this form for each registrant.

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Parish _____ City _____

Workshop preferences: A - _____ B - _____ C - _____

Funded in part by:

Return by **February 26:** Office of Lay Ministry Formation
144 West Wood Street
Youngstown, OH 44503



Payment must accompany registration.

\$22.00 per person (*includes lunch*)

\$20.00 per person for 5 or more from one parish/institution sent in same envelope (*includes lunch*)

After February 26: \$25.00 per person at door (*lunch not guaranteed*)

Amount enclosed, checks made payable to Diocese of Youngstown registration: \$ _____

Donation to scholarship to support someone who can't cover the cost of registration \$ _____