



FAITH FORMATION CALENDAR
Fall 2011



ADULT FAITH FORMATION
St. Matthew *yo*University
Fall 2011 Course Catalog

September

S	M	T	W	T	F
11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30

October

S	M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6	7
X	X	X	X	13	14
16	17	18	19	20	21
23	24	25	26	27	28
30	X				

November

S	M	T	W	T	F
		X	X	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18
20	X	X	X	24	25
X	28	29	30		

December

S	M	T	W	T	F
4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16
X	X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X	X

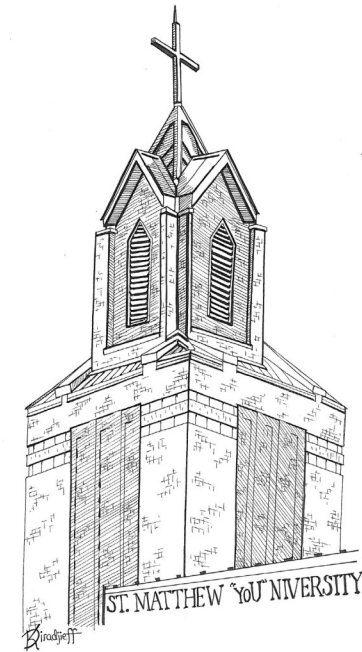
How to find us on the St. Matthew website:

www.stmatthewcatholic.org

See Faith Formation in the menu.

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Charlotte, NC 28277
Phone: 704-541-8362 ext. 4
Fax: 704-542-7244
Web: <http://home.catholicweb.com>
Email: Faithform@stmatthewcatholic.org

X=NO CLASS



*The bell invites me ... for it is a knell that
summons thee to heaven.*

~ Shakespeare

Volume 12 Number 1

A message from
Msgr. McSweeney



Happy 25th Anniversary St. Matthew Catholic Church!

Through Christ the whole structure is held together and grows into a temple sacred in the Lord; in Him you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. **Ephesians 2:21-22**

What does it mean to be church? Is it about the physical location? The bricks and mortar? Were we not church when we celebrated our first mass 25 years ago in a movie theatre? St. Matthew has always been about its people - the living stones that together form a vibrant, faithful, hope-filled community centered in Christ and moved by the Holy Spirit. With Christ at the heart of all we do, St. Matthew is a sacred dwelling place of the Lord with a people dedicated to being the hands and feet of Jesus.

As well, St. Paul says that each one of us is becoming a dwelling place for God. This life journey is about finding the sacred within ourselves. To that end, St. Matthew yoUniversity (SMyoU) offers a wide variety of adult faith formation programs to enrich your spiritual life. There are classes on Catholicism, Scripture studies, small faith-sharing groups and more. New this year is **Christ Renews His Parish** (P. 8), a unique 26-hour retreat experience for both men and women that offers respite and spiritual renewal while building community within our parish. Also new is a **Young Adult Bible Study** (p.2) just for those in their 20s or 30s, married or single.

I strongly encourage you to take some time to explore SMyoU and commit to do one thing to bring you closer to your sacred self. Do it not only for yourself, but also for our church. For as each of us matures in our faith, we also grow stronger as a parish community united in Christ!

Bereavement Ministry of Consolation

Our Lady of Sorrows – Mass in Day Chapel for those who have lost a child, regardless of their age on **Thursday, September 15, 7:30 p.m.**

Guardian Angels Prayer Service for those who have lost an infant, pre-term or at birth on **Saturday, October 1, at 10:30 a.m. in the Day Chapel.**

All Souls Day Special Masses for those who have lost a loved one, especially this past year, will be held in the sanctuary with a reception to follow in narthex on **Wednesday, November 2, at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.**

Getting Through the Holidays Seminar – Msgr. John J. McSweeney will facilitate this seminar for all those who have lost a loved one, especially this past year, on **Monday, November 21, at 7 p.m.** in the New Life Center Banquet Room.

Healing Hearts – support group for widowed persons meets **second Monday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.** in the Parish Library, New Life Center Room 102.

Compassionate Friends – support group for parents who have lost a child meets the **third Tuesday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m.** in the New Life Center, Room 234/235.



