

St. Matthew “yoU”niversity

FALL 2018



Adult Faith Formation Director Michael Burck
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8015 Ballantyne Commons Parkway, Charlotte, NC 28277

stmatthewcatholic.org/smu

LETTER FROM FATHER PAT

Who are you?

That is a question we are asked, and to which we respond, many times in our lives, in many different forms. When you first learned to speak, other children asked your name on the playground. New neighbors, and business colleagues, want to know where you are from, where you work, and where you went to school, along with information about your family and your interests. But knowing “facts” about a person isn’t necessity knowing the **person**. Knowing **you** is more personal, more intimate. To know you is not only to know where you’ve **been**, but where you’re **going**.

At St. Matthew Catholic Church, our adult faith formation program is called “St. Matthew yoUniversity.” Our objective is to help each member of our parish to know himself or herself better. We are all made in the image and likeness of our Creator, and we are God’s children by virtue of our baptism. But each of us is uniquely made and called by God for a particular purpose, cooperating with Him in building the Kingdom of Heaven.

But you can’t know yourself without first knowing Him. Discovering the infinite greatness of the Lord and the depth of His love for you allows you to discover not only who you are, but the happiness you seek.

May God bless you in whatever way you need most today!

Father Pat

NEW TO THE ST. MATTHEW?

Stop by the church office or the welcome desk in the narthex or to pick up your welcome packet. It includes information about parish schedules, ministries and staff, as well as the parish registration form. You may mail the completed form or drop it off at the welcome desk or church office.

After you have completed and returned your registration form, watch your mail for an invitation to Welcome Matt, a social in the New Life Center Banquet Room from 1:30 to 3 pm on select Sundays.

For more information, call the church office at 704-543-7677.

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Key

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

NLC - New Life Center

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

33 Days to Morning Glory*

Six weeks

Lennie Cox

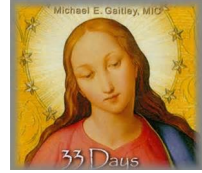
Wednesdays, Oct. 31 to Dec. 12

9:45 to 11:45 am

NLC 203

\$30

Father Michael Gaitley invites you to take hold of our holy Mother's hand as she guides you on your spiritual journey. Blessings abound when we give ourselves to Mary in total trust as she brings us to the very heart of Jesus. Through this study, Father Gaitley shares the stories of St. Louis de Montfort, St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and St. John Paul II and their love for Mary, and explains how this relationship changed their lives and intensified their love for our Triune God.



A Biblical Walk Through the Mass: Understanding What We Say and Do in the Liturgy*

Main Campus

Five weeks

Charles Knatz

Thursdays, Sept. 13 to Oct. 11

7 to 8:30 pm

NLC 208

\$20

Waxhaw Campus

Five weeks

Ron Groover

Thursdays, Sept. 27 to Oct 25

7 to 8:30 pm

\$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.

A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH
THE MASS



Annulments in the Catholic Church

What is an annulment? Is it a Catholic divorce?

Main Campus

Monday, Sept 10, 6:30 to 7:30 pm or

Tuesday, Oct 23, 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Adding two sessions at the Waxhaw campus – please watch the bulletin for details.



- If I am already divorced, why do I need the Catholic Church involved?
- Why are annulments needed for non-Catholic marriages of non-Catholics?
- What is the cost?
- How do I start the process, and how long does it take?
- I have been married for 15 years and have three children, can I still get an annulment?
- I have been divorced, can I receive Communion?
- What are the grounds for an annulment to be processed?

These questions and more are answered in a very informative session facilitated by Deacon Jim Hamrlik, a trained diocesan advocate who has represented parishioners successfully in over 100 annulments.

For more information, contact Jim Hamrlik at jhamrlik@stmatthewcatholic.org.

Click the blue link in the class information to register online with credit card.

