



St. Matthew “yoU”niversity Winter/Spring 2018

Where are you going? Why are you so busy?

Are you happy? What are you searching for?

Take a breath, breathe... now think about how you, yes you, can please God. Do you take time to share in relationship with him, grow, love and take comfort in his presence? Consider joining others for a St. Matthew ‘yoU’niversity class, lecture, retreat or workshop. Thumb through this catalog and find at least one thing to aid you on your faith journey.

Adult Faith Formation Director Michael Burck

mburck@stmatthewcatholic.org 704-543-7677 x 1020

8015 Ballantyne Commons Parkway, Charlotte, NC 28277

www.stmatthewcatholic.org/SMU

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR



Maintaining Spiritual Wellness

If any of us were asked what is necessary to maintain good physical well-being most of us would be able to articulate a pretty good prescription of activities to meet that goal, such as daily exercise, a healthy diet and a good nights sleep. However, how would you answer if someone asked you what is necessary to maintain good spiritual well being? That list of things might be a little harder to express. I think many Catholics would say attending Mass on Sundays and even daily Mass when possible. Others might recommend making a good confession at least once a month, and still others might encourage working with the poor. While all of these are good answers, I would like to recommend that taking a course in St. Matthew “yoU”niversity at least once a year would be a good prescription for spiritual well-being. When did you last take a course on Scripture or Mary? When was the last time you attended a retreat or joined a small group? I believe that learning more about our Catholic faith helps us deepen our relationship with God and others, provides a good road map for our spiritual journeys, and helps us continually be in touch with a profound sense of the sacred in our everyday life. We have an excellent variety of course offerings. Chose an item from our healthy “menu” of options. I am confident you’ll be stronger in body and soul.

Father Pat Hoare

To access online registration with credit card payment, simply click on the blue course title.
For Questions contact Michael Burck at
mburck@stmatthewcatholic.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Back to Basics: Survey of the Old Testament	4
Back to Basics: Lectio Divina	4
Back to Basics: The Gospel of John	4
Little Rock: Genesis	5
Wisdom: God’s Vision for Life	5
Catholicism: The Pivotal Players	6
A Biblical Walk Through The Mass	7
Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother	7
Hearts Afire Programs	8
33 Days To Merciful Love	8
Divine Mercy In the Second Greatest Story Ever Told	9
Wisdom & Works of Mercy	9
2018 St. Matthew Lecture Series	10
What Makes Us Catholic?	10
Why, God? Theological Perspectives on Suffering	11
The Easter Stories of Luke and John	11
Gratitude, Forgiveness, and Grace: Lenten Pathways to Peace and Wholeness	12
Seeking Purpose Retreat	13
2018 PARISH MISSION	14
Psalms: The School of Prayer	15
VIRTUS.ORG (Protecting God’s Children)	15
Young Adult Ministry / Off-Campus Ministry (18-22)	16
Young Adult Ministry / Young Adult Life (YAL)	16
Young Adult Ministry / Young Families Group	16
Young Adult Ministry / RAW: Reconciliation, Adoration and Witness	17
Young Adult Ministry / Word of God Revealed with Deacon Jack Staub	17
Young Adult Ministry / Mel’s Diner / Pope Francis Talks / Faith Sharing	17
Young Adult Ministry / Faith Sharing Groups	17
Small Groups at St. Matthew Church	18
RENEW: A Diocesan Retreat for Couples	19
The Power of Calm: Raising Your Kids By Keeping Your Cool	20
St. Matthew Mom’s Group	20
Catechist Recognition Process	21
Divine Mercy Sunday, April 8, 2018	22
In-Home Cenacles of Divine Mercy	22
Divine Mercy Holy Hour	22
Centering Prayer Group Information Session	23
Spiritual Direction Information Session	23
FORMED The Catholic Faith On Demand; studies, movies, audios	24
Evangelization / MATTtv / St. Matthew Library	25
Living Your Strengths (LYS)	26
Teams of Our Lady for Married Couples	27
Moving On after Moving In AM Session PM Session	27
Family Life Ministry	27
Special Religious Development Program (SPRED)	28
Respect Life Ministry	28
First Friday Ministry	29
Companions (for older senior adults)	29
Peace and Justice	29
MAIL-IN REGISTRATION PAGE	30
Bereavement Ministry of Consolation	31

BACK TO BASICS



BACK TO BASICS WITH SISTER MARY HUGH MAULDIN, RSM, MA

Sister Mary Hugh Mauldin, RSM is one of our most beloved teachers! Explore the Bible with Sister and delve into the richness of the Scriptures.

BACK TO BASICS: SURVEY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT *

Mondays, 7 to 8:15 pm

Begins Jan. 8 (*follows the Faith Formation Calendar*)

NLC 203

A study of the foundational texts of Christianity, this course will examine the 27 books of the New Testament. After considering the basic ideas of revelation and Scripture, we will study each section of the New Testament—Gospels, Letters, Acts and Revelation. The last class looks at the place of each book in the Liturgy of the Catholic Church.

Please bring your own Bible. No registration; just come to the first class.

BACK TO BASICS: LECTIO DIVINA *

Wednesdays, 9:30 to 10:45 am

Continuous each Wednesday

NLC 234/235

Lectio Divina is an ancient community prayer form using the upcoming Sunday Mass readings, providing Scriptural enrichment and community building.

