



# Catholics United for the Faith

Affirming Authentic Catholicism in Milwaukee

St. Gregory VII Chapter  
February 2016

## Fr. James Kubicki, S.J., to present an "Afternoon of Recollection" on Feb. 21

Fr. James Kubicki is an excellent speaker who is frequently asked, by dedicated Catholics all over the country, to give missions, retreats and talks in their respective parishes, chapels, schools, etc. Our Chapter is extremely fortunate that Fr. Kubicki is willing to be our **Spiritual Advisor**, and also willing to provide our Chapter with an annual "Afternoon of Recollection" to better prepare us for a faith-filled Lent and more joyous Easter. Every year, after Fr. Kubicki's talk, we hear comments like, "I never knew that!" or "He's really good!"

Fr. Kubicki is the **National Director of the Apostleship of Prayer**, a 160 year-old organization that directs attention to the Pope's monthly prayer intentions, and encourages devotion to the **Sacred Heart of Jesus**. In 2012, Fr. Kubicki authored a book titled, *A Heart on Fire – Rediscovering Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus*, which is available from us, or from the **Apostleship of Prayer**. Father Kubicki has also recently written the "Introduction" for a book titled, *Stations of the Cross*, which was originally written by his good friend, **Fr. Will Prospero, S.J.**, who, unfortunately for all of us and for Christ's Church, died at age 49 in 2014. May he rest in peace. (See "Book of the Month" on page 2.)

In addition to his work at the Apostleship of Prayer, Fr. Kubicki is also frequently heard on **Relevant Radio** at 1640 AM or 100.1 FM. Please come, and bring a friend, to hear Fr. Kubicki present,

### "Divine Mercy and The Sacred Heart"

WHERE: Sacred Heart Church

917 North 49<sup>th</sup> Street

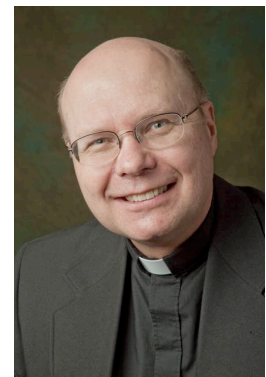
WHEN: Sunday, February 21

TIME: 2:00 p.m. – Program      1:45 p.m. - Rosary

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## "Thank You!" for your kind and generous contributions to the Chapter!

Needless to say, this CUF Chapter could not do any of what we see as our mission without the financial help of those who support us, and we sincerely thank you for that. We have expenses that most people probably do not see, such as the printing and mailing costs for the monthly newsletter, the \$100 fee we frequently pay for use of an auditorium, stipends we give to our speakers when appropriate, travel expenses for speakers when necessary, the annual Postal fee for the "Bulk Mail Permit," and the costs involved with the annual Msgr. Popek Award Dinner. Again, without your generosity we could not continue our mission to "Affirm Authentic Catholicism in Milwaukee." Our Board members (all volunteers) and Chapter members are most grateful for your support! If you have questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## Is the EWTN, "Journey Home," Monday night program on your "must record" list?

If you are not a regular viewer of "Journey Home" with **Marcus Grodi** on EWTN at 7:00 p.m. every **Monday night**, you are missing a real treat!! Anyone who enjoys a **great theological discussion** will love listening to **Marcus Grodi** (who attended the Protestant, Gordon-Conwell Seminary with **Scott Hahn**) interview a guest who, either converted to the Catholic Church, or left the Church and then returned as a "revert." If you want to "sample" a very interesting program, go to "ewtn.com journey home" and watch the **Feb. 1, 2016, program with Steve Ray**. You will not be disappointed! EWTN, a worldwide, 24/7, Catholic, cable television channel can be found in the local TV listings. **Marcus Grodi**, who was also a **Presbyterian Minister** (as was his friend, **Scott Hahn**), became Catholic almost 25 years ago.

## The February 2016 Prayer Intentions published by Pope Francis

During February, Pope Francis has asked that we pray for two intentions: 1) **Care for Creation**. That we may take good care of creation – a gift freely given – cultivating and protecting it for future generations, and 2) **Asia**. That opportunities may increase for dialogue and encounter between the Christian faith and the peoples of Asia. For information regarding the **Apostleship of Prayer**, contact **Fr. James Kubicki, S.J., Director**, or visit: [apostleshipofprayer.org](http://apostleshipofprayer.org)

