

AUGUST 2019



THE ASCENT

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Adult Faith
Offerings
Inside pg. 11





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August 2019

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

Recently I read a book by Val Peter titled SEVEN SECULAR CHALLENGES FACING 21ST CENTURY CATHOLICS (Paulist Press). I found this book interesting because it addresses some of the fundamental challenges facing believers today. Not all of these challenges are secular, but all have secular dimensions to their underlying philosophy. Here are the challenges with a very brief commentary on each one. If any of this piques your interest you might want to read this book.

1. **Distrust of Authority** – We all know that authority can be abused and misused. We are all too familiar with this both in the Church and in society. That is why authority is in trouble these days. A healthy distrust of authority is positive; however, when the fundamental stance is a distrust or rejection of authority that can be very unhealthy and lead to disintegration and division within families and society. Questioning authority can be positive but dismissing authority out of hand only reinforces individualism and self-centeredness.
2. **Uncritical Openness** – Popular culture promotes the idea that you are free to experience everything and in fact you should do so. Openness without critical thinking can lead to relativism on fundamentals, addiction and ultimately degradation of the human spirit.
3. **Cynicism** – Cynicism is like a cancer that infiltrates the culture and deflates the spirit. We experience a lot of cynicism in the world today regarding the Church, clergy, politics, marriage and family life. This cynicism can become pernicious because it exaggerates the weakness and poisons the environment so that the positive is overlooked and the negative dominates the perception of reality. Cynicism can be overcome by critical thinking encouraging realistic perception and rejection of evil but also discovering and valuing the positive.
4. **Embracing Ideology** – Ideology is a rigid system of expected thought and action that is required of everyone. Usually ideologies see things through a narrow, dark lens that actually restricts human freedom. Idealism, on the other hand, encourages people to envision the better and to invite others to share in the realization of that vision.
5. **Learned Helplessness** – The victim mentality is widespread in our culture. The more we embrace victimhood the weaker we become. We demand of others what we will not do for ourselves. Victimhood undermines the dignity of the person and hinders human growth and responsibility. Accepting responsibility and undertaking positive self-help actions are ways of growing beyond Learned Helplessness.
6. **Anti-intellectualism** – We live in a culture of feelings rather than of truth based on knowledge. We are given our intellectual faculties in order to discern truth from falsehood and to base our understanding on reality rather than mere feelings or wishful thinking. “I know what I feel; don’t confuse me with facts”. We need to rediscover the eternal truths and judge reality in light of true knowledge rather than just feelings.
7. **Political Correctness** – When an ideology is embraced by those with power and influence there is a demand that it be accepted and embraced by all. Political correctness can help us appreciate the truth and dignity of others, but it can also be a trap in which we subtly adopt that which is unacceptable and reprehensible. It takes critical thinking to discern the truth and to resist the peer pressure of ideology. Political incorrectness is often a virtue.

I found this book interesting because it goes beneath the surface and talks about some deeper challenges that we face in contemporary society. This book not only identifies the challenges; it also articulates actions that can be taken to grow in a positive, healthy spirituality.

God Bless,
Father Tom



Welcome to our New Catholics!



At this year's Easter Vigil, we welcomed 25 Men and Women into the Catholic Faith. These individuals have been meeting each Monday evening to learn more about the Catholic faith and to strengthen their relationship with Jesus Christ.

Please continue to pray for our newest members, that they may continue to find grace in their journey!

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the process of becoming Catholic, please contact Liz Willman, RCIA Director at: (913) 681-3348 ext. 139 or lwillman@kcascension.org.



Dear Mom in the Pew in Front of Me, the One with the Rowdy Kids:

No, I am not going to write about how much your kids disturb me during Mass. I'm not going to suggest that you take them to the nursery or sit with them in the cry room or tag-team with your husband so that you don't have to bring them at all. I'm not going to criticize your parenting or tell you to feed that baby with a bottle when you are at church. And I'm not thinking those things either. Nor are most of the parents in this congregation.

It doesn't bother me when your kids make noise. They are just kids and an hour is a long time to be quiet and sit still. When your three-year-old escapes you and runs up onto the altar, I'm just glad it's not MY kid—because it just as well could have been.

What I want to tell you is Thank You. Thank you for bringing your kids to church—both for them and for the rest of us. Thank you for being open to having a family. Thank you for nursing that baby when she needs to be nursed; and you really don't need to worry so much about that blanket—if I am staring, it's only because of fond memories, not judgment.

If kids are not welcome in a Catholic church, there is something wrong with that church. Jesus loves the little children. That's not just a song; it's in the Bible too—and if you look up, right over your head, you'll see that scene in a picture on the ceiling. “Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not.” That's what He said, and what all of us should be saying. So thank you for your little visual reminders, these “least of these” that Jesus wants us to love as He did.

If during Easter Mass some cranky submarine Catholic turns around and tells you that your babbling toddler is “ruining it for everyone else,” (and yes, this once happened to me) I want you to know that if he thinks that he doesn't know what “it” is and he is the one who is ruining things. I'd rather be like the woman who after a Mass during which my children were even rowdier than usual turned around and patted my arm and said, “It gets better.”

