



MESSENGER

CONVERSION OF THE HEART

Shocked by the Real Presence

Faith has been a companion to Patricia Hanna from her early life. Raised in a non-religious family in a small town in Indiana, she discovered her love for Jesus at college in a Protestant Evangelical campus movement. She carried this joy with her on Evangelical missionary trips to Central America and Europe.

In 2003, she started teaching Spanish. She discovered a passion for all things education that brought her to Columbus, Ohio, for graduate studies in Educational Leadership and Policy. She earned a Ph.D. at The Ohio State University. It was amid her life here in Columbus that God began opening her heart to the Catholic Church.

WHERE IS JESUS?

While Patricia continued to experience the joy that the Gospel had brought to her life as an Evangelical, she also began to awaken to a sense that God wanted to give her more.

"A few years ago, a nagging sense began to dog me that we were missing something. I began to ask myself, 'Where is Jesus in all this?' I appreciated all that Evangelicalism had given me over the years and the great events that we staged but it was hard to sense the presence of Jesus amid all the activity."

A FRIEND SAID, "CHECK OUT CATHOLIC RADIO."

As a devout Evangelical for over 25 years, Patricia discovered St. Gabriel Catholic Radio about two years ago thanks to a faith mentor and friend from her Evangelical days in campus ministry. She reconnected with this friend after many years and learned that the friend was discerning entrance into the Catholic Church!

"A nagging sense began to dog me that we were missing something."

"One day we met for coffee and she began sharing her journey into Catholicism and her spiritual insights. My initial reaction was shock! At first, I felt, 'Oh, my God,' and I started praying for her because, according to my Evangelical background, her conversion to Catholicism made me very concerned for her soul! At the same time, I was intrigued by the Catholic insights and spiritual growth that my friend was sharing with me. She seemed more in love with Jesus than ever! This challenged my preconceived ideas about Catholicism. My curiosity about the Catholic Church began to grow."

After a few more conversations, Patricia went to Mass with her friend for the first time. During a conversation on that visit, a parishioner encouraged Patricia. "It sounds to me like you're interested in exploring this," the parishioner said, "so you should check out a local Catholic Radio station!" Patricia did exactly that. She searched online for Catholic radio stations in Columbus, Ohio, and immediately found St. Gabriel Radio.

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CATHOLIC ANSWERS SPOKE TO MY HEART

She started listening to St. Gabriel Radio daily, all the time, in August of 2020. "This is not sugar-coated fluff. Shows like Catholic Answers spoke to my heart! For six months, it seemed that every time I listened to St. Gabriel Radio there were former Evangelicals talking about their conversions to Catholicism. It blew me away! As I started listening to St. Gabriel Radio daily, I was also introduced to the rich prayer traditions of the Catholic faith."

[CONTINUED]





"The love, laughter, compassion, and knowledge of St. Gabriel Radio programs is incredibly healing."
- Faithful Listener Raine

INVITE
a friend
TO LISTEN.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Wednesdays at the St. Gabriel Radio studio are brightened by the smile, humor, and grace of Pam Dippold, volunteer. Pam helped callers during the Spring Spirit Drive. She is also a great organizer and has kept our newsletters, greeting cards, and holy cards in order and easy to find. We are blessed to have Pam with us. Thank you, Pam!

CCYAC 21



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CATHOLIC
YOUNG ADULT
CONFERENCE**

October 23, 2021
St. John Neumann
Catholic Church, Sunbury, Ohio
www.ccyac.org



EWTN

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CONVERSION OF THE HEART [CONTINUED]

"The first time I heard *The Divine Mercy Chaplet*, I was in my car in the school parking lot, ready to leave. I was so overcome by the beauty of what I was hearing that I couldn't drive. I just sat there in my car and wept while I listened. When the *Chaplet* was over, I called my friend and mentor and described to her what I had just heard. She explained to me that it was *The Divine Mercy Chaplet*, and I was like, 'Where has this been all my life?'"

In the autumn of 2020, Patricia was on her way home from church late on a Saturday night when she tuned in to a show on St. Gabriel Radio. There were some "Knitting Women" praying, and the ladies were talking about Mary as the Ark of the New Covenant. This was a huge revelation to Patricia and she began to reflect on Mary, Ark of the New Covenant, and how she relates to the Old Testament Ark of the Covenant.

