



# Conversion of heart

Winter 2014/2015

## FAITH LEADS FORMER PROTESTANT TO DONATE KIDNEY

The Catholic Faith and love of God have born astounding fruit in the life of Marilyn Booze.

“I wasn’t looking for any new religious experience,” relates Marilyn Booze, “but those AM 820 bumper magnets piqued my interest. I saw the first one as I was driving home from work in Lancaster. I took fleeting notice of it but it stuck in the back of my mind. I wasn’t curious about the Catholic Faith. I thought that I knew everything about the Catholic Faith which I picked up at home.” Catholicism was on the fringe of the radar screen in Marilyn’s family.

### *Marilyn found a home in the Catholic Church*

“About six months after the fleeting bumper magnet experience, another AM 820 bumper magnet really caught my attention,” Marilyn continues, “and I turned on AM 820 thinking I’d hear monks chanting.” What Marilyn heard on St. Gabriel Radio surprised her. In fact, she was riveted by what she heard. She recalls thinking, “This is Truth. This is right and that is wrong, unwaveringly.” The messages resonated with her heart. “I found a home and didn’t know there was such a place! I was like a dry sponge soaking up the Faith!”

One day, Marilyn dropped by a Catholic parish office to pick up some materials. She wasn’t sure just what she wanted. The parish secretary gave her a copy of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and RCIA (Right of Christian Initiation for Adults) information. As she looked over the information she said to herself, “Who are you trying to kid? You’re never going to become Catholic!” Yet, she couldn’t turn away. She joined Our Lady of Mount Carmel parish in Buckeye Lake and became involved in parish life. One of her first activities was coordinating special events like funeral lunches.

Today, Marilyn recognizes that many guideposts, including the AM 820 bumper magnets and radio programs, directed her to the Catholic Church. Her grandmother, a Catholic, married outside of the Church. Marilyn recounts that she always felt a spiritual longing yet never felt at home as a Protestant. Her family tried a number of Protestant churches but never put down roots in any one. Marilyn never developed a real allegiance to any church but she did develop a skepticism. She describes her former belief as a Protestant, “You can’t know for sure what faith is because it’s all opinion.”

### *AM 820 bumper magnets point the way home*

Then Marilyn found her home through AM 820. St. Gabriel Catholic Radio has been the channel for an amazing change of heart for Marilyn. She says that she’s been listening to AM 820 nonstop since she discovered Catholic radio.

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**AM 1260  
THE ROCK**

COMING APRIL 2015

**WELCOME CLEVELAND CATHOLIC RADIO!**  
Details online at [www.AM1260TheRock.com](http://www.AM1260TheRock.com).

**VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT**



Volunteer Diana Marie Winkler spreads grace and sunshine to visitors and staff alike at the AM 820 office. Her motto is, "Blessed by The Best!" Since 2012, Diana Marie has volunteered weekly to help with everything from soup to nuts! As a talented spiritual writer,

she gives encouragement to women through her personal apostolate, *I Am A Woman of Value, I Am A Woman of Worth, I Am His* at [www.IAmTheShepherdsDaughter.com](http://www.IAmTheShepherdsDaughter.com). Diana Marie is a passionate supporter of St. Gabriel Catholic Radio.

**PARISH AMBASSADORS NEEDED**

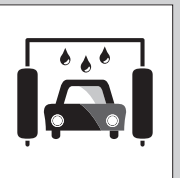


Did you know that 7 out of 10 Catholic Radio listeners said that they are better able to teach their children the truths of the faith?

Help spark the faith in your parish with an AM 820 Awareness Sunday.

Contact Colleen Lewis at (614) 459-4820 or [ColleenL@StGabrielRadio.com](mailto:ColleenL@StGabrielRadio.com).

**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](http://www.StGabrielRadio.com) or call (614) 465-4820



**FAITH LEADS FORMER PROTESTANT TO DONATE KIDNEY**

**- CONTINUED**

"St. Gabriel Radio is the reason that I found Catholicism. God used St. Gabriel Radio. When I started listening, I was amazed! They talked my language of virtue and morality. There is Truth. And in the face of Truth, there can be no backing down! The Right to Life and protection of the unborn. The Sanctity of Marriage. If people can't get that right, we're in big trouble! Catholicism is the only Faith that stands firm on these matters in a loving and dignified way."

"When I learned the Truth about the Eucharist, I just couldn't wait to take Holy Communion. I longed for the Eucharist. I am so grateful that the Lord led me home. I was always meant to be Catholic! The Church is my home," exclaims Marilyn.

"Open Line and Catholic Answers callers help me frame the same questions that people ask me and the hosts arm me with accurate, factual answers about the Catholic Faith," affirms Marilyn. She then recites a long list of other AM 820 favorites that include Barbara McGuigan, the pro-life warrior, Teresa Tomeo's *Catholic Connection*, Patrick Madrid and Al Kresta. "I know all the program hosts by name and recognize their voices," says Marilyn. "They have become part of my family!"

**Facebook plea for kidney donation**

Catholic radio gave Marilyn new insight into the meaning of "love one another" and raised that command to a new, deeper significance of sacrifice for the good of others. This Catholic teaching has born astounding fruit in Marilyn's life.

"I saw a plea from a former classmate in need of a kidney on the Facebook page of my Newark, Ohio high school Class of '75," says Marilyn. She'd never met Ron, her former classmate, since there were over 700 people in their graduating class. They graduated in the same class but never knew each other before the Facebook connection. Still, Marilyn decided to respond, asking what blood type he had. He answered, 'A positive.' That's the same blood type as Marilyn. They met and started the process. The tests all came back in favor of the kidney donation.