Because 18 years ago—yesterday—I was sitting in that pew with three rowdy children aged four and under (actually not in THAT pew—you are already smarter than I am by choosing to sit up front where the kids can see instead of in the back so that you can make a quicker getaway!). I have been here almost every Sunday for over 22 years, and for years on end I couldn't listen to the homily, couldn't even pray. This six foot muscly fellow next to me, the one who read the first reading today—he was the babbling toddler who was ruining things for everyone else. These two younger ones weren't even a twinkle in anyone's eye, and now the youngest will make her First Communion next week. They sit quietly. They make the responses. Some of them even sing. And I listen and pray. It goes so fast. You think people are just making conversation when they say that until IT GOES SO FAST.

So ten years from now—tomorrow—there will be big quiet kids in your pew and you will be able to pray again. No one will be staring at you except to admire your lovely family. You will be the one smiling indulgently at the cute toddler playing peek-a-boo with you over the back of the pew.

Until then, remember, you are doing a wonderful job.

Source: Leslie Sholly



An old Irish proverb says, “It is in the shelter of each other that the people live.” Indeed, we are created to depend upon one another and walk together in suffering. But when family members or friends approach life’s end, we may not know how best to “shelter” them. Here are some concrete ways we can compassionately care for them.

Invite God In: Pope Francis has said that “praying in difficult situations is like opening the door to the Lord, in order that he might enter.” The dying process is a sacred time—a final season to seek closure in this life and prepare for the next in the hope of sharing in Christ’s Resurrection. As you enter into this season with your friend or family member, ask God to accompany both of you.

Listen: Try to discover your loved one’s values and how best to honor his or her wishes. This requires true empathy. It can be hard not to assume he or she wants the same thing you *think* you would want if you were in the same situation. Listen with a non-judgmental ear so your loved one feels free to speak openly.

Inform Yourself: Be aware that a person’s wishes for refusing ordinary or proportionate treatment—or for pursuing assisted suicide—are usually rooted in fears of dependency, helplessness, or pain. Make yourself available to discuss these or any concerns. Know that hospice care focuses on alleviating pain and other symptoms, meeting basic needs, and providing comfort. Seek to understand the Catholic Church’s teaching on end-of-life care, which can help you provide authentically loving support that respects life.

Be Steadfast in Compassion: As Pope Francis reminds us, “Compassion means ‘suffer with’.” Your friend or family member will likely face ups and downs. Recognize these as part of a natural process. Surround him or her with love, support, and companionship that are “anchored in unconditional respect for their human dignity, beginning with respect for the inherent value of their lives.” The patient’s suffering can be alleviated by your empathy, as well as by quality hospice care by medical personnel.

Help Them Achieve Closure: Help your family member or friend define the unfinished personal projects, financial concerns, unresolved relationships, or other matters that occupy his or her mind. Due to changing circumstances, some goals may need to be reframed. Creating and accomplishing this list of unfinished business can help the person discover a sense of purpose and feel more at peace.

Provide Opportunities for Resolution: Ira Byock, a hospice medical director, illustrates in his book *The 4 Most Important Things* how saying “I love you,” “I’m sorry,” “I forgive you,” and “Thank you” can promote much-needed healing during the dying process. You can help ensure a peaceful transition for your loved one by facilitating opportunities for reconciliation with others and for mutual expressions of love and gratitude. Consider offering to invite a priest to hear his or her confession and to administer the Eucharist as viaticum and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, all of which heal the soul and prepare us to meet the Lord.

Surround them with love, support, and companionship that are “anchored in unconditional respect for their human dignity, beginning with respect for the inherent value of their lives.”

*To Live Each Day with Dignity,
USCCB*



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF
CATHOLIC BISHOPS



Reminisce: Our appetites may diminish as our bodies experience a decreased need for food and fluids when we near life's end. Provide smaller amounts of your family member or friend's favorite foods. Even if unable to eat them, he or she may still enjoy the aromas and reminisce with you about special memories they evoke. Think of other small comforts you can provide that would spark meaningful memories, like special photos or mementos.

Provide a Peaceful Presence: There comes a time of natural withdrawal from surroundings when dying persons may lose interest in many activities that used to be enjoyable. Your own quiet, patient presence can provide important support as your loved one prepares emotionally and spiritually for his or her passing. Hearing can become very acute, so placing the phone in another room, playing favorite music, reading a favorite passage, praying together, or simply sitting quietly with him or her can all be very soothing.

Show Tenderness: Those who are dying remain in need of the tenderness of personal human contact. Ask if you might gently brush your loved one's hair, apply lotion to her hands or feet, or simply hold his hand. Tell stories, laugh, and share memories to reassure the person he or she is a cherished gift, not a burden in any way.

Bear Their Transition Patiently: Transition, the time immediately preceding death, may bring rapid physical changes, such as in breathing patterns, as well as changes in mental or emotional states. Try to be patient, and allow the "how" and "when" of death to be between God and your loved one. Ask God for the wisdom to know what final words to say—if any—and when. As you are able, give your loved one permission to make the transition. For example, you might say, "I love you. It's okay to go home now."

