



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF  
**PITTSBURGH**  
NEWS

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**Advisory to News and Assignment Editors:**

**CHRISTIAN LEADERS FELLOWSHIP TO HOLD PRAYER SERVICE AT THE PITTSBURGH CRÈCHE**

PITTSBURGH -- The Christian Leaders Fellowship, an ecumenical group of local bishops and denominational leaders, will lead a prayer service at the annual dedication of the Pittsburgh Crèche, on Friday, November 18 at noon in the plaza in front of US Steel Tower on Grant Street, Downtown.

YOUR COVERAGE IS INVITED

“Our hope is that tens of thousands of people will return to visit the crèche this season, and let this larger-than-life symbol emphasize the true spirit and meaning of Christmas in the greater Pittsburgh area,” said Monsignor Ronald Lengwin, a priest of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh. This year marks 24 years of displaying the crèche.

Erica Gambero, director of the Diocesan Department for Liturgy and Worship and episcopal master of ceremonies for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, will MC the event.

Participants in the prayer service include: Right Reverend Alex Cameron, Anglican Diocese of Pittsburgh; Reverend Linda Miller-Pretz, Penn West Conference of the United Church of Christ; Reverend Liddy Barlow, Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania; Majors Gregory and Joyce Hartshorn, Western Pennsylvania Division, The Salvation Army; Reverend Kurt F. Kusserow, Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Reverend Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, Western Pennsylvania Conference, The United Methodist Church; Most Reverend William C. Skurla, Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh; Very Reverend Aidan Smith, Diocese of Pittsburgh, The Episcopal Church, U.S.A.; Reverend Doctor Sheldon Sorge, Pittsburgh Presbytery, PC-USA; Most Reverend David A. Zubik, Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh; His Eminence Savas, Metropolis of Pittsburgh, Greek Orthodox Church.

In addition, many individuals, as well as business, labor and religious organizations have contributed financial support and services. The crèche is truly a community effort.

Clothing for the figures has been designed, sewn and maintained by two local communities of religious women – Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth and Sisters of the Holy Spirit. A group of volunteers has joined the sisters in preparing the clothing and dressing the figures for the annual display.

The crèche will be blessed by Christian Leaders Fellowship representatives at noon and will remain up for viewing through January 7, 2023.

There is a designated place for donations at the crèche. Donors may also send tax-deductible gifts designated to The Pittsburgh Crèche Fund in care of The Pittsburgh Foundation at Five PPG Place, Suite 250, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.