*Please bring your own Bible.
No registration; just come when you can!*



BACK TO BASICS: THE GOSPEL OF JOHN *

Wednesdays, 11 am to 12:15 pm

Begins Jan. 10 (*follows the Faith Formation Calendar*)

NLC 234/235

The Gospel according to John is quite different in character from the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. To a much greater degree, this Gospel is the product of a developed theological reflection and grows out of a different circle and tradition. Join us as we study this late first century portrait of Jesus and His message.

Please bring your own Bible. No registration, just come to the first class.

*** Denotes courses that offer free child care with required 48-hour advance nursery registration. Call 704-543-7677 x 1003.**

Little Rock Scripture Study

Genesis *

Eleven sessions

Deacon Paul Herman and

John Mooney

Thursdays, Jan. 11– April 12

9:45 to 11 am

NLC 203

\$20



Genesis is a story of beginnings: God's creation of the world, the beginning of human activity and the beginning of God's covenant with human beings (the stories of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph and his brothers.) This study does not compete with modern scientific understandings, but investigates two different accounts in Genesis of the creation of the world and how both reveal timeless truths about God's creative purposes. Through accounts both humorous and suspenseful of the lives of ancient Israel's patriarchs and matriarchs, Genesis lays the foundation for the epic story of the Exodus, the liberation of God's people from slavery in Egypt.

For more information, contact Judy Zoldowski at Judyzol@aol.com.

New from Ascension Press

WISDOM: GOD'S VISION

FOR LIFE *

Eight sessions

Ted Hahn, MPH

Thursdays, Feb. 1 to March 22

9:45 to 11:15 am

NLC 202

\$20



Scripture and the Tradition of the Catholic Church provide an abundance of wisdom, though it can often be challenging to apply to our lives. In this study, Jeff Cavins and Thomas Smith examine biblical wisdom as it relates to daily life. Drawing on the wisdom literature of the Bible- Proverbs, Wisdom, Sirach, and Ecclesiastes- *Wisdom* will teach you how to actively seek out sound guidance and increase your sense of peace in navigating life. In everything from friendships to finances, from making decisions to attaining peace of mind, Scripture offers a vision for happiness and well-being. You will learn how to gather, gain and grow in wisdom, and you will experience the joy it brings to your life.

*Register online with credit card payment at
www.stmatthewcatholic.org/SMU*

*** Denotes courses that offer free child care with required 48-hour advance nursery registration. Call 704-543-7677 x 1003.**

RELIGIOUS STUDIES



CATHOLICISM: THE PIVOTAL PLAYERS *

Thirteen sessions

Father Pat Hoare

Mondays, Jan. 8 to May 21

7 to 8:30 pm

NLC Banquet Room

\$30

Bishop Barron is on a new journey to unlock the truth behind the Catholic Church's most influential people. *Catholicism: The Pivotal Players* is a multi-part film series that illumines a handful of saints, artists, mystics, and scholars who not only shaped the life of the Church but changed the course of civilization. You'll go deeper with top experts from around the world, including: Father Raniero Cantalamessa, Dr. Matthew Levering, Father Paul Murray, O.P., Father Ian Ker, Dale Ahlquist, and Dr. Anthony Esolen. Each lesson provides details about the *Pivotal Player's* life and contributions to the culture. We hope you will enjoy connecting the material to your own life and experience.

**St. Francis of Assisi, St. Thomas Aquinas,
St. Catherine of Siena, Bl. John Henry
Newman, G.K. Chesterton and more!**



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NEW Waxhaw CLASSES!

The following two classes will be offered at the Waxhaw Campus
4116 Waxhaw-Marvin Rd, Waxhaw, NC 28173
No child care is offered at this location.

A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH THE MASS: UNDERSTANDING WHAT WE SAY AND DO IN THE LITURGY

Five weeks

Jane Brock, MSW, M.Div.

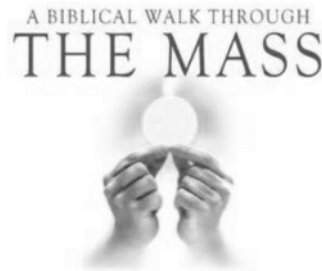
Mondays April 9 to May 7

10 to 11:30 am

Waxhaw

\$20

Based on the revised translation of the Mass, this five-part program takes participants on an exciting tour of the Liturgy as it explores the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience at Mass and explains their profound significance. The words and gestures are seen in a new light, giving new life to the liturgical experience. Discover how the Mass is a “true re-presentation” of Christ’s redeeming sacrifice on the Cross. Explore the three key aspects of the Mass as Sacrifice, Real Presence and Holy Communion.



MARY: A BIBLICAL WALK WITH THE BLESSED MOTHER

Eight weeks

Father Christopher Bond

Thursdays Jan. 18 to March 25

7 to 8:30pm

Waxhaw

\$25

Join us as we embark on an eight-week pilgrimage with Mary, the mother of Jesus. Discover why Catholics hold Mary, the most important woman in salvation history, in such high esteem. We have a profound reverence for the Blessed Mother. We turn to her in prayer, in the Mass, in the rosary and in Marian devotions. We honor her with special feasts celebrating the significant events in her life. Learn and reflect on how she works in our lives today, drawing us ever closer to her Divine Son.



***Register online with credit card payment at
www.stmatthewcatholic.org/SMU***

**>>>>> Check the St. Matthew Library for additional subject material!
There is no child care for the classes at the Waxhaw Campus.**

FAITH SHARING

WHAT ARE HEARTS AFIRE PROGRAMS?