Accompanying a loved one in his or her last days is enormously important, but we do not need to fear our own limitations. Pope Francis tells us, "[God] comes to assist us in our weakness. And his help consists in helping us accept his presence and closeness to us. Day after day, touched by his compassion, we also can become compassionate towards others."



Pope Francis, *Morning Meditation in the Chapel of the Domus Sanctae Marthae: Choosing the Better Part*, 8 October 2013, (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2013).
 More information: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services*, 5th ed, (Washington, DC: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2009). United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *To Live Each Day with Dignity: A Statement on Physician-Assisted Suicide* (Washington, DC: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2011).
 Pope Francis, *General Audience, Wednesday, April 27, 2016*, (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2016).
 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *To Live Each Day with Dignity: A Statement on Physician-Assisted Suicide*, 10.
 Viaticum is "the Eucharist received by a dying person. It is the spiritual food for one's 'passing over' to the Father from this world. With Penance and the Anointing of the Sick, the reception of Holy Communion as Viaticum constitute the 'last sacraments' of the Christian." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Glossary.) See also *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, nos. 1331, 1392, 1517, 1524-25.

Pope Francis, *Misericordiae vultus*, (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2015), no. 14.
 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *To Live Each Day with Dignity: A Statement on Physician-Assisted Suicide*, 10.

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Every fall... wherever we turn...it seems we hear the phrase “back to school”. These words can have many connotations such as... the end of summer vacations, shopping for school supplies and new clothes, enrollment and selecting classes or maybe just riding a big yellow bus for the very first time. Whatever they might mean, the bottom line is that it is time to begin the education of our children after the summer break.

Several years ago, Phil and I spent some time researching the Catholic Education Foundation so that we could tell you how important your Call to Share contributions are to the Catholic schools in our Archdiocese. So we went to visit the Foundation and toured an elementary school to find out more.

One of the reasons that parents give for sending their children to Catholic schools is for academic excellence with an emphasis on Catholic values. There is not only a rigorous curriculum, but the education students receive is Christ-based, teaching children to recognize the presence of Christ in themselves through religion classes and sacramental preparation. And...the percentage of Catholic educated students that go on to pursue a higher education is in the high 90’s.

Some years ago the Archbishop and his staff determined that 15 or more foundation schools, (elementaries and Bishop Ward High School), would need financial help to stay open. These schools meet strict guidelines of below \$40,000 of family income and above 20% free and reduced lunches, and part of this funding comes from the Archbishop’s Call to Share contributions each year.

The goal of the Catholic Education Foundation is to provide scholarships that make it affordable and accessible for every child who wants a Catholic education to have one. Our KIDS are the long term “means to the end” for the Church. Call to Share monies help assure that “end” by sharing...so that all children can have that opportunity.

We touch future generations with our gifts, because a Catholic education can be the springboard to higher education...the best way to break the cycle of poverty. Imagine a family of 4 (or more) living at or below the poverty level income of \$20,400 trying to pay Catholic school tuition without any help. A little sharing on our part can be the price of a future for some children without the means to afford Catholic school tuition. “Back to school” might have a brand new meaning to those who contribute from their hearts to other people who might not otherwise be served. If education is truly the “key” to the future of the Catholic Church, we might all be able to unlock some of those doors for our kids.

As Phil and I make our visits to these Call to Share recipients each year, we come away with different feelings about the charities that we see. While all charities are usually good for people in their own way, this one struck us as one of the “most” worthwhile ministries on the list of more than 40. What is more important than education, anyway? In this world of turmoil, tragedies and uncertainty there is only one way to change things.....with education. We must learn and we must teach to discover the solutions to the problems we face. And that starts with our children. We were happy to know that the Catholic Church has programs in place, like this Foundation, to help our kids get off to a good start.

Back to school everyone!





Church of the Ascension

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2. Click “Register” and enter your name, email, and password.
3. If it asks for a parish code put: H3XN6C
4. You are all ready to access FORMED!

BACK TO SCHOOL WORD SEARCH

T H M Y R B E H A V I O R S G
F A I R N T H G I S N I I I N
I P R O V E R B S B S C D S S
F N G L W I S D O M T V D R E
E C N A D I U G L N R I L A L
A G T L S E L N O L U G E E B
R F K I N G E W M P C L S L A
B S T S G D R W O F T D S Y R
R N D T B E G I N N I N G T A
V P S E F L G S H V O J H K P
G W Z N X W C E A V N G B M L
N O S L O O F D J L I L O R D
U R T P T N E D U R P K J H G
O V C X Z K S D S I M P L E F
Y B U N D E R S T A N D I N G

Find the underlined words

Proverbs 1-7 The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel:
For gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight;
for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just
and fair; for giving prudence to those who are simple, knowledge and
discretion to the young- let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let
the discerning get guidance - for understanding proverbs and parables, the
sayings and riddles of the wise. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of
knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

FALL 2019 ADULT FAITH COURSE CATALOG

Join us!