Catholicism

Ten weeks

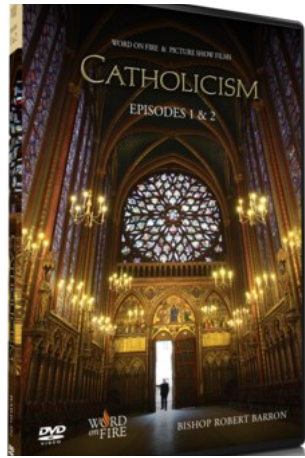
Father Peter Ascik

Thursdays, Oct. 11 to Dec. 20

7 to 9 pm

NLC 132/125

\$30



THE CATHOLIC FAITH AS YOU'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE.

In breathtaking and high-definition cinematography, the truth, goodness, and beauty of Catholicism are illustrated in a multimedia experience. Journey with Bishop Robert Barron to more than 50 locations throughout 16 countries. Be illuminated by the spiritual and artistic treasures of this global culture that claims more than one billion of the earth's people. Learn what Catholics believe and why. Discover the full meaning of the Faith.

Mike Leonard, a veteran NBC Today Show correspondent and acclaimed filmmaker, is the executive producer of this groundbreaking production.

- Episode 1** Amazed and Afraid: The Revelation of God Become Man
- Episode 2** Happy Are We: The Teachings of Jesus
- Episode 3** That Than Which Nothing Greater Can Be Thought:
The Ineffable Mystery of God
- Episode 4** Our Tainted Nature's Solitary Boast:
Mary, The Mother of God
- Episode 5** The Indispensable Men:
Peter, Paul, and the Missionary Adventure
- Episode 6** A Body Both Suffering And Glorious:
The Mystical Union of Christ and The Church
- Episode 7** Word Made Flesh, True Bread of Heaven:
The Mystery of The Liturgy and The Eucharist
- Episode 8** A Vast Company of Witnesses:
The Communion of Saints
- Episode 9** The Life of His Love: Prayer and the Life of the Spirit
- Episode 10** World Without End: The Last Things

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

Church of Second Chances*

Eight weeks

Joanna Patcha

Mondays, Oct. 1 to Nov. 19

6:30 to 8:30 pm

NLC 206

\$15

This is an eight-week course introducing participants to the Christian principle of restorative justice. Through Scripture, book study, prayer, videos and group discussion, we will explore common misconceptions about people in prison and how such misunderstandings have shaped our sense of responsibility. In addition, we will gain a deeper understanding of the experience of people behind bars, and how criminal justice experts and legislators are struggling to fix the public health and safety disasters resulting from mass incarceration in the United States. The course views incarceration through the lens of faith, hoping to inspire a prophetic revision that invites restoration, mercy, and reconciliation.

Pope Francis states, *Therefore, the Church proposes a form of justice that is humanizing, genuinely reconciliatory, a justice that leads the wrongdoer, through an educative path of encouraged penance, to rehabilitation and total reinsertion in the community. How important and good it would be to take on this challenge, so as not to let it fall into oblivion.*



Consoling the Heart of Jesus*

Ten weeks

Jane Brock, M.Div.

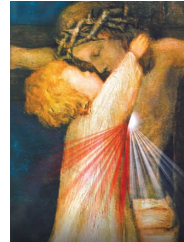
Mondays, Sept. 10 to Nov. 12

9:45 to 11:45 am

NLC 132/125

\$30

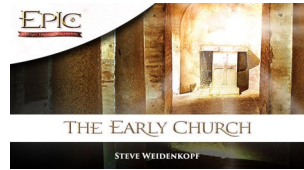
The book *Consoling the Heart of Jesus* gives us an awareness of God's infinite mercy and how we can give Him joy, showing us the way to console His heart by accepting His love and trusting in Him completely. It also focuses on what to do with the suffering we all encounter, helping us grow spiritually closer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.



***Click the blue link in the class information
to register online with credit card.***

Epic: The Early Church***Ten weeks****Courtney Wolford****Tuesdays, Oct. 2 to Dec. 11****7 to 9 pm****NLC 206****\$25**

The Early Church is a 10-session program that presents, in exciting and dramatic detail, the first 500 years of the Church through the lives and events of the saints, philosophers, theologians, martyrs and ruthless emperors. Discover beyond any doubt that the early Christian church was indeed Catholic. Learn about the major people, places, and events of the early Church, gain a greater understanding of the teachings and dogmas of the Faith, and meet those who gave their lives to define and defend them. Learn how the heroic stories of the saints can challenge and affirm your own walk of faith...and much more!