Parish-based programs from the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception (HAPP®) are a bold and fresh approach to small group, parish-based, faith renewal programs. They are designed to help us live the complete Catholic life of faith, charity, and the sacraments, and designed to set our hearts on fire with love of God and neighbor, inspiring us to works of mercy in our families, parishes, and communities. There are **three stages** to complete. *To order your materials for your own faith-sharing group, contact Judy Stumbo at jstumbo@stmatthewcatholic.org.*

STAGE 1

Part 1: The Immaculate Heart *33 Days to Morning Glory Retreat*
Part 2: The Sacred Heart *Consoling the Heart of Jesus Retreat*

STAGE 2

Wisdom and Works of Mercy (A Double Feature!)
See pg. 9 for course information.

STAGE 3

Keeping the Hearts Afire - Keep going!!
More Hearts Afire Offerings by Father Michael Gaitley
33 Days to Merciful Love (course description below and *Divine Mercy*, course information on pg. 9)



33 DAYS TO MERCIFUL LOVE *

Six weeks

Lennie Cox

Wednesdays, Jan. 3 to Feb. 7

12:50 to 2:30 pm

NLC 202

\$30

Father Michael Gaitley shows us ‘*Merciful Love*’ using one of the greatest saints of our time, St. Therese of Lisieux. St. Therese in her “Little Way” lived a life abundantly, full of holiness. Father Gaitley’s ‘*Merciful*

Love’ is a 33 day easy-to-do retreat in preparation for Consecration to Divine Mercy. During the five-week retreat/course you will experience your own ‘little way’ of holiness and learn to live a life of mercy.

Contact Michael Burck if you are interested in facilitating a small group from Hearts Afire, and he’ll help you get started on your formation journey!

>>>>> Check the St. Matthew Library for additional subject material!

***Register online with credit card payment at
www.stmatthewcatholic.org/SMU***

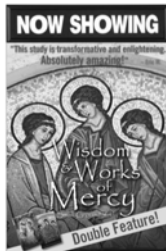
*** Denotes courses that offer free child care with required 48-hour advance nursery registration. Call 704-543-7677 x 1003.**



DIVINE MERCY
IN THE SECOND GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD *

Ten sessions
Jane Brock, MSW, M.Div.
Mondays, Jan. 8 to March 26
9:45 to 11:45 am
NLC 132/125
\$20

Renowned speaker and author Father Michael Gaitley shares the dramatic history of God's love and mercy as interwoven through the transformative message of St. Faustina, the miraculous appearance of Mary at Fatima, the witness of Maximilian Kolbe, and the world-changing papacy of Pope St. John Paul II. Featuring the brilliant cinematic artistry of the Augustine Institute's film studio, the vast panorama of God's work of mercy in the world unfolds as a story to be experienced.



WISDOM & WORKS OF MERCY *

Fourteen weeks
Judy Stumbo
Fridays, Jan. 19 to May 11
10 to 11:30 am
NLC 203
\$40


Join us for a group study that delves into the Most Holy Trinity as the key to bringing the Faith from our heads to our hearts and out into our lives, putting your faith into action with group works of mercy.

*Register online with credit card payment at
www.stmatthewcatholic.org/SMU*

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>>>>> *Check the St. Matthew Library for additional subject material!*

2018 ST. MATTHEW LECTURE SERIES



2018 St. Matthew Lecture Series

The Distinguished Presenters for this lecture series:
Sister Mary Hugh Mauldin, RSM, MA
Carla D'Rozario, MA
Susan Reynolds, MTS, M.Ed
Father Frank Cancro



WHAT MAKES US CATHOLIC? *

Sister Mary Hugh Mauldin, RSM, MA

Wednesdays, Feb. 21, 28, March 7, 14

7 to 8:30 pm

NLC Banquet Room

\$30

Whether you are a cradle Catholic, a newly baptized adult, or a returning Catholic, join us as we revisit our core Catholic beliefs, including the universal call to holiness, sacraments, the Trinity, Church, Mary, the equal embrace of Scripture and Tradition, our commitment to communal life, and social justice.

***Register online with credit card payment at
www.stmatthewcatholic.org/SMU***

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2018 ST. MATTHEW LECTURE SERIES



**WHY, GOD? THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES
ON SUFFERING ***

Susan Reynolds, MTS, M.Ed
Wednesdays, May 2, 9, 19
7 to 9 pm
NLC Banquet Room
\$30

Few things challenge our faith in God like experiences of suffering. Both personal experiences of suffering – the death of a loved one, a miscarriage, stillbirth, or infertility; illness; trauma; addiction; financial hardship – and suffering on a global scale can prompt us to ask, *Where is God?* We will examine how suffering is understood in Scripture, ask what it means to say that Christ accompanies us in our difficulty, and dig into the eternal question of how we understand a loving God who seems to allow innocent human suffering. At the same time, we will dispel popular but problematic myths about Christian suffering. Whether you are struggling to understand your own experiences, seeking to accompany a loved one through theirs, or simply hoping to understand more fully the mercy and love of God, you are invited to join us. **Susan Reynolds, MTS., M.Ed**, is a Ph.D. candidate in theology and education at Boston College. She is an adjunct professor in theology at Belmont Abbey College. Her research focuses on the liturgical life of culturally diverse Catholic parishes. She has also written extensively on theology and pregnancy loss.