Invite a friend to sign up with you!
There is something for everyone.

Registration form located inside.
Please detach and turn in to the Parish Office
or place in the return box in the Gathering Space.

PLEASE REGISTER BY AUGUST 26, 2019

Online registration & payment available at kcascension.org

In order to ensure the ordering of books and materials,
please register by the deadline.

Late registrations are welcome, but there is no guarantee that materials
will be available your first day of class.

There could be a \$10.00 late fee if registering after the deadline, call for details.

Thank you!

If you have questions about a particular class,
please feel free to call or email the Adult Faith Office:

Liz Willman

Director of Adult Faith and RCIA

lwillman@kcascension.org 681-3348 ext. 139

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OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)



Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic? Join us for classes this fall to see if this is right for you! We will meet on Monday nights for 8 weeks to present basic topics of the faith. At that point, you will decide if you would like to continue coming to class each Monday evening to learn more about Catholicism. Adults are welcomed into the Church at Easter in the spring. We also would love to have parishioners volunteer to serve as a sponsor for someone going through RCIA.

Registration date and time: August 26, 2019 from 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Regular day and time: Mondays 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

First regular session: September 23, 2019

Location: St. Mark Room

Cost: \$0.00

Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist

What is it that is so special about the Eucharist? Although the Eucharist appears to be simple bread and wine, it is actually the “source and summit” of the Christian life. Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist explores the truth and beauty of Christ’s real presence in the Eucharist, from its origins in Sacred Scripture, to its profound role in the life of the Church and her members. It is the crescendo of the entire story of salvation.

4 Week Course

Wednesdays 7:15 PM - 8:45 PM

Start Date: September 11, 2019

Location: St. Mark Room

Facilitator: Rachel Japs

Cost of Materials: \$0.00



MEN'S FAITH

Men of Ascension

Are you looking for a way to get more meaning out of Mass? If so, join with other men of the parish to meet each week and discuss the upcoming Sunday Mass readings. This group discusses the Sunday readings followed by discussion on their applicability to the lives of men. New members are invited to join at any time.

Fridays 6:00 AM - 7:00 AM

Date: Ongoing (does not meet February 21, 2020)

Location: St. Luke Room

Facilitator: Ken Jennison

Cost of Materials: \$0.00



Fathers of St. Joseph - Spirituality for Men

Come join us as we learn God's plan for men, fatherhood. Scriptural solutions to living life today based on how God intended. Our goal is to make the theological practical: finding happiness now and for eternity for fathers & all those we love.

8 Week Course

Wednesdays 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Start Date: September 11, 2019

Location: St. Luke Room

Facilitator: Phil Hernandez

Cost of Materials: \$0.00



WOMEN'S FAITH

Women's Retreat: Doors to the Heart and the Sacred Space Within

A day designed for all women who seek a deeper life of prayer and a closer life with God. Through spiritual exercises, reflection, and prayer experiences, participants will begin to open inner doors of their heart which lead them to a fuller understanding of themselves, others, and their loving God.



Date: Saturday, September 28, 2019

Time: 9:15 AM - 2:30 PM

Location: St. Mark Room

Cost: \$25.00

(Fee includes retreat materials, continental breakfast and lunch)

Retreat Presenters: Marge Sosna and Kim Sutton

Retreat is sponsored by Ascension Adult Faith and Women of Ascension

Women Gathering in Prayer

Interested in leading other women in our parish to share in this journey called life? Have you experienced the joy that comes from knowing real faith support from other women? Or have you not experienced this but always wanted to?



Come to this 3 week session where we will share best practices on leading small faith groups for women, help you to form your own spiritual sisterhood of faith, and provide you with the materials to lead your group. We will launch these groups at Advent. Ongoing support will be provided.

3 Week Course

Tuesdays 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Start Date: October 8, 2019

Location: St. John Room

Facilitators: Marge Sosna and Kim Sutton

Cost of Materials: \$0.00

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GROUPS/RETREATS

Christ Renews His Parish Retreat

Parish sponsored retreat program offering a Sat./Sun. retreat at the parish in the Fall and in the Spring. There are separate weekends for Men and Women. It is a program designed to bring parish members together in Christ, and emphasizes your continued growth in Catholic Christian life. It initiates this through small group participation. If interested, check out the parish website or Adult Faith Bulletin Board in the Gathering Space where you will find a registration form.



Weekend Retreat - Men

Sat. 8:00 AM thru Sun. 5:00 PM

Dates: September 7 & 8, 2019

Location: Ascension

Cost of Materials: \$0.00

OR

Weekend Retreat - Women

Sat. 8:00 AM thru Sun. 5:00 PM

Dates: September 21 & 22, 2019

Location: Ascension

Cost of Materials: \$0.00

Disciples Dwelling: A Catholic Young Adult Group

Are you currently transitioning from college into adulthood? Are you looking for an opportunity where you can dig deeper into your Catholic faith while bonding with other young adults on fire for Christ? Then consider joining Disciples Dwelling (DD) - Ascension's young adult group. We discuss upcoming Sunday Mass readings followed by a fellowship activity - with occasional DD functions on the weekends. If you feel called to learn more about joining Disciples Dwelling, look us up on Facebook or email Amy Reinhardt (amelizabeth93@yahoo.com) or Jennifer Mathews (jmathewsusalu@gmail.com) for more information.



