

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Catholic Parish in Ferguson to Bring Community Groups Together for Dialogue

"EncounterPoint" event will aim to unite various groups, individuals in solidarity

WHAT: "EncounterPoint" gathering civic, community leaders

WHO: Hosted by Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Ferguson

WHERE: Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish (1115 S. Florissant Rd., St. Louis, MO 63121)

WHEN: Tuesday, December 13, 2016, 7:30 a.m.

ST. LOUIS – Our Lady of Guadalupe parish in Ferguson is hosting a gathering of various organizations and individuals from around the region whose efforts to support social justice have impacted Ferguson and the St. Louis region. The event, being called "EncounterPoint," will take place on Tuesday, December 13, 2016, beginning at 7:30 a.m.

The parish hopes the event "will be an opportunity to encounter one another at a rendezvous point to appreciate the fruits of social justice and solidarity." In addition, EncounterPoint is intended to help build relationships and achieve greater unity among civic, religious, and business leaders.

Several civic and community figures who have offered extraordinary support and encouragement to the region have been named as honorary chairs for the event, including Archbishop Robert J. Carlson, Dr. Fred P. Pestello (Saint Louis University), Dr. Thomas F. George, (University of Missouri – St. Louis), Karlos Ramirez (Hispanic Chamber of Commerce), Patrick J. Sly (Emerson), and Susan Stith (Express Scripts).

The gathering will include a light breakfast, keynote address, and witness talks from those impacted by the involvement of these various organizations.

In May 2017 the Archdiocese of St. Louis will host a "Pilgrimage of Trust" also intended to encourage dialogue and heal divisions. More information can be found at <u>pilgrimageoftruststl.com</u>.

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