St. Matthew Spirituality Center Offerings

Fall Schedule 2011

Contact Eileen Crusan, trained, lay Spiritual Director at 704-543-7677 ext. 1179 for more information on these offerings

Holy Ground

An overview of the process of Spiritual Direction; what it is and is not and how the process of direction works here at St. Matthew. *Watch the Bulletin and website for dates and times for this program.*

Exploring Our Spirituality Series: Friendship with God

Using William Barry's [SJ] book, *A Friendship Like No Other*, we will examine the notion that God desires to have a deep and abiding friendship with us. Select a group/meeting time that works for you. Books may be ordered online. *Registration is required. Contact Eileen Crusan at 704-543-7677 x1179.*

Group Meeting Dates:

Group 1: Tuesdays*, 9:45 to 11 a.m.; Sept 13, 27; Oct 11, 25; Nov 8

Group 2: Tuesdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; Sept 13, 27; Oct 11, 25; Nov 8

Group 3: Wednesday*; 9 to 10:15 a.m.; Sept 14, 28; Oct 12, 26; Nov 9

Group 4: Thursdays*; 9:45 to 11 a.m.; Sept 15, 29; Oct 13, 27; Nov 10

Advent Retreat

Join us for a **three week guided retreat** for individuals (limited number of individual slots; register early) or groups. Groups meet once a week for three weeks, pray daily using materials provided. **Registration is required. Contact Eileen Crusan at 704-543-7677, x1179.**

Group Meeting Dates:

Group 1: Tuesday mornings*; 9:45 to 11a.m.; Nov 29; Dec 6, 13

Group 2: Tuesday evenings*; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; Nov 29; Dec 6, 13

Group 3: Wednesday mornings*; 9 to 10:15 a.m.; Nov 30; Dec 7, 14

Group 4: Thursday morning*; 9:45 to 11 a.m.; Dec 1, 8, 15

**Childcare is available by reservation by calling 704-543-7677, x1003 48 hours in advance.*



Table of Contents

Scripture Studies

Back to Basics: Catholicism 101	1
Back To Basics: The Gospel of Mark	1
Little Rock Bible Study	2
Young Adult Bible Study	2
Quest (Sunday Scripture Readings)	3
Catholic Scripture Study	3
Great Adventure Bible Timeline	4

Faith Programs/Workshops

Annulments in the Catholic Church	5
Catechist Recognition Process (CRP)	6
Living In Love	7
Christ Renews His Parish	8
Healing Bread: Worship & Symposium	9
Parenting Workshops	11
Joe Paprocki	12

Small Faith-Sharing Groups

Called to Be Mom	13
Ministry of Mothers Sharing	13
First Friday Ministry	14
Cenacles of Divine Mercy	14
Moving on After Moving In	15
Teams of Our Lady (For Married Couples)	15
Parish Library/The Book Club	16
Living Your Strengths	18
St. Matthew Small Christian Communities	17

Special Ministries

Peace and Justice Ministry	18
Respect Life Ministry	17
Maryknoll 100th Anniversary	4
Spiritual Center Fall Schedule	19
Bereavement Ministry	20
Special Religious Development Program	5
Faith Formation Calendar	21

* Indicates that childcare is available by calling 704-543-7677
x1011 at least 48 hours in advance of the program.

Back to Basics: Catholicism 101*

When: Mondays 7 to 8:15 p.m. or Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
September 12 – December 14

Where: New Life Center, Room 203

Presenter: Sister Mary Hugh Mauldin, RSM

Are you a parent, catechist or parishioner who feels like you need an update on the basic, core, fundamental beliefs of the Catholic faith? Like most Catholic adults it may have been a long time since they were originally presented to you in Catholic school or parish Religious Education programs. Join us for one topic or enjoy them all. *No registration is required.*

Topics for Fall 2011 are as follows:

- Sept. 12, 14 – **Introduction to Revelation, Christianity, Catechism**
- Sept. 19, 21 – **Introduction to Scripture**
- Sept. 26, 28 ; Oct. 3, 5, 17 & 19 – **The Old Testament**
- Oct. 24, 26, & 31; Nov. 2, 7 & 9 – **The New Testament**
- Nov. 14, 16, 28 & 20; Dec. 5, 7, 12 & 14 – **Christology**