Year-round Bible Study for passionate Catholic Young Adults, ages 21-35

Thursdays 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (no meeting 2/20/2020 or 6/11/2020)

Location: St. John Room

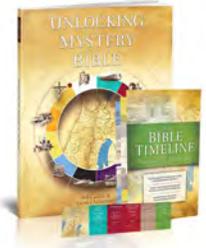
Facilitators: Amy Reinhardt and Jennifer Mathews

Cost of Materials: \$0.00

BIBLE STUDIES

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible helps you uncover the story woven throughout Scripture, so you can get the “big picture” of the Bible and understand what it’s all about. The complexity of the Bible is simplified through an easy-to-follow narrative approach, and a color-coded Bible Timeline Chart which helps you to follow the story that ties all of Scripture together and makes it easy to understand the Bible. This is a condensed version of the Bible Timeline Study.



Please bring your Bible to class (any translation)

8 Week Course

Tuesday 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Start Date: September 10, 2019

Location: St. Mark Room

Facilitator: Bob Stoddard

Cost of Materials: \$20.00

Isaiah:

Longing for and Welcoming the Saving Reign of God

A study of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, chapters 40-66. This study will include God’s warnings to the Chosen People and to the nations around Judah, promises and prophecies of the future Messiah, and the Power of God over the Assyrian Empire.



Please bring your Bible to class (any translation)

10 Week Course

Tuesdays 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Start Date: September 10, 2019

Location: St. John Room

Facilitator: Bill Thomas

Cost of Materials: \$0.00

OR

Fridays 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Start Date: September 13, 2019

Location: St. John Room

Facilitator: Bill Thomas

Cost of Materials: \$0.00

GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew: The King & His Kingdom

This study shows how Jesus fulfills God's promises to Israel and establishes his kingdom on earth. Through references to the Old Testament promises of God to his people and the messages God sent them through the prophets, the Matthew Bible study program provides the key to understanding the rest of the New Testament and Christ as the fulfillment of God's plan.

Matthew portrays Jesus as the true King who fulfills the Law the people of Israel have failed to keep and who introduces the new law that will accompany the New Covenant.



This is primarily a self-lead study course that will meet once a month to touch base and share ideas. This course is a great follow up to The Bible Timeline but it also stands alone.

24 Week Course that meets on the 1st Thursday of every month.

Thursdays 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Start Date: September 5, 2019

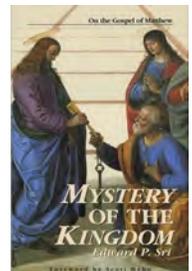
Location: St. Luke Room

Facilitator: Katie Kuckelman

Cost of Materials: \$30.00

Mystery of the Kingdom: On the Gospel of Matthew

Mystery of the Kingdom is a refreshing Bible study on the Gospel of Matthew that focuses on the "kingdom of God." Why is the kingdom at the heart of Jesus' teaching? What were Jesus' contemporaries expecting? What did Jesus actually say about His kingdom? What is the relationship between the "kingdom" and the Catholic Church we see today? We will use Dr. Edward P. Sri's book to explore the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ as revealed in the New Testament and carried on by his Church.



10 Week Course

Wednesdays 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Start Date: September 18, 2019

Location: St. Mark Room

Facilitator: Kim Sutton

Cost of Materials: \$15.00

OR

Wednesdays 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Start Date: September 18, 2019

Location: St. Mark Room

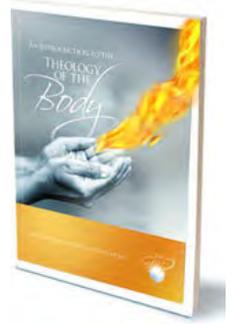
Facilitator: Kim Sutton

Cost of Materials: \$15.00

CLASSES

Theology of the Body

Most people have heard the ‘whats’ on Catholic teaching on sex and marriage, but very few have heard the ‘whys.’ Pope John Paul II’s ‘Theology of the Body,’ reveals God’s plan for humanity—a plan stamped right into our bodies. In this class, renowned author and lecturer Christopher West unpacks the ‘Theology of the Body’ to demonstrate that the Church’s teaching ‘makes sense’ and in fact is the ‘logic’ of Christianity, because it speaks to the deepest desires and stirrings of every human heart. This class is for everyone searching for their ultimate purpose in life.



9 Week Course

Thursdays: 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Start Date: September 12, 2019

Location: St. Mark Room

Facilitator: Tamara James

Cost of Materials: \$15.00

Every Day in Love

Every Day in Love is a practical application of Pope John Paul II’s Theology of the Body. This is not an academic study of marriage, but rather, a course designed to equip couples to live their vocation of Matrimony more generously. The presentations are fast-paced and filled with proactive insights and strategies that will equip a couple to embrace their Sacrament as the mission of a lifetime for the good of the whole Church.



