

**Adult Faith Development Plan**

**2020-2023**

**Part I: Large Group Lecture with Q&A**

**Nov. 7, 2020**

* **Reading the Signs of the Times: Fr. Tim Kulbicki, OFM, Conv.**

**2021: “Who Do You Say That I Am?”**

❖ **One God, Creator of Heaven and Earth: January 23, 2021**

* Dr. John Cavadini, Director, McGrath Institute for ChurchLife, Notre Dame

❖ **Born of the Virgin Mary: May 1, 2021**

* Denise Bossert

❖ **Suffered, Died and Rose: Oct. 23, 2021**

* Dr. Paul Griffiths

**2022: “Abide in Me”**

❖ **Catholic Ways of Praying: January 15, 2022**

* Dr. Tim, O’Malley, McGrath Institute, Notre Dame

❖ **Saints and Their Spirituality: May 14, 2022**

* Fr. Michael Burbeck, Pastor of St. Michael in Cary

❖ **Meeting Christ in Scripture and Prayer: Fall**

**2023: “Come, Follow Me”**

❖ **What Does it Mean to Be Holy?: January**

❖ **Sacraments: The Path to Holiness: Easter Season**

❖ **Living as Disciples: Fall**

**Part II: Parish Courses**

**Each Fall**

* **Just Faith:** a 24 week program that invites

participants to look at contemporary issues through the lens of Christian

faith by engaging in reading, prayer, and though-provoking dialogue,

encounter, and by building lasting relationships with a small group.

**Each Fall**

* **The Bible Timeline:** A study program that takes you on a guided journey through salvation history. Presenter Jeff Cavins will show you how fourteen of the Bible’s narrative books tell the biblical story from beginning to end and give you the keys to understanding the amazing story woven throughout Scripture.

In this revolutionary approach to Bible study, The Bible Timeline divides the Bible into twelve color-coded time periods that make it easier to follow its narrative thread. Using a unique color-coded chart, you will learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible and discover how they all come together to reveal the remarkable story of our faith.

Through its 24 sessions, The Bible Timeline will teach you how to read and

understand the Bible and introduce you to the wonderful narrative of the

Bible in a way that will transform your life.

**Fall/Winter 2020**

* **Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come:** *Follow up course for those who have taken “The Bible Timeline”* Perhaps no book in the Bible fascinates people more than Revelation. Yet relatively few people have studied the book, especially from a Catholic perspective. *Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come* is an intriguing

11-session study program that shows how the kingdom established by

Christ in his Church is intimately connected with the kingdom of heaven.

In *Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come*, presenter Jeff Cavins pulls back the veil on the rich symbolism present in Revelation. Discover what the

mysterious figures and images of Revelation mean and see how Revelation

is more than an apocalyptic vision of the “end times.” Explore the Church’s

teaching on the second coming of Christ and the Last Judgment.

Understand how God, the Divine Bridegroom, and the Church, his spotless

bride, enter into a heavenly, holy, and mystical marriage every time we

celebrate Mass.

* **December 2020: Queen of Heaven, Mary’s Battle For You**

Embark on *a journey that begins before time itself,* when Mary was only an

eternal thought in the Mind of God, and extends into her life in

Scripture. Discover Our Mother throughout centuries of Church history, as

she intervenes at pivotal periods—especially at her most famous

apparitions, when she made *roses bloom on a hillside in Mexico*, when she

made a miraculous spring of *water rise from the ground in Lourdes*, and

when she made the *sun dance at Fatima*.

See *the maternal care she has given to humanity and the battle she has*

*waged against the evil one*, the one she was put in enmity for all