



Prayer for The Rock Catholic Radio

St. Peter, you are the Shepherd of the sheep, the Prince of the Apostles, the Rock. Intercede for The Rock Catholic Radio, that we may faithfully proclaim the Word, Jesus Christ, and serve His Church that He appointed you to protect. We place The Rock under your patronage, that we may do all for His honor and glory. Amen.

Spring Spirit Drive Inspired by Angels All Around Us



A few weeks ago, The Rock Catholic Radio hosted our Spring Spirit Drive. Our always-dynamic hosts, Fr. Doug Brown and Debbie Georgianni, along with the dozens of inspiring guests including EWTN personalities, local priests and deacons and noted authors, enlightened and entertained us all as they focused on the theme of *Angels All Around Us*.

We were blessed to have learned so many interesting facts about the angels, our divine messengers, during the Spirit Drive. Here are some examples:

- **Dr. Mark Miravalle** taught us that God chooses to do His work through the Nine Choirs of Angels. The Cherubim, Seraphim, and Thrones focus on Adoration of God, reminding us of the importance of Eucharistic Adoration. The Dominions, Virtues, and Powers are responsible for the operation of creation, meaning even the change of seasons is done through the intercession of angels! The Principalities, Archangels, and Angels focus on us. God knows we need help and he sends these angels to give us that help.
- **Adam Blai** talked about the book he co-authored with Debbie Georgianni, entitled *Questions on the Invisible World*. He reminded us that demons are fallen angels



and the best way to protect ourselves from them is to frequent the sacraments and remain in a state of grace.

- **Fr. Chris Alar** apprised us that God gave us our Guardian Angels as a gift to guide our hands and feet in the right direction. He said that our Guardian Angels long for us to adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and join us while we are in adoration.
- **Fr. Mike Driscoll** shared the wisdom of Thomas Aquinas when he reminded us that angels constantly behold our Heavenly Father and carry Heaven to us. He added that in the pre-1962 *Book of Blessings*, during the blessing of a grave, angels were sent to watch over the grave until the Final Judgment.
- **Mike Aquilina** informed us that venerating angels predates Christianity; Jews in Jesus' time had an intense devotion to the angels. He also shared advice he was given to help improve relationships with difficult people, such as a rebellious child or a challenging co-worker, in our lives: Greet the other person's Guardian Angel silently before meeting the "adversary," so, together with your Guardian Angel, you are fortified in your encounter. He said, "It's three against one, if you will!"

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Mission Statement

St. Peter The Rock Media is a lay apostolate with the mission to provide quality programming that is faithful to the teachings of the Church and presented in a way that inspires conversion of heart and a deepening of faith while building up the local body of Christ.

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155 Ken Mar Industrial Parkway
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216.227.1260
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REFLECTION FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Why Catholic Radio

"Catholic Radio is a Blessing and a Gift." Those words were eloquently expressed by Fr. Daniel Bowen, OdeM, during The Rock Catholic Radio's recent Spring Spirit Drive. While we, the staff, board, and volunteers – *and hopefully you* – certainly believe that to be the case, did you ever stop and think, "What is it about Catholic radio that makes it so special?"

Everyone has their personal reasons for tuning in to The Rock. We hear testimonials from listeners all the time. One couple told us they listen because they "have learned a lot about their faith" through our programs. As a lifelong Catholic, I listen for a similar reason. I am committed to learning something new every day, and the various hosts and guests are often the source of that inspiration. They each bring a unique perspective, explain the Faith in new and different ways, and expose us to teachings we may have never heard or understood.

The variety and depth of their answers I think hints at a broader and more meaningful answer to "Why Catholic Radio?" This answer is found in St. Peter The Rock Media's Programming Philosophy, which says: We are bound to accurately and fully transmit the Faith as proposed by the Teaching Authority of the Church. We bind our broadcasting message to the standard of Holy Scripture and Catechism of the Catholic Church, the vehicles Christ has given us for knowledge, content and clarity.