Back to Basics: The Gospel of Mark*

When: Wednesdays, 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.
September 12 – December 14

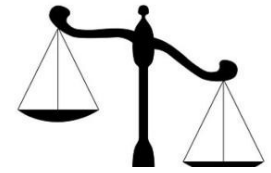
Where: New Life Center, Room 203

Presenter: Sister Mary Hugh Mauldin, RSM

Join us as we study the earliest Gospel written and the shortest! In the church's lectionary cycle of readings, 2011-2012 is the year of Mark. The Gospel of Mark focuses primarily on the suffering son of God. Mark is quick to point out who Jesus is and why He came. Everything in Mark builds to show that Jesus came to give His life as a ransom for many. *No registration is required. Just join us on Sept. 12!*

Peace and Justice Ministry

The Peace and Justice Ministry strives to shine a light on injustices as well as to educate and to engage our parishioners and our community on ways to achieve justice for every human person. Ministry members meet the first Wednesday of October, December, February, April, June and August from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in New Life Center, Room 206. Look for the Socially Conscious Giving Guide at the September Ministry Fair and on the St. Matthew website. For information and to have your name and email included in local, state and national legislative alerts, contact coordinator Terri Jarina at 704-243-4431 or tjarina@windstream.net.



Living Your Strengths

Give yourself the gift that can change your life. Take the **Living Your Strengths Journey!** Each person is unique with special God-given talents. Discover your personal strengths and learn to find fulfillment in putting them to best use at home, in the workplace, the church and the larger community. Living Your Strengths will help you understand and appreciate yourself and others. It begins with an on-line assessment and continues through the following programs:
Living Your Strengths Journey – Small groups that meet weekly for six weeks. **The next sessions begin the week of August 29.**

Living Your Strengths Discovery – A half-day session: an "appetizer" for those who may not have the time for the full six-week Journey.

August 13 or November 19

Strengths Coaching – Meet one on one with a trained coach to delve deeper into understanding one's strengths and how to embrace them.

Guiding Parishioners Strengths (GPS) – These follow up quarterly gatherings meet in morning and evening sessions to allow participants to discuss and share a variety of topics on Living Your Strengths in your daily life.

For more information, please contact Bill Kane, 704-578-0828, wrkane@eaglestrategies.com or Gene Fitzpatrick 704-953-5955, genefitzusmc@aol.com.

Respect Life Ministry

The Respect Life Ministry focuses on increasing the awareness of the dignity and sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death. We strive to educate our parishioners on crucial pro-life issues such as abortion, embryonic stem cell research and euthanasia. We stress the importance of the protection and defense of the unborn, the disabled, the terminally ill and the elderly. For information, call Pat Rodite at 704-541-9744.

October 1 & 2, 2011- Respect Life Sunday

October 2, 2011 - Annual Life Chain from 2 to 3 p.m.

St. Matthew parishioners join together to witness in a peaceful respectful manner the sanctity and dignity of all human life from conception to natural death.



St. Matthew Ministry of Small Christian Communities

A Small Christian Community (SCC) is a small group of adults that gathers for six weeks in the fall and Lenten seasons to discuss their lives in the light of the Gospel and to share their Christian faith through prayer, friendship and service.

The early Christians gathered in small groups, most frequently in a home. That experience allowed a deep sharing of faith and life. Today, SCCs facilitate that deep sharing in the presence of trusted friends.

Relationships are formed where sharing, listening and genuine communications are nurtured. Although each SCC is unique in its membership, style and meeting format, every group is involved in community and faith sharing, reflection on Scripture and Church teachings, prayer and Liturgy, and mission/service in and beyond the SCC.

If you are interested in being a part of a Small Christian Community or looking for resources for your existing group, call Michael Burck at 704-541-8362 ext. 4 or email him at mburck@stmatthewcatholic.org

Little Rock Bible Study*

When: Thursdays, 9:45 to 11 a.m.

