

# Parent Faith Formation Opportunities 2017- 2018

## **Philippians, Life in Christ by the Augustine Institute**

September 6<sup>th</sup> – October 11<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in Family Center Room 201

Discover the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians, as world renowned biblical scholar Tim Gray unpacks St. Paul's letter and its meaning for Christians today. This video based small group study series will meet every Wednesday evening from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. from 9/6 to 10/11.

## **Blessed is She, St. Monica's New Mother's Ministry**

Every Third Thursday of the Month at 8:00 p.m. in Room 220 in the Family Center from September – May. Their first gathering will be September 21, 2017.

St. Monica's new Mother's ministry will be following the *Blessed is She* workshops, which focus on building faith and fellowship. Topics include Introduction to Catholic Spirituality, Finding Peace, Suffering Well, amongst other interesting topics.

## **Fireside Chat with Fr. John Bartunek**

Saturday, September 30, at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Center Room 201

Child care available in Room 114

Join St. Monica Catholic Church and the local chapter of Regnum Christi as they welcome Fr. John Bartunek. This event will feature social time, a talk on prayer led by Fr. John, inspired by his new book *A Quiet Place*, and a Q&A session. Books will be available for purchase.

Fr. John Bartunek, LC, SThD, a graduate of Stanford University, comes from an evangelical Christian background and became a member of the Catholic church in 1991. He was ordained a Catholic priest in 2003 and earned his doctorate in moral theology in 2010. He is the author of *The Better Part* and *Inside the Passion: An Insider's Look at the Passion of Christ*. Fr. Bartunek splits his time between Michigan, where he continues his writing apostolate with [rcspirituality.org](http://rcspirituality.org), and assists at Our Lady Queen of the Family Retreat Center in Oxford and Rome, where he teaches theology at the Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum.

## **Beloved: Finding Happiness in Marriage**

From the larger community of St. Monica small groups of married couples meet in homes to watch and discuss marriage-affirming topics, while creating deep bonds of friendship and support. This year couples will be watching and discussing *Beloved, Finding Happiness in Marriage*, a program created by the Augustine Institute. To view trailer, please click here: <https://www.augustineinstitute.org/formed/beloved/>

Our meeting dates for 2017 -2018 are the following Saturdays:

- September 30
- October 28
- November 18
- January 27
- February 24
- March 24

You may register on the Church website. For more information, contact Patty Tomaso at [pattyktomaso@gmail.com](mailto:pattyktomaso@gmail.com) or [214.577.8654](tel:214.577.8654). \* Childcare is provided by the Church.

### **Fatima Centennial Summit**

Friday, October 7, from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Church

(Talk at 4, Mass at 5:30 p.m., followed by procession at 6:30)

Founding Member of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, Fr. Andrew Apostoli, will be giving a talk from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. about Our Lady of Fatima. At 5:30 p.m. Cardinal Burke will celebrate Mass. Following Mass there will be a procession with a statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

### **And Mary's Yes Continues...**

Saturday, October 14, from 9:30 – 10:30 in the Family Center Room 201

The Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, will be visiting us from Georgetown, Texas, to share with us about helping plant the seed for vocational discernment in the home.

### **True Reformers, Saints of the Catholic Reformation**

October 18 – December 13 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in the Family Center Room 201

This video based series by Dr. Christopher Blum will lead us on a journey with the Saints who led the Church's rebirth from the ashes of the confusion caused by the Protestant Reformation.

### **The University of Dallas Ministry Conference**

October 19-21, 2017 at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center

The University of Dallas Ministry Conference is a three day conference with sessions specifically designed for teachers, catechists, parents, with talks about faith, parenting, and social justice. To register, please visit: [udallas.edu](http://udallas.edu).

### **The Healing Power of God's Love**

October 26, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. (Mass at 7 p.m., talk immediately after Mass)

Fr. Stephen Imbarrato, from Priests for Life, will be giving a powerful pro-life testimony about God's love and forgiveness after abortion. Fr. Imbarrato is a dynamic speaker who travels around the country spreading the pro-life message.