Being "bound" to the Catholic Church's teachings is precisely what gives Catholic Radio its depth. It is TRUTH! In a world filled with so much noise, mixed messages, and even outright lies, Catholic Radio offers answers to the deepest questions from an authentically Catholic perspective. Each host sees a different lens of the truth, and therefore each of them can lead us more deeply into the mysteries of our faith. So, whether you have been listening for 11 years or are brand new, know that if you stick with The Rock, you'll always hear ROCK SOLID TRUTH! Truth that is ever ancient and ever new. Thank you and God bless you for your support of this apostolate.

Ad Jesum per Mariam,

Mary Ann Meitin, Executive Director



Spring Spirit Drive Inspired by Angels All Around Us

Continued from page 1

- **Fr. Daniel Bowen, OdeM**, long-time friend of The Rock, talked about Blessed Mariana de Jesus Navarro, a Third Order Mercedarian from Spain who often experienced mystical ecstasies including seeing her Guardian Angel, and whose incorrupt body exudes a beautiful fragrance.
- **Fr. Thomas Loya**, host of EWTN's "Light of the East," shared how important angels are in the Byzantine Church. He explained that the physical world manifests the spiritual world, which is why angels are so prevalent in Eastern Churches, in the form of icons, statues and architecture. They are a "spiritual firewall" around a church, and people "rub up against angels when they enter Mass or Liturgy."

The Spirit Drive is a fundraiser, for sure, but since we preempt your favorite programs for those three days, we know it's important to keep listeners spiritually nourished. It is our hope that we were successful in this effort with the Angels theme.

To everyone who listened, prayed, or donated, thank you for your support of The Rock Catholic Radio's 2026 Spring Spirit Drive. We are elated to report that, through the generosity of our donors who gave gifts of all sizes, ranging from \$5.00 to \$5,000, we reached our goal! That's important because our twice-a-year Spirit Drives provide vital funding for The Rock to cover our regular operating costs as well as necessary – sometimes unexpected – expenses. In fact, our AM 930 transmitter was struck by lightning on the first day of the drive, so that's a great example of an unplanned, and very costly, expense!

Please know we appreciate every person who supported the Spring Spirit Drive in any way, with your time, prayers, and generosity, or simply by tuning in. We pray for you daily, and we hope we can count on your continued prayers for this listener-supported apostolate.

GREAT FEAST DAYS OF THE SUMMER

Many of us are in our "summer-mode" and planning family get-togethers, vacations, garden planting and cookouts! Don't forget to plan for some great Catholic feast days this summer as well! You should ensure that these Feast Days do not escape your attention and that you do not miss them as they only occur once a year.

- **The Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus** (Friday, June 12 this year) always signifies summer to me. The image of the Heart of Jesus consumed by fire with love for us has always resonated with me and the Sacred Heart Devotion is one I practice every First Friday.
- **The Immaculate Heart of Mary** (Saturday, June 13 this year) is closely tied to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and follows on the next day. Both of these Feast Days follow the celebration of Corpus Christi, so ensure that you keep track as they are not the same dates every year. Mary's Immaculate Heart, pierced by a sword, helps me in a literal way to unite my sufferings to hers, which makes them easier to bear.
- **Saints Thomas More and John Fisher** (June 22) have been commonly offered as models of courage against governmental tyranny, especially in matters of religion. In our country, we have witnessed an erosion of religious faith which I believe is tied to some civil legislation and rule. Could we stand strong in what we believe even when threatened with death? This is a great day to watch the classic film, *A Man for All Seasons* (1966).
- **The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist** (June 24) commemorates the conception and birth of St. John the Baptist to the childless couple, Zechariah and Elizabeth. There are only three feast days on the liturgical calendar that celebrate the birth of a person which include Our Blessed Mother and of course, Our Lord Jesus Christ. Many celebrate this Feast Day with a bonfire.
- **Our Lady of Mount Carmel** (July 16) is the celebration of Our Lady's appearance to Saint Simon Stock when she gave him the Brown Scapular. I always try to offer an Investiture in the Brown Scapular on this Feast Day. There was a time when every First Communicant was invested in the Brown Scapular, but it is not regularly practiced today.



Thus, there are many adults who have never been invested. It's a powerful devotion of the care of the Blessed Virgin Mary for each of us.