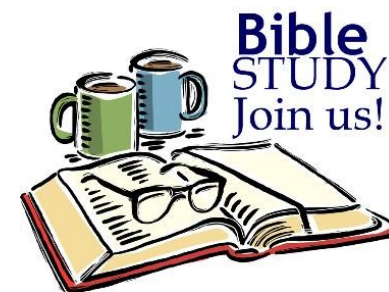
Start Date: September 15

Where: New Life Center, Room 204

Fee: \$15 *Registration is required.*

Contact: Cris Osborne, 704-488-9955

crisosborne@carolina.rr.com



Parables of the Kingdom—Part One (Six Sessions)

Some of the most memorable teachings of Jesus were delivered as parables and are found in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. This study explores those parables by Mark, and then turns to the same parables as they appear in Matthew with a slightly different twist.

Parables of the Kingdom—Part Two (Six Sessions)

This study focuses on the parables unique to Matthew and those developed by Luke. The parables offer a glimpse into the kingdom of God and invites us to think of God in fresh new ways.

Attention Young Adults: 20's & 30's Single or Married

NEW! Young Adult Bible Study

The Psalms: A Study of Prayer

When: Tuesdays, Sept. 6, 20; Oct. 4, 18; Nov. 1, 15, 29 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Where: New Life Center, Room 211 *Registration is required.*

Facilitator: Rosemary Stanley, 704-931-8311,

rosemary.reilman@gmail.com

This Little Rock Scripture study series explores the Psalms; specifically the books of the Bible that focus on prayer. This is a great beginner study for those seeking to enrich their spiritual life and meet others their age in the parish.

This is a video-guided study that includes small group discussion and a few take-home questions each week for personal review. For more information or to sign up, please contact Rosemary Stanley at 704-931-8311 or rosemary.reilman@gmail.com.



Quest*

When: Thursdays, 9:45 to 11:15 a.m.

Start Date: September 15

Where: New Life Center, Room 102

Facilitator: Sister Jeanne Marie Kienast, RSM, 704-543-7677 ext. 1043,
jmkienast@stmatthewcatholic.org

Quest is a new approach to understanding the Sunday Scripture readings and the way they can impact our lives in the coming week. This program provides background for the readings, but more importantly, enables us to listen to the Lord of the Gospel as well as the Gospel of the Lord. Our God is a God of surprises, and God's surprising personal message is often found in Scripture. The message is part of the Quest. *Registration is required.*

Catholic Scripture Study*

When: Tuesdays, 10 to 11:45 a.m. Starts September 13

Where: New Life Center, Room 203

Fee: James \$25 (12 weeks) Hebrews \$35 (16 weeks) Both \$50

Facilitator: Terry DeMao, To Register: Contact Terry at
tdemao@carolina.rr.com or call 704-543-4877

CSS is for those interested in studying Holy Scripture on a deeper level. Written by Scripture Scholars, each study refers to the Catechism, papal encyclicals and writings of the early Church fathers and saints. This year's study will be in two parts: the **Epistle of James** begins in September; the **Book of Hebrews** starts in January.

James shows us how to handle trials and temptations, understanding the relation between faith and works, how to tame our tongues, the value of humility, patience and prayer. He challenges us to "walk the walk."

Hebrews is written to Jewish converts, who because of persecutions, are tempted to revert back to traditional Judaism and its Temple-centered worship. The focus is on the New Covenant which achieves what the Old Covenant could not do: free us from sin.

Follow the
 Sunday Readings



The Spirit Lives Within Our Pages

Your St. Matthew Parish Library

The Parish Library offers a rich selection of books and media for the entire family. 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, as well as a variety of books for pre-teens and teens. The library is open during hours that the New Life Center is open, unless there is a meeting scheduled (see weekly calendar in bulletin). There is a self-checkout and an honor system in place for your convenience.

The Book Club

When: Meets the second Thursday of the month from 7 to 8 p.m.

Where: New Life Center, Parish Library

Contacts: Kevin Berent, berentski@yahoo.com, 704-770-5675 or
 Jennifer Mattox, JMattox2@carolina.rr.com, 704-846-0359

Explore the faith-centered, literary works of some of the greatest theologians and everyday people alike. Come for friendship and to invigorate your own faith. This semester we will read a mix of new and old works, both fiction and nonfiction from a diverse group of authors.

