



I'm a little pencil in the hands of a writing God, who is sending a love letter to the world." -Blessed Mother Teresa

The Little Pencil

Issue No. 10 June 2016

Human Rights Office Newsletter

Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph

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DIOCESE OF KANSAS CITY - ST. JOSEPH
HUMAN RIGHTS

Welcome to the June issue of The Little Pencil. The aim of this publication is to keep supporters, prayer group members, and volunteers informed of new initiatives and updates concerning Human Rights matters in our diocese.

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**CRS Rice Bowl
Representatives**

Presenting...

Timothy Driscoll



Volunteers play a vital role in the Human Rights Ministry, working alongside staff members, other volunteers and the community to jointly achieve our goal to uphold the dignity of human life. Each newsletter, we select a volunteer who makes the world a better place. Please contact us if you'd like to nominate someone to be featured in a future edition of *The Little Pencil*.

Tim was nominated to be a featured volunteer by St. Francis Xavier KC's Justice & Life Pastoral Associate. She is reminded daily how lucky they are Tim is a SFX parishioner and she is extremely grateful Tim is their Food Pantry and Community Garden Coordinator. Tim first joined the ministry as a helper and then three years ago he became Coordinator when one of their regular volunteers couldn't continue to serve. Since then, Tim has gone above and beyond the duties of any volunteer she's ever met. He takes on tasks great and small with a smile on his face. He goes out of his way to ensure their clients get what they need by making home deliveries, picking up food at Harvesters with his own truck, and obtaining products from *Giving the Basics*.

He showed me their unique process in taking orders from clients so they can get exactly what they need rather than a presorted quantity of food. Tim says his favorite part about working at the Food Pantry is delivering the food. Those smiles, hand shakes and hugs of thanks go a long way.

In addition to helping with the food pantry, Tim assists the parish many other ways as he's served as handyman, landscape artist, facilities assistant, and friend. To some, Tim Driscoll just might be the patron saint of the St. Francis Xavier Food Pantry.

Without our volunteers, many ministries would not be possible. Tim, thank you for your dedication! We thank you for your service to God through serving others.

Attention CRS Rice Bowl Representatives!

Watch your email inbox for info about upcoming Summer Gathering.



TurnAround Community Re-entry

BE A MENTOR

For former offenders, some of the toughest times they face occur after their sentence is served.

Thousands of men and women are released from Missouri prisons each year without jobs, homes or a support system. Without help, many will end up back behind bars.

When you volunteer as a mentor with Catholic Charities' TurnAround program, you provide vital support that helps clients stay positive and productive. When they succeed, lives and communities are transformed.

For more information send an [email](#) or call (816) 659-8234.



Sisters of Mercy Against Human Trafficking

U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking is a

**Fortnight for Freedom 2016,
Witnesses to Freedom
June 21 - July 4**

What is the Fortnight for Freedom?

An opportunity to highlight the importance of
DEFENDING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

This year the USCCB is providing an opportunity for
our faithful to look at the lives of more than 14 women and
men of faith from all over the world who bear witness to
authentic freedom in Christ.

Among these witnesses to freedom are:

The Little Sisters of the Poor
Sts. John Fisher and Thomas More
Coptic Martyrs
St. John the Baptist
St. Maximilian Kolbe
St. Edith Stein

Be bold, as these men and women were!
Organize a study group within your local parish with
information/resources about these and
other courageous Christians **here**.

5 Ways to Celebrate
the Fortnight for Freedom...
Gather ~ Learn ~ Pray ~ Pilgrimage ~ Share

Fortnight for Freedom videos available **here**
to share in your parish.

SAVE THESE DATES!

collaborative, faith-based national
network that offers education,
supports access to survivor
services, and engages in
advocacy in an effort to eradicate
modern-day slavery.



www.mocatholic.org

The public policy agency for the
Catholic Church
in Missouri.



June 18 ~ 8:00am
Richard L. Berkley
Riverfront Park

A NOTE FROM
BENEDICTINE COLLEGE
STUDENT: LAUREN

I've been participating in the Outpace
Poverty 5K the past three years.
Each year I learned something new
about not only helping those in need
in my community, but also...my faith.
Growing up in the Kansas City metro,
it was not uncommon for me to see
vast numbers of homeless citizens
on the streets in the city. I knew
even though I, as a child and
teenager, couldn't do much to help
them at the time, but I could offer my



October 8



October 15

PRISON/JAIL MINISTRY RETREAT

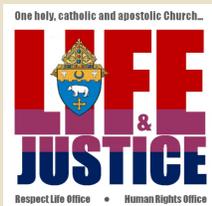
The Human Rights Office is sponsoring a Retreat for members of the MAX Diocesan Prison/Jail Ministry. We look forward to gathering together in prayer and fellowship to reflect on the spirituality of prison and jail ministry. Lunch is included. Mass to follow at 4:00pm.

Saturday, October 8
St. Francis Xavier
2618 Seneca, St. Joseph MO

IMMIGRATION CONFERENCE

The Hispanic Ministry & Human Rights Offices are co-sponsoring an Immigration Conference of communion, education & advocacy for human dignity. The day of fellowship includes workshops, food and Mass.

Saturday, October 15
Cristo Rey High School
211 Linwood Blvd, KCMO



The Life & Justice Campaign promotes the fight against injustice toward the dignity of the person and sanctity of human life.

Please [click here](#) to see pictures from the 2016 Life & Justice Grant Reception. Congratulations!

- A Simple House
- Amethyst Place
- Community Missions Corporation
- Faith in Action
- Family United Transportation Service
- Holy Rosary Credit Union
- Jerusalem Farm
- Mother's Refuge
- North Central Missouri Business Facilitation

prayers for them. This helped me grow in my faith, and realize what I could do for citizens that weren't as fortunate as myself. Which eventually led me to participating in my first Outpace Poverty 5K three years ago this June.

The walk itself is a very family-oriented walk which encourages donations to the Catholic Charities of Kansas City - St. Joseph to help those in need. My first year, it was just my immediate family that participated, and we raised a little over three hundred dollars. Last year, we were able to triple that amount, both in monetary donations and members of our parish attending the walk itself; we raised over \$1000 to help those in need. It felt so good to be able to be a part of this wonderful event, and I hope this year I will be able to raise even more to help those in need in my community.

To read more about Outpace Poverty, click on the logo above.

Click [here](#) if you'd like to help sponsor Lauren.



Mother Teresa to be Canonized September 4



**Platte City Chaplain Emergency Assistance Fund
Redemptorist Social Service Center
Sisters of St. Francis - NW MO Enterprise Facilitation**

**The Life & Justice Campaign would not be possible
without the support of our faithful who are dedicated to
defending the sanctity of human life and the dignity of
the person. THANK YOU!!**

**Religious Freedom
European Christian Refugee Crisis**



**Click [here](#)
To learn what you can do**

CONTACT US

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Human Rights Offices



MEETING REMINDER

for the
**Volunteers and Future Volunteers of the
Jackson County Detention Center God Squad**

Monday, June 6, 2016 ~ 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Cardinal Baum Room ~ The Catholic Center
20 West 9th Street ~ KCMO 64105

Questions?

Please contact **[Fr. Ernie Gauthier](#)** or **[Laurie Jo Holmes](#)**

[Human Rights Office](#)
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[Joseph](#)



www.humanrightskcsj.org

**"And the king will say to them in reply,,
'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one
of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.'"
~Matthew 25:40**



Blessed Mother
Teresa Pray for Us.