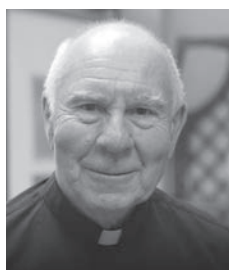
- **Saint Mary Magdalene** (July 22) recently had her Feast Day elevated from an Obligatory Memorial to a Feast. It's well deserved as Saint Mary Magdalene was the sinful woman who was redeemed by Christ. There are likely many "Magdalenes" in our life who may benefit by the presence of Jesus Christ in their lives.
- **Saint Alphonsus Liguori** (August 1) is one of the Doctors of the Church because of his great contribution to theology. I find his writings to be cogent and hard-hitting, which works for me. There is much out there written by St. Alphonsus – check out *Preparation for Death*. Powerful stuff.
- **Saint Maximilian Kolbe** (August 14) was martyred at the age of 47 when, imprisoned in a concentration camp during World War II, he volunteered to take the place of a man sentenced to death because this man had a wife and children. St. Maximilian's courage and love for Our Blessed Mother make his modern-day story even more inspiring.

While my list is not all-inclusive, it provides a snapshot of what some of my favorite summer feast days are and what I like about them. What's on your summer feast day calendar?

Yours in Christ,
Father Doug Brown
Chaplain, The Rock Catholic Radio
frbrown@maryqop.org

The Reflectors Guide Us in Our Faith Journey

Who are The Reflectors, you ask? Aptly nicknamed by Deacon Paul Kutolowski, they are a group of five dedicated priests and deacons who inspire our listeners with wise two-minute "Gospel Reflections" on the readings or saint of the day. They volunteer their time prayerfully contemplating, preparing, and recording the reflections. You hear their voices throughout the day, and their messages deepen your knowledge of our Catholic faith, but you might not know much about the men themselves. Here's your chance to get to know them!



Father Thomas Haren

Currently in residence at St. Michael's in Independence, Fr. Tom Haren is known as one of the few remaining seminary "lifers," having attended Borromeo for high school and college before finishing at St. Mary's Seminary. Ordained 53 years ago, in June 1973, Fr. Haren says he first felt the call to the priesthood while in 4th grade at St. Joseph School in Cuyahoga Falls. He asked

the pastor how much schooling was required to become a priest. Since he wasn't a big fan of school, the answer temporarily dissuaded him from pursuing his vocation, at least until 8th grade.

Fr. Haren is the spiritual moderator of the Cleveland Diocese Union of Holy Name Societies. He retired from St. Monica's in Garfield Heights, having served previously as administrator at St. Ignatius of Antioch, Holy Name (both the parish and high school in Cleveland), and Holy Family in Parma, and then as pastor of St. Jerome and finally St. Monica.

He loves being a priest, especially the privilege of celebrating Mass and hearing confessions, and enjoys working with the youth. He has been involved with the Right to Life movement for many years and is a member of Jesus Caritas Fraternity of Priests, a brotherhood of priests who meet monthly for Scripture sharing and contemplative prayer before the Eucharist. In his spare time, he is a vegetable gardener at his property in Norton and, while he formerly played several sports, including baseball, bowling, and basketball, he now considers himself an avid spectator.

Fr. Haren has been a member of "The Reflectors" for about three years, featured the first week of each month. He said that two of his challenges include writing seven of them at a time and fitting all the content in under two minutes, although he admits it has helped him prepare shorter homilies! He prays to the Holy Spirit for his inspiration.

A fun fact about Fr. Haren is that before he became a priest, he tried "every job" so he could relate better with people. He had at least ten different jobs, including construction worker, truck driver, painter, and landscaper. He has two sisters and a brother, and had three uncles who were priests.



Deacon Paul Kutolowski

One of our most experienced "Reflectors" is Deacon Paul Kutolowski, who started preparing Gospel Reflections in January 2020. He is definitely an "old pro" at this.

Deacon Paul was ordained as a Permanent Deacon on May 10, 2003, presently serving at St. Joseph's Parish in Strongsville since 2021, after 18 years at St. Columbkille Parish in Parma. As a deacon, he assists at Mass, directs OCIA, presents a pre-Baptism class, and officiates at parlor services and committals. He describes his calling as "an encounter

with the Hound of Heaven." He admits that he tried to shake Him, ignore Him, and pay no attention to Him, but that His will was done in the end. And we here at The Rock Catholic Radio are blessed because of it!