**How St. Francis of Assisi Loved*****Three weeks****Julie McElmurry, MS, MA****Mondays, Oct. 1 to Oct 15****7 to 9 pm****NLC 203****\$20****Monday, Oct. 1 - How St. Francis Loved Animals**

Read the delightful allegories written about St. Francis and the animals a century after he lived. What do these allegories tell us about him?

Monday, Oct. 8 - How St. Francis Loved Rich and Poor People

Read selections, written shortly after St. Francis' life, which tell us about his interactions with land barons, popes, bishops, lepers, his own family, and the men and women who followed his way of life.

Monday, Oct. 15 - How St. Francis Loved Jesus

His first biographer, in the 13th century, tells us that St. Francis' imagination was so taken by the birth and death of Jesus that scarcely did he want to think of anything else. In what way did he live according to the pattern of the holy Gospel?



***Click the blue link in the class information
to register online with credit card.***

JustFaith

Just Faith is a mind-and-heart opening journey that invites participants to encounter the spirit of Jesus in our midst, especially in the lives of people who are poor and vulnerable. Have you heard Pope Francis say he wants a *poor church for the poor*? He also says that *true power is found in service, especially to the poor, and the weak, the vulnerable*. JustFaith participants meet weekly in small groups of 10 to 15 people, using books, videos, discussion, prayer, retreats and hands-on experiences to provide a tapestry of learning opportunities that emphasize and enliven the healing work of God's compassion for the poor that is found in Scripture, Catholic Church history, and faithful witnesses. JustFaith is a lively, challenging, multifaceted process that is nationally recognized and currently used in over 2,000 parishes involving 30,000 people! JustFaith groups begin meeting in September.

For more information, email Bruce Mlakar at brucemlakar@gmail.com.

Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother*

Main Campus

Eight weeks

Lennie Cox

Wednesdays

Sept. 5 to Oct. 24

10:30 am to noon

NLC 203

\$25

Waxhaw Campus

Eight weeks

Charles Knatz

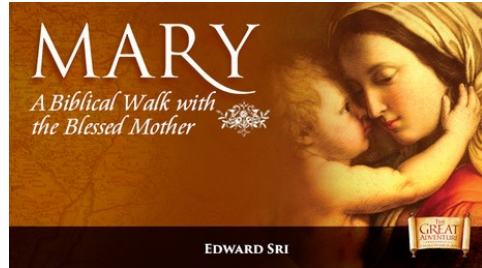
Fridays

Oct. 19 to Dec. 14

10 to 11:30 am

\$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. You will learn and reflect on how she works in our lives today, drawing us ever closer to her Divine Son.



The Shroud of Turin

Is It the Burial Cloth of Jesus? Or Is It a Medieval Hoax?

Larry Schauf

Saturday, Oct. 27

9:45 am to noon

Banquet Room

To register,

stmatthewcatholic.org/smu



Larry Schauf, a former federal prosecutor, and board member of The Shroud of Turin Educational and Research Association, will present the strongest evidence behind the controversy of truth for the Shroud of Turin, giving you the opportunity to ponder and make an informed decision for yourself.

Beginning in 1996, he became an avid student of the Shroud of Turin and now serves on the Board of The Shroud of Turin Education and Research Association (S.T.E.R.A.). In early 2009, Mr. Schauf began his *Trial of The Shroud* presentations around the country to determine if the Shroud could be proven authentic *beyond a reasonable doubt* in a courtroom. He presents the best arguments and supporting evidence on both sides of the issue letting his audiences vote as a *jury* and deliver the *verdict*. He is totally committed to spreading the truth of the Shroud of Turin world-wide, and has obtained the assistance of the world's Shroud experts, and a professional Hollywood producer and screenwriter for a quality, feature-length movie.

Larry Schauf is retired after a thirty-six-year legal career. He lives with his bride of fifty-two years in Huntersville, North Carolina, which is also home to two of their three children and eight of their ten grandchildren.

