



onversion of heart

Summer 2015

# IN LOVE WITH CATHOLIC TEACHING ON MARRIAGE

"I grew up as a spiritual person but not a religious person," says Traci Palmore, a devoted listener of the AM 820 radio family.

Traci's road home to the Church took turns in many directions. St. Gabriel Catholic Radio helped her get on the fast track and hold steady on her course. Traci tuned into AM 820 thanks to an invitation from a long-time friend. "St. Gabriel Radio became my personal RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults). I got off work and spent my 45 minutes of drive time listening to Catholic Answers Live. Very powerful!"

### AM 820 gave me the answers.

"When I decided to join RCIA, I was already listening to AM 820 regularly. AM 820 gave me answers before I knew there were questions!" Traci affirms.

Traci was introduced as a child to the Baptist church by her mother but their church attendance dropped off when Traci was very young. "God was acknowledged in my home but there was really no religious practice, tradition, or instruction," Traci recalls. "I want you to make your own choices about God and religion" was the approach used by her mother. Traci accepts her late baptism as an adult as a blessing because she was able to savor the amazing grace of the Sacrament of Baptism.

## We are created for love.

Today, Traci is the mom of two beautiful children. They're members of St. John Neumann in Sunbury, Ohio and Traci is working with diligence and devotion to introduce her own children to the Catholic Faith. "I want my son and daughter to know deep down from an early age what I have discovered as an adult: God loves us and created us to love Him. Growing up, I saw God as the controller, the law maker, but never the Merciful Father, loving and caring," Traci reflects.

Traci tuned into AM 820 thanks to an invitation from a long-time friend.

"I feel that God has been calling me all along, little by little over the years, and finally I've found my home: The Catholic Church. When I was in college, I took a class in Faith and Education and went to a few different churches." Catholicism came onto Traci's radar screen when she was a young teacher in Guam where she taught in public schools for two years. Guam is a predominantly Catholic island, and a friend of Traci's mom sent Traci a Rosary during this time. The unchurched Traci kept the Rosary with her as she traveled in Saipan, Palau, Bali, Japan, and Korea. She still takes the plastic, red Rosary with her when she travels.

- CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

#### LISTENER TESTIMONY

Many of my parishioners at St. Peter Catholic Church in Chillicothe talk about the impact St. Gabriel Radio is having on them. Plus we have a couple in our RCIA who became interested after seeing the AM 820 sign in our yard. They began listening and became hooked on the Catholic Faith. We also have a truck driver in RCIA because he began listening to Catholic Radio. So keep up the great work! - Fr. William Hahn.

#### **VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT**



#### Chip Stalter Volunteer with the golden voice

Chip has brought us the local news since the inception of St. Gabriel Catholic Radio for almost 10 years. Chip and Susan, his wife, are members of St. John Neumann parish. Thank you, Chip!

#### **PRE-SPIRIT DRIVE GIFTS**

The Fall Spirit Drive takes place September 9, 10, and 11. Pre-Spirit Drive gifts help maximize donations and encourage others to give.

Make your pre-Spirit Drive gift today online at StGabrielRadio.com or call (614) 459-4820.

#### PROGRAM SHOWCASE **TAKING BACK MARRIAGE**



Author and speaker William B. May packed the Jessing Center for a marriage conversation sponsored by AM 820 and the Columbus Diocese Marriage and Family Life Office. May reminds us, "Children have the right to be raised by their biological mom and dad.

"The Marriage Reality" recording is online at www.StGabrielRadio.com in the Archive Special Features subsection.



# IN LOVE WITH CATHOLIC **TEACHING ON MARRIAGE**

Messenger - Summer 2015

- CONTINUED

## A hotel employee officiated the wedding ceremony.

Traci married a man in a secular ceremony over a decade ago and notes, "I had a destination wedding on a beach officiated by a hotel employee." The couple set up housekeeping in Columbus. The husband's mother was a devout, practicing Southern Baptist, so Traci went to church with her mother-in-law for a short time but never became a member. As happens so often in the absence of sacramental grace, the couple was overwhelmed by discord and the family fell apart.

Seeing that her children needed a stable, loving home, Traci divorced the father of her children a few years ago. "I'm divorced and asking the question, 'What does that mean?' I'm in the process of annulment through the Catholic Church."

In her parish of St. John Neumann, Traci has found great inspiration among supportive friends. One parish friend, Jeff Collins, stands out especially. This is a friend who knew Traci even before she entered the Church and he reentered her life after her divorce. Traci believes that God sends us people in our lives who can help us heal and grow closer to Christ. Jeff has had the blessing of conversion to the Catholic Faith and has already gone through the annulment process. He shared his profound love for the Catholic

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Faith and has inspired Traci by modeling what it means to be Christian. At one point, he sent Traci a link to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraphs 1601-1617\* on marriage.

#### Late have I learned to love Thee.

"I read the teaching of the Church and sobbed. As a divorced woman, I realized that this teaching is what marriage really is. This teaching is one of the things that made me fall in love with the Catholic Church. The teaching of the Church on marriage is so beautiful! It's poetry! It is hard for me to reconcile with being divorced. When I said, 'I do,' I meant it. But divorce was the only way to protect myself and my children under the circumstances.'

