

WPGR (AM) (1510kHz)
Quarterly Listing of Community Issues and Programs
October 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023

Quarterly Programming Report

Issues/Programs Lists

WPGR[®] -AM (1510kHz)

The contents of this report are a listing of some of the significant issues responded to by Station WPGR[®]-AM (1510kHz), Monroeville, PA, along with the most significant programming treatment of those issues for the period October 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. The listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

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Programming Category: Heralds of Faith®

Programming Category Description

This program consists solely of the homilies and teaching of the bishops (without additional conversation or commentary). The title of the program is drawn from the Prophet Isaiah and the teaching of the Second Vatican Council, where we hear about the importance of the heralding the good news and the bishops' privileged role as the heralds.

In the book of the Prophet Isaiah we hear God calling us to proclaim the Good News:

*Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, fear not;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Behold your God!"
(Isaiah 40:9)*

Who are the heralds of good tidings? The Second Vatican Council teaches us in Ad Gentes, the Decree On the Mission Activity of the Church, that the Good News must be proclaimed by witness and by word. Furthermore, the Council notes that the proclamation of the word is a primary responsibility of the bishops:

"By the life witness of each one of the faithful and of the whole community, let the particular church be a sign which points out Christ to others. Furthermore, there is need of the ministry of the word, so that the Gospel may reach all. The bishop should be first and foremost a herald of the Faith, who leads new disciples to Christ." (Ad Gentes #20)

In this radio program, we hear Catholic bishops carrying out their noble task of being The Heralds of Faith.

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Programming Category: Heralds of Faith®

Issue Discussed: New Bishop of the Eparchy of Parma, OH

Program: This particular episode is a Homily of Bishop John Michael Botean, Bishop of Canton, on the episcopal ordination and enthronement of Bishop-elect Robert Pipta as bishop of the Eparchy of Parma, OH on November 8, 2023.

Date: 11/11/2023

Time: 8:30 am

Duration: 18:02 Minutes

Source: Locally Produced

Content Summary: Bishop Botean offered words of encouragement, prayer and welcome to the then Bishop-elect Robert Pipta as the new bishop of the Eparchy of Parma, OH. He also spoke about the duties (or *munera*) of the bishop: to teach, to sanctify and to govern and recounted a personal encounter he enjoyed with Pope St. John Paul, II. The fulfillment of these duties far surpasses human ability and so in humility a bishop must turn to God for help. Continuing with his reflection, he offered an explanation of the traditional Byzantine (Orthodox) anthropology of the human person and worldview. He concluded with a liturgical prayer for Bishop Robert Pipta and invited those present to pray along. Welcome, Bishop Pipta, to the Eparchy of Parma! God grant you many years!

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Programming Category: A Kiss of Peace®

Programming Category Description

*I will listen for what God, the LORD, has to say;
surely he will speak of peace.
To his people and to his faithful.
May they not turn to foolishness!
Near indeed is his salvation for those who fear him;
glory will dwell in our land.
Love and truth will meet;
justice and peace will kiss.
Truth will spring from the earth;
justice will look down from heaven.
Yes, the LORD will grant his bounty;
our land will yield its produce.
Justice will march before him,
and make a way for his footsteps.
(Psalm 85:9-14)*

In this program, the shepherds of the Church, the bishops, provide reflections to give spiritual encouragement to their flocks. The content of the reflection is summarized in the psalm verse 85:10 -- mercy, truth, justice, and peace, all coming together in a kiss. The bishops' daily reflections are intended to communicate Christ's mercy and truth, justice and peace to the hearts of the listeners. This communication consists not just in information (although some teaching may be a necessary part of encouragement), but hopefully also facilitates transformation, through the communication of grace.

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Programming Category: A Kiss of Peace®

Issue Discussed: Proper handling of complaints

Program: The “A Kiss of Peace®” (Bishop’s Reflection) with Bishop Thomas Paprocki, Bishop of the Diocese of Springfield, IL, on how to respond to complaints.

