



# MESSENGER



## Conversion of heart

Fall 2014

### AM 820 LENTEN CHALLENGE LEADS CARLOS HOME

“My family comes from Cristero territory,” says Carlos Martinez who was born in Michoacán, Mexico. Michoacán was a hotbed of persecution by an anti-Catholic government in the 1920s, which gave rise to the brave Mexican men and women who gave their lives to defend the Faith.

Carlos crossed the border at age five with his parents and siblings. He grew up in San Jose, California, in a close-knit, loving family of painters by trade who were strong in their Catholic Faith. The Faith and traditions were part of every aspect of family life during his childhood, but in fact he says that his family never really explained why Catholics do what we do. In his teen years, his family fell apart little by little under the cultural stress, and Carlos fell away from his Catholic and cultural roots.

#### *Carlos becomes a frequent “Right Here, Right Now” caller.*

When coworkers in Columbus, Ohio, gave Carlos a CD on the Cristero War (*Persecution of the Church in Mexico*, by Patrick Madrid), important images reawakened in him. In fact, Carlos listened to Madrid’s CD and was fascinated to learn that Madrid not only lives in Ohio, but also has a Q & A radio show - *Right Here, Right Now*.

“You have to tune in to Madrid’s program on AM 820 Radio, Carlos,” advised his co-workers, Jackie and Mary. These two ladies are Discalced Carmelite Seculars, so we can be sure that their CD gift and their radio advice came with many prayers!

God always answers prayers for the salvation of a soul. Carlos called the *Right Here, Right Now* program and became a frequent caller on Patrick Madrid’s show. He was hooked on the Word of God and the teachings of the Church that he heard on AM 820.

#### *Odyssey out of the barrio.*

Carlos’ journey from Mexico to California became an odyssey when he tried to distance himself from life in the barrios of San Jose. He saw the drug, alcohol and gang culture destroy the older boys he had admired as a child. Carlos wanted something better. He decided to leave behind the drugs and alcohol. He wanted to recapture somehow that close-knit love he had received from his family growing up.

In search of this dream, he wed a young lady on the spur of the moment in a secular ceremony. They moved to Flushing, Michigan, where they lived with his wife’s sister. But without faith in God and prayer, they could not fight the temptations in their lives. Yet God can bring good out of everything in creation - and in this situation, his new sister-in-law was a devout Christian whose faith made a huge impression on Carlos.

*“You have to tune in to Madrid’s program on AM 820 Radio, Carlos.”*

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### VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Ben Finrock, a sophomore at Bishop Watterson, is lending his talent to AM 820 this summer and fall in marketing. His projects include high school football social media. Ben likes journalism, broadcasting, and St. Gabriel Radio.

"I carpool to school with other students and we like to listen to AM 820 on the drive. What we hear on the radio often relates to what we hear in class, so this makes for some great conversations," says Ben.

### PARISH AMBASSADORS NEEDED



Did you know that 9 out of 10 Catholic Radio listeners said that they are more engaged in their faith? Help spark the faith in your parish with an AM 820 Awareness Weekend.

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

### SACRED HEART CONGRESS



October 11, 2014 at St. Joan of Arc parish, Powell

With Father Michael Gaitley, Father Stash Dailey, and Father James Black

[www.SacredHeartCongress.org](http://www.SacredHeartCongress.org)

### AM 820 RADIO LISTENER TESTIMONY

AM 820 has played a significant role in my conversion from Protestantism. I listen every day and have especially benefitted from hearing Fr. John Riccardo, Mother Angelica, Patrick Madrid, and *Catholic Answers Live*.

AM820 is such a blessing! It has taught me so much about the Faith and provided resources that God has used to draw me closer to Him! God Bless your ministry!!!  
- David in Fairborn, OH

**ST. GABRIEL RADIO, BEDSIDE AT MOUNT CARMEL HOSPITALS, CHANNEL 35**



# AM 820 LENTEN CHALLENGE LEADS CARLOS HOME

- CONTINUED

"I realized that our marriage had no foundation. No faith, no family held us together, and we were overwhelmed," he reflects. That dream fell apart and Carlos found himself once again in an unfamiliar place – this time alone.

In his sorrow and turmoil, he fell back on something his parents had instilled in him: the importance of work. "I worked from morning 'til night. I returned late to an empty home where I would drop in exhaustion, sleep, then get up the next day and do the same thing again."

### *Turning toward God in Columbus.*

Rita came into Carlos' life a few years later in Flint, Michigan. Rita is also from a close-knit Mexican family, and her sister was living in Blacklick, Ohio. Carlos, who by now had earned certification as a Property Maintenance Technician, found a job in Columbus. He moved to Columbus to establish himself in work and then brought Rita to Columbus. They have been married for six years.

Last year, Carlos was badly hurt in a work accident. "I was brought low by pain and fear. I realized how my bad habits were opening the door to other, more serious vices. The only place I had to turn was to Jesus. I asked Jesus to show me Who He is. I felt guilty of asking Him to heal me, of turning to Him just because I needed Him. I was ready to give my life back to Him. But I needed to know Who He is! I started to hear many answers by listening to programs, like Fr. Riccardo and Mother Angelica, on St. Gabriel Radio."