THE EASTER STORIES OF LUKE AND JOHN *



Father Frank Cancro
Tuesdays, April 10, 17, 24
10 am to noon
NLC Banquet Room
\$30

Take an in-depth look at the symbols and the layers of these important Gospel proclamations for the first readers and all the Church. Explore the drama of Easter night in the upper room and journey to Emmaus, as well as the encounter at the seashore. This course will take a brief look at the Acts of the Apostles' contribution to the Easter teachings. This short course will help make the message of the Easter season a more profound expression of hope and promise for the Christian believer today.

Father Frank Cancro completed studies in theology and preaching at St. Mary Seminary in Baltimore and is a canon lawyer. He served as vice rector of the Theological College of The Catholic University of America in Washington D.C. Currently, he serves as the pastor of Queen of the Apostles Catholic Church in Belmont.

Register online with credit card payment at stmatthewcatholic.org/smu

2018 ST. MATTHEW LECTURE SERIES



GRATITUDE, FORGIVENESS, AND GRACE:
LENTEN PATHWAYS TO PEACE AND WHOLENESS *

Carla D’Rozario, MA

Tuesdays, Feb. 27; March 6, 13

7 to 9 pm

NLC Banquet Room

\$30

Our lives are often fragmented due to the distractions that keep us from consciously and consistently embracing gratitude, forgiveness, and grace. The season of Lent encourages us to cultivate these practices as pathways to peace and wholeness. Presented from an interdisciplinary perspective, this class will integrate sociological and psychological research about the relational and health benefits of gratitude and forgiveness. Interwoven with wisdom from the Christian Tradition- spanning desert monasticism to spiritual guides of our age such as Thomas Merton and Henri Nouwen- this class will foster reflection and growth, offering practical ways to incorporate new life-giving practices into your day-to-day life. Accept this invitation to experience God's love more richly and enter into relationship with others more authentically!

Carla D’Rozario MA has a master’s degree in pastoral theology from Loyola Marymount University. As a retreat guide, she especially enjoys supporting mothers and lay ministers. Carla’s previous ministries include facilitating marriage preparation, providing pastoral care to seniors and companioning immigrant families.

***Register online with credit card payment at
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Click here

SEEKING PURPOSE

SEEKING PURPOSE

DISCERN YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Wondering about
God's direction for your life?

Are you ready to
take the next Step?

Register Early...

stmatthewcatholic.org/smu

Come "Seek your purpose" through a relationship with Jesus and the Holy Spirit. The Seeking Purpose retreat helps you discern the spiritual gifts that God has given you to contribute toward building His kingdom on earth!

The \$40 registration fee includes continental breakfast, training materials, lunch, snacks, and your personal charism assessment which needs to be completed prior to retreat.

Saturday, Jan. 27, 2018

8 am to 4:30 pm

(continental breakfast at 7:30 am)

New Life Center

Banquet Room

Bring your completed personal charism assessment to the retreat!

Assessment given to you once you have completed your registration.

For more information, contact Bethann Rohaly at barohaly@gmail.com or Kathy Bartlett at kathybartlett110@gmail.com.

PARISH MISSION



FATHER JIM SICHKO

60 MINUTES FOR JESUS

Jan. 20-24, 2018
Speaking at Masses Jan. 20 and 21
Parish Mission Talks
Jan. 22-24
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
9:45 am and 7:30 pm

Father Jim is a lively
PRIEST | STORYTELLER | PREACHER
CATHOLIC EVANGELIST | MISSIONARY OF MERCY



Father Jim Sichko is a full-time preacher, evangelist and motivational speaker based in the Diocese of Lexington, KY. In February of 2016, Pope Francis commissioned Father Jim as one of his Papal Missionaries of Mercy, of which there are only 1000 in the world, 100 in the United States.

8015 Ballantyne Commons Parkway, Charlotte, NC

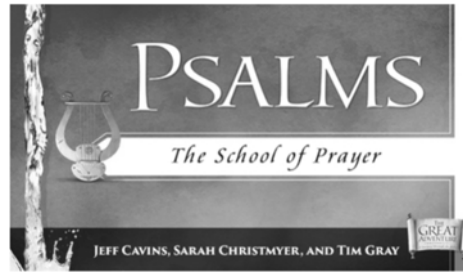
Father Jim uses real life experiences and ties those experiences into the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. Known for his presentations entitled “60 minutes for Jesus,” each talk is geared to all ages.



SCRIPTURE STUDY & VIRTUS INFORMATION

PSALMS THE SCHOOL OF PRAYER *

Eleven weeks
Joe Becker
Tuesdays, March 6 to May 22
12:30 to 2:30 pm
NLC 204
\$25



With *Psalms: The School of Prayer*, The Great Adventure moves from telling the Story to making it personal. While the historical books of the Bible recount God’s creative and redemptive acts in history, the Psalms reveal Israel’s response to God’s covenant offer and serve as a model for our response to Him. Indeed, one could say that the historical books tell the “outside” story of Israel by giving an historical perspective, while the Psalms tell the “inside” story, which comes from the deeply personal perspective of one who is seeking God. *Our communication with God is enhanced by a deeper understanding of the book of Psalms and of the individual psalms that reside in each of our hearts.*

>>>> Check the St. Matthew Library for additional subject material!

Register online with credit card payment at
www.stmatthewcatholic.org/SMU

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To register for Protecting God’s Children;

visit: VIRTUS.ORG

Live training is mandatory for all volunteers 18+.

In order to stay current with Protecting God’s Children, it is required to remain up-to-date with Virtus online.

