



Winter, January 2016

# MEMBER CONNECTION

## NEW! STUDENT LOANS

Consolidate your student loans at your Catholic Credit Union. Visit [cffcu.com](http://cffcu.com) or call Catholic Family to get started.

## LOAN PAYMENTS BY PHONE

You may make loan payments\* with a debit or credit card by phone or in person.

\*Convenience fee applies.

## BUILD YOUR CREDIT

Whether you're starting out or starting over, Catholic Family wants to help. A low credit score can make basic financial needs tough. A credit builder loan can help get things on track. Please call us at 264-9163 to schedule an appointment.

## E STATEMENTS

E statements are free for all members.

To start receiving e-statements, login to Connect 24 Online Banking and request your e-statement.

You will receive your e-statement the following statement cycle.

## BILL PAY

CFFCU's Free Bill Pay makes it so easy to simplify payments!

## 3.25% APR CREDIT UNION AUTO FINANCING AT THE DEALERSHIP!

Seven days a week, including holidays, Catholic Family can approve your new or used auto loan while you are at the dealership, and without visiting your credit union. Call the Loan Department for more information.



## ANNUAL MEETING

- Who?** Catholic Family Members  
**What?** Catholic Family Annual Meeting  
**Where?** Catholic Family, 717 N. Socora, St. Joseph Hall  
**When?** 5:30 Registration, 6 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Meeting  
Thursday, April 21, 2016

## 10 WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR FINANCES IN ONE DAY

Starting on the road to financial health can be overwhelming. It's not the big things as much as your small, daily decisions that truly impact your finances – for better or for worse. In just an hour or two, you can complete small tasks to make a big improvement on your financial situation.

1. **Do What You've Been Dreading** - Often, emotions win out in the struggle to wisely manage money, and negative feelings like shame or fear can make it seem easier to avoid financial tasks hanging over your head. If you have a financial task that you've been dreading and avoiding, like calling a collections agency that you owe or setting up a payment plan for back taxes, doing so will give you peace of mind and relief. It will also give you the chance to handle any issue before they end up costing you more money and stress.
2. **Set Up Automatic Savings Transfers** - Once you have your savings goal, calculate how much you need each paycheck to reach it. *Use your Catholic Family automatic deposit or transfers to set up a recurring transfer that moves money into your savings account as soon as you get paid.*
3. **Purge Recurring Expenses** - If you're paying for subscriptions to magazines you never read or are paying more for your cable bill than you do for car insurance, it's time to purge your recurring expenses. Look for services you don't use much or could live without and cancel them. For services you need, contact your service provider and ask if there are any current offers, promotions or discounts that you could take advantage of to secure a lower rate. Or, upgrade at the same price you are currently paying. The best part about cutting or lowering monthly expenses is that it's a one-time effort that will help you save money long term.

(10 Ways continues on page 2.)

4. **Contest a Fee** - If you've been slapped with a fee you don't think is justified, speak up. Call your provider and ask that the fee be waived. If it was charged in error, ask the company to correct the error.
5. **Start Investing** - To earn money, you either have to work for it or get the extra funds you already have working for you. Investing grows your money by earning interest or dividends or by securing assets that will increase in value, like real estate. If you start investing, you can get your money growing in order to afford to retire or accomplish other financial goals.
6. **Make an Extra Debt Payment** - High credit card balances, student loans, car loan or mortgage, make an extra payment. Whether it's \$50, \$100 or \$500, every bit can help you get ahead and chip away at your loan. Some personal finance experts recommend targeting your debt with the highest interest rate first, which would typically be a credit card balance. *Not sure where to begin? Visit with a Catholic Family loan officer to get started.*
7. **Go on a 24-Hour Spending Fast** - Refraining from spending can make you aware of the triggers that prompt you to pull out of your wallet, like driving past a coffee shop. By not spending, you can get a clearer picture of which expenses you truly need and which ones are simply costly habits you have formed.
8. **Check Your Credit Report** - You may request a free copy of your credit reports once a year. Visit [AnnualCreditReport.com](http://AnnualCreditReport.com) to request free copies of your credit reports. All you have to do is fill out a short form, and once your information is verified, you'll get access to an online copy of your report that you can also download and print out. Review your reports to assess your payment history and look for errors. Review all the credit accounts, loans and personal information. In addition, check for negative marks like a late or missed payment. You can dispute any possible errors with the credit bureau and the lender that reported the information to the credit bureau, according to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.
9. **Find a Better Interest Rate** - Whether it's interest you're earning or interest you're paying, finding a more favorable rate will go a long way in moving your finances in the right direction. If it's an interest rate on a loan or credit card, you can try asking for a lower rate. *Maybe you have multiple payments that need to be consolidated into one easy payment? Ask a Catholic Family Federal Credit Union loan officer about how to simplify. We're here to help you!*
10. **Set a Money Goal and Make a Plan** - Some money goals involve some homework and require more than a day to achieve, but you need to get started. Put your plan into action and get informed so that you are a step closer to accomplishing your financial goals. When you aren't sure where to start, begin by researching your financial goals. For something like buying a home, for example, there could be steps to improve your credit score. Once you have an overview of how to proceed you can move to the next step tomorrow.

## LOAN RATES AS LOW AS

3.25% APR    New & Used Autos  
3.25% APR based on approved credit for 36 months.

8.50% APR    New Recreational  
Vehicles, Boats and  
RVs

3.25% APR    Savings Secured  
Above Dividend Rate

9.50% APR    Signature Loan

9.9% - 18% APR    VISA

APR= Annual Percentage Rate  
Rates Effective 01/1/16. Subject to change without  
notice. Please call for current rates.



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(316) 264-9163 • FAX (316) 264-9197  
1-800-264-9163

Lobby Hours  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Friday  
9 a.m. - 12 Noon Saturday

Drive Thru  
8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday - Friday  
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday

## HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday	January 18
President's Day	Monday	February 15
Good Friday	Friday	March 25, close at 1pm