## Plan to attend the 2016 "Institute on Religious Life Meeting" April 1-3 in Mundelein

Most Rev. Donald J. Hying will deliver the **Keynote Address** at the 2016 Institute on Religious Life Meeting on Friday evening, April 1, at 7:15 (in the Main Chapel) at the **St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, Illinois** (only a one hour drive from Milwaukee). The title of his presentation is "**Contemplating the Face of Mercy: Rediscovering the Person of Jesus.**" Also included, among the eleven scheduled speakers, are **Rev. Richard Simon**, host of "Fr. Simon Says" on **Relevant Radio**, and **Rev. Brian Mullady, O.P.**, well known EWTN host, both of whom will speak on Saturday, and **Dr. Edward Sri**, who will speak on Sunday morning. **Per person "One-day" registration rates are: Friday - \$60 (includes dinner); Saturday - \$45 (includes lunch); Sunday - \$35 (includes lunch).** The Saturday evening banquet, at which **Rev. Seraphim Michalenko, M.I.C.**, will receive the 2016 *Pro Fidelitate et Virtute Award*, is \$90. The "commuter rate" for the entire weekend, including meals, is \$225 per person. For questions, or to register, call (847) 573-8975, or email at [IRLstaff@ReligiousLife.com](mailto:IRLstaff@ReligiousLife.com).

## 35<sup>th</sup> "Cardinal Mindszenty Conference" on Faith, Family and Freedom on March 19

**Monica Miller, Professor of Religious Studies at Madonna University** (outside Detroit) will be one of three speakers at the **March 19 meeting of the Cardinal Mindszenty Foundation** in Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois. Dr. Miller is well known as the founder of **Citizens for a Pro-Life Society**. She will speak at 9:30 a.m. on "**Theological Trends in the Church.**" At 11:00 a.m., **Juliana Taimoorazy** will discuss "The Ongoing Persecution of Christians in Iraq and Syria," and at 1:15 p.m., **Clarke Forsythe** will discuss "Abuse of Discretion: The Inside Story of Roe V. Wade." Cost is \$60 – call Gina Gallo at 630-424-1447.

## Please remember to check with WISN for a meeting cancellation in bad weather

To find out if a CUF meeting has been canceled due to snow or bad weather, go to [www.wisn.com](http://www.wisn.com) or WISN TV12. A cancellation would be made, most likely, on the morning of the event. For questions, call Al Szews at 414-321-9377.

## "Catechetical Corner:" Why is "despair" a sin against the First Commandment?

By *despair*, man ceases to hope for his personal salvation from God, for help in attaining it or for the forgiveness of his sins. Despair is contrary to God's goodness, to his justice – for the Lord is faithful to his promises – and to his mercy. CCC #2091

### Catholics United for the Faith

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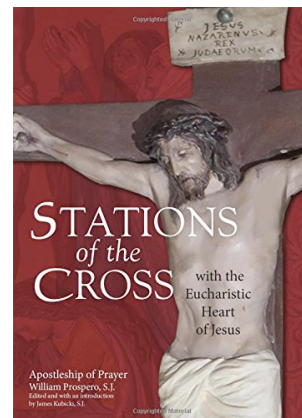
## Book of the Month: *Stations of the Cross*

**Author: By Rev. William Prospero, S.J.**

**Publisher: Ave Maria Press, Inc., 2015**

"Originally written by Rev. Will Prospero, S.J. (1965-2014), and edited by Rev. James Kubicki, S.J., national director of the Apostleship of Prayer, these stations are already beloved by followers of the ministry. This personal "Way of the Cross," from the Apostleship of Prayer, beautifully expresses the deep connection between the Eucharist and the Cross. At each of the fourteen stations, readers are encouraged to offer themselves to the Sacred Heart of Jesus by uniting their sufferings with his in the Eucharist...Recalling the dramatic events of Jesus' passion and death helps readers enter more fully into the celebration of the Mass that makes these events present in a real way. Focusing on the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the stations affirm how he gave up his body – his very heart – out of love for all. The book is beautifully illustrated with artwork of the Stations of the Cross located in the School Sisters of St. Francis's St. Joseph Chapel in Milwaukee, Wisconsin."

Contributors of \$12 or more per year to the Chapter receive discounts on books displayed at CUF meetings, and receive the Newsletter by First Class Mail.



# Catholic Replies

by James Drumme

**The Wanderer**

January 28, 2016, p. 5B

[www.thewandererpress.com](http://www.thewandererpress.com)

**Q.** We have a transsexual extraordinary minister of Holy Communion who serves at our children's Mass. This person came into the Church through RCIA. I wrote to the bishop, but he told me to find another parish if I find this too difficult to watch. I need documentation to show that this is incorrect. Can you help? K.M., California.

**A.** We can try, but the promoters of the LGBT movement have so influenced the culture that many people are blind to the truth. First of all, the Church has made clear that persons serving in liturgical ministries, including lay people given the privilege of distributing Holy Communion, must meet certain high standards. Here is a summary of those standards that appeared in the 2004 Vatican document *Redemptionis Sacramentum*:

"The lay Christian faithful called to give assistance at liturgical celebrations should be well instructed and must be those whose Christian life, morals, and fidelity to the Church's Magisterium recommend them. It is fitting that such a one should have received a liturgical formation in accordance with his or her age, condition, state of life, and religious culture. No one should be selected whose designation could cause consternation for the faithful" (n. 46).