All parishioners are encouraged to attend.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

Young Adult Ministries

If you have questions or interest in any of the groups below, please contact Francis Ahn at fahn@stmatthewcatholic.org or call 704-543-7677 x 1193.



Off-Campus Ministry

Our goal is to connect/reconnect young adults ages 18-22 to the St. Matthew faith community.

We meet in-person over the summer and winter breaks with socials, service, and spiritual activities.

During the school year, we use social media to interact and stay connected.

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/groups/StMattOffCampus

Young Adult Life



Our mission is to provide young adults (20s-30s) opportunities to grow in their faith and be active in the St. Matthew community through spiritual, social, and service activities.

We welcome all young adults, members or non-members of St. Matthew, to join us for our events.

Social activities include Whitewater Center, trivia, game nights, bowling, movie nights, and many more.

Service activities include Mel's Diner, Adopt-A-Street, Donated Goods, and working at the hunger drive.

Spiritual activities include Mass, adoration, reconciliation, Bible studies, faith-sharing groups, and retreats.

For more information, email us at StMattYAL@gmail.com

Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/smyalcharlotte

To find our events and Catholic Young Adult events throughout the Charlotte area, join the Meetup group at:

www.meetup.com/charlottecatholicyoungadultministry

Young Families

Ministry

We create opportunities for young families to meet and grow in their faith and be welcomed into the St. Matthew community. We welcome all

families whether you are a married couple, married couple with children, or single parent! Look for activities each month such as the welcome breakfast, sandwich-making service project, and faith-sharing.

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/groups/stmattyoungfamilies



YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

RAW (Reconciliation, Adoration, and Witness)

Join us the **first Tuesday** of every month in the Daily Mass Chapel at 7:30 pm for a time of worship, reflection, and community. We will spend a half hour in Eucharistic adoration, with confession offered simultaneously for anyone interested. A young adult will give a short witness talk (a raw testimony) about their life of faith. We will close with group sharing and Benediction.



Word of God Revealed with Deacon Jack Staub

Join us **every other Monday** at 7:30 pm with Deacon Jack for a discussion about the Bible, faith, and other topics that might come up. Please RSVP to Francis Ahn at fahn@stmatthewcatholic.org.



Mel's Diner

Join us the **first Saturday** of every month at 8:30 am to serve the hungry. Mel's Diner organizes fresh food and home-cooked meals for those in need. We also pick up food that would otherwise go to waste and give it out to people who are truly hungry.



Faith Sharing Groups

Are you looking for a group of peers to share your faith? We have a place for you no matter where you are in your faith journey, single or married, no children or children, ranging in age from just graduated high school to your kids are entering elementary school, we will find a place for you!

SMALL GROUPS

SMALL GROUPS AT ST. MATTHEW CHURCH

Are you new to St. Matthew?
Have you been here for some time and
want to meet people in our parish?
Would you like to grow in faith and spirituality with others?



St. Matthew Catholic Church has hundreds of small groups that meet in homes or at church at all times of the day and evening. There may be a group that meets in your neighborhood.

Would you like to host a group by gathering a group of friends, neighbors or parishioners to meet in your home? If you host a group, we will provide you with great small group materials that promote relationships and deepen faith!

To join or host a small group call or email
**Small Group Coordinator Francis Ahn at 704-543-7677 x 1193
or fahn@stmatthewcatholic.org.**



RENEW
A Retreat for Couples

Saturday, March 17, 2018
10 am to 2 pm
New Life Center Banquet Room
\$40 per couple (includes lunch)

Child care is available by reservation.



Catholic Charities
Diocese of Charlotte

A Day to Reconnect and Renew Your Marriage

Great marriages do not just happen. They must be created. Make this the best year yet for your relationship and join other couples for a day of inspiration and reflection. Learn practical skills and spiritual truths to enrich your marriage with personal time for couple sharing.

Topics include:

The Five Love Languages, Couple Communication, Romance: Love as Gift, and I Do: Sacramental Marriage.

Participants are invited to attend the 9 am Mass together before the retreat.

Space is limited. Register early to save your spot at <http://ccdoc.org/renew>.

***For more information, contact Alecia Acquaviva at
ACAcquaviva@CharlotteDiocese.org.
Free child care offered with required 48-hour
advance nursery registration. Call 704-543-7677 x 1003.***

FAMILY LIFE

THE POWER OF CALM
RAISING YOUR KIDS
BY KEEPING YOUR
COOL *

Five weeks

Jenny Cox, MA LMFTA

Wednesdays

April 11 to May 16

7 to 9 pm

NLC 234/235

\$20 per family



Emotional reactivity is behind every bad pattern, bad decision and bad relationship. Whenever we get reactive, whether by screaming, cutting ourselves off, overcompensating for others, or taking things personally, we operate out of our anxiety and not from our values. The Power of Calm is based on the popular ScreamFree™ Parenting program which teaches us how to calm down, grow up and get closer to the ones we love. This is a revolutionary approach that invites parents of all ages (with kids of all ages) to focus on themselves, press the “pause button” on emotion, and create close, meaningful family relationships. Created by marriage and family therapist, author and speaker Hal Runkel, ScreamFree™ Parenting has helped millions of parents create a calmer household with more cooperation and respect.

Jenny Cox is a licensed marriage and family therapy associate and a certified ScreamFree Marriage leader. She is married with two children.