"I realized that I was chosen as an instrument of God's love. On September 9 of last year, I donated one of my kidneys to this man. I was not the least nervous. I knew that God was in control." Marilyn emphasizes that she let the recipient know that her kidney donation was made because of her Catholic Faith and love of God! "We remain in contact and I can see his faith grow," marvels Marilyn.

"My husband was so concerned about this decision but he was supportive. The morning of the surgery, Ron's mother came to the hospital room. She buried her face on my shoulder and sobbed with gratitude," relates Marilyn. "This kidney donation was pure joy! A gift to me as well. The Lord gave me the grace to go through with it." Marilyn credits the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick for this. The kidney transplant was a resounding success. Ron thrives now with normal kidney function.

**New kidney brings new Life to Ron**

"God gave me this experience not only to save Ron's life, but to open the door of Eternal life to him," she believes. Ron, a lapsed Protestant, is now considering returning to his faith and credits the Lord with his renewed health.

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Ron and Marilyn stay in touch and they feel very connected biologically, like brother and sister. Marilyn hopes that when Ron reads this story in St. Gabriel's *Messenger*, he'll be inspired to give AM 820 a try!

Marilyn's journey home has presented many joys and blessings and a few challenges. "I've gotten flack along the way," she says. Many in her family have struggled with her decision to become Catholic. She's elated that one of her brothers and her son have joined her pilgrimage home through the Church. "My brother and I didn't know that either of us was exploring the Catholic Faith!" she explains.

Her son Daniel also was inspired by Marilyn's Faith walk and her love of AM 820 radio. He started listening and commented to his Mom, "If you listen, you'll get it because what you hear goes to the very core of the deepest longing of our hearts. I get it! Catholicism isn't about praying to statues and worshipping Mary!" He started listening to Mother Angelica's EWTN program and he was inspired to read her biography. St. Gabriel Radio is playing a major role in his conversion of heart. The radio programs are also a cherished way that Mom and son connect despite their busy schedules. He's now in RCIA at St. Bernadette's parish in Lancaster.



Marilyn treasures the Catholic medals that belonged to her grandmother.

**Marilyn's gift of Faith is multiplied even more**

Daniel and his wife have two children. Next, Daniel's wife began listening to Fr. John Riccardo on AM 820 and she's now asking about RCIA. One of the children is now old enough and has started PSR. Marilyn beams as she tells, "My five-year-old granddaughter turned to me during Mass one Sunday and said, 'I have a Church, too, Grandma!'"

It was a special surprise when one of her Protestant relatives, who doesn't understand Marilyn's Faith walk, gave to Marilyn a treasure of Catholic medals that had belonged to Marilyn's grandmother. These family medals are precious to her and she wears the medals with great feeling. "My hope is that one day, I'll be able to share the joy of my Faith with the rest of my family. I wish that my loved ones understood that you can't get closer to Jesus than in the Eucharist."

Marilyn works as a phlebotomist at Doctor's Hospital. She listens to AM 820 as she drives to Columbus from Buckeye Lake. She's now excited to start listening to St. Gabriel Radio at home via her computer. She also plans to set up her smart phone so that she can listen most anywhere.

**"Respond to God's tugs on our hearts!"**

"Be true to the calling of the Holy Spirit," is Marilyn's advice for helping others respond to God's tugs on our hearts. "God has great blessings in store for you, blessings beyond your imagination." She adds, "Jesus Himself said that the Truth is more important than mother, father or family. I want to pinch myself to make sure that I'm not dreaming, to comprehend that I have really found my spiritual home."

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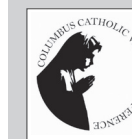
**LISTENER-SUPPORTED AM 820 NEEDS YOU!**

Become a Sustaining Member. Sustaining Members are the foundation of St. Gabriel Catholic Radio. Your prayers and generosity keep the doors open, the lights on, and the airwaves alive with The Good News of Christ.

Monthly Sustaining Member pledges: \$20, \$30, or \$40 a month.

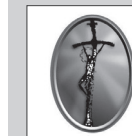
Make your pledge online at [www.StGabrielRadio.com](http://www.StGabrielRadio.com) or call (614) 459-4820.

**2015 CATHOLIC CONFERENCES AT THE VOINOVICH BUILDING**



**Columbus Catholic Women's Conference**  
February 21<sup>st</sup>

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



**Columbus Catholic Men's Conference**  
February 28<sup>th</sup>

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

**LISTENER TESTIMONY**

"I love it. It's the only thing I listen to in my car. And I drive a lot. I'm a cradle Catholic and I'm always learning something new."

- Anthony in Pickerington, OH

"It led me back home to the Church from practicing Judaism."

- Luke in Kenton, OH

**LENTEN CHALLENGE**

INVITE A LOVED ONE TO LISTEN TO **AM 820 DURING LENT.**



**AM 820 RADIO, BEDSIDE AT MOUNT CARMEL HOSPITALS, CHANNEL 35**



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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.

# SPRING SPIRIT DRIVE

March 11, 12, & 13

## THE 3 O'CLOCK LENTEN PRAYER

Dear Lord, remembering the hour when You experienced death so that we might have Eternal Life, may we appreciate in our hearts the necessity of Your sacrifice for us and with Your help, Your guidance, and Your grace, may we be made worthy of it.

Courtesy of  
[www.OurCatholicPrayers.org](http://www.OurCatholicPrayers.org)

# LOCAL PROGRAMS FROM AM 820



**TUESDAYS  
AT 12:30**

**ANSWERING THE CALL  
WITH ELIZABETH FICOCELLI**

The spiritual journeys of local religious



**THURSDAYS  
AT NOON**

**ALIVE FOR MORE**

A dialogue with young Catholic Adults



**FRIDAYS  
AT NOON**

**TREASURES OF OUR FAITH**

Reflections from local priests