8 Week Course (non-consecutive weeks)

Thursdays: 7:15 PM - 8:45 PM

Meeting Dates: 9/12/19; 9/19/19; 9/26/19; 10/17/19; 10/24/19; 11/7/19; 11/14/19; 11/21/19

Location: St. Mark Room

Facilitator: Brad & Libby DuPont

Cost of Materials: \$40.00/couple

CLASSES

All Things Catholic

Are you new to your faith? Has it been a while since you've refreshed your knowledge of the Catholic faith? Are you up-to-date but looking for more? If you answer yes to any of these questions, this course is for you! Utilizing the Symbolon DVD series, we will explore the Catholic faith. Each week's session stands alone so you don't have to worry if you miss a class!

10 Week Course

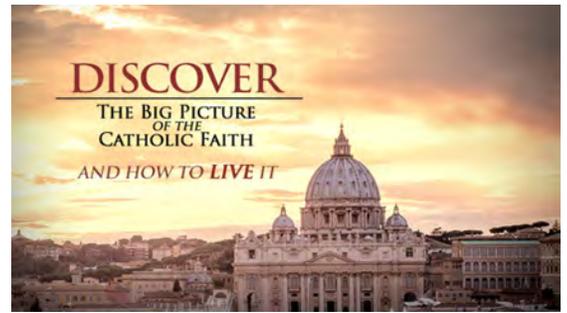
Wednesdays 7:15 PM - 8:45 PM

Start Date: October 9, 2019

Location: St. Mark Room

Facilitator: Rachel Japs

Cost of Optional Workbook: \$25.00



Apologetics 101: Defending What We Believe (And Why)

The class explains the top 10 questions Catholics answer to those questions about our faith. Sharing our faith requires basic understanding of not only what we believe but why.

6 Week Course

Tuesday 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Start Date: September 10, 2019

Location: St. Mark Room

Facilitator: Dan Spencer

Cost of Materials: \$0.00



Dave Ramsey - Financial Peace University

Learn practical steps to beat debt, take control of your money, build wealth, give generously, and secure your family's future! Dave Ramsey and his teaching team will walk you through each lesson, providing practical steps to take control of your money and prepare for the future.

9 Week Course

Mondays: 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

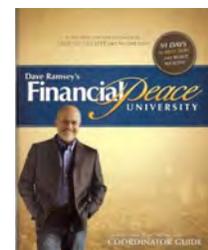
Start Date: September 16, 2019

Location: St. Luke Room

Facilitators: Beth Hartung and Neil Genilo

Cost of Materials: \$50.00

If you would like more information, please email beth.hartung@yahoo.com or genilo@sbcglobal.net.



CLASSES

Forgiveness Class

Is there someone in your family that is NOT talking to another member in your family? You are not the Lone Ranger!! FORGIVENESS is a difficult, challenging journey. This class will look at FORGIVENESS in life and scripture. We will study what the “experts” are teaching us about this most common, yet challenging process. The stories are fascinating, as are the many great articles, DVDs, and opinions on the process.



3 Week Course

Tuesdays 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Start Date: October 29, 2019

Location: St. John Room **OR**

Facilitator: Chuck Jansen

Cost of Materials: \$0.00

Tuesdays 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Start Date: October 29, 2019

Location: St. John Room

Facilitator: Chuck Jansen

Cost of Materials: \$0.00

Pivotal Players: St. Augustine & St. Benedict

Pivotal Players is a series by Bishop Robert Barron that illumines a handful of saints, artists, mystics and scholars who shaped the life of the Church and changed the course of Western Civilization. This study focuses on St. Augustine of Hippo and St. Benedict of Nursia. Through the use of a study guide, small and large group discussion, and Bishop Barron on DVD, we will trace the lives and contributions of these two pivotal saints.



5 Week Course

Thursdays: 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Start Date: September 12, 2019

Location: St. Mark Room

Facilitator: Joyce Grashoff

Cost of Materials: \$20.00

Why Jesus? - School of Faith

Have you ever wanted to be able to explain why we think Jesus is not just a "good moral teacher"? Have you ever wondered why we believe the Gospels are reliable historical documents? Do you have a friend or family member that wants to dialogue about the person of Jesus and you weren't sure where to take the conversation? Then consider coming to the 2nd of 3 installments on Apologetics called Why Jesus?



3 Week Course

Saturdays 9:15 AM - 10:45 AM

Start Date: October 19, 2019

Location: St. Mark Room

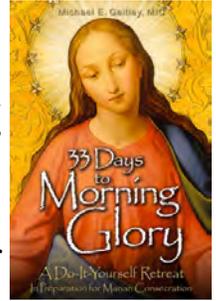
Facilitator: Sebastian D'Amico

Cost of Materials: \$0.00

FR. MICHAEL GAITLEY SERIES

33 Days to Morning Glory

Want to grow in holiness, but too busy? Want to transform your work, your marriage, your family, and your life, but don't have time? Looking for the quickest, surest, and easiest way to holiness, but don't know where to begin? In our hectic day and time, Blessed John Paul II and Blessed Mother Teresa knew that the quickest way to be transformed into a saint is through a relationship with Our Blessed Mother, Mary. Mary leads us to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Starting with the book 33 Days to Morning Glory: A Retreat in Preparation for Marian Consecration, you can begin this journey.



