

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 8, 2016 Media Contact: Gabe Jones 314.792.7557 gabejones@archstl.org

Catholic Parish to Host Presentation on Groundbreaking Study

Dr. Jason Purnell to address neighborhood health issues at St. Clare in Ellisville

What: Presentation on Groundbreaking Study, "For the Sake of All"

Where: St. Clare of Assisi Catholic Church (15642 Clayton Road, Ellisville, MO 63011)

When: Monday, January 11, 2016, 7 p.m.

Who: Dr. Jason Purnell, member of the Peace & Justice Commission of the Archdiocese of St. Louis

ST. LOUIS – Dr. Jason Purnell, member of the Peace & Justice Commission of the Archdiocese of St. Louis and Washington University professor, will present on his groundbreaking study "For the Sake of All" at St. Clare of Assisi Catholic Church (15642 Clayton Road, Ellisville, MO 63011) on Monday, January 11, 2016. The presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m.

The presentation will address how neighborhood factors such as access to healthy food options, quality schools, clean air, and services and amenities like banks and parks can shape health throughout life. He will also address the fact that policies and informal practices throughout the nation and in our region have divided neighborhoods based on race, social class, or both, which affects the opportunity for all residents to live healthy, productive lives. In addition, he will discuss solutions for investing in quality neighborhoods for all.

"As Catholics, we must address these issues from the perspective of our faith," said Marie Kenyon, director of the Peace & Justice Commission. "This presentation is a step towards ensuring residents of our area are aware of the inequality found in our region and to remind them that we all have an obligation to ensure every child is raised in a healthy environment."

In August 2014, Archbishop Robert J. Carlson announced that he was re-establishing a commission on human rights in the Archdiocese of St. Louis with the goal to address societal issues such as poverty, racial tension, and lack of education. In January 2015, St. Louis attorney Marie Kenyon was named director of the newly-established Peace & Justice Commission of the Archdiocese of St. Louis, and in May 2015 Archbishop Carlson appointed 27 individuals to serve as members of the Commission.

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