He has served in an executive capacity for Jack In The Box, Inc., Wendy's International, Inc. and Pizza Hut, Inc. Larry Schauf also founded the government affairs offices and the ethics programs for each of these companies. In addition, he was a member of the Founders Circle of Catholic Answers, has served as president of the National Council of Chain Restaurants and on the Board of the International Franchise Association. Early in his career, Larry was a federal prosecutor who won numerous criminal cases.

Untold Blessing*
Three Paths to Holiness

Seven Weeks

Father Pat Hoare

Mondays, Sept. 10, 17; Oct. 1, 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12

7 to 8:30 pm

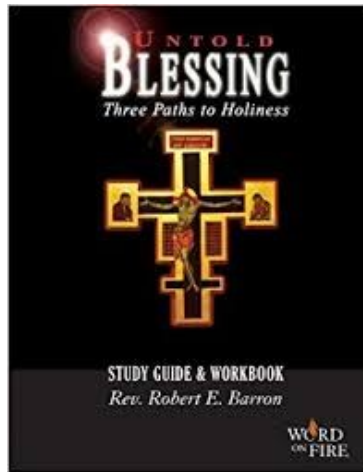
NLC Banquet room (except the Nov. 5 class which is in NLC 239/240/241)

\$30

Our ultimate goal is to be saints. It is our greatest calling and what is desired for us by our Creator. Bishop Robert Barron paints a beautiful and mysterious image of what it takes to be a follower of Jesus Christ. He lays out three intriguing paths to holiness:

1. Finding the Center
2. Knowing You're A Sinner
3. Realizing Your Life is Not About You

He also shares practical approaches to enhance the journey along these three paths. *Untold Blessing* and its companion book, *The Strangest Way*, are insightful guides for meditation as you walk in "The Way."



Click the blue link in the class information to register online with credit card.

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Call 704-543-7677 x 1003.***

Catholic Scripture Studies: Exodus*

28 Weeks

Terry DeMao

Tuesdays, Sept. 11 to April 16

9:50 am to noon

NLC 239/240/241

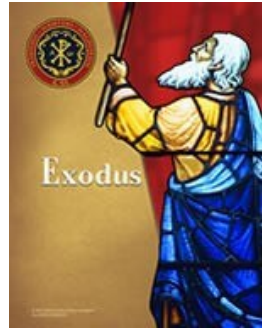
\$40

Exodus is a gripping 1,200+ verse narrative, and one of the most famous ever told. Many of us have heard it since we were little children, but how often have we taken the time to study its chapters as the Church, our guiding light, understands them? Scott Hahn, Mark Shea, and Father Patrick Winslow are here to help you do just that. You will quickly discover a powerful tale of redemption and revelation that unquestionably earns its reputation. In 28 revealing lessons, learn:

- What sacrament the Crossing of the Red Sea prefigures
- Why we shouldn't be afraid to study the Old Testament
- How God responds to us when we try to run ahead of him

In the Christian life, everyone is a pilgrim. What God told Moses thousands of years ago still applies to us today: God will fit us for our tasks. He will never ask us to do anything beyond our strength. Learn how the Israelites mirror our own struggles to accept this, and draw courage from God's infinite faithfulness to all his children.

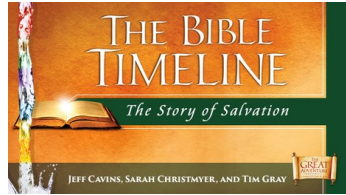
For more information, contact Terry DeMao
tdemao@carolina.rr.com.



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Call 704-543-7677 x 1003.***

***Click the blue link in the class information
to register online with credit card.***

Great Adventure Bible Timeline* 24 Weeks



MORNING SESSION

Ron Groover

Tuesdays

Sept. 25 to April 9

9:45 to 11:45 am

NLC 132/125

\$35

The Bible Timeline is a fascinating study that takes participants on a journey through the entire Bible. They will go deep into each period of salvation history and discover the amazing story woven throughout all of Scripture. Using a unique color-coded system, participants will learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible and see how they all come together to reveal the remarkable story of our faith. *The Bible Timeline* has been granted the imprimatur.