SURPRISED BY THE LOVE OF MOTHER MARY

St. Gabriel Radio also introduced Patricia to Our Lady as Intercessor. "Putting to use my academic skills, I researched information about Mary as Our Queen Mother and Intercessor. I began talking with Mother Mary for her intercession in my life."

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Yet another revelation came to her through a radio show that referenced the Biblical dogma of Apostolic Succession. "Driving along in my car, I said out loud to myself, 'Patricia, you are a Christian but you don't go to the Church that Jesus founded!' I was astounded. This huge revelation kept echoing in my mind and heart. Now I had a *big* problem: I didn't go to the Church founded by Jesus, the person I claimed to follow. That's when I understood why I felt that there was something missing."

Patricia concluded, "I can't deny the journey that I'm on. I'm pretty sure my heart has been Catholic for a long time, and I just didn't know it. I'm hungry for more, and I've got to take action." So, she researched all the Catholic churches in Columbus. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton church caught her attention. She contacted the parish office and was surprised that the parish director of evangelism was so welcoming. Patricia had feared that she would be shunned as a Protestant.

She was also shocked that, instead of just joining on the fly, there is a discernment process for catechumens: RCIA (The Rite of Initiation for Adults).

ANOTHER REVELATION: CHRIST IS REAL IN THE EUCHARIST!

"I joined RCIA and met with Fr. Klima. The dignified and profound introduction to the Catholic Faith that he gave me was amazing! I told Fr. Klima all about my

"Fr. Klima said, 'My goal is to never get in the way of what God is doing in your life.'"

background and Evangelicalism. I was worried that he wouldn't let me join RCIA, that somehow he would find fault with my journey or judge me as not good enough to become Catholic. Instead, he honored what God was doing in my life and said words to me that I will never forget. They were the exact words that I needed to hear! Fr. Klima said, 'My goal is to never get in the way of what God is doing in your life.'

CONVERSION OF THE HEART



"I knew right then and there that God was leading me to the Catholic Church."

God was not done revealing new things to Patricia. Her next revelation was discovering the Real Presence of the Eucharist. "In our Evangelical meetings, we would share communion, but it was very different. It was a once-in-a-while practice that we did using whatever we had available to us in our pantries - sometimes even using water and stale bread because the purpose of it was only symbolic.

"Now in the Catholic Church, I experience the fullness of the Eucharistic Sacrament and its historical meaning. During the months of RCIA, I would join the Communion line with my arms crossed to receive a blessing. As I traveled deeper into the Eucharistic Mystery

and Real Presence, I began to feel a holy jealousy that I was not yet able to receive the actual Body and Blood of Christ. I could not wait for Easter Vigil so that I could partake in the fullness of the Eucharist!"

PATRICIA ENTERED THE CHURCH AT EASTER OF 2021

"I listen to St. Gabriel Radio 85 percent of the time and of course, every time I'm in the car. I have the book learning that comes with my bachelor, master, and Ph.D. degrees, but Catholic radio enriches me, educates me deeply, fills my spiritual life, and draws me more deeply into the Faith. The radio programs challenge me to follow Christ more closely on this journey. Before I was Catholic, I was 90 percent of what God made me to be. I really feel that, now that I am Catholic, I am 100 percent who God made me to be."

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Since coming into the Church, Patricia says she feels blessed at every turn. The Church is also blessed by her talents. Since earning her Ph.D. in 2014, she has been teaching and working with educational projects in the Columbus area to help today's youth flourish. She recently decided to put her graduate studies in Educational Leadership and Policy to work for our diocesan schools. Bishop Hartley High School has hired her as their new vice principal for academics. Her missionary experience in Costa Rica, Guatemala, and The Netherlands, as well as her international professional experiences in Mexico, Panama, Puerto Rico, Spain, and Canada give her special insights into and empathy for students of many cultural, ethnic, and economic backgrounds.

Patricia proudly displays St. Gabriel Radio bumper stickers on both sides of her car – by the gas tank and on the back window.

FALL SPIRIT DRIVE

September 15, 16, & 17

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SACRED HEART CONGRESS NOVEMBER 6, 2021

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MISSION STATEMENT

St. Gabriel Catholic Radio's mission is to reach souls with faithful Catholic teaching that inspires conversion of heart and deepening of faith while building up the local Body of Christ.

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