This statement, not to mention common sense, suggests that a person who believes himself/herself to be a transsexual ought to be disqualified from distributing Holy Communion because their lifestyle contradicts Catholic moral teaching and will cause scandal and consternation among the faithful. Promoters of transsexualism, or Gender Identity Disorder, or Gender Dysphoria, believe that they can set aside the male or female gender they were born with and identify themselves as the opposite sex, even seeking sex-reas-

signment surgery. This involves removing their genital organs and replacing them with artificially constructed organs that cannot function in the same way as their original organs. Second, while the Catholic Church views every person, whatever their sexual inclination, as a person loved by God and called to live a chaste life with the help of prayer, the sacraments, and compassionate counseling, the Church opposes sex-change operations because they cause unnecessary mutilation and are always sterilizing and therefore intrinsically evil. Church teaching on transgenderism is based on *Gen. 1:27*, which says that

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**"...sex-reassignment surgery is 'biologically impossible' and transgenderism is a mental disorder."**

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"God created man in his image; in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them." The Church's opposition to sex-change operations can also be inferred from n.2297 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, which says that "except when performed for strictly therapeutic medical reasons, directly intended amputations, mutilations and sterilizations performed on innocent persons are against the moral law." It is true that that prohibition comes in a discussion of torture, but its appearance under the headline "Respect for bodily integrity" makes it relevant to our topic. Third, in an address to the Roman Curia on December 21, 2012, pope Benedict XVI called it a "profound falsehood" when "people dispute the idea that they have a nature, given by their bodily identity, that serves as a defining element of the human being. They deny their nature and decide that it is not something previously given to them, but that they make it for themselves." He said that "the words of the creation account - 'male and female he created them' (*Gen. 1:27*) - no longer apply. No, what applies now is this: it was not God who created them male and female - hitherto society did this, now we decide for ourselves...When the freedom to

be creative becomes the freedom to create oneself, then necessarily the Maker Himself is denied and ultimately man too is stripped of his dignity as a creature of God, as the image of God at the core of his being." Fourth, as is so often the case, the Church's wisdom is validated by modern science. Writing in *The Wall Street Journal* on June 12, 2014, Dr. Paul McHugh said that sex-reassignment surgery is "biologically impossible" and transgenderism is a mental disorder. McHugh, who was chief of psychiatry at Johns Hopkins for almost three decades, said that while the Obama administration, Hollywood, and the major media promote transgenderism as normal, these "policymakers and the media are doing no favors either to the public or the transgendered by treating their confusions as a right in need of defending rather than as mental disorder that deserves understanding, treatment, and prevention." McHugh said that "misguided doctors" and "diversity counselors" engage in what "comes close to child abuse" when they administer "puberty-delaying hormones" to children or offer them advice on how to rebut "arguments against having transgender surgery." He said that studies show that close to 80 percent of those children will "abandon their confusion and grow naturally into adult life if untreated. 'Sex change' is biologically impossible. People who undergo sex-reassignment surgery do not change from men to women or vice-versa. Rather, they become feminized men or masculinized women. Claiming that this is civil rights matter and encouraging surgical intervention is in reality to collaborate with and promote a mental disorder." Whether your pastor will be persuaded by these facts, we don't know, but you have to bring them to his attention if for no other reason than the presence of this person on the altar in your parish will lead parishioners, perhaps even young ones, to think that it's all right to go against the plan of the Creator and decide your gender identity yourself.

**THE WINTER - SPRING - FALL SCHEDULE:**

- March 20** IS "BRAIN DEATH" TRUE DEATH??. by Christine M. Zainer, M.D. (at Saint John-Grnfl.)
- April 17** TO BE ANNOUNCED
- May 15** TO BE ANNOUNCED
- September 18** DANTE'S DIVINE COMEDY: A WORLD SURROUNDED BY LAUGHTER, by Prof. Duke Pesta
- October 16** MSGR. POPEK DINNER & PRIESTLY ADDRESS----Rev. Fr. Eric H. Nielsen
- November 20** TO BE ANNOUNCED
- December 11** MSGR. POPEK BIRTHDAY/CHRISTMAS DINNER
- January 15** TO BE ANNOUNCED
- February 19** TO BE ANNOUNCED



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Join us March 20  
"Is 'Brain Death' True Death?"  
with Christine M. Zainer, M.D.

Come and bring a friend to hear

**Fr. James Kubicki, S.J.**  
National Director, Apostleship of Prayer  
present

An Afternoon of Recollection:  
"Divine Mercy and The Sacred Heart"

Sunday, February 21  
Sacred Heart Parish Church  
917 North 49<sup>th</sup> Street