Growing up in Garfield Heights, Deacon Paul first attended St. Monica's Parish, then St. Martin of Tours in Maple Heights. He graduated from Garfield Heights High School, followed by a degree from Cleveland State University. Professionally, he worked as a mechanical engineer until his retirement from CAMS (Computer Aided Manufacturing Systems) in 2019.

When asked about preparing his Gospel Reflections, which air the second week of the month, Deacon Paul noted that his favorite part is encountering Christ in scripture and helping listeners relate to the readings and saints. He gets his inspiration from asking the Lord what He wants him to share and says this about his challenge: "I don't listen well to what our Lord wants me to say sometimes."

When he's not ministering to the parishioners at St. Joe's, Deacon Paul enjoys wood carving. And he confesses that his "secret" passion is his addiction to NCAA March Madness.

Deacon Paul and his wife, Chris, also a volunteer at The Rock, have two sons and three grandchildren. Even though both of his parents are deceased, he is proud that his father attended his ordination and he was able to tell his mom that he was accepted into diaconate formation.



Father Dan Samide

Ordained on May 18, 2019 as the seventh priest from St. Mary's Parish in Hudson in as many years, Fr. Dan Samide is the newest member of "The Reflectors." He is currently Parochial Vicar at St. Ambrose in Brunswick, having first served at St. Anthony of Padua in Parma after his Transitional Deacon assignment at St. John Bosco in Parma Heights.

Fr. Dan went to Hudson High School and later graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a degree in Theology. When asked about his call to the priesthood, he said that he heard God's call most of all through the voice of God's people. Many friends and family encouraged him to discern the priesthood, and he eventually realized that God was speaking through them.

Since Fr. Dan began his Gospel Reflections, which air the third week of the month, in January 2026, he has had an uncommon approach: "When I prepare my reflections, I like to write out the first few lines that lead into my main idea, then switch to bullet points to give myself some flexibility as we record." It definitely shows in his contemplative delivery style. He likes that the brief, two-minute window for the reflections forces him to get to the point as quickly as possible. He admitted recording seven different reflections in rapid succession, each with its own unique thoughts, is quite the mental exercise!

Outside of his priestly responsibilities, Fr. Dan's main hobby is playing board games (heavy strategy as well as cooperative) and he has a large collection of both. A fun fact that few people know is



that Fr. Dan played the trombone for many years and got to perform in many amazing places, including the oldest concert hall in the Americas, located in Brazil.

Fr. Dan's parents, Paul and Sue, have three sons of which he is the middle child. His older brother, Fr. Rich, is also a priest.



Deacon Bruce Battista

Listeners have enjoyed Deacon Bruce Battista's reflections each fourth week of the month since July of 2025. Deacon Bruce has the unique distinction of serving at the same church he has belonged to his entire life, Holy Rosary in Cleveland's Little Italy. Except for his wedding to his wife, Anna, 47 years ago at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Wickliffe, Deacon Bruce received all his sacraments at Holy Rosary.

Deacon Bruce entered formation under Bishop Pilla and was ordained by Bishop Lennon on May 5, 2007. He loves being a permanent deacon, committed to being a servant of The Word, Liturgy, and Charity. While he enjoys serving others, including bringing Holy Communion to the sick and infirm, he is especially moved by the opportunity to prepare homilies and preach at Masses one weekend each month.

Before retiring in 2017, Deacon Bruce's professional career was incredibly diverse. After he graduated from Cleveland State with a math degree, he taught math for several years at both Cathedral Latin (his alma mater) and St. Edward High School. He then trained himself to be an actuary, which he did for the next 12 years. Working at Swagelok, he transitioned into human resources, which he continued in at Baker Hostetler until his retirement, as he says, from "paid employment."



When asked about why preparing Gospel Reflections for The Rock is so meaningful to him, Deacon Bruce confidently shares that it is another chance to preach and break open God's Word. Echoing the sentiments of the other "Reflectors," he admits that keeping the message under two minutes and writing seven reflections against a deadline are two of the challenges. When preparing, his focus is tying together both the first reading and the Gospel and making them relevant for listeners.