EVENING SESSION

Karen Geiger

Thursdays

Sept. 27 to April 11

7 to 9 pm

NLC 203

\$35

Little Rock Scripture Study: The Acts of the Apostles*

Ten weeks

Deacon Paul Hermann and John

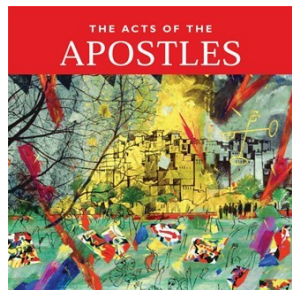
Mooney

Thursdays, Oct. 4 to Dec. 20

9:45 to 11:45 am

NLC 203

\$20



Acts tells the story of the spread of the Gospel and the growth of the early Church from its beginnings at Pentecost, following the ascension of Jesus. The Holy Spirit empowers the preaching of Peter, Paul, and the other disciples to take the Faith from Jerusalem, to Judea, throughout Samaria and ultimately to the ends of the earth. It records the conversion of Paul and the momentous decision of the early Church to welcome Gentiles as well as Jews into the Church. Acts is the second volume of the literary work begun in the Gospel According to Luke.

Psalms: The School of Prayer*

Eleven weeks

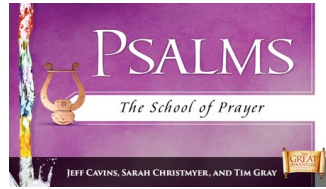
Joe Becker

Tuesdays, Sept. 25 to Dec. 11

12:45 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" of the 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.

Advent Retreat: Receiving the Gifts of Advent

A St. Matthew Group Retreat Experience

Week 1: Nov. 18

Week 2: Nov. 25

Week 3: Dec. 2

Week 4: Dec. 9

Week 5: Dec. 16

Mornings: Monday, Wednesday or Friday - 10 to 11 am

Evenings: Tuesday or Thursday - 7 to 8 pm

This year, through a four-week guided Ignatian retreat, begin Advent with open hearts ready to receive the gifts God wants to bring to you. Materials are provided for personal prayer and reflection. Take time each day, at home, to read the materials and reflect on the theme for a different spiritual gift each week. Meet once a week during Advent to share the gifts you received from God during your week of prayer. Discussion is guided and led by a trained retreat director. Both day and evening times are available. The first meeting for all attendees is held on the week prior to the beginning of your retreat (week of Nov. 18). At this meeting you will receive materials and discuss the protocol for confidentiality, get answers to your questions, and meet group members.

To register for this group retreat experience, contact Cindy Correll at 704-821-7650 or ccorrell10@carolina.rr.com or Antoinette Enohombi at 301-404-4261 or antoinetteabe@yahoo.com.

Christ Renews His Parish (Waxhaw campus)

Oct. 12-13 for Women

Nov. 9-10 for Men

\$60



Christ Renews His Parish is a 24-hour program led by parishioners to provide spiritual renewal and foster a sense of community. Whether you are new to St. Matthew, have recently completed RCIA, are a long-time parishioner looking for new ways to connect, or just need some personal time to focus on your faith life, CRHP may be just what you need.

Inspirational talks, small group discussion, fellowship, prayer, music, great food and the celebration of Mass and reconciliation are all part of this powerful experience that will make you feel a welcome part of the St. Matthew community.

Join us for this time of renewal in the peaceful setting of the Waxhaw campus of St. Matthew (4116 Waxhaw-Marvin Road, Waxhaw, NC 28173).