Date: 10/13/2023

Time: 7:40am, 8:40am and 6:40pm

Duration: 05:02 mins

Source: Locally Produced

Content Summary: Bishop Paprocki highlights the proper handling of complaints from a Christian perspective. In fact, Jesus actually instructed His disciples to follow some very precise steps and clear procedures in the process of fraternal correction. While making an untrue statement in order to damage someone’s reputation is the sin of calumny, even a true statement may constitute the sin of detraction. The Catechism of the Catholic Church in #2477, says that respect for the reputation of persons forbids every attitude and word likely to cause them unjust injury.

To avoid rash judgment, Saint Ignatius of Loyola in his spiritual exercises #22 suggested, “Every good Christian ought to be more ready to give a favorable interpretation to another’s statement than to condemn it. But if he cannot do so, let him ask how the other understands it. And if the latter understands it badly, let the former correct him with love. If that does not suffice, let the Christian try all suitable ways to bring the other to the correct interpretation so that he may be saved.”

If we follow the instructions of our Lord regarding fraternal correction, we will properly address the problems that give rise to justifiable complaints and work to resolve them in accord with the principles of justice and equity.

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Programming Category: In the Footsteps of Saint Peter®

Programming Category Description

"And Peter directed his gaze at him, with John, and said, 'Look at us.' And he fixed his attention upon them, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, 'I have no silver and gold, but I give you what I have; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.' And he took him by the right hand and raised him up; and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. And leaping up he stood and walked and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God." (Acts 3:4-7)

We are strengthened in our needs and in our weakness by the authoritative word of St. Peter who speaks in the name of Jesus Christ. Through Saint Peter's successors, the Popes, Saint Peter continues to strengthen us and heal us by his authoritative teaching, enabling us to follow him in offering a sacrifice of praise.

In this program, a bishop or priest reads and comments on the teachings of the Successors of Saint Peter, the Popes. Throughout the course of this program, papal encyclicals and apostolic exhortations, apostolic letters, homilies and messages are read in their entirety, one section at a time.

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Programming Category: In the Footsteps of Saint Peter®

Issue Discussed: Death. It happens.

Program: In this episode, Fr. Boniface Hicks, OSB a Benedictine priest and monk of the St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, PA. read and commented briefly on Pope Paul VI's Thoughts on Death (Pensieri alla Morte), written late in his life.

Date: 11/02/2023

Time: 2:30pm

Duration: 27 Minutes

Source: Locally Produced

Content Summary: In this episode, Fr. Boniface Hicks, OSB a Benedictine priest and monk of the St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, PA. read and commented briefly on Pope Paul VI's Thoughts on Death (Pensieri alla Morte), written late in his life. All of us share this moment sooner or later. He says, "...It is not wise to be blind before such an unavoidable fate, before the disastrous ruin it brings with it, before the mysterious metamorphosis that is about to be accomplished within my being..." We don't take this body with us. But we also recognize that it is the spirit that animates the body. What is this metamorphosis that takes place? We don't have the details. That then leads us to further reflection on our identity...who then, are we? Who am I? What remains of me? What endures beyond death? Pope Paul says, "These questions which are extremely personal are also extremely moral." Viewing our life from the "lamp" of death gives us a sense of urgency and perspective as to what is truly important in life. Ultimately our relationship with Christ, Who is The Way, and The Truth, and The Life is what endures. May we live our lives with that clarity and confidence!

