



MESSENGER

Summer 2017

AM 820 LEADS PROTESTANT ELDER TO THE TRUTH

“I was pulled into St. Gabriel Radio because I found truthful interpretations of Scripture. I heard a radio talk on the foundation of the ‘Hail Mary’ prayer based on the Gospel of St. Luke. Then I googled ‘Mary’ and found the USCCB website. The Truth about Mary came on me like an avalanche – not just a snowball – and blew my mind!” says Ted Habak, a new Catholic at St. Pius X parish. “Next, AM 820 led me to the origin of the Eucharistic Prayer in John 6. As a Presbyterian, I believed in the bread and wine as ‘elements’, not the Sacred Body and Blood.”

Ted explains that before this avalanche convinced him once and for all, Catholicism gradually seeped into his life with the help of St. Gabriel Radio. There were a number of “Ah ha!” moments in a series of events that connected his spiritual journey to the teachings he heard on AM 820. God used what seemed to be random coincidence: St. Gabriel Radio bumper magnets, a flip through radio stations in the car that landed on St. Gabriel, even a casual Catholic conversation at – of all places – the Arnold Strongman Classic.

What?! The Arnold Strongman Classic! Ted is in the insurance business and one of his product lines is insurance for health clubs. At the Arnold Classic, he was networking for business when he met another insurance agent, Myra Snider. Ted and Myra talked about how uncomfortable they felt surrounded by the sex-saturated culture of the event. That’s when Myra, a Catholic, said, “AM 820 is a great way to feed the faith.”

Finally, Ted said, “I’ll try this Catholic thing out! I used to listen to classical and country music on the radio. I spend a lot of time in the car. Now, AM 820 is permanently on my car radio, five hours per day or more. I can get St. Gabriel reception even on the outskirts of Indianapolis!”

Launching into a serious Catholic inquiry was no small undertaking for Ted who was raised Protestant and ordained as a Presbyterian Elder for life.

“Since childhood, I felt close to the Holy Spirit. My parents were very strong Christians and great parents.” As with so many of us, the attractions and busyness of the world pulled Ted away from practicing his faith. As a young man, Ted met Mary Margarel, a cradle Catholic, and that led to a wedding outside the Catholic Church.

Today, three of the Habak children are now adults: Jeffrey, Michael, Mara. Their fourth child was lost early in pregnancy.

God used what seemed to be random coincidence – like St. Gabriel Radio bumper magnets – to inspire Ted.

“Always, since childhood, I felt close to the Holy Spirit.”

Conversion
of heart

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LISTENER TESTIMONY

"I enjoy the constant replenishment of my faith as I listen, and I glean a lot of information that I share with my 8th grade confirmation class."

- Alison, Marysville

SPIRIT DRIVE VOLUNTEERS



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.

INVEST IN RELATIONSHIPS

Relationship is the first step to sharing Jesus. Get involved in the lives of the people you care about. Make time for them, listen to them, invest in their lives, and never give up.

THE TRINITY, OUR MODEL FOR RELATIONSHIP



Art courtesy of www.TamaraPaint.com

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Sheila O'Sullivan brings great blessings to St. Gabriel Catholic Radio with her bright smile and willingness to say "Yes!" to volunteer jobs on short notice. She lends a cheerful voice answering phones during Spirit Drives and

helps supply parishes with bumper magnets, holy cards, and posters. Thank you, Sheila!



AM 820 LEADS PROTESTANT ELDER TO THE TRUTH

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"We didn't go to church but when our first child was born, we began changing. That's when we began practicing as Presbyterians and I became an Elder. I took an oath to God to serve the church, help teach in the church, and live in accord with Scripture. As a church Elder, I had to make lots of decisions and eventually the conversation always dropped to collecting money and evangelization outreach. I even stood on street corners to evangelize! I still love my Presbyterian friends."

Ted relates that when the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church redefined marriage and ordination, he and Mary knew that they needed to make a change in their faith life. That was in 2011.

"I didn't jump right into Catholicism. First, I looked at other churches, including Mormonism. I found many faith-filled people and strong Christians in all of the denominations that I explored. I ended up sneaking into a Catholic church for Mass on a Friday morning. I sat way in the back because I was scared. As it turned out, the experience was one of total acceptance, and very loving.

"I ended up sneaking into a Catholic church for Mass on a Friday morning."