Don't miss out on this opportunity. Give yourself a gift this fall and join the nearly 700 parishioners who have attended CRHP at St. Matthew. If you have already attended, please invite a fellow parishioner. *Space is limited, so sign up early!*

For more information, contact:

Women's CRHP
Men's CRHP

Chrissy Wilson at Lgw9@bellsouth.net
Joe Becker at Joebecker68@gmail.com



***Click the blue link in the class information
to register online with credit card.***

Ninth Annual Divine Mercy Day of Healing

Saturday, Oct. 6

9 am to 3 pm

Divine Mercy Movement: Transforming a Culture of Death

Part I Worship Main Church: Celebrant: Father Pat Hoare

9 am Mass, homily, singing of the chaplet, anointing of sick, blessing with St Faustina's relic

Part II Symposium Banquet Room (\$35)

Divine Mercy: Transforming a Culture of Death

Resource tables open: meals/breaks

10:15 am *Registration/Continental Breakfast*

10:45 am Welcome and Hymn: *Mary's Song*

11:00 am Mercy is Transformative

Deronda Metz, Center of Hope

11:45 am *Box Lunch/Resource Tables*

12:15 pm Jail Ministry and Mercy

Deacon James Witulski, St. Thomas Aquinas

1:00 pm *15 minute Break/Resource Tables*

1:15 pm Carolinas Divine Mercy Movement

Deacon Gary Schrieber, St. Matthew

1:30 pm Keynote Address

Together We Can Transform a Culture of Death to
a Culture of Love and Mercy

Father Vincent Fortunato, OFM Cap

2:45 pm *Resource Tables*

3:00 pm Closing Hymn: *America*

**Register online with credit card at
stmatthewcatholic.org/divinemeracy**

Divine Mercy Cenacles Introductory Class*

Thirteen Weeks

Mondays, Sept. 17 to Dec. 17

7 to 8:30 pm

NLC 208

\$5

Come learn of the Divine Mercy devotion, the graces received by those who pray the chaplet, and how we learn to live the iconic message - Jesus I trust in you!

Join us to learn about the many aspects of the message of Divine Mercy. Each session includes a video from the Marian Shrine in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, followed by a group discussion on the topic of the week. Together we pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet for our prayer intentions and the evening concludes with fellowship and refreshments. Topics discussed: Divine Mercy Chaplet, The Divine Mercy Image, Trust, St. Faustina, St. John Paul II, Mary Mother of Mercy, Divine Mercy Sunday, Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy, and Living the Divine Mercy way of Life.

Pilgrimage to Franciscan Monastery of St. Clare

Pilgrimage Leader: Julie McElmurry, MS, MA

Director of Franciscan Passages

Friday, Oct. 19

Fee: \$76 covers round trip transportation, guide and lunch. Please bring money for supper at Chick-fil-a.

Join us on a one-day pilgrimage to the Monastery of St. Clare in Travelers Rest, South Carolina. Meet the Franciscan Poor Clare sisters from whom we receive our altar bread. We will board a bus at 6 am in the parking lot of St. Matthew where we begin our two-hour journey (including a break). We arrive in time to attend 9 am Mass in the monastery chapel. After Mass, there is a welcome and orientation by the Poor Clare Sisters. In the warm, inviting atmosphere of the retreat house, enjoy talks by the Poor Clare Sisters and by Julie McElmurry on St. Francis, St. Clare, and the Poor Clares. Enjoy viewing *Such a Free Life*, a short documentary made about these sisters. Enjoy a boxed lunch (included in price of the trip) in the retreat house (delivered from a local restaurant). In the afternoon, experience a retreat with time for reading, prayer, visiting the chapel or walking the grounds. We board the bus at 4:15 pm and depart for St. Matthew, with a stop for supper at Chick-fil-a (please bring money to pay for supper). We will arrive at St. Matthew by 7:15 pm.

Special Religious Development Program



SPRED is a ministry in which persons ages six through adulthood, 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.

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 each other's 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.

For more information, contact Jim and Mary Ann Kirchner at 704-814-8718 or makirchner@carolina.rr.com or visit www.teamsofourlady.org

Young Adult Ministries



Young Adult Life Ministry

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 trivia, game nights, bowling, movie nights, etc. Service activities include Mel's Diner, Adopt-A-Street, Donated Goods, etc.

Spiritual activities include RAW (Reconciliation, Adoration and Witness), Bible studies, small groups, etc.

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

Find us on the parish website under Young Adult Ministries.

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.

RAW (Reconciliation, Adoration and Witness)

Join the Young Adult Life Ministry on 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 some time in Eucharistic adoration, with confession offered simultaneously for any who are interested. A young adult member will give a short witness talk (a raw testimony) about their life of faith.