In his spare time, Deacon Bruce can be found at Manakiki Golf Course, where he works as a cashier in the clubhouse. He loves to golf and, because of this job, he is able to use any one of the Metroparks courses for free. He describes himself as a "bogey" golfer. A fun fact about Deacon Bruce is that his nickname is Pipp, because as a young man he worked at his father's store, Pipp's Hardware in Little Italy.

Deacon Bruce and his wife have three children and five grandchildren. He is proud to have presided over the marriages of two of his kids and baptized two of his granddaughters.



Deacon Dan Galla

A voice you don't get to hear as often is Deacon Dan Galla, who for the past three years has been a substitute member of "The Reflectors," and is now the week five guy, meaning his reflections air in months that have five weeks. We are delighted he accepted the invitation to step into this role.

Deacon Dan was ordained on May 7, 2005 by Bishop Pilla and is assigned to St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Parma, his home parish, and the only assignment he ever had. In addition to the usual parish duties, he teaches OCIA. In the past, he has served as an emcee for Bishops Lennon, Perez, Malesic, and Abbot Gary Hoover. For 4-5 years, he taught in the Diaconate Formation Program, and for the last 9 years, he has been a Deacon Mentor to newly ordained men.

The story of Deacon Dan's call to the diaconate is a fascinating one. In his words, "My wife, Joanne, and other friends, including some deacons and priests, always thought I should be a deacon, but I resisted, saying that if my pastor ever asked me to consider it, then I would know the call was from the Lord. One day in 2001, my pastor, Fr. John Carlin, asked, 'How would you like to be a deacon here at St. Charles, and would Joanne be supportive of the idea?' I said yes to both, and applied to enter Formation. I don't know of any other deacon whose call came that way."

Professionally, Deacon Dan spent 33 years as a high school Theology teacher at Padua and St. Ignatius, after he graduated from Borromeo College of Ohio. He retired in 2020. Before that, he attended St. Ambrose School, Brunswick High School and served four years in the US Navy. Later he received an M.A. in Religious Studies from John Carroll University. He currently serves as a volunteer with Northeast Ohio Hospice, visiting patients at the Jennings Center for Older Adults in Garfield Heights.

Deacon Dan says he prays for the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe when preparing his reflections, agreeing with the other guys about the challenge in keeping them under two minutes. He admits his favorite part is the actual recording at The Rock studio with Dan Deely, who he considers a truly special person.

For hobbies, Deacon Dan loves to read non-fiction theological books, listen to classical music and watch baseball. He shared the fun fact that he is a Third Order Franciscan, inspired, interestingly so, by St. Ignatius' Spiritual Exercises.

He and his wife, Joanne, have been married for 38 years and have no children, but they are proud to be everyone's favorite aunt and uncle. He has two sisters and two brothers.



IN MEMORIAM: Deacon Bill Fredrick

Deacon Bill Fredrick passed to eternal life on March 30, 2026 after a courageous and faith-filled two-year battle with pancreatic cancer. His gospel reflections have inspired and instructed us for many years here at The Rock.

Bill became a Deacon of the Byzantine Catholic Church in 2007. He served at St. Joseph's Church the past 19 years

as a Deacon and parish leader. Deacon Bill was a fourth degree Knight in the Garfield Heights council of the Knights of Columbus.

Before he was ordained, Deacon Bill worked for his father's business as a partner at Fredrick and Fredrick Engineers, Inc., having earned a Bachelors of Science in Engineering from Cleveland State University. He attended Byzantine High School.

Deacon Bill had many passions in life including animals, gardening, sports, music, photography, wildlife, and painting. His obituary stated that his greatest passion was in serving God. Dick Russ, founding board member of The Rock and friend of Deacon Bill, said, "His service to the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy and the Universal Church was inexhaustible, and his faith was firm, deep, and unshakeable."

He is survived by his wife, Nancy, whom he married in 1974, as well as two daughters and six grandchildren. May Deacon Bill's memory be eternal!