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Programming Category: The Teaching of the Apostles®

Programming Category Description

They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their property and possessions and divide them among all according to each one's need. Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved. (Acts 2:42-47)

The Teaching of the Apostles® continues to be definitively important for the Christian community. Teaching, on We Are One Body® (WAOB®), is always led by the Pope (using his addresses, audiences, homilies, etc.) and the bishops who are the Successors of the Apostles. In the first segment of the program the Pope or a bishop gives a 20-30 minute teaching (periodically the teaching takes up the whole hour, but that is the exception). The content of the bishop's teaching is meant to be substantial and more catechetical in nature (a higher level theologically). Normally, this teaching is followed by a 25-35 minute conversation between priests, helping to deliver the magisterial teaching to the listeners. The priests can also bring out some additional pastoral dimensions from the bishop's teaching. In this way, they act in accord with what is taught in the Catechism of the Catholic Church on the role of the priest as "prudent cooperators of the episcopal college and its support and instrument, called to the service of the People of God ." (CCC 1567)

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Programming Category: The Teaching of the Apostles®

Issue Discussed: The Greccio Nativity, school of simplicity and joy

Program: In this episode of the “The Teaching of the Apostles,®” we heard the General Audience of Pope Francis from 12/20/2023 on the origins of the Nativity Scene. The Audience was read by Father Britton Hennessey, a priest of the Diocese of Covington.

Date: 12/22/2023

Time: 4:00pm

Duration: 08:35 Minutes

Source: Locally Produced

Content Summary: Pope Francis, in his general audience given on Wednesday December 20, 2023 offered a teaching on the history and meaning of the Nativity Scene, the first of which was organized 800 years ago in Greccio, Italy by St. Francis of Assisi. The Holy Father, getting at the intention of the Nativity scene or “creche” quoted St. Francis: “I want to depict the Child born in Bethlehem, and in some way see with the eyes of the body the hardships in which He found Himself for want of the things necessary for an infant, how He was laid in a manger and how He lay on the straw between the ox and the donkey” (cf. Tommaso da Celano, Vita prima, xxx, 84: FF 468). Pope Francis spoke of “amazement” as a key characteristic to help us enter into the mystery of the Incarnation. He concluded with, “Dear brothers and sisters, the Nativity scene is like a small well from which to draw the nearness of God, the source of hope and joy. The Nativity scene is like a living Gospel, a domestic Gospel. Like the well in the Bible, it is the place of encounter where we bring to Jesus the expectations and worries of life, just as the shepherds of Bethlehem and the people of Greccio did. Bringing to Jesus the expectations and the worries of life. ... Let us go before the Nativity scene. Everyone, look, and allow your heart to feel something within.”

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Programming Category: Saint Peter is Still Speaking®

Programming Category Description

Then Peter proceeded to speak and said, 'In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him. You know the word [that] he sent to the Israelites as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and (in) Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree. This man God raised (on) the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.' While Peter was still speaking these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon on all who were listening to the word. (Acts 10:34-44)

The power of Saint Peter's office was bestowed on him by Christ: "You are Peter and on this rock I build my Church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matthew 16:18) The power of Saint Peter's office calls down the Holy Spirit on all the Jews gathered in Jerusalem on Pentecost and even calls down the Holy Spirit on the Gentiles in the encounter with Cornelius and his household. The power of Saint Peter is still at work through the Successors of Saint Peter, the Popes. Through the Pope, Saint Peter is still speaking and the power of the Holy Spirit is still falling on those who listen.

In this program, recent audiences, homilies, messages and addresses of the Pope, the living successor of Saint Peter, are broadcast. Most often this is the actual voice of the Pope. When the Pope is not speaking in English, voice-over of the English translation is broadcast. In some cases, such as with the Pope's messages, when there is no recording of the Pope's voice to broadcast, the teaching may simply be read by a bishop or priest without the Pope's voice.

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Programming Category: Saint Peter is Still Speaking®

Issue Discussed: World Food Day 2023

Program: This episode of “Saint Peter is Still Speaking®” was Pope Francis’s Message for World Food Day 2023. Father Len Stoviak, a retired priest from the Diocese of Greensburg provided the reading.

