
CATHOLIC RADIO UPDATE #586

January 30, 2012

IT'S WCAU

IN RADIO
IN TELEVISION
IN PHILADELPHIA



The Philadelphia Bulletin Stations

WCAU

CBS AFFILIATE

AM
FM
TV

DIOCESE OF SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA: CATHOLIC RADIO COMING THIS SPRING WITH LAUNCH OF KSTJ

Agnus Dei
COMMUNICATIONS
INCORPORATED



*South Dakota
Catholic Radio*

Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Jan 11 (*The Bishop's Bulletin*)— Catholic Radio is coming to the Diocese of Sioux Falls.

People across the diocese should be able to tune into a new radio station, KSTJ 91.3 FM "The Lamb" this spring.

Kevin Culhane, president of Agnus Dei Communications, Inc., said the station is scheduled to be on the air by April or May.

Bringing Catholic radio to eastern South Dakota has been a long standing goal of the diocese and the effort is being led by Culhane, his wife Margi, Agnus Dei Communications, Inc., a South Dakota non-profit corporation.

"Pope Benedict XVI has called us to the New Evangelization. Catholic Radio will be a wonderful communications vehicle to sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ," said Bishop Paul J. Swain. "I am grateful for the efforts of Agnus Dei Communications to bring Catholic radio to our diocese."

Culhane's efforts have been ongoing for several years and came to fruition following a pilgrimage he and his wife made to Lourdes in France in 2007. From then on, Culhane said he enjoyed a spiritual renewal and began to put the wheels in motion, meeting with the bishop and making progress toward getting Catholic Radio up and running.

KSTJ-FM will serve those in the diocese,

bringing a mix of national and local Catholic programming including Vatican News, top rated national talk shows from EWTN Global Radio Network and Ava Maria Radio. Daily local programming will feature the airing of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the recitation of the Rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and informative local shows featuring Bishop Swain and priests throughout the diocese.

Listeners will also have the opportunity to call in and interact with talk show hosts and engage in discussions on numerous topics of the Catholic faith.

Prior to his efforts with Catholic Radio, Culhane spent 33 years as a respected and successful broadcaster in South Dakota.



Above, top: Agnus Dei Communications logo. Above, bottom: Margi and Kevin Culhane of Agnes Dei Communications. (Bottom photo by Gene Young)

"It is important for the people who reside in the diocese because there are 16,000 commercial and non-commercial radio stations in the country today, about 1,600-1,700 of those are Christian radio stations. Only 185 are Catholic radio stations," Culhane said. "So we have vast challenge ahead of us."

Up to this point, Culhane added, "there is nothing in South Dakota." That was really why he felt Catholic Radio was the direction he wanted, needed to travel. "I think it's the wave of new evangelization and the teachings of the Catholic Church and the catechism," he said.

Culhane sold his Yankton area commercial radio stations in December 2010 (KVHT-FM/AM 1570 KVTK) so he could devote his full-time energies toward bringing Catholic radio to the state.

"in gratitude for the many blessings I've received, it was important for me to give back to the Catholic Church. This project has been a privilege and honor for me to work on," Culhane said. Culhane added that future expansion for Catholic radio calls for coverage throughout eastern South Dakota in the coming months and ultimately throughout the entire state. "It's going to be a three phase project," he said. "Phase one will incorporate the Hartford/Sioux Falls frequency which is owned by the diocese and the bishop.

The Ipswich/Aberdeen area will be next, followed by adding a translator in Yankton to cover the south area of the diocese. The key will be raising the \$1.3 million dollars to get it all done.

Culhane is fielding inquiries on how people can help at 605-689-4659 or at kculhane.agnusdei@midconetwork.com.

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CATHOLIC RADIO ACTIVITY BEFORE THE FCC

Not much is going on at the FCC this past month; even the number of stations seeking to change their power, antenna height, or tower location has dwindled. There are few transfers of ownership sought these days, and that for construction permitted new stations is rare. The following actions concerning Catholic radio took place at the FCC this past week; these are arranged chronologically.

