

adult classes 2015-16

Classes and Series for Adult Formation and Information — You are welcome.

Why not continue your Adult Education by taking a class this year? We have many offerings to choose from. *Please remember, space is sometimes limited!* Please watch the bulletin for details about any costs or registration deadlines.

RCIA Classes (Open to all parishioners)

begins September 14, Mondays until Easter.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Mondays from 7:30–8:15pm in the church.

Classes are taught by all priests and members of the RCIA Team. All adults are welcome—you can already be Catholic/don't have to become Catholic to attend.

The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide

begins September 21, 12 Mondays. Mondays, 7:30–9pm in the Courtyard Meeting Room. 12-week DVD series, discussions led by Sue Mersch. Email suemersch@gmail.com or call 708-638-8383. Please register before September 14.

Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom (Two sessions)

Session I begins September 22, 20 Tuesdays.

Session II begins September 24, 12 Thursdays.

20-week DVD series by Jeff Cavins, will show how Christ's Kingdom on earth is empowered to carry out his work in the world. The Acts of the Apostles provides a historic framework for understanding the rest of the New Testament, which comes

alive when read in a new way within the context of the Acts narrative.

Session I, Tuesdays, 7-9pm at Holy Cross Academy Library led by JoAnne Baker.

Session II, Thursdays, 9:45-11:45 in the Courtyard Meeting Room, led by Tess Thome.

Book fee is \$15 and registration for classes is requested by September 14 to order class materials. Please call the parish office to sign up for either Tuesday evening or Thursday morning classes.

Walking with Purpose: Women's Bible Study

To bring women to a deeper personal relationship with Jesus Christ through personal Bible study and small groups, linking everyday challenges to solutions through Jesus' teachings. Go to www.walkingwithpurpose.com for info. This year we will be offering several courses:

Opening Your Heart: The Starting Point (Year 1)

begins September 24, 22 Thursdays.

A foundational 22-week course, designed for women who are new to WWP as well as those with more experience in Bible study, meeting Thursdays, 7:15–8:30pm in the Parish Life Center. Register first night, for information email Lori Mattson lori@acumen-ea.com.

Keeping in Balance (Year 2)

begins September 24, 22 Thursdays.

22 sessions focused on creating health and holiness within using the Old and New Testaments, meeting Thursdays 7:15–8:30pm in the Parish Life Center. More

information, email Lori Mattson lori@acumen-ea.com.

Touching the Divine (Year 3)

begins September 23, 22 Wednesdays.

22 sessions studying the Gospel of John to discover how much Christ loves us and how his love is our true satisfaction, meeting Wednesdays 7:15–8:30pm in the Courtyard Meeting Room. More information, email Lori Mattson lori@acumen-ea.com.

The Called and Gifted Workshop offered again October 9-10

Please call the parish office to register, space is limited as the Workshop is not open only to the parish this fall. Join us for the acclaimed Workshop, one follow-up Consultation during October, and a six-meeting series of small groups as we discover and deepen the gifts God has given us. If you attended the Workshop but never followed up on the small group gatherings, you are welcome. Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings, first two weeks in November, December and January.

Laudato Si': Pope Francis' Encyclical on the Care of Creation

begins October 25, 3 Sunday afternoons.

Join Fr. Rooney as he and several parishioners share leading discussion about Pope Francis' encyclical on life and care for the environment. This is the perfect forum to learn about Catholic social teaching in this breakthrough document. Please download the document and read it; we will discuss it for two meetings and make an action plan for our community at

save the dates

the third.

October 24, November 1 & 8, 3:15-4:45 in the Courtyard Meeting Room.

Pray with Sacred Scripture: Lectio Divina November 10 and February 11

Fr. Don Rooney will offer a class on two occasions this year on the great tradition in the Catholic Church of how to pray with Sacred Scripture. Did you know that the Bible is, first and foremost for Catholics, not a textbook but a prayerbook? We need to practice our skills of listening! Come and learn a way of prayer that might change your life. The same class will be repeated twice. *We will meet in the church 7-9pm Tuesday, November 10 and Thursday, February 11.*

End of Life Decisions Presentation November 14

Join Fr. Don Rooney, David Mathers and Regis Keddie for a seminar on end-of-life planning which includes liturgical, sacramental, medical and financial planning. Let us know you are coming: 9:30-12pm in the PLC.

Marital Attachment: Why You React the Way You Do and How to Change That: October 13

Do you and your spouse find yourselves arguing about the same things all the time, but it seems that you are talking past each other and not to each other? If that is the case, this talk may be for you! Join William McKenna, counselor at Catholic Charities Family Counseling, and find out what attachment is, how it affects not just your marriage but also your daily life, and how you can use it to change yourself for good.

Tuesday evening, 7:30-9pm, location TBD. Register with the Parish Office by October 6.

Lent Retreats at Loyola on the Potomac November 4-6: Men November 11-13: Women

Loyola retreats are conducted in an atmosphere of prayerful silence and include generous amounts of time for prayer, personal reflection and the cultivation of a deep relationship with God. The retreats are open to anyone who is seeking a deeper relationship with God in prayer. It also provides for daily Eucharist and the sacrament of reconciliation on Friday and Saturday. Loyola Retreat is located in Faulkner, Maryland.

This year's retreat is entitled "The Way." We invite our retreatants to explore the Ignatian principles of being "contemplatives in action" and "to help us walk the path set by Jesus in the Gospel."

Retreats begin with check-in and confessions from 5-6:30pm on Friday, an orientation at 6:45, dinner at 7pm and conclude with lunch on Sunday following Mass. The suggested offering for the retreat is \$235, but only \$185 for first-time retreatants. A payment plan is available. Contact Len or Sylvia Fontenot, 540-663-2261 or email lensyl1966@verizon.net. To register go to



www.loyolaontheptomac.com

The Mystery of God and Why He Matters

begins January 5, 6 Tuesday evenings.

What do we really mean by "God"?

Atheism is on the rise. Skeptical thinkers vigorously attack belief in God as irrational or, even worse, dangerous. The so-called New Atheism has attracted millions of young people thanks to bestselling books such as *The God Delusion* and *God Is Not Great*. How should Christians respond? How can we turn the tide of secularism and draw people back to God?

In this new film series and study program, Bishop Robert Barron reaches into our rich intellectual tradition to teach us how. Using the insights of St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, Pope Benedict XVI, he uncovers a clear yet sophisticated understanding of what we mean by "God".

Who is God? And why does he matter? Watch this series and you'll not only learn the answers yourself, but you'll discover how to share them with others - especially those who no longer believe.

We will meet in the church 7-9pm beginning Tuesday, January 5 and keep February 16 in case of a snow day.

40 Hours' Parish Mission: February 22-23

Each evening after Mass, during our 40 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration, our own Fr. Don Rooney will speak this year on the necessity of gratitude, mercy and spiritual growth, and the traditions of prayer that have defined Catholic spirituality. Find solitude for 40 hours in your life and discover what benefit might be in store for you. All welcome.