6 Week Course

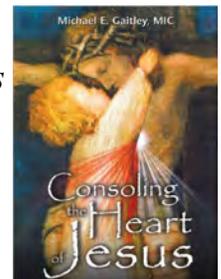
Tuesday 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Start Date: September 3, 2019
Location: St. Luke Room
Facilitator: Dick Kane
Cost of Materials: \$25.00

OR

Tuesday 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Start Date: September 3, 2019
Location: St. Luke Room
Facilitator: Dick Kane
Cost of Materials: \$25.00

Consoling the Heart of Jesus

This course combines the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius with the teachings of Saints Thérèse of Lisieux, Faustina Kowalska, and Louis de Montfort. The author, Father Michael Gaitley, MIC, has a remarkable gift for inspiring little souls to trust in Jesus, The Divine Mercy.



of

10 Week Course

Tuesday 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Start Date: October 15, 2019
Location: St. Luke Room
Facilitator: Dick Kane
Cost of Materials: \$25.00

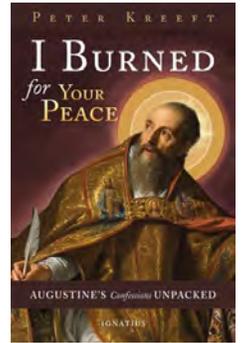
OR

Tuesday 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Start Date: October 15, 2019
Location: St. Luke Room
Facilitator: Dick Kane
Cost of Materials: \$25.00

MIND AND BODY

Holy Conversation Book Club

Men and women... join us for book club at Ascension! We will meet twice a month to discuss various Catholic authors, theologians and philosophers. Our first book will be I Burned for Your Peace: Augustine's Confessions Unpacked, by Peter Kreeft. It will be distributed at the first class and reading will begin after that. Approximately 2 to 3 chapters will be covered at each meeting so as to allow plenty of time for sharing.



Meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays

Time: 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Starts: Tuesdays, September 3, 2019 through April 21, 2020

Location: St. John Room

Facilitator: Tamara James

Cost of Materials: \$18.00

Pietra Fitness

Pietra Fitness® Exercise Classes for Women are now forming... Pietra (meaning “rock” in Italian) is a word that reminds us of the importance of a solid foundation when building anything that is to have strength, stability, and longevity. At Pietra Fitness, our “whole person” workouts are built upon this concept. We utilize physical exercise to promote core strength as a solid physical foundation for the rest of the body. For the soul, our workouts include prayer and meditations built upon the strongest of foundations: the rock of Christ and His Church. This powerful combination truly benefits the entire human person – restoring harmony and wholeness to both body and soul.



PIETRA FITNESS®
a retreat for body and soul

Please bring your exercise mat and water bottle.

Thursdays and Sundays 1:00 PM - 2:40 PM

Dates: Thanksgiving session: \$50.00 November 3, 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24.

Advent session: \$40.00 December 5, 8, 12, 15, 19.

Christmas session: \$50.00 January 16, 19, 23, 26, 30, February 2, 6.

Join us for any one class: \$10.00 (Checks only. Payable to Church of the Ascension)

Location: St. Mark Room

Facilitators: Josette Bell and Kelly Bradley

CATHOLIC MOVIE NIGHTS

*Join us in the Youth Center at 7:00 PM unless otherwise noted.
Bring your own snacks and drinks.
No cost to attend. Dates below.
Space is limited so register early.*

**In the Youth
Center**



Unplanned

The Dramatic True Story of a Former Planned Parenthood Leader's Eye-Opening Journey across the Life Line. Abby Johnson is one of the youngest Planned Parenthood directors in the U.S. After she is asked to assist in an abortion at thirteen weeks gestation she instead resigns, becoming a pro-life activist.

Tuesday, September 10, 2019, 7:00 PM - Youth Center



Breakthrough

When he was 14, Smith drowned in Lake Saint Louis and was dead for nearly an hour. According to reports at the time, CPR was performed 27 minutes to no avail. Then the youth's mother, Joyce Smith, entered the room, praying loudly. Suddenly, there was a pulse, and Smith came around.

Tuesday, October 8, 2019, 7:00 PM - Youth Center

Remember to bring your own
snacks and drinks

CATHOLIC MOVIE NIGHTS

Same Kind of Different as Me



International art dealer Ron Hall must befriend a dangerous homeless man in order to save his struggling marriage to his wife, a woman whose dreams will lead all three of them on the journey of their lives.

