



# MESSENGER

Winter 2016/2017

## “HONEY, I’VE GOT TO MAKE A CONFESSION...”

Dave Hampton is bigger than life in his person and his Faith. He is a retired U.S. Army combat engineer and steel worker, a Harley Davidson biker, former Evangelical, and first-grade Bible study leader. He credits the little “ankle biters” with opening his heart to faith.

“I was very active in my Evangelical Church and being Catholic never crossed my mind,” Dave tells us. “I found the Catholic Church while driving. I accidentally landed my car radio channel to a religious station where I heard a speaker on a passionate riff, preaching about dryness. It was Father Larry Richards and from then on AM 820 is the only thing I listen to on the radio,” Dave says.

“My wife and I have been married for 35 years and we weren’t in a church for decades. About twelve years ago, my wife decided to go to church. I wasn’t interested and dodged her invitations for months. Then I discovered that the pastor of the church where my wife was going rode a Harley Davidson and I figured, ‘He must be okay!’”

Dave decided to go to church and help his wife with children’s Bible study groups just to keep her company. “I’m crazy about my wife and would do anything for her,” he explains. “But I didn’t really go because I had a transformation of heart; that is, until the kids in Bible study demonstrated such awesome faith.

“The kids stirred up my faith. One day in Bible study, we were talking about the parting of the Red Sea. I thought the Bible was a fable and said so. I will never forget the look on the kids’ faces and was touched to the core by their awesome faith. Their awe of God activated the seeds of faith in me and I became grounded in Christ,” Dave remembers with emotion.

As Dave moved closer to Jesus, he saw his Evangelical church moving farther away from Christian teachings. “I was struggling with alcohol addiction at the time,” he relates, “and needed help.” Dave says that he approached one of the pastors about the terrible emotional, spiritual, and health problems that afflicted him. This pastor consoled Dave with his church’s belief that a person is saved even before he commits a sin. Instead of offering Dave words of spiritual help, the pastor said, “If you only understood God’s grace, you’d want to sin every day just to experience the grace.”

Dave realized at that moment that he needed to find a different kind of church. He and Ann decided to take the summer to visit different churches – Baptist, non-denominational, Nazarene.

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Conversion  
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## BISHOP ARCHIVES

Bishop Campbell's *Reflections* in searchable audio archives online bring the Bishop's pastoral care to RCIA groups, teachers, Bible study groups, and the faithful looking for spiritual inspiration.

On demand at [www.StGabrielRadio.com](http://www.StGabrielRadio.com).

## BISHOP CAMPBELL RADIO ARCHIVES

## LOCAL AM 820 PROGRAMS



### SACRED HEART HOUR

First Fridays at 8:00 A.M.  
with Father Stash Dailey and  
Jo Ann and Chuck Wilson



### SACRED SOUNDINGS WITH AL ROMANO

Wednesdays at Noon,  
Liturgical and spiritual  
music by religious orders.

## CALLING COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS



Sign up today to comfort  
the afflicted, feed the hungry,  
clothe the naked, shelter  
the homeless, or counsel  
the doubtful.

Go to the Community Volunteer button at  
[www.StGabrielRadio.com](http://www.StGabrielRadio.com) to contact community  
organizations about volunteer opportunities.

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Kim Mattox is a consummate  
cheerleader, assistant coach  
at Bishop Watterson High  
School, a beauty consultant  
with Mary Kay Cosmetics,  
and a wonderful volunteer  
at St. Gabriel Catholic Radio.

Thank you, Kim, for being our AM 820 cheerleader  
and helping to reach out to our AM 820 radio  
family of listeners.



**EW/TN**

Global  
Catholic  
Network

# “HONEY, I’VE GOT TO MAKE A CONFESSION. . .”

- CONTINUED

She seemed drawn to the Church of the Nazarene and, unknown to Dave, was praying that her husband would step up to his role as spiritual leader of their family. Unknown to Ann, God had Catholic designs on both of them.

While Ann was deepening her Nazarene connection, Dave was secretly listening to AM 820. He frequently drove by a Catholic church and wondered if he would even be allowed to enter. “Every time I drove by St. John Neumann, I heard the Holy Spirit whisper: ‘Stop and ask about what Catholicism is.’” recounts Dave.

One day, Dave walked into the St. John Neumann church. A janitor directed him to Tina Burch in the office. Dave told Tina his story. She answered all of his questions, gave him a copy of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and a schedule of Masses. He took the Catechism home, read it nightly, and fell in love. He kept the Catechism hidden in his night stand. He knew that Ann would resist because of all the things they had been told about Catholicism.

“I began attending Wednesday Masses at St. John Neumann and fell in love with the Mass,” continues Dave. “I heard an excellent sermon on that first Wednesday. The priest talked about the Holy Spirit and John the Baptist, whose main purpose was to prepare people for Jesus and help them get to Heaven. That’s our main purpose! Help family, friends, and enemies know Jesus and get to Heaven!”

“For two months, while I was attending Mass on Wednesdays, I was also attending Protestant churches on Sundays with my wife. But the Holy Spirit took hold of me.

“Finally, I had to ‘fess up.

“I said, ‘Honey, I’ve got to make a confession. . .’”

Dave held out his copy of the *Catechism*. Ann looked at him befuddled. “What’s that?” she asked.