ST. MATTHEW MOM’S GROUP

Thursdays, Jan. 11, 25; Feb. 8, 22; March 1, 15; April 12, 26; May 3, 27

10 am to noon

NLC 239/240/241

Come grow in your vocation of motherhood this spring! We invite you to join the St. Matthew Mom’s Group as we gather to share and grow in our Catholic faith. Together, this community made up of moms of all ages strives to encourage and support each other to take care of ourselves as mothers and wives so we may guide our families with purpose. Each meeting is an open discussion format focusing on yourself, your family, your children and your spouse in an effort to help you create a solid Catholic domestic church. Come join us to be loved and spiritually uplifted.



For more information, contact Becky Lennard at becky.lennard@gmail.com.

*Register online with credit card payment at
www.stmatthewcatholic.org/SMU*

CATECHIST RECOGNITION PROCESS

The Catechist Recognition Process is provided free, to assist with training for catechists. The Education Vicariate offers three levels of programs, leading to a certificate of completion. With each of these programs, the catechists are asked to be in frequent contact with the local parish catechetical program leader, and fellow catechists in the parish and region.

All parishioners are invited to attend one or all. Whether you teach faith formation or not, we welcome you to enrich your Catholic faith!

THE LORD'S PRAYER (LEVEL 2)

Wednesday, Jan. 17

6:30 to 8:30 pm

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* quotes Tertullian that the Lord's prayer "is truly the summary of the whole Gospel" (2761). The catechist experiences, through this module, the richness of this prayer taught and given to us by the Lord Jesus, the master of prayer.

COMMUNITY OF DISCIPLES (LEVEL 2)

Thursday, Feb. 15

9:45 to 11:45 am

This module will help the catechist acquire a renewed vision of genuine Christian communities by studying the meaning, mission and models of the Church.

CREED (LEVEL 1)

Saturday, March 17

9:45 am to 12:15 pm

This module teaches the basic tenets of the Catholic faith as found in the Creed. The catechist is shown that faith is more a response than a concept; the Trinitarian character of the Christian faith and religion is discussed by using examples from daily life.

To register, contact Judy Stumbo at 704-543-7677 x 1004 or jstumbo@stmatthewcatholic.org.

DIVINE MERCY



Divine Mercy Sunday
April 8, 2018 Main Church
3 pm - The Hour of Great Mercy
Prayer service led by Father Pat Hoare
Healing prayer for the family, singing the Divine
Mercy Chaplet, Benediction and blessing with a
first-class relic of St. Faustina Kowalska.

WHY JOIN AN IN-HOME-CENACLE OF THE DIVINE MERCY?

The world around us often crushes us with demands and confusion of voices. The mobility of our culture today weakens the family support that many in the past have relied on to make it through the tough times, and to rejoice in the good times. In our world, which is becoming ever more busy, it is important to dedicate sacred time to God and community in order to nourish spiritual values. The letter to the Hebrews admonishes us, “...and let us consider how to provoke one another



to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day [of the Lord's return] approaching” (Heb 10:23-24). What is more important, it is our Lord Himself who assures us, “...**where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them**” (Mt 18:20), and thus, we are truly His Body at work, transforming this world into God's kingdom. Ask some friends to join you and walk this journey together.

“This devotional experience had deepened my relationship with the Lord beyond my expectations, and given me a new group of friends with whom I can share my spiritual journey. Meeting regularly as a group, we study about St. Faustina, her diary, and how to live our lives through this amazing devotion, and most importantly to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet together. We share our struggles and joys, we are growing more in love with our faith, and our journeys with each other and individually. We support each other with prayer and fellowship, and along the way we are blessed with seeing God's mercy and love in everyday life.” Lucille Coan

For more information contact
Patricia Duran, patriciaduran44@outlook.com or
Lorraine Carpenter, cookinpinehurst@aol.com 704-708-9945

DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR

On the first Thursday of each month, St. Matthew Catholic Church offers a **Divine Mercy Holy Hour at 7:30 pm in the Daily Mass Chapel**. Deacon Gary Schrieber leads the celebration which includes Scripture, entries from St. Faustina's diary, and a recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, as well as veneration of St. Faustina's first-class relic. *Please watch the Sunday bulletin for the special monthly prayer intention.*

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION / CENTERING PRAYER

**THE CENTERING PRAYER GROUP
INFORMATION SESSIONS ***

Wednesday, May 2, 10 to 11:30 am, NLC 208

Wednesday, May 16, 7 to 8:30 pm, NLC 208

No registration required- just come!

In a busy world, a time for silence is a rare experience.

However, authentic spirituality always embraces silent time with God. Centering Prayer is a practice that invites us to be present to God as God is present to us. It is a process that transforms us and brings inner peace into our lives. These sessions will present a brief background into the Centering Prayer practice, an explanation of the prayer process and an experience of Centering Prayer.



***For morning meetings, contact Joan Mahony at
704-544-8824 or joanmahony7936@gmail.com.***

***For evening meetings, contact
Bruce Hassett at chiefbwh@hotmail.com or 704-641-9041 or
Janie Normile at normilejgm@gmail.com or 914-489-9525.***

**SPIRITUAL DIRECTION
INFORMATION SESSION ***

**What is Spiritual Direction and
is it right for me?**

**Do you have a desire to grow closer to
God and deepen your faith?**

**Are you looking for meaning and
purpose in your life?**

If so, please join us for either information session to learn more about spiritual direction and how it can help you on your faith journey.



**Tuesday, May 8, 10 to 11:30 am in NLC 206
Thursday, May 17, 7 to 8:30 pm in NLC 206**

The sessions are presented by three spiritual directors; Marilyn Borrelli, Antoinette Enohmbi and Cindy Correll.