For more information, contact Young Adult Ministries Coordinator Francis Ahn at 704-543-7677 x 1193 or fahn@stmatthewcatholic.org.

Living Your Strengths (LYS)

So often we are told that to be successful and achieve our goals, we must stop doing this, or start doing that, or work on improving our weaknesses. What if we shifted our focus and started concentrating on doing more of what we do well, and using our limited time and energy to develop our talents and strengths? Many have, and the results have been spectacular! 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 of us are problem solvers and doers, some are great listeners, some are more influential, and others are great thinkers. Who did God plan for YOU to be? See the lineup of LYS offerings available at St. Matthew. **There are no prerequisites, except taking the assessment to discover your top five strengths.** Visit stmatthewcatholic.org and search Living Your Strengths for the link to Gallup's CliftonStrengths assessment.

Strengths Exploration

Sign up for our annual offerings or form your own small group and contact us! Strengths Exploration is a six-week, 90 minutes per week, small-group program designed to help you discover your God-given talents and begin to shift your focus away from fixing your weaknesses. Participants learn to spend time and energy on what they do well. With the guidance of trained facilitators, groups explore each of the CliftonStrengths top talent themes - regular patterns of behavior - and determine how to apply these talents to personal, professional and spiritual aspect of their lives to fulfill God's purpose. Sessions typically commence during January, April and September. Watch the bulletin for more information, or email lys@stmatthewministries.org.

****Child care is available for weekday daytime groups with 48-hour advance registration to the nursery. Call 704-543-7677 x1003.***

Strengths Introduction

Strengths Introduction is a three-hour session to help participants begin to discover their God-given talents. It helps *get your feet wet* as an introduction to St. Matthew's Strengths Program. Taking the CliftonStrengths assessment is required to participate. Watch the bulletin for more information, or email lys@stmatthewministries.org.

Strengths Coaching

Strengths coaches are available for free one-on-one sessions to help you set goals and apply your God-given talents and strengths. People typically meet once or twice with a coach to receive guidance on further understanding the results of their assessment, and embracing and unleashing their potential in life. Coaching is one of the elements of the Exploration sessions, but we also encourage anyone who has taken the assessment to meet with a coach. Taking the CliftonStrengths assessment is required to participate. Visit stmatthewcatholic.org for biographies of the coaches.

Moving On After Moving In*

10 Weeks

Sept. 12 to Nov. 7

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.

For more information, email Becky Malinowski and Valerie Menzel at welcomeministries@gmail.com.

[The Power of Calm for Marriage*](#)

[Calming Down, Growing Up and Getting Closer](#)

Six weeks

Jenny Cox, MA, LMFTA

Wednesday, Oct. 10 to Nov. 14

7 to 9 pm

NLC 234/235

\$10 per person

Your marriage is arguably the most important relationship of your life and can be a source of great strength and joy as each spouse helps the other become the person God created them to be. Part of any growth involves struggle, and all marriages have natural conflict.

Unfortunately, many either avoid conflict or allow themselves to be consumed by it. This program, based on the book *ScreamFree Marriage*, helps couples turn natural conflict into opportunities for deeper intimacy. Created by Marriage and Family Therapist, Author and Speaker Hal Runkel, ScreamFree Marriage offers a “Calm Down, Grow Up, Get Closer” approach where conflict becomes a venue for greater intimacy and a meaningful, lifelong connection.

