

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS Office of Communications and Planning

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 22, 2016 Media Contact: Gabe Jones 314.792.7557 gabejones@archstl.org

## Ecumenical Prayer Service Celebrates Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

What: Ecumenical Prayer Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Where: St. Justin Martyr Catholic Parish (11910 Eddie Park Road, Sunset Hills, MO 63126)
When: Sunday, January 24, 2016, 7:00 p.m.
Who: Archbishop Robert Carlson and leaders of several St. Louis-area Christian communities

**ST. LOUIS –** Archbishop Robert Carlson and leaders of several St. Louis-area Christian communities, including Greek Orthodox, Romanian Orthodox, Catholic, Lutheran, Baptist, and more, will come together for an Ecumenical Celebration of the Word of God on Sunday, January 24, 2016, at St. Justin Martyr Catholic Parish (11910 Eddie Park Road, Sunset Hills, MO 63126) beginning at 7pm. The service is part of the Archdiocese of St. Louis' observance of the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Rev. Fr. Michael Arbanas of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, will deliver the reflection. Rev. Rodrick Burton of New Northside Church and Pastor David Triggs formerly of New Life Missionary Baptist Church will also participate. Both pastors' churches were burned in the arsons committed in October 2015.

The theme for the 2016 observance is "Called To Proclaim the Mighty Acts of the Lord." (cf. I Peter 2:9) The theme and text for each year's observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity are chosen and prepared by representatives of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and representatives of the World Council of Churches. The international texts are developed, adapted, and published for use in the United States by the Graymoor Ecumenical & Interreligious Institute.

Begun in 1908, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is celebrated each year in cities and towns across the country and around the world. Locally, the Week of Prayer is coordinated through the Archdiocesan Office of Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs and by the Archdiocesan Ecumenical Commission.

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