

Adult Faith Formation Opportunities

The purpose of the St. Aloysius Parish Formation/Evangelization Commission is to support all levels of faith formation; encouraging all to participate in life-long spiritual formation through community-wide catechesis promoting Gospel living and awareness of Catholic Social Teaching.

☞ In September our parish will begin Scripture Study groups:

English: Intro to the Bible Wed 11 am; Isaiah Wed 7pm -both beginning Sept. 7th

Spanish: Point Arena Wed. 7pm. MSS: Still making arrangements.

If you are interested in joining there is still time!

Contact JoAnn Wittig, 884-9007 or Cindy Wesley, 884-3396

☞ Also in September we will begin the monthly distribution of Catholic Update, a monthly newsletter that covers seasonal topics and many issues of current concern to Catholics in the United States. These will be available to our parishioners for a 50 cent donation.

☞ The Diocese of Santa Rosa is sponsoring a series of Adult conferences. (see back side)

Future plans include: ♡ Advent Reconciliation Service/Potluck, November 30 at MSS

♡ Lenten Mission with Fr. Michael Moore, March 5-18, 2012
"The Last Seven Words of Christ"

Conferences:

❖ **Faith Formation Conference**- Nov 18-19 Santa Clara Convention Center

For more information:

<http://www.dsj.org/education/catechetical-ministry/faith-formation-conference>

❖ **LA Religious Education Conference** March 23-25, 2012

For more informaton: <http://www.recongress.org/>

The US Bishops in their pastoral plan, Our Hearts Were Burning within Us, have placed adult faith formation as the first priority in the work of catechesis.

"The Church's catechetical mission aims to help the faithful of all ages to grow in both human and Christian maturity, enriching the whole of life with the leaven of the Gospel.

...To be faithful and effective it will offer, over time, a comprehensive and systematic presentation and exploration of the core elements of Catholic faith and practice—a complete initiation into a Catholic way of life. It will do so in a way that is accessible to adults and relates to their life experiences, helping them to form a Christian conscience and to live their lives in the world as faithful disciples of Jesus.

This integration of actual life experience, diverse adult learning needs, the study of Scripture, and the teaching of the Church's tradition will create a vibrant learning environment...

Their three major goals are:

- 1. Invite and Enable Ongoing Conversion to Jesus in Holiness of Life.**
- 2. Promote and Support Active Membership in the Christian Community.**
- 3. Call and Prepare Adults to Act as Disciples in Mission to the World.**

❖ **Santa Rosa Diocese "Day of Light"** No information available at this time.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for adult faith formation in our parish please speak with Fr. Bala or Cindy Wesley. We would love to hear from our parishioners.

"Catechesis seeks to move people to live justly, mercifully and peacefully as individuals, to act as the leaven of the Gospel in family, school, work, social and civic life and to work for the appropriate social change."

-- *Sharing the Light of Faith, 170.*

Master Catechist/Adult Learning Series I

Diocese of Santa Rosa, 985 Airway Court, Santa Rosa, CA

The following classes are available for Adult Faith Formation:

October 1, 2011 - Catholic Social Teaching

The foundations of the Church's social teachings and the importance of action for justice in Christian living will be discussed. How does conscience, as guided by the Holy Spirit, aid in living a moral life.

October 15, 2011 - Christian Prayer & Worship

"The liturgy is the source from which the Church's power flows and the summit toward which Church activity is directed." What is our role in liturgy? What is the relationship between liturgy and mission? What is the nature and value of both personal and communal prayer? Join us as we discuss these questions and discover the life of prayer.

November 19, 2011 - Revelation/Hebrew Scripture

How has God revealed his goodness to us? Where do we fit into his plan for salvation as revealed to us in Scripture and tradition? How do the Hebrew Scriptures apply to our lives today? Who wrote the Scriptures and how were they inspired? Please bring your Bible.

January 7, 2012 - Christian Scripture

Who wrote the Gospels and why do they hold a central place in the Church? What is the difference between the Old & New Testaments? How do Catholics approach Scripture and how does it differ from Fundamentalist and literalist approaches? Join us as we explore these and many other questions in our journey of faith.

February 18, 2012 - Christology

This day will focus on Jesus Christ who is Lord of our Life. An overview of the tradition in our Church will be explored. This class will afford an opportunity for all adults interested, to develop a closer relationship with Jesus Christ.

March 24, 2012 - The Mystery of the Divine Trinity

The Trinity is the central mystery of the Christian Faith and relates to every dimension of that. How was this revealed to us? What is the Church's understanding of this complex mystery? Join us as we explore these and many other questions in our journey of faith.

May 19, 2012 - Ecclesiology/Mary

This day will offer reflections on the person of Mary as 'Theotokos', mother of the incarnate God, and of Mary as our most perfect model of discipleship. Woven from these images, we may also recognize our own challenge to be Christ-bearers and what it means to be Church.

\$20/person/class for adult learning or Master Catechist \$100.00 person/series Class can be used as credit towards Catechist Recertification Sponsored by the Diocesan Department of Religious Education.

For more information contact:

Religious Education Director - Sr. Olive Murphy, (707) 566-3366, Email: dre@srdiocese.org