***To register, contact Marilyn Borrelli
at 704-641-3496 or msborrelli1@gmail.com.***

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MATT tv, an electronic evangelization tool, shares stories and the people behind them that make our parish what it is. With over 100 ministries, there are plenty of narratives to share. Find MATT tv on the St. Matthew homepage, and past episodes on our YouTube channel.

**To stay up to date go to our You Tube channel
and subscribe so you do not miss a thing!**

ST. MATTHEW - PARISH LIBRARY

Come check us out!

With over **6,000 volumes**, the parish library (NLC 102) offers a rich selection of books and media for the entire family. Hundreds of new books, DVDs and CDs are added to our shelves every year through purchases and parishioner donations. Topics include theology, the saints, family life, Church history, Scripture, Catholic fiction and much more. We also offer materials in support of various parish programs. The library has a collection of books, DVDs, and CDs for children, pre-teens and teens. The library is open during hours that the New Life Center is open, unless there is a meeting scheduled. There is a self-checkout honor system available for your convenience.



THE LIBRARY OFFERS ADDITIONAL RESOURCES POSSIBLY FOR A CLASS YOU ARE CURRENTLY TAKING, *come in and check us out!*

FAITH SHARING

LIVING YOUR STRENGTHS (LYS)

STRENGTHS INTRODUCTION

So often we are told that to be successful and achieve our goals we need to stop doing this, or start doing that, or work on this weakness. What if we shifted our



STRENGTHS
MINISTRIES

focus and started concentrating on doing more of what we are good at doing and using our limited time and energy to develop our talents and strengths? God made each of us on purpose and for a purpose, and He gave each of us a unique set of talents to help us achieve that purpose. It is in God's plan that some are problem solvers and some are listeners, some are doers and some are thinkers. Who did God plan for you to be? Join us for Strengths Introduction to begin to discover your God-given talents. We will use Gallup's Clifton StrengthsFinder® assessment as a starting point. The only cost of the program is the fee for the assessment paid directly to Gallup.

*For more information, contact Christine Anthony at
lys@stmatthewministries.org.*

STRENGTHS EXPLORATION

New small groups are always forming!

Strengths Exploration is a small-group program designed to help you discover your God-given talents and begin to shift your focus away from fixing your weaknesses and start spending your time and energy on doing more of what you are good at doing. With the guidance of a facilitator, groups begin by identifying their top talent themes through Gallup's Clifton StrengthsFinder® online assessment, and together explore how to apply these talents in their personal, professional and spiritual lives to fulfill God's purpose for each of them. Strengths Introduction is not a pre-requisite.

*For more information or to join a group, contact Christine Anthony at
lys@stmatthewministries.org.*

**Child care available for week day, daytime groups with 48-hour advance registration. Call 704-543-7677 x 1003*

STRENGTHS COACHES

By appointment

Strengths Coaches are available for free one-on-one coaching sessions to help you set goals and apply your God-given talents and strengths. Coaches will guide you as you delve into a deeper understanding of your strengths to embrace and unleash their potential in your life. The only pre-requisite is completion of the Clifton StrengthsFinder® assessment.

For more information, please visit stmatthewcatholic.org/strengths-coaches.

FAITH SHARING

TEAMS OF OUR LADY

FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Teams of Our Lady is a worldwide ministry that helps married couples grow in their spiritual life, their relationship with God and with each other. Teams of five to seven married couples and a priest or spiritual counselor (when available) meet monthly in homes to share a meal, pray, and discuss the spiritual efforts or challenges on which they are working. Interested couples are invited to attend an informational meeting to learn more prior to making a commitment. A five-month commitment is suggested with the option to continue. Informational meetings are held in the fall and spring at St. Matthew.



***Contact Jim and Mary Ann Kirchner at 704-814-8718 or
makirchner@carolina.rr.com or visit www.teamsofourlady.org.***

MOVING ON AFTER MOVING IN *

Wednesdays, Jan. 24 to March 21
9:30 to 11 am, NLC 239/240/241 or
7 to 8:30 pm, NLC 203
\$20

Based on the book, *After the Boxes are Unpacked: Moving On After Moving In* by Susan Miller, this ministry is designed to enfold, encourage and engage women who are new to the community and/or to St. Matthew. It serves as a vehicle for personal, spiritual and communal support and growth.



Please contact welcomeministries@gmail.com.

***To register with credit card payment, visit stmatthewcatholic.org/SMU
Register early so we can be better prepared for your arrival!***

FAMILY LIFE ACTIVITIES

Your parish wants you to come together and meet other families to grow in faith, worship, praise, service and fun. ***Watch the bulletin and join us for upcoming events such as St. Joseph's Day in March!***

***For more information, contact Barb Kohler at
barbarak@stmatthewcatholic.org.***

***Watch the bulletin and
check the website at stmatthewcatholic.org.***

MINISTRY



SPECIAL RELIGIOUS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

SPRED is a ministry in which persons ages six and over, who are developmentally disabled or intellectually challenged, come together with a spiritual friend/catechist (21 years or older) to share a one-on-one relationship and form with others a small faith community. SPRED fosters and nourishes spiritual growth by helping those with mental challenges discover God's presence in their lives. It prepares those with developmental disabilities to participate in the liturgical and sacramental life of St. Matthew. Because of the rapid growth of this ministry, additional catechists are always needed. Specialized training is provided.