Sept. 8 - *Our Lady of Kibeho: Mary Speaks to the World from the Heart of Africa* by Immaculee Ilibagiza

Oct. 13 - *The Gift of Blessed John Paul II: A Celebration of His Enduring Legacy* by Cardinal Donald Wuerl

Nov. 10 - *A Jesuit Off Broadway: Behind the Scenes with Faith, Doubt, Forgiveness and More* by James Martin, SJ

All books are available on Amazon.com.

Moving On After Moving In*

When: Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. to noon or 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Dates: September 7— November 2

Where: New Life Center, (day) NLC 239-241, (evening) NLC 202

Contacts: Maureen Regele, 704-605-5444,
maureen@southcharlotteliving.com (day session)

Lynn Brown 908-342-2003, lynnbrown1826@gmail.com
(evening session)

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 community support and growth. *Susan Miller will speak at St. Matthew on Sept. 10. See page 10.*

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) share a meal, time of prayer and discussion of a study topic once a month. Interested couples are required to attend an informational meeting to learn more prior to commitment. A five-month commitment is suggested with the option to continue.

Informational meetings are held in the fall and spring at St. Matthew. For more information, contact **Jim and Mary Ann Kirchner** 704-814-8718 or makirchner@carolina.rr.com.

Or visit www.teamsofourlady.org.

New Bible Study Beginning!

Great Adventure Bible Timeline Study

When: Thursdays, 7 to 9 p.m. (24 sessions)

Start Date: September 15 Follows the Faith Formation Calendar

Where: New Life Center, Room 203 Fee: \$50 for books & materials

To register, email registration@stmatthewcatholic.org For more information call Michael Burck at 704-541-8362 ext. 4

St. Matthew proudly presents “the greatest story ever told” in *The Bible Timeline Study*. This study is part of *The Great Adventure* series developed by Jeff Cavins when he realized that most people, despite their strong faith, did not grasp the big picture of the Bible. Jeff is known both nationally and internationally as a speaker, writer and as a host on EWTN.

This Catholic Bible study program teaches you God’s glorious plan for leading His people into an intimate relationship with Himself.

In *The Bible Timeline Study*, you will learn the major people, places, events and themes of the Bible—getting the “big picture” of salvation history. Perhaps, for the first time in your life, you will understand the overview of the Bible story. This then makes your Bible reading and even the Sunday mass readings come alive like never before.



**St. Matthew Catholic Church will celebrate the
Centennial of the Maryknoll Fathers, Brothers and
Sisters Oct. 15-16 at all masses.**

The Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America.

**Guest Homilist will be Father Robert Jalbert, the Maryknoll
Society's Director of Mission Education and Promotion.**



Annulments in the Catholic Church

When: Tuesday, August 23, 10 to 11 a.m. and 7 to 8 p.m.
 Tuesday, October 25, 10 to 11 a.m. and 7 to 8 p.m.
Where: New Life Center, Room 132
Presenter: Deacon Jim Hamrlik, 704-543-7677 ext. 1040,
jhamrlik@stmatthewcatholic.org

What is an annulment? Is it a Catholic divorce? 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?

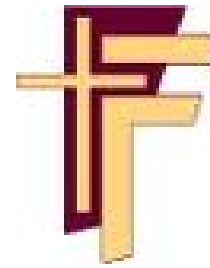
These and many more questions will be answered in this very informative session facilitated by Deacon Jim Hamrlik, a trained diocesan advocate who has been involved with over 100 annulments.

Special Religious Development Program

SPRED is a ministry in which persons of any age who are developmentally challenged or disabled come together with a spiritual friend/catechist helper (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 needed. Previous experience is not required. For more information, contact Jan Clemens, SPRED Coordinator, at 704-246-7102.