Date: 10/31/2023

Time: 12:31PM

Duration: 08:59 Minutes

Source: Locally Produced

Content Summary: In this episode, we listened to a reading of a message of Pope Francis for the 2023 World Food Day. His message was addressed to Mr. Qu Dongyo, Chinese Diplomat and ninth Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The Holy Father focused on the themes of universal destination of all goods, injustices associated with inequality and the vital need for both food and water. He said, “...the celebration of World Food Day should also serve as a reminder that the throwaway culture must be incisively countered with actions based on responsible and loyal cooperation on the part of everyone. Our world is too interdependent and cannot afford to be divided into blocs of countries that promote their interests in a spurious and biased way. We are called instead to think and act in terms of community, of solidarity, seeking to prioritize the lives of all over the appropriation of goods by the few.”

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Programming Category: Speaking Truth from the Heart®

Programming Category Description

*LORD, who may abide in your tent?
Who may dwell on your holy mountain?
Whoever walks without blame,
doing what is right,
speaking truth from the heart;
Who does not slander with his tongue,
does no harm to a friend,
never defames a neighbor;
Who disdains the wicked,
but honors those who fear the LORD;
Who keeps an oath despite the cost,
lends no money at interest,
accepts no bribe against the innocent.
Whoever acts like this
shall never be shaken.*
(Psalm 15)

This program features the writings of the Doctors of the Church, read and commented on by a bishop or priest. The Doctors of the Church are 35 saints, including both men and women, who have been declared by the Pope to be trustworthy teachers of the faith. The original declaration of the four western Doctors (Saint Ambrose, Saint Augustine, Saint Jerome, Pope Saint Gregory the Great), followed by the declaration of four eastern Doctors (Saint Athanasius, Saint Basil, Saint Gregory Nazianzen, Saint John Chrysostom) point to the heart of the Fathers of the Church. Subsequently, Doctors were named who were not Fathers of the Church, but who fulfill three conditions: *eminens doctrina, insignis vitae sanctitas, Ecclesiae declaratio* (eminent doctrine, a life of remarkable holiness, and a declaration of the Church). We bring you the eminent doctrine of these Doctors through reading their teaching, as well as insights about their life of remarkable holiness through the comments given by the bishop or priest who is leading each episode.

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Programming Category: Speaking Truth from the Heart®

Issue Discussed: The Gifts of Knowledge and Counsel

Program: Reading and commentary on the writings and teachings of Doctors of the Church. The subject of this particular episode was taken from St. Thomas Aquinas' *Summa Theologica* II II Q. 9 a 1-4 and Q. 52 1-4

Date: 12/05/2023

Time: 1:30pm

Duration: 27 Minutes

Source: Locally Produced

Content Summary: In this episode, Father Basil Cole, OP read from and commented on St. Thomas Aquinas' celebrated *Summa Theologica* focusing on the gifts from the Holy Spirit of Knowledge (also sometimes translated as "science") and Counsel. He seeks to answer various questions regarding the origins and nature of knowledge: is it a gift? What is it ordered to? What is it good for? Etc. In question 52 he analyzes and seeks to understand the gift of counsel which is related to the gift of prudence. Counsel is a guide with respect to all the virtues and in pursuing what is most worthwhile in life.

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Programming Category: The Hands of God®

Programming Category Description

In Psalm 143 we hear about the power of God's hand:

"I remember the days that are past, I ponder all your works, I muse on what your hand has wrought and to you I lift up my hands. Like a parched land my soul thirsts for you." (Psalm 143)

In St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians we hear how we are called to be the hands of God. St Paul says, *"Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."* (1 Corinthians 1:27) The saints are formed by the hands of God and the saints are the hands of God by which He is forming us.

In this program, led by a bishop or priest, we reflect on the lives of the blessed and saints with a special focus on their virtues, and we pray that the same virtues might also grow in us. The program begins with a text on the life of the blessed or saint. This text is always an official text—published on the Vatican web site for the beatification or canonization of that individual or from a papal homily, audience, address or other magisterial document. In some cases we have biographies of one saint written by another saint. We may also draw on these accounts.