*For more information, contact SPRED Coordinator
Jan Clemens at 704-246-7102.*

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

“Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God’s creation, made in His own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.” Pope Francis, Day for Life Greeting

The Respect Life Ministry focuses on increasing the awareness of the dignity and sanctity of all human life, from conception to natural death. We support projects which protect and defend the unborn, the disabled, the terminally ill, and the elderly. Visit our website at www.stmatthewcatholic.org/respect-life-ministry.

Join us in living your Catholic faith through 40 days for Life, Life Chain, diaper drive, Consecration to Jesus Through Mary, the Vigil Night for Life, 10,000 Rosaries for Life, and March for Life.



Watch the bulletin for Respect Life event dates!

*For more information, contact Liliana Salas at
704-293-5001 or lilianacabada@hotmail.com.*

MINISTRY

FIRST FRIDAY MINISTRY *

9 am Mass in the church

10 am devotions

You are invited to join us on the First Friday of each month for 9 am Mass, rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet in the church, followed by fellowship and refreshments. Some months include a special program, such as Stations of the Cross or a guest speaker. Afterwards, you are welcome to enjoy a few refreshments in NLC 102. No registration required. This is a very special three-hour offering for all who want to spend some quality time in communion with the Lord. Moms and dads can enjoy this time while their children build friendships in the nursery.

*For more information, contact Marie Duvier at
704-219-2464 or mduvier91@gmail.com.*

Presented by S.T.A.R.S...

COMPANIONS is an informal discussion group for senior adults that meets the first and third Friday of the month in NLC 234/235 from 9:45 to 11:15 am. Facilitated by Brooke Moran.

Come to one session or all of them...

To register, contact Brooke Moran at mbrookem43@gmail.com.

PEACE AND JUSTICE

The mission of the Peace and Justice Ministry is to foster a visible, active and growing culture of Scripture-centric peace and justice within the parish and community. We engage the parish membership, staff and lay leadership in support of the Catholic mission, as outlined by the Catholic Social Teaching framework and aligned with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Get involved with peace and justice to expand your sphere of influence, to make a difference in the world beyond the borders of Ballantyne, or just to learn more about what we do and why we do it. Our meetings and activities are open to all parishioners.



*For more information, contact Bruce Mlakar at
704-256-4011 or brucemlakar@gmail.com.*

ST. MATTHEW “YOU”NIVERSITY REGISTRATION

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name

Email

Phone

Address

City

State

Zip

Parish

List of Course(s):

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.



*Enclose payment with
registration and mail to
St. Matthew Catholic Church
ATTN: Adult FF Registration
PO Box 49349
Charlotte, NC 28277-0077*

- ◇ *Write checks payable to:
St. Matthew Catholic Church*
- ◇ *Memo check with class attending.*



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Check Cash

Amt: \$ _____ enclosed

Entered:

**BEREAVEMENT
MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION**

OPPORTUNITIES TO JOIN OUR MINISTRY

BEREAVEMENT MINISTER

Training is available for those interested in helping our fellow parishioners who have lost a love one. Is God calling you to this ministry?

BEREAVEMENT MASS FACILITATOR

A lay minister who has time during the day to set up for the funeral Mass and assist afterwards.

FUNERAL RECEPTION

Luncheons following the Mass and/or inurnment are provided, by request, for families. If you enjoy making appetizers, finger sandwiches or desserts, we would love to have your help.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, call the Bereavement Office at 704-543-7677 x 1039

END OF LIFE ISSUES SEMINAR

Date and time are to be determined, please watch the bulletin. Join Father Pat Hoare, along with an attorney, funeral home/cemetery personnel, and our St. Matthew staff to learn more about how you should plan for yourself and your family in the case of death. You never know when the Lord will call you home, and it is better to have your plans made.

SUPPORT GROUPS FOR THE BEREAVED

Grieving the Loss of a Spouse is for widowed persons. This group meets the second Monday of each month from 11 am to 12:30 pm in NLC 102.

MEN'S BEREAVEMENT GROUP is a support group for men who have lost a loved one. This group meets on the first and third Monday of each month (unless a holiday) from 7 to 9 pm in NLC 119.

COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS is a support group for parents who have lost a child. This group meets the third Tuesday of each month from 7 to 9 pm in NLC 234/235.

JOURNEY THRU GRIEF I, an eight week program, begins **Wednesday, April 4**, and is for people suffering a recent loss and having difficulties dealing with sadness, using curriculum in a comfortable, confidential environment. Registration is required. For more information, contact Anne Marie Hunter at 848-219-5526 or Amhunter999@gmail.com.

St. Matthew Catholic Church

8015 Ballantyne Commons Parkway Charlotte, NC 28277



Office hours: 9 am to 4:30 pm

704-543-7677

Director of Adult Faith Formation, Michael Burck x 1020
mburck@stmatthewcatholic.org

Coordinator Young Adult Ministry / Small Groups, Francis Ahn x 1193
fahn@stmatthewcatholic.org

Administration / Registration for Adult Faith Formation, Judy Stumbo x 1004
jstumbo@stmatthewcatholic.org

NLC = NEW LIFE CENTER, where a majority of adult formation classes are held. **Campus map and directions can be found at**

www.stmatthewcatholic.org

***Register online with credit card payment at
www.stmatthewcatholic.org/SMU***

*** Denotes courses that offer free child care with *required 48-hour advance nursery registration*. Call 704.543.7677 x 1003.**