First Friday Ministry*

When: First Friday of the Month, 10 a.m. to noon
 (October through June)
Where: New Life Center, Room 239/240
Contact: Jennifer Mitra, 704-543-9566,
jennifermitra@msn.com

A once-a-month spiritual retreat for the parishioners of St. Matthew. Our ministry is devotional in nature. We practice Eucharistic Adoration, the Angelus, Stations of the Cross, the Divine Mercy and the Rosary. Each month a different topic is presented with the hope of helping all to grow in their spirituality. Upcoming monthly topics are published ahead of time in the church bulletin. Our speakers include our parish priests, sisters, deacons, as well as some inspiring parishioners.

Cenacles of The Divine Mercy

These small Christian communities meet regularly to be formed through the message of God's mercy as relayed to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska and to share that mercy with a hurting world. Inspired by the heartfelt conversations between Sr. Faustina and Jesus as recorded in her diary, Cenacles incorporate the teachings of Scripture and the Catechism. Its key elements - The Divine Mercy Image, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, The Hour of Great Mercy (3 p.m.), Divine Mercy Sunday, The Novena to The Divine Mercy and The Divine Mercy Way of Life - are all rooted in the diary of St. Faustina, Jesus' Apostle of Mercy. Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI have urged the laity to spread The Divine Mercy *Way of Life* to all peoples.

Sign up for Cenacles at The Ministry Fair, The Eucharistic Congress or at the Healing Bread Conference on Oct. 8. Facilitators are needed. Training will be on Oct. 17. *New Introductory Phase Cenacles* will meet the week of 10/23/11 for 13 weeks. *New Phase II Cenacles* will meet every other week starting the week of 10/23/11. **For information, contact Ralph Sullivan at 704-849-9748 or RScsm@aol.com.**



Called To Be Mom (CTBM)*

When: Thursdays, 10 a.m. to noon (Meets biweekly)
Spring Dates: Sept. 22; Oct. 6, 20; Nov. 3, 17; Dec. 1, 15
Where: New Life Center, Room 239/240/241
Contact: Judy Stumbo at 704-541-8362 ext. 8,
jstumbo@stmatthewcatholic.org

Called To Be Mom supports the vocation of motherhood and builds up the Catholic family life by strengthening faith through study of Scripture, development of parenting skills and discussion of Catholic values.

This fall, we will read and discuss Joe Paprocki's new book *Practice Makes Catholic*. Joe says there are five key characteristics that make us distinctively Catholic and from each of them flow many "practices" that can make a profound difference in our faith lives. Join us as we learn more about who we are and why we engage in the many practices we do. Moms of all ages are invited to attend. *Joe Paprocki will speak at St. Matthew Dec. 10. See page 12.*

Connie Milligan, facilitator, has an MA in Theology from Loyola University, served as a DRE in Charlotte for many years and is a

Ministry of Mothers Sharing (MOMS)*

When: Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to noon or 7 to 9 p.m. (Starts Oct. 5)
Where: New Life Center, Room 234/235
Fee: \$40 (covers materials)
Contact: Amy Rodriguez,
stmatthewmoms@yahoo.com

This eight-week program based on Called & Gifted for the Third Millennium affirms the critical role of mother in the domestic church (home). Small groups meet weekly for friendship and support exploring spirituality through topics including self-acceptance, stress management, prayer and more. *Registration is required.*



Catechist Recognition Process (CRP)

SMyoU is pleased to offer three of the modules required by the Diocese of Charlotte for full certification as a catechist. ALL are welcome to attend.

Skills and Theory (Level I)

When: Thursday, September 8, 7 to 9p.m.
Where: New Life Center, Room 203

Presenter: Joan Mahony

This class helps the catechist to understand the catechetical process and the necessary initial skills to create and conduct a faith formation session. Components of this module include: the nature and tasks of catechesis; stages of faith development; lesson planning; the use of creative techniques; class management; and the use of prayer in the catechetical setting.

Catholic Social Teaching (Level II)

When: Tuesday, October 11, 10 a.m. to noon
Where: New Life Center, Room 132/125
Presenter: Terri Jarina

This module enables the catechist to acquire a more holistic understanding of Christian service encompassing concrete action.