### **Three to Thrive**

October 26, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Family Center Room 109

Come connect with other young married couples and hear a great talk: Your Family of Origin- How the Family you came from effects the family you build. We will begin at 6:30 with happy hour drinks and light appetizers. Talk will begin at 7 p.m., time for q&a and discussion at 8:30. This event is best for both husband and wife!

### **November – Month of the Four Last Things**

November 18, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Family Center Room 201

During the month of November, we think about the Communion of Saints and the four last things: death, heaven, hell and judgment. Our speaker this month help shed light on what the Church teaches and how to explain these realities to our children in light of Christian hope.

### **Advent Family Retreat – Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation**

December 9<sup>th</sup> 8 – 11:00 a.m. Mass at 8 a.m.

The Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation, also known as the Nashville Dominicans, will be sharing with us ideas on how to prepare for the coming of Christ as a family during the advent season.

### **The Bible and the Sacraments**

January 10<sup>th</sup> – March 21<sup>st</sup> 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in Family Center Room 201

*The Bible and the Sacraments* is unlike any other study on the sacraments. Certainly it looks at the basic teaching of the Church as to their meaning and origin, but it goes further. It investigates the deeper mystery of the sacraments as illuminated by Sacred Scripture.

<https://stpaulcenter.com/studies-tools/journey-through-scripture/the-bible-and-the-sacraments/>

### **Unlocked? The Key to Healing**

**January 20, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. in Family Center Room 201**

Fr. Edward Bentley from the Legionaries of Christ gives a beautiful presentation on the mercy of God and the significance of this Sacrament of Healing given to us by Christ himself. Fr. Bentley will take us through the biblical origin of the Sacrament, he will respond to common misconceptions about the Sacrament and he will provide suggestions on how to help prepare our children for this wonderful gift.

### **The Power of the Holy Spirit**

February 17 at 9:30 a.m. in the Family Center Room 201

Dr. Greg Weisbruch is a passionate speaker who shares with us theological insight on the role of the Holy Spirit in the family. Dr. Weisbruch provides parents with some practical tips on what parents can do at home to help our young people understand the Sacrament of Confirmation.

### **Seven Habits of Highly Effective Catholics by Dr. John Bergsma**

February 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church

This Lent join us for an evening with Dr. John Bergsma, full professor of Theology at the Franciscan University of Steubenville comes to share with us the highly effective Catholics. Dr. Bergsma has appeared as a guest on EWTN's The Journey Home, Franciscan University Presents, and Relevant Radio's Drew Mariani Show. Twice voted Faculty of the Year by graduating classes of the Franciscan University of Steubenville, Dr. Bergsma is a popular teacher who inspires his students with a love of Scripture. He and his wife Dawn reside with their eight children in Steubenville, Ohio.

### **Become the Father You Are Destined to Be**

March 17, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. in Family Center Room 201

During the month of March, we think of St. Joseph, and the timeless wisdom and example of the man who was father to the Son. During this presentation, we will look at the spirituality of fatherhood as exemplified by St. Joseph and look at ways to grow in this calling to authentic fatherhood.

### **Peter: Cornerstone of Catholicism**

April 4, 2018 – May 30, 2018 in the Family Center Room 201

Peter: Cornerstone of Catholicism offers a fascinating, in-depth study series on the life and meaning of St. Peter. Bringing together biblical stories, historical knowledge, solid Church teaching, and personal insights, Dr. Gray gives a fresh perspective on the fisherman to whom Jesus entrusted his Church. In these ten stirring lectures, learn what happens when flawed humanity comes up against God made flesh.

### **Unpacking the Mass for Children and Teens**

April 21, 9:30 – 10:30 in Family Center Room 201

Former theology teacher and Catholic blogger and speaker, Christina Jalloway, will unpack the Mass, and how to help parents teach their children about the highest form of worship for Catholics. Christina will be able to provide practical suggestions, resources, and tips on how to go about helping our youth understand the greatest gift given to us in the Mass.

### **Mary as Queen of the Family**

May 12, 9:30 – 10:30 in Family Center Room 201