Traci explains that a number of her secular friends do not understand what an annulment is. "It's about healing the woundedness and misguided thinking that led me to a very bad decision and a bad place. I'm learning about what led me to enter into a non-sacramental union that excluded God in the first place. The annulment process is truly a gift for the wounded."

## St. Gabriel is by her side.

St. Gabriel Radio has been a constant companion for Traci on this journey Home. Catholic Answers Live has been very important to Traci. "I feel comfortable that any and all questions about Faith are encouraged. The hosts give friendly, community. I want clear, positive answers to callers. I listen to the radio and

"Seeing AM 820 bumper magnets as I drive gives me a sense of family and to smile and wave."

look around my parish; I hear upbeat, vibrant, enquiring, intelligent people. Fr. David Sizemore, pastor at St. John Neumann, is so joyous."

Bumper magnets bring a special happiness to Traci. "Seeing these bumper magnets as I drive gives me a sense of family and community. I want to smile and wave. I say our family prayer, 'May the blessing of the Lord be upon you!"

## Confession is a blessing.

"The Catholic Faith is all about God loving us. We don't 'have to' confess, we get to confess. Marriage is God's gift," says Traci about what she has learned through her parish and AM 820 radio programs. "I like that the message I hear is consistently the same thing – gentle and nourishing.

"I understand that God - Jesus - loved me all along. He never forgot me. It's comforting to look back and see that He was here all the time, even though I wasn't ready for Him."

Traci bears witness to Christ's love through her attitude and the environment that she creates, modeling Christian values for the young people under her care.

Traci's 'round-the-world travel companion is a red Rosary.

Traci is a great blessing to her parish, the diocese, and the AM 820 radio family. Her vibrant faith has influenced her work as a third-grade teacher. She has spent the last twenty years teaching in public schools and loves her vocation working with young people K-8. As a public school teacher, she is not permitted to introduce faith into the curriculum. She bears witness to Christ's love through her attitude and the environment that she creates, modeling Christian values for the young people under her care. The AM 820 bumper magnet is always displayed on her car in the school parking lot.

"AM 820 has taught me that God loves us and gives us the markers on the road that will lead us to Happiness," Traci concludes.

# CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Holy Scripture affirms that man and woman were created for one another: "It is not good that the man should be alone." The woman, "flesh of his flesh," his equal, his nearest in all things, is given to him by God as a "helpmate"; she thus represents God from whom comes our help. "Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and cleaves to his wife, and they become one flesh." The Lord himself shows that this signifies an unbreakable union of their two lives by recalling what the plan of the Creator had been "in the beginning": "So they are no longer two, but one flesh," (CCC section 1605).

#### **SPIRIT DRIVE VOLUNTEERS**

# **FALL SPIRIT DRIVE**

September 9, 10, & 11

Volunteer your time to answer the phones, donate food, provide office help, and share your faith with like-minded souls. Call (614) 459-4820 to volunteer.

#### SACRED HEART CONGRESS

Saturday, October 31 7:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

St. Catharine Catholic Church, Bexley

With Fr. Dan Dury, Fr. Stash Dailey, and Ms. Gloria Anson



http://www.sacredheartcongresscolumbus.org/

#### **HOW PRECIOUS IS THE FAMILY!**

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendor of true love, to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer.

#### **LOST YOUR AM 820 BUMPER MAGNET?**



Is your bumper magnet now adorning the wall of your local car wash?

Order your new bumper magnet online at www.StGabrielRadio.com or call (614) 465-4820.

#### **CCL GAME-OF-THE-WEEK SCHEDULE**

Aug 28 Whitehall vs Ready at DeSales

Olentangy Orange at Watterson

Big Walnut at St Charles

Sept 18 DeSales at Hartley

Sept 25 Beavercreek at Hartley

Watterson at DeSales

Lima Central Cath vs Ready at Bradley

Oct 16 Hartley at Watterson

Oct 23 DeSales at St Charles

Oct 30 Hartley vs Ready at Bradley

Sponsored by The Mount Carmel Foundation and The Bob Boyd Auto Family.

www.StGabrielRadio.com St. Gabriel Catholic Radio AM 820 Page 3

#### St. Gabriel Radio, Inc.

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#### **MISSION**

St. Gabriel Catholic Radio's mission is 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 faith while building up the local Body of Christ.



# FRIDAY NIGHT HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COVERAGE ON AM 820

#### 6:00 - 6:45 P.M.

*The Catholic High School Football Preview Show* with Doug Lessells and Ryan Baker

#### 6:45 - 9:30 P.M.

*The Catholic High School Football Game-of-the-Week* with Randy Rhinehart and Larry Wolf

#### 9:30 - 11:00 P.M.

#### High School Football Scoreboard Show

Scores and highlights from the Ohio Capital Conference, City League, Columbus Catholic League, Licking County League, and the Mid-State League