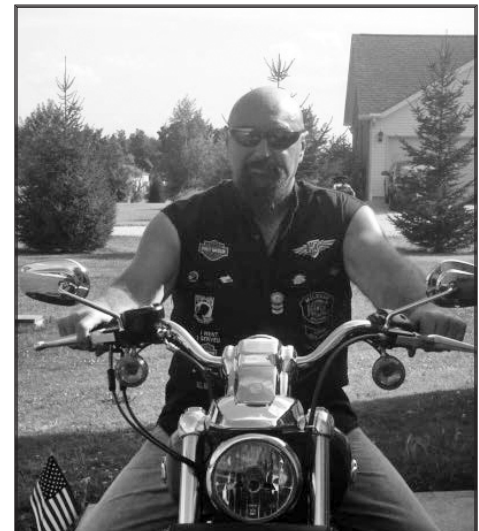
“I answered, ‘The *Catechism*!!! I’ve been going to Mass!’”

Shocked and hurt, Ann said, “How did this happen?!”

Ann made her own confession and told Dave that during the summer, as they went from church to church, she had been praying that he would become the spiritual leader of the family. With Dave’s Catholic news, Ann became afraid that the Devil had hijacked her prayer.

Dave put all his cards on the table at that point. “Since we’re visiting churches on Sundays, let’s try Catholic Mass on Sunday. If you don’t feel the Holy Spirit, we won’t go back,” Dave pleaded to Ann.

That Sunday, they went to Mass at St. John Neumann. This was the first time that Dave had experienced the full Sunday Mass and he was overwhelmed by its



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magnificence. Dave remembers with a smile, "Fr. David Sizemore gave the homily. Ann cried because she said that she felt the Holy Spirit. I knew that we had got her! We both started RCIA.

"I joined *That Man is You*, a men's faith group. We both went through *Alpha*, a program that explores the Christian faith. Every man and woman there was awesome! I started attending the Catholic Men's Conference."

He feels personally connected to St. Gabriel Radio because he met Dave Orsborn, AM 820 Vice Director and Program Manager, and they became friends. He also met Bill Messerly, AM 820 Executive Director. "Bill is a member of my parish and AM 820 feels like a home away from home," Dave explains.

Dave has several favorite programs, "Mother Angelica's great. Barbara McGuigan and *The Doctor is In* with Dr. Ray nail the Faith on the head. *Catholic Answers* helps me answer my family's questions. I pay close attention because a family member bombards me with questions and accusations. I have lost biker friends who are Baptists. One came by a few weeks ago and we talked for hours about the Catholic Church. AM 820 gives me insight and knowledge, especially about sharing the Biblical premises of Catholicism. When I talk with friends and family, I always point to Scripture passages in the *King James Bible* so that my Protestant friends can't claim that I'm using a trick bible.

"I feel that the more questions and accusations they ask, the better. It shows that they are searching and it forces us to learn more about the Biblical foundation of the Faith. Patrick Madrid has taught me some important lessons. For example, when people ask me 'How do you know what you believe?' My answer is 'Why do you want to know? Do you want to really know what we believe? Or do you want to argue?' That puts the conversation on the right track and allows me to answer thoughtfully."

Dave and Ann pray especially for their grown son, James, and the four children in his son's life. James is skeptical about Catholicism but admits, "The change that has happened to Dad is awesome." James asks his Dad lots of questions about the Faith.

The change in Dave is especially profound considering his long struggle with alcohol. In his Protestant days, recovery was complicated by the "once saved always saved" belief. Dave says that for a long time he saw no problem in abusing himself. "Then God showed me a vision of an angel who told me that my organs were shutting down. I quit drinking because life became a living Hell. I finally knew that I had to get help. I checked into a faith-based program and attended four times a week for a year. Once I got sober, I saw life with new eyes and God opened up to me an entirely new spiritual life."

Dave wants to share this joy with his son and gives this advice, "You have no idea how wonderful it is to serve Christ. It's not about giving up anything." Dave wants his son to understand that we gain everything through Christ - God, friends, hope - and the old habits no longer have any attraction at all. Through Jesus we are able to defang the demons that tear at our hearts and minds.

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Invite a  
loved one to  
listen to  
**AM 820**  
during Lent.

## 2017 MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CONFERENCES



**Women's**  
February 18, 2017  
[www.ColumbusCatholicWomen.com](http://www.ColumbusCatholicWomen.com)



**Men's**  
February 25, 2017  
[www.CatholicMensMinistry.com](http://www.CatholicMensMinistry.com)

## SPRING SPIRIT DRIVE 2017



March 22, 23, 24, and 25  
Volunteers, we need your help. Call (614) 459-4820 to sign up for the fun and excitement of the AM 820 Spirit Drive.

## LISTENER TESTIMONY

"Thank you for your great programming. I have been cruising between Detroit and Louisville on Interstate 75 for almost three years and I catch your station. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication. Your ministry is a blessing and a testament of God's grace."  
— Daniel, Faithful Listener

## CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART...



Renew within me a steadfast spirit.  
Psalm 51:12

St. Gabriel Radio, Inc.  
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Columbus, Ohio 43220

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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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.



**"THIS IS MY SON WITH WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED," MATTHEW 3:17.**