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### *Absolution and grace.*

Carlos made an appointment with Fr. Dailey for the sacrament of reconciliation. Recalls Carlos, "I spent three hours in the confessional. With the strength of God's absolution and grace, I started to realize that I had to change."

Carlos had to work in the property management office while he was recovering from his neck injury. "My office co-workers, Jackie and Mary, started telling me about the Faith. They gave me the *Cristero* CD by Patrick Madrid. The Catholic stories and traditions I learned in my childhood came flooding back to me through this history of Catholic resistance in Mexico that was so much a part of my history. I started asking Jackie and Mary questions about the Faith.

"I decided to take a challenge: listen to AM 820 for the entire Lenten season. I wanted to hear Patrick Madrid on the radio. I was even willing to give up sports radio in this challenge! "Then I discovered Fr. Riccardo. Then Mother Angelica. Fr. Riccardo: I love the way he talks. And Mother Angelica's Rosary. I haven't turned off AM 820 since! My day starts in the car following Mass. I tell people that Jesus healed me, and I want to tell them how He healed me. When you find something good – like the Faith – you want to share it."

*"I decided to take a challenge: listen to AM 820 for the entire Lenten season instead of sports radio."*

### Carlos' transformation brings big changes to his life.

Carlos' wife Rita is watching his transformation as it brings big, unexpected changes to their marriage. Rita has decided to go to Mass with Carlos and especially likes Fr. Stash Dailey. She wants to be baptized and will enroll in Holy Family parish's RCIA program with Fr.



Together, Carlos and Rita have created a backyard garden sanctuary graced with St. Francis.

Dailey this September. She also listens in to AM 820 sometimes. Carlos' sister-in-law has started asking him about the Faith, too.

"God speaks to me through the radio!" exclaims Carlos. "A few days ago, Fr. Raymond Collins was being interviewed on an AM 820 program. He gave the example that, while illness and death are not part of God's original plan for us, He can bring good out of suffering.

"The next day, I was repairing an apartment where I saw Catholic devotional pictures. I was talking with the tenants, a husband and wife, and realized that they were worried about a child who was ill. I had promised myself not to talk about God that day but the conversation turned to how we choose to love God – or not. I was able to console these parents with Fr. Collin's radio message. God wanted this lady to hear this message and He gave it to me on AM 820!"

"Carlos, you've explained this in a way we've never heard," the lady responded. Carlos said to her, "Listen to AM 820!"

Carlos wraps up his story by saying, "When you know the Truth, you want to share it. St. Gabriel Catholic Radio helps me talk about the Faith. I want my loved ones in Heaven."

*Carlos Martinez has a fascinating life story of drama and spiritual growth. Be sure to listen for more from Carlos during the Fall Spirit Drive.*

*"God speaks to me through the radio!"*

## FRIDAY NIGHT HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COVERAGE ON AM 820



**6:30 - 7:15 P.M.**

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

**7:15 - 9:45 P.M.**

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

**9:45 - 11:00 P.M.**

*High School Football Scoreboard Show* presented by

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

### JOIN THE FUN AND THE FUNDRAISING

## FALL SPIRIT DRIVE

September 17, 18, & 19

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.

### SUSTAINING MEMBERS AND BUSINESS UNDERWRITERS, AM 820 NEEDS YOU!

#### Individual Sustaining Members

Pledges - \$20 monthly or \$240 per year - keep the AM 820 doors open.

#### Business Underwriters

Enjoy radio identification messages for just \$50 or \$90 per month.

Make your pledge online at [www.StGabrielRadio.com](http://www.StGabrielRadio.com).

### PRAYER, ST. NICHOLAS OF FLUE

My Lord and my God, take from me everything that distances me from You.

My Lord and my God, give me everything that brings me closer to You.

My Lord and my God, detach me from myself to give my all to You. - Amen

*In loving memory of Joe Dury+, a member of Holy Cross parish and a long-time supporter of AM 820, who prayed this devotion each morning.*

### AM 820 ON YOUR SMART PHONE

Download the TuneIn app and listen to your favorite programs on AM 820 Radio.



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

- Aug 29 Dublin Coffman @ St. Charles
- Sept 5 Ready @ Academy
- Sept 12 St. Charles @ Big Walnut
- Sept 19 Hartley @ St. Charles
- Sept 26 Benedictine @ Watterson
- Oct 3 Watterson @ Hartley
- Oct 10 Centennial @ DeSales
- Oct 17 DeSales @ Watterson
- Oct 24 Hartley @ DeSales
- Oct 31 Ready @ Hartley
- Nov 7 - Dec 6 Playoffs

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CATHOLIC RADIO  
AM 820



Phone (614) 459-4820  
www.StGabrielRadio.com

### 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.

High School Football  
SCOREBOARD  
SHOW  
ONLY ON  
AM 820  
ThisWeek  
SPORTS.com

SCORES AND HIGHLIGHTS FROM ALL OVER CENTRAL OHIO  
**FRIDAY NIGHT**  
AFTER THE GAME ON AM 820

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