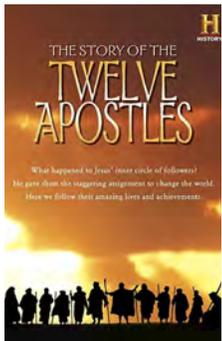
Tuesday, October 22, 2019, 7:00 PM - Youth Center



Serra, Ever Forward, Never Back

Junipero Serra, a Franciscan theologian and scholar, abandons his homeland at the age of 37 and sails to America to found missions in the unexplored region of California.

Tuesday, November 12, 2019, 6:30 PM - Youth Center



The Twelve Apostles

The historical reenactment is based on the Book of The Acts of the Apostles from the Bible and follows the apostles Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James the Lesser, Thaddeus, Simon, and Judas through brotherhood, betrayal and redemption.

Tuesday, December 10, 2019, 7:00 PM - Youth Center

Church of the Ascension 2019-2020 Adult Faith Registration Form due August 29

ONE check may be used for all courses. Please make check payable to: Church of the Ascension. Return to box in gathering space or parish office. **REGISTER ONLINE at www.kcascension.org or turn in this registration form.**

Name: _____ If couple attending class, Spouse: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Childcare Information: free childcare available for children 1 years old and older. Please list ages of children where indicated.

Course Title	Circle Class	Cost	Child care Requested?
33 Days to Morning Glory	AM or PM	\$25	
All Things Catholic (optional workbook)	PM	\$0 or \$25	
Apologetics 101: Defending What We Believe (And Why)	PM	\$0	
Catholic Movie Nights: 9/10/19-Unplanned; 10/8/19-Breakthrough; 10/22/19-Same Kind of Different; 11/12/19- Serra, Ever Forward, Never Back; 12/10/19-The Twelve Apostles	Circle the movies you would like to attend. All movies are in the Youth Center	\$0	
Christ Renews His Parish Retreat	SEE DESCRIPTION TO REGISTER	\$0	
Consoling the Heart of Jesus	AM or PM	\$25	
Dave Ramsey - Financial Peace University	PM	\$50	
Disciples Dwelling: A Young Adult Bible Study	PM	\$0	
Every Day in Love	PM	\$40/Couple	
Fathers of St Joseph-Spirituality for Men	PM	\$0	
Forgiveness Class	AM or PM	\$0	
Holy Conversation Book Club	Afternoon	\$18	
Isaiah: Longing for and Welcoming the Saving Reign of God	AM or PM	\$0	
Matthew: The King & His Kingdom	PM	\$30	
Men of Ascension	AM	\$0	
Mystery of the Kingdom: On the Gospel of Matthew	AM or PM	\$15	
Pietra Fitness	Thanksgiving \$50; Advent \$40; Christmas \$50	varies	
Pivotal Players: St. Augustine & St. Benedict	PM	\$20	
Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist	PM	\$0	
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)	PM	\$0	
Theology of the Body	AM	\$15	
Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible	AM	\$20	
Why Jesus? - School of Faith	AM	\$0	
Women Gathering in Prayer	AM	\$0	
Women's Retreat: Doors to the Heart and the Sacred Space Within	AM	\$25	
Total		\$_____	

Late registrations are welcome, but there is **no** guarantee that materials will be available your first day of class. There could be a \$10 late registration fee.

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Christ Renews His Parish Retreat	SEE DESCRIPTION TO REGISTER	\$0	
Consoling the Heart of Jesus	AM or PM	\$25	
Dave Ramsey - Financial Peace University	PM	\$50	
Disciples Dwelling: A Young Adult Bible Study	PM	\$0	
Every Day in Love	PM	\$40/Couple	
Fathers of St Joseph-Spirituality for Men	PM	\$0	
Forgiveness Class	AM or PM	\$0	
Holy Conversation Book Club	Afternoon	\$18	
Isaiah: Longing for and Welcoming the Saving Reign of God	AM or PM	\$0	
Matthew: The King & His Kingdom	PM	\$30	
Men of Ascension	AM	\$0	
Mystery of the Kingdom: On the Gospel of Matthew	AM or PM	\$15	
Pietra Fitness	Thanksgiving \$50; Advent \$40; Christmas \$50	varies	
Pivotal Players: St. Augustine & St. Benedict	PM	\$20	
Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist	PM	\$0	
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)	PM	\$0	
Theology of the Body	AM	\$15	
Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible	AM	\$20	
Why Jesus? - School of Faith	AM	\$0	
Women Gathering in Prayer	AM	\$0	
Women's Retreat: Doors to the Heart and the Sacred Space Within	AM	\$25	
Total		\$_____	

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Church of the Ascension
9510 West 127th Street
Overland Park, KS. 66213

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Looking for a deeper relationship with Christ?

Looking to meet new friends?

Looking for fulfillment in a busy, hectic world?

Look inside for some answers!

Online registration now open.

NOTES:
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SUBMITTED: July 11, 11:30AM
PLEASE RETURN TO US ON OR BEFORE July 26
THANK YOU!!!

PERFORATE PAGES 26 AND 27

Please let us know as soon as possible if there are any issues with the file.

Contact Maggie at (913) 681-3348 if there are any issues or if you have any questions.

Thank you!!!

Pages: (including this page) 29

Software: MS Office Publisher –2010