Morality (Level I)

When: Saturday, October 29, 9:45 a.m. to noon
Where: New Life Center, Room 132/125
Presenter: Susan Krasniewski, MA

This class demonstrates an understanding of how Christian morality is rooted in Scripture. Attention is drawn to the meaning of the Ten Commandments and to the Sermon on the Mount moral documents for Christianity. The continual need for "conversion of the heart" and the role the catechist plays in recognizing this need is emphasized.



Living In Love

October 8-9, 2011

A Mission to Love... Couples who stay successfully and happily married have made marriage their mission. They choose not to 'settle down' but instead adopt a proactive approach to put the fun and delight into being a man and a woman in love. This day and a half parish-based event provides the inspiration and insight that enables each couple to create the lifestyle and marriage they have always dreamed of.

Clearly there is a difference between loving and being "in love". **Living in Love** offers liberating insight into how differently men and women prefer to achieve intimacy and helps couples get in touch with the resources that draw them to each other and fuel their passion. Facilitated by parish couples, the weekend is a series of presentations followed by questions for reflection and discussion so that couples can explore the topics together in complete privacy. There is no group discussion or counseling. Topics include: Dreams and Memories • Formation in the Family • Cultural Barriers • Trust • Reconciliation • Affirmation • Signs and Wonders • Living in Love • and Vision.

Contact: Dan and Holly Prouty, 704-283-6716 , hrprouty@gmail.com

For information and online registration, visit

www.livinginlove.org

or call 610-640-4105



**SMyoU is pleased to present for
your Advent reflection**

**Bestselling author and
nationally-known speaker**

Joe Paprocki, D. Min.

*Author of "Practice Makes Catholic"
and "A Well Built Faith"*



*For more information call Michael Burck, 704-541-8362 ext. 4.
To register, email registration@stmatthewcatholic.org*

For Catechists – Friday, December 9, 7 to 9 p.m.

15 Ways to Make Your Class More "Catholic" – Advent is a time when our Catholicism "bumps up against" secular society, which is all too eager to celebrate Christmas starting in late October! It's a season that reminds us of what it truly means to be Catholic. Joe explores five unique characteristics of Catholicism and shares 15 ways that catechists can reinforce Catholic identity in their sessions all year long.

For All Parishioners – Saturday, December 10, 9:30 a.m. to noon

Building Our Catholic Identity – While society is rushing to put up the holiday decorations, Catholics are lighting Advent wreaths. This is just one example of the way we express our Catholic identity. Joe will explore Catholic practices that we can incorporate into our daily living (and into the lives of our children) to build Catholic identity and strengthen our commitment to Jesus Christ through his Church.

Joe Paprocki, DMin, a consultant for Faith Formation at Loyola Press in Chicago, has worked 30 years in Catechetical and Pastoral ministry in Chicago. His books include The Bible Blueprint, Living the Mass and the best-selling The Catechist's Toolbox . Joe received his Doctor of Ministry from the University of St. Mary of the Lake. He serves as a catechist and blogs at www.catechistsjourney.com.. He and his wife Joanne, who have two grown children, live just outside of Chicago.



★ Parenting Workshops ★

Screamfree Parenting*

Helping Families Stay Calm and Connected

When: Sept. 19, 26; Oct. 3, 17, 24 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Where: New Life Center, Room 234/235

Fee: \$20 per family *Registration is required.*

Parents want a loving family environment and instead live in anxiety and exhaustion. Learn how to eliminate power struggles, regain the respect of your children, and create a calmer, more peaceful home. Join facilitator Susan King for video presentations and discussions based on Hal Runkel's bestselling book *Screamfree Parenting*. Moving beyond the child-centered, technique-based approaches, the scream-free way compels you to focus on yourself. This practical effective program for parents of all ages with kids of all ages introduces proven principles for overcoming the stresses of parenting and setting new patterns of connection and cooperation. Susan King, mother of three, is a marriage and family therapist in private practice in Ballantyne.

For more information call Michael Burck, 704-541-8362 ext. 4.

To register, email registration@stmatthewcatholic.org

ATTENTION DADS!

St. Joseph Didn't Have a Blackberry

When: Wednesday, November 30, 7 to 9 p.m.