- **WTCY 88.3 FM Greilickville (Traverse City), Michigan**— Baraga Broadcasting issued license to cover changes in station.
- **WGZR 88.9 FM Alpena, Michigan**— Application accepted to modify CP to reflect 300 watts ERP, antenna at 100.1 m HAAT, nondirectional. Baraga Broadcasting. The MP cuts the power by more than half but triples the antenna height. This CP expires later this year.
- **New 88.7 FM Springville (Gadsden), Alabama**— FCC authorized sale of CP for a second time, from Queen of Heaven Radio, Inc. (WQOH Birmingham) to Divine Word Communications (WDWR Pensacola). The CP, which expires this year, was originally issued to EWTN.
- **KCEO 1000 AM Vista (San Diego), California**— FCC authorized sale of station from North County Broadcasting Corp. to Immaculate Heart Radio.
- **WLGO 91.7 FM Ashtabula, Ohio**— FCC issued MP to Lamb of God Communications to reflect 4000 watts ERP, antenna 97.1 m HAAT. The new facilities reduce the power by 500 watts but raise the antenna about 20 ft. The location is about 2 kw west-northwest of Gageville and on the north bank of the Ashtabula River east of Ashtabula. This CP also expires this year.

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Cover: a full-page ad in the radio section of the *Broadcasting Yearbook 1950*. Courtesy of David Eduardo. Interestingly, WCAU-TV is now owned by archival NBC, but CBS still owns the 50,000-watt clear-channel WCAU under the call sign WPHT ("Philadelphia's big talker") and WCAU-FM is now WOGL 98.1 FM "Philadelphia's Classic Hits Station". *Sic transit gloria mundi*.

RADIO ROUNDUP, CATHOLIC STYLE

Radio María Costa Rica, headquartered in the capital, San José, and operating on 610 AM, has announced that as of March 1st it will appear on the FM dial at 100.7 FM. Involved are the main transmitter outside the capital on the Volcano Irazú, a second transmitter in the southern zone of the country, and a third in San Carlo, which will give it national coverage. The 610 AM transmitter operates with a reported 10,000 watts. At present, the 100.7 FM frequency is owned by Cadena de Emisoras Columbia and broadcasts a mix of adult contemporary and romantic music. As is always the case, Radio María gives no business details, whether it is buying the station or, more likely, leasing it. In this it follows Radio María El Salvador, which about a year ago began leasing YSU-FM 107.3 FM with its national network of repeater transmitters relaying the San Salvador signal from the capital. All Central American Radios María now are on FM—Panamá, Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Costa Rica. Honduras, along with Cuba, is the only Spanish-speaking Latin American country that does not have a Radio María.

Two more Expired Construction Permits Occurred Yesterday and Today: On Sunday at midnight, the construction permit for a Class C3 FM station, KYEJ 90.1 FM in Fairmont, Minnesota, belonging to the Martin County Knights of Columbus, expired. Today, January 30, a CP for a Class C2 station on 90.3 FM in Channing in the Texas Panhandle, the CP belonging to Catholic Radio of the Texas High Plains, licensee and operator of KDJW 1360 AM in Amarillo, expired. The number of CP's expiring continues to rise; two more will expire in February.

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CORRESPONDENCE

The Top 100 MSA's

Note 21, St. Gabriel began broadcasting on WVKO 1580AM on Dec. 24th 2008. Great job on the newsletter!!! God Bless you for your work...it inspires me to see and know the connection to the movement of the Holy Spirit in this effort!

Marc C. Hawk
St. Gabriel Radio
Columbus, Ohio

The Top 100 MSA's

Extraordinary amount of research, but shouldn't El Paso be blue? We have an app in with the FCC.

Bob Strong
Catholic Radio El Paso Organization(CREO)
Cell:915-539-1414
Voice & fax:915-859-2803

Editor's Note— Well taken. I had not shaded in blue those markets that have an operating Spanish-language station and where a group is attempting to start an English-language station, as in El Paso. In the future, such markets will be shaded blue, too.

New E-mail Address for Baraga Broadcasting

Mike, Baraga Broadcasting now has a new email: bbioffice@baragamail.com
The old company email will be defunct as of this [past] weekend. Again, thanks for your many contributions. Peace and everything good.

Fr. Harry

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