"But on that Friday, at my first Mass, I humorously thought that the people around me might not want me there, probably didn't like me, and saw me as just a dirty Protestant. I was wondering if someone would shout, 'Infidel! Remove this man!' That didn't happen.

"After two or three times at Mass, I realized that no one was going to throw me out. In fact, people let me have my space and soon started to approach me. In 2013, I realized that the Catholic Church was the place where I needed to be."

On this journey, Ted discovered the teachings of the Catholic Church with help from the Catechesis Team at St. Pius X parish and AM 820. "I entered RCIA in 2014. Monsignor Funk, Sr. Maxine Shonk, and my sponsor Scott Banaski, at St. Pius X parish taught me so much! Through AM 820 and Scott Hahn, I discovered new understandings of the Revelation of John as a portrayal of Heaven and the Liturgy of the Eucharist."

Ted learned to pray the Rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy by listening to AM 820. He says, "I love praying the Rosary with Fr. Groeschel, Ray Guarendi, Fr. Riccardo, Fr. Larry Richards, and Dr. David Anders have all taught me a lot. AM 820 is a wonderful evangelization tool!"

In 2014, Ted and Mary came home to the Catholic Church together. Ted entered RCIA. "The truth that I found through AM 820 regarding annulment of my previous marriage



helped me through a difficult time. I learned about the sanctity of matrimony and the need to annul my previous marriage."

Ted took deeply to heart the teaching of the Church, "Mary, my wife, and I grew spiritually as we learned that the annulment process is designed to help us recognize that the Catholic Church wants us to have a full understanding of the Sacrament of Marriage. I learned humility and patience and felt that the process united my soul closer to Christ.

"I continued to pray and study Scripture so that I could hear God speaking to me. Twice I had to confess to a priest that I was mad at God because He wouldn't let me into the Catholic Church – the way that I wanted to enter!

"Some people criticize the Catholic Church's teachings as rigid, hard rules," Ted continues. "But I can only reflect on where the Ten Commandments come from. God Himself! The people of Israel were crawling around the desert, nostalgic for Egypt – nostalgic for SLAVERY! They needed direction. God, in His infinite love, said, 'If you do these ten things, you will have FREEDOM!'"

The Act of Contrition also took on a special meaning for Ted, "Not only because my transgressions are wrong, but because they offend God who is worthy of all my love."

Ted acknowledges that his journey into the Catholic Church required of him total reliance on God's mercy and the wisdom of the Catholic Church. Ted recites a verse from Scripture with ardor, "You have the words of eternal life. Where can I go?" This realization is especially important for Ted in the light of his relationship with Mary, his wife. "I am blessed to be the spouse of Mary Margaret. Jesus sent her to me to bring me home to the Catholic Church."

In closing, Ted reflects, "My vocation is to get all my children to Heaven and I hope they will grow in appreciation for the Catholic Faith."

FALL SPIRIT DRIVE
September 20, 21, 22 & 23

LISTENER-SUPPORTED AM 820 NEEDS YOU!

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.

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www.SacredHeartCongressColumbus.org

ENCOUNTER GOES WORLDWIDE



Encounter with Dan DeMatte and Patrick Reis is St. Gabriel Radio's first international program airing on EWTN and Ave Maria Radio.

Saturdays at 10 A.M. & 8 P.M.
Sundays at 5 P.M.

CCL GAME-OF-THE-WEEK SCHEDULE



Friday night coverage starts at 6:00.

- Aug. 25 St. Charles @ Upper Arlington
- Sept. 01 Bishop Watterson vs. Orange (@ Otterbein)
- Sept. 08 Newark Catholic @ Columbus Academy
- Sept. 15 Bishop Ready @ Grandview Heights
- Sept. 22 Worthington Kilbourne @ Bishop Hartley
- Sept. 29 St. Francis DeSales @ St. Charles
- Oct. 06 Bishop Hartley vs. Bishop Ready (@ DeSales)
- Oct. 13 St. Francis DeSales @ Bishop Hartley
- Oct. 20 Bishop Watterson @ Dublin Jerome
- Oct. 27 Bishop Watterson @ St. Francis DeSales

SCORES AND HIGHLIGHTS FROM ALL OVER CENTRAL OHIO

FRIDAY NIGHT AFTER THE GAME ON AM 820

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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.



"MY SOUL MAGNIFIES THE LORD AND MY SPIRIT REJOICES IN GOD MY SAVIOR; BECAUSE HE HAS REGARDED THE LOWLINESS OF HIS HANDMAID."

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