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Programming Category: The Hands of God®

Issue Discussed: Example of Faith and Service to the Poor

Program: In this program, Fr Boniface Hicks, OSB, of St Vincent Archabbey, reflected on Blessed Eugenia Picco, taken from the brief Vatican biography for her beatification released in 2021.

Date: 12/7/2023

Time: 9:02 pm

Duration: 13 Minutes

Source: Locally Produced

Content Summary: In this episode of the Hands of God, we reflected on the life and works of Blessed Eugenia Picco (8 November 1867 – 7 September 1921) who grew up in Crescenzago, a district of Milan in an irreligious and morally corrupt environment and in that situation felt an instinctive call to pray and seek spiritual solace in developing her relationship with Christ in the silence of the austere Basilica of St. Ambrose. “On an evening in May 1886, Eugenia felt a call to sanctity and from that moment on she aimed at perfection with a faithful readiness without turning back. Thus at the age of 20, Eugenia decided to seek Jesus and to be holy. In 1887 she ran away from home and was accepted into the Congregation of the Little Daughters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. After her profession she took on a number of responsibilities and eventually became Superior General of the Congregation in 1911 until her death. She joyfully fulfilled her duties and also was a mother to the poor and worked in the field to alleviate the social ills created by World War I.

Blessed Eugenia Picco, prega per noi!

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Programming Category: Liturgy of the Hours

Programming Category Description

"Now Peter and John were going to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour."
(Acts 3:1)

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that the liturgy of the hours is "like an extension of the Eucharistic celebration." (CCC #1178). Furthermore, the Catechism elaborates, "The mystery of Christ, his Incarnation and Passover, which we celebrate in the Eucharist especially at the Sunday assembly, permeates and transfigures the time of each day, through the celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours, 'the divine office.' This celebration, faithful to the apostolic exhortations to 'pray constantly,' is 'so devised that the whole course of the day and night is made holy by the praise of God.' In this 'public prayer of the Church,' the faithful (clergy, religious, and lay people) exercise the royal priesthood of the baptized. Celebrated in 'the form approved' by the Church, the Liturgy of the Hours 'is truly the voice of the Bride herself addressed to her Bridegroom.' It is the very prayer which Christ himself together with his Body addresses to the Father." (CCC #1174)

The Liturgy of the Hours is broadcast five times per day on We Are One Body® (vigils/office of readings, morning prayer, mid-afternoon prayer, evening prayer and night prayer). WAOB® broadcasts the liturgy of the hours from various forms, always approved by the Church. Most often used is the Roman Rite, but other eastern rites and monastic forms of the liturgy of the hours are also broadcast to give a clearer picture of the universal Church at prayer, in all her legitimate diversity.

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Programming Category: Liturgy of the Hours

Issue Discussed: Praying for Peace Among Nations

Program: **Divine Office** (Office of Readings, Morning, Mid-Afternoon, Evening and Night Prayer)

Date: Sunday through Saturday

Time:

<u>Office of Readings</u>	
Sunday through Saturday	6:15am
Monday through Saturday	2:00pm
<u>Morning Prayer</u>	
Sunday through Saturday	7:15am
<u>Mid-Afternoon Prayer</u>	
Monday through Saturday	2:15pm
<u>Evening Prayer</u>	
Monday through Friday	5:30pm
Saturday and Sunday	7:30pm
<u>Night Prayer</u>	
Sunday through Saturday	9:30pm

Duration: 10 to 25 Minutes

Source: Locally Produced

Content Summary: The Divine Office is led by various families and religious communities. When we pray the Divine Office, we are reminded that we are praying with the whole Body of Christ throughout time and space. As the Christian world entered the Season of Lent, the antiphons, readings, and intercessions from the Liturgy of the hours reflected the call to get back to the essentials and turn back to the Lord.