Where: New Life Center, Room 239-241 *Registration is required.*

Presenter: Deacon Mark King

How do today's Catholic men balance marriage, kids and jobs and still make time for God? From Blackberrys and Droids, to diapers and college tuition – is it possible to be the husband, father and leader that God calls us to be? Join Deacon Mark, husband and father of three, for a dialogue about life's priorities and plans for a healthy balance of faith, family and work.

For more information call Michael Burck, 704-541-8362 ext. 4.

To register, email registration@stmatthewcatholic.org



*A St. Matthew 25th
Anniversary Event!*



For Women: Fri. Oct. 21, 6:45 p.m. to Sat. Oct. 22, 9 p.m.

For Men: Fri. Nov. 11, 6:45 p.m. to Sat. Nov. 12, 9 p.m.

Christ Renews His Parish (Cornerstone) started in the early 70s as a Catholic parish renewal program in Ohio. Over the past 40 years, it has spread to more than 1,000 Catholic churches nationwide. St. Matthew is the first in our region to offer this great lay spirituality retreat. Join us for a unique 26-hour renewal experience led by parishioners for parishioners.

For one night (26 hours) this fall, escape the daily hustle and bustle and seek refuge right here on the St. Matthew campus. Men and women of all ages will gather at the first Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) event to be encouraged in faith with inspirational talks, find quiet reflective time to rejuvenate the spirit, and chat in small groups to meet new friends and strengthen community. The sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist will be offered, along with sleeping accommodations, great meals, frequent snacks and lively conversation. Don't miss this big dose of spiritual refreshment to renew your faith this fall!

All parishioners are invited to attend but space is limited. Program brochures with a registration form are available at the Welcome Desk, the doors of the Church, the parish office and online at www.stmatthewcatholic.org.



Healing Bread Worship & Symposium

A Cenacles of Divine Mercy
Day of Healing
October 8, 2011

(\$35 fee includes meals; \$10 off for seniors)

Program begins in the main sanctuary with Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Anointing of the Sick and singing of The Chaplet of The Divine Mercy. Msgr. McSweeney presides. It continues with a symposium on "What It Means to Live a Life of Divine Mercy." Vinny Flynn, founder of Mercy Song and author of the *7 Secrets of The Eucharist*, headlines a group of five authors who will share their merciful healing and their understanding of Divine Mercy.

Part I: 9 a.m. – Sanctuary, St. Matthew Catholic Church

Mass, Exposition, Anointing of the Sick, Singing of The Chaplet of The Divine Mercy and Benediction. Open to all. No fee.

Part II: 10:15 a.m. to 3 p.m., Msgr. Joseph Kerin Parish Center Symposium on Healing and Living Divine Mercy

- 10:15 a.m. Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 10:35 a.m. Welcome, Emcee Joe Armstrong
- 10:45 a.m. Vinny Flynn, *The Eucharist*
- 10:30 a.m. Jon Gauthier, *Embracing Mercy*
- Noon Box Lunch; Resource tables open
- 12:45 p.m. Fred Berretta, *Willing to Trust*
- 1:20 p.m. Ralph Sullivan, *Living Divine Mercy*
- 2 p.m. Bruce Brodowski, *Forgiveness*
- 2:30 p.m. Book Signings, Cenacle Sign Ups
- 3 p.m. Closing Prayer & Adjourment

See a full brochure and registration form online at:

www.stmatthewcatholic.org



ATTENTION Newcomers,
 or ANYONE experiencing significant life transition

St. Matthew Church Presents

Susan Miller, Scottsdale, AZ, leader of **Just Moved Ministries** and author of
After the Boxes Are Unpacked,
Moving On After Moving In

Saturday, September 10, 2011
8:30-11am in the Banquet Room
 in a presentation of
 moving and other life transitions

"You're Only the Co-Pilot, So Buckle Up!"



Susan will share from her vast ministry work about how we have a tremendous pilot in Christ in each of life's transitions, and how we can work to relinquish the controls and better manage the ride.

SPACE IS LIMITED! REGISTRATION REQUIRED...

Please email welcomeministries@gmail.com by August 25, 2011 to reserve your spot.

More information - Lynn at lbrownfacilitator@yahoo.com, or
 Maureen at maureen@southcharlotteliving.com 704.541.0101