

Catholic Charities Health & Human Services
Disability Services
Diocese of Cleveland
7911 Detroit Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44102



Non-Profit Org.
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Permit No. 688

IMPORTANT information regarding OLA St. Joseph Center inside...

Call
(216) 334-2963
to register

Weekend Retreats!!!

Register now for the February 18-20, 2005 Retreat

Spaces are limited to 20 Retreatants & fill up quickly!
Retreats held at St. Joseph Christian Life Center
located along the shores of Lake Erie (18485 Lake Shore Blvd.)

The 2005 monthly Retreat dates are:

Feb. 18-20; Mar. 24-26 (Holy Week); Apr. 15-17; May 20-22; Sept. 16-18; Oct. 21-23; Nov. 18-20; Dec. 16-18.

The fee is \$90.00
Send your checks to:
Disability Services
7911 Detroit Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44102



~ Monthly Dances ~

Enjoy friends, dancing, snacks, prizes and great music!

Cost ~ \$3.00 for dancers (Staff are Free) / Ages ~ 16 and over

ID ~ All dancers must have their ID

If the dancer does not keep their ID in their pocket or wallet,
then they need to wear a **nametag with their name and phone number on it!**

Come with the nametag already on ~ it will help keep the line shorter!!!

Supervision ~ If supervision is needed, the individual group home or family must provide.



OLA/St. Joseph Center

7 - 9:30 pm

2346 West 14th St., Cleveland
216-334-2963

2nd Friday of the month,
(unless noted by *)

Feb. 11; March 11; April 8; **May 6***; June 10; July 8; Aug. 12;
Sept. 9; Oct. 14; Nov. 11; Dec. 9

Mark your Calendars with the 2005

Dance Dates

Catholic Charities Family Center, Lorain ~ 7 - 9:30 pm

203 W. 8th St., Lorain, OH 44052 ~ 440-244-9915

Look for the 2005 Dates in the next newsletter!!!

Rose-Mary Center

7:30 - 10:00 pm

19350 Euclid Ave., Euclid
216-481-4823

4th Friday of the month (unless*)

Feb. 25; **March 18***; April 23;
May 27; June 24; July 22; Aug.
26; Sept. 23; Oct. 28; **Nov. 18***
no dance in December

Catholic Charities, Disability Services ~ (216) 334-2963 Fax (216) 334-2905 Ohio Relay Number (TTY) ~ 711

Dennis C. McNulty, Director dcmcnulty@dioceseofcleveland.org; Tom McFadden, Principal, OLA/St. Joseph Center olastjoe@dioceseofcleveland.org; Marilyn Scott, Program Administrator mjscott@dioceseofcleveland.org; Flexible Community Response ~ Jerry Slabe, fjslabe@dioceseofcleveland.org; Joe Ungarsky, Director, Support Services (216) 631-3499 x2146 jmungarsky@dioceseofcleveland.org; Employment & Training ~ Beverly Cinovec, Director (216) 426-9870 BACINOVEC@dioceseofcleveland.org; Supported Employment, Cuyahoga Co. ~ (216) 426-9870; Lorain Family Center ~ Jim Gepperth, Director (440) 244-9915 w8thst@dioceseofcleveland.org; Tess Flannery, Summit County (330) 762-2961 x224 TFlannery@AkronCYO.org; Headstart ~ Mary Baran mxbaran@dioceseofcleveland.org; Tammi Seifert 216-334-2944 tseifert@dioceseofcleveland.org

Disability Ministries ~ 2486 West 14th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44113 (216) 781-5530 Voice/TTY
Fr. Joseph McNulty, Director; Sr. Corita Ambro, CSJ, Program Director staugch@earthlink.net

Catholic Charities Disability Services & Ministries System Bulletin
Since 1966 Diocese of Cleveland, Ohio

January 24, 2005

Dear Friends,

After many years of exploring different options and examining various resources in an effort to keep the doors open at OLA/St. Joseph Elementary School, we have come to the very difficult decision that we must close the school at the end of the current school year.

Please know that the mission of Catholic Charities Disability Services is not changing. Our mission, "to include persons with disabilities in to the life of our Church and society," remains as the services we offer evolve with changing needs. Disability Services will continue to operate OLA/St. Joseph Center as a disability center, providing a continuum of services and ministries to persons with disabilities, as it has since 1966.

Because our school has been providing special education since 1966 that has positively impacted hundreds of students with disabilities, our decision to close was neither easy, nor made in haste. There were several reasons that we hope will assist you to understand our decision.

First, the student enrollment at OLA/St. Joseph Elementary School has been on the decline for the past several years. There are now several Catholic Schools that offer such special education programs which is different than when we began our school 38 years ago.

When OLA/St. Joseph Center began, there were no Catholic elementary schools for students with special education needs. As time has gone on, other Catholic Schools began to offer special education classes. We are proud that we were and are working with them to include children with special needs into their schools. Many parents are now choosing options such as "mainstreaming" and "inclusion" programs to allow their child to participate in their parish school.

Second, because of declining enrollment (our enrollment for the 2005-2006 school year was expected to be around 32 students) and increasing costs of operations, Catholic Charities could no longer sustain the financial subsidy of such a small student population.

Our decision to announce the closing at this time was made with the understanding that it would allow time for our families to explore their options for the next school year. Catholic Charities and the Office of Catholic Education and three Catholic Schools have been working together to create a smooth and seamless transition for our families. Our first priority is to offer choices and/or options to our parents and students, to choose a Catholic education, if they wish. Presently, we are confident that Catholic Schools will be available for the 2005-06 school year.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. (216.334.2962 or dcmcnulty@dioceseofcleveland.org) Please pray for our students and their families, and for us, as we proceed to create new options. Thank you for your continued dedication to people with disabilities.

God Bless You,



Dennis McNulty
Director

Check out Disability Services & Ministries new Website!!!
www.clevelandcatholiccharities.org/disability