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Programming Category: Behold the Pierced One®

Programming Category Description

The Psalmist prophesies the sufferings of Jesus, saying, "They have pierced my hands and my feet--I can count all my bones--they stare and gloat over me." (Psalm 22)

And the Evangelist John gives the historical account of His suffering telling us,

One of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth—that you also may believe. For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled, "Not a bone of him shall be broken." And again another Scripture says, "They shall look upon him whom they have pierced." (Jn 19:34-37)

"The prayer of the Church venerates and honors the Heart of Jesus ... which, out of love for men, he allowed to be pierced by our sins. Christian prayer loves to follow the way of the cross in the Savior's steps. The stations from the Praetorium to Golgotha and the tomb trace the way of Jesus, who by his holy Cross has redeemed the world." (Catechism of the Catholic Church #2669)

In this hour, a priest leads the listener in gazing, with eyes of faith, on the pierced Heart of Jesus. It is this pierced Heart that reveals God's love for sinners, in other words it reveals Divine Mercy. The Hour begins with a prayer, such as a Divine Mercy Chaplet, Prayer of Saint Bridgette, or the Way of the Cross. This prayer is followed by meditations on the Lord's Passion and Mercy drawn from Scripture, papal teaching, the Doctors of the Church, the Fathers of the Church, and the Saints. The meditations are followed by silence and music to give the listener a sacred space to encounter the merciful love of our crucified and risen Lord.

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Programming Category: Behold the Pierced One®

Issue Discussed: May Societal Death and Destruction Cease

Program: Behold the Pierced One™ (with Divine Mercy Chaplet)

Date: Thursday, March 24th and Friday, March 25th

Time: Thursday 3:00pm
Friday 3:00am

Duration: 1 Hour

Source: Locally Produced

Content Summary: The hour began with the Divine Mercy Chaplet and a Litany of the Precious Blood. Each day these prayers are prayed and recorded by various families of varying locations. The prayers are chosen because they reflect on the Lord's Passion and indicate the extent of God's mercy.

The prayer is followed by meditations from Scripture, the Pope, the Doctors, the Fathers, and the Saints on the Lord's Passion and Mercy. In this particular episode, a priest read and reflected on sections of the work, "The Diary of Divine Mercy" by St Maria Faustina. These passages of the Saint's writing guide us in detaching from creatures and clinging to Jesus.

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Programming Category: A Scriptural Rosary

Programming Category Description

"Hail, full of grace the Lord is with you. . . Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb." (Luke 1:28,42)

Blessed Pope John Paul teaches us in his Apostolic Letter, Rosarium Virginis Mariae, "The Rosary of the Virgin Mary, which gradually took form in the second millennium under the guidance of the Spirit of God, is a prayer loved by countless Saints and encouraged by the Magisterium. Simple yet profound, it still remains, at the dawn of this third millennium, a prayer of great significance, destined to bring forth a harvest of holiness. It blends easily into the spiritual journey of the Christian life, which, after two thousand years, has lost none of the freshness of its beginnings and feels drawn by the Spirit of God to 'set out into the deep' (duc in altum!) in order once more to proclaim, and even cry out, before the world that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior, 'the way, and the truth and the life' (John 14:6), 'the goal of human history and the point on which the desires of history and civilization turn'" (#1)

WAOB® broadcasts Scriptural Rosaries every day, prayed and recorded by all the various and diverse members of the mystical Body of Christ.

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Programming Category: A Scriptural Rosary

Issue Discussed: Praying for the gift of Counsel

Program: A Scriptural Rosary

Date: Sunday through Saturday

Time: Sunday 11:30am, 6:20pm and 11:00pm
Monday through Saturday 11:00am and 11:00pm

Duration: 30 to 40 Minutes

Source: Locally Produced

Content Summary: In the Scriptural Rosary, various families lead us in meditating on the mysteries of Christ's life with the guidance of scripture verses and the intercession of Our Lady. These broadcasts of families praying the Rosary together unite with the Holy Father and all people of goodwill for the end of violence and destruction in Ukraine and in all war-torn areas of the world.