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



***Click the blue link in the class information
to register online with credit card.***



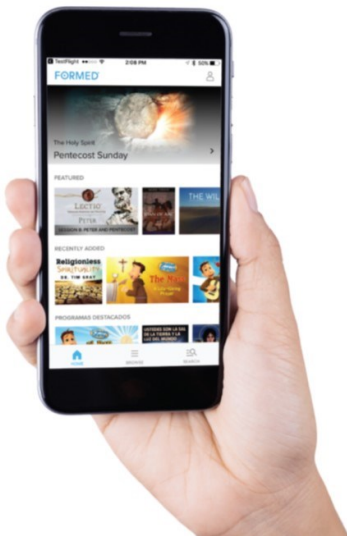
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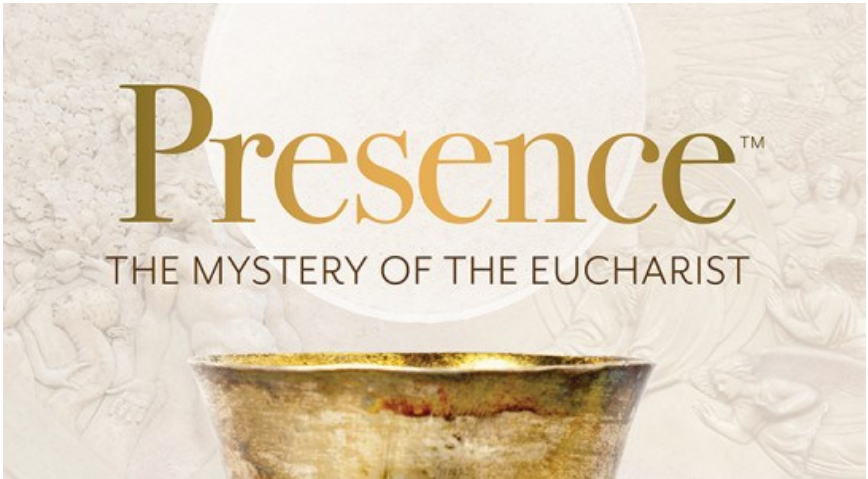


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

stmatthewcatholic.formed.org

Many of our St. Matthew “yoU”niversity classes can be found on FORMED



WWW.STMATTHEWCATHOLIC.ORG



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

**To stay up to date, go to our YouTube channel
and subscribe so you don't miss a thing!**

FIND ST. MATTHEW ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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, perhaps some resources for a class you are currently taking. *Come Check us Out!*



Safe Environment Policy

All volunteers must attend a Protecting God's Children workshop. This two and a half hour program is intended to educate volunteers to recognize and prevent sexual abuse. Preregistration is required. You can sign up online at virtus.org. After completing the registration for a Virtus account, you will be asked to acknowledge receipt of other required notices and to choose a date to attend a workshop. You will then be prompted to enter the necessary information and sign off on a required background release form. After the workshop, you will be asked to keep your training updated through online monthly bulletins. The monthly training requires approximately fifteen (15) minutes. There is an additional yearly recertification. You will be notified by Virtus, through email, of the bulletins and the recertification. It is important that you select the appropriate diocesan location when you register. Please select St. Matthew Church.

St. Matthew will hold workshops on Sept. 22 and 29, Oct. 11, Nov. 14 and Dec. 11. Register at virtus.org.

The following Safe Environment forms may be found on our website at stmatthewcatholic.org.

- **Release and Authorization Form** authorizes the parish to request a background check. The form is submitted to the Diocese of Charlotte by the parish for processing.
- **Volunteer Profile** asks for standard personal information.
- **Acknowledgement of Receipt Form**, which is the last page of the Code of Ethics Policy of the Diocese of Charlotte; this should be signed and dated.
- **Approved Driver Form** is now required for any volunteer who drives a personal or parish vehicle on behalf of St. Matthew Catholic Church. Once approved as a driver, additional online training for defensive driving will be required.

If you do not have access to the internet, or are unable to work online, please contact Lisa Hornung, Safe Environment Coordinator, at 704-543-7677 x 1016.

Please visit the Virtus website or the diocesan website at charlottediocese.org, for additional information about the Protecting God's Children program.

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.*



OFFICE USE:

Check Cash

Amt: \$ _____ enclosed

Entered:

St. Matthew Catholic Church

8015 Ballantyne Commons Parkway
Charlotte, NC 28277



**Office hours:
Monday to Friday
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
Francis Ahn x 1193
fahn@stmatthewcatholic.org

Coordinator of Small Groups and RCIA
Deacon Jack Staub x 1040
deaconjack@outlook.com

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

**Waxhaw Campus: 4116 Marvin-Waxhaw Rd.
WAXHAW CAMPUS OFFERS NO OFFICE HOURS.**