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	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12:00 AM	EWTN Live (Encore)	Fathers of Mercy	Take 2 with Jerry & Debbie (Encore)				
1:00 AM	The Journey Home (Encore)	Best of The Journey Home					The Wisdom of Fr. Groeschel
2:00 AM	Mother Angelica Live Classics	Called to Communion with Dr. David Anders (Encore)					EWTN Bookmark
2:30 AM							Mother Angelica Live Classics
3:00 AM	Scripture and Tradition	The Miracle Hunter	Women of Grace with Johnnette Williams (Encore)				
4:00 AM	Fathers of Mercy Hour	Fathers Know Best (Encore)					The World Over (Encore)
5:00 AM	The Catholic Café	Chaplet of Divine Mercy in Song / Fire on the Earth					Vatican Insider
5:30 AM	Holy Rosary, with Mother Angelica and the Nuns of Our Lady of Angels Monastery						
6:00 AM	Vatican Insider	The Son Rise Morning Show (Live)					Scripture & Tradition
6:30 AM	Divine Intimacy						Conversations with Consequences
7:00 AM	The World Over (Encore)						
8:00 AM	EWTN Mass (Live)						
9:00 AM	Stories From The Heart	Catholic Connection with Teresa Tomeo (Live)					Mast Appeal with Colleen Kelly Mast (Live)
9:30 AM	EWTN Bookmark						
10:00 AM	Say Yes to Life	Christ is the Answer Fr. John Riccardo	Fathers of Mercy Hour	Dare Great Things with Fr. Nathan Cromly CSJ	More2Life with Dr. Greg & Lisa Popcak (Live)	The Reason for our Hope Fr. Larry Richards*	
10:30 AM	Cleveland Mass for the Homebound			God Calling (Encore)			
11:00 AM	Register Radio**	Women of Grace with Johnnette Williams (Live)					The Spirit World
11:30 AM	Light of the East						
12:00 PM	Fr. Spitzer's Universe	Take 2 with Jerry & Debbie (Live)					Women Made New With Crystalina Evert
1:00 PM	Scripture & Tradition*	The Doctor Is In with Dr. Ray Guarendi (Live)					The Miracle Hunter
1:30 PM							
2:00 PM	Mother Angelica Answering the Call	Called to Communion with Dr. David Anders (Live)					Catholics Coast to Coast
2:30 PM	The Catholic Sphere						
3:00 PM	The World Over (Encore)	Divine Mercy Chaplet / Burning Hearts / Holy Rosary					EWTN Live (Encore)
4:00 PM	Word on Fire	Beacon of Truth with Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers (Live)					Register Radio
4:30 PM	God Calling						EWTN Bookmark**
5:00 PM	Journey Home (Encore)	Ave Maria in the Afternoon (Live)				Ave Maria in the Afternoon	Conversations with Consequences
6:00 PM	Prolife Weekly	Catholic Answers (Live)					The Bear Woznick Adventure
6:30 PM	Blessed 2 Play						
7:00 PM	The Spirt World (Encore)						The Miracle Hunter
8:00 PM	Mother Angelica Answering the Call	The Journey Home	Mother Angelica	EWTN Live	The World Over	EWTN News In Depth	Beyond Damascus
8:30 PM	Live with Passion with Fr. Cedric						
9:00 PM	Beloved and Blessed	EWTN News Nightly					Vatican Insider
9:30 PM	The Rosary is a Place with Fr. Benedict Groeschel and Simonetta						
10:00 PM	Bible in a Year (BIAY)/Catechism in a Year (CIAY)† with Fr. Mike Schmitz						
11:00 PM	Divine Intimacy	Mother Angelica Live Classics					Fr. Spitzer's Universe
	Light of the East (Encore)						

*Table Talk will air on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 5 PM; Rebroadcast Friday at 10 AM, and Sunday 1 PM

**Where We Worship airs the 3rd Sunday at 11 AM; rebroadcast the following Saturday at 4:30 PM

Effective 5/1/2026

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St. Peter the Rock Media

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If you have questions about any of the above, please call Mary Ann at 216-227-1260.
Thank you for helping us continue to bring **Rock Solid Truth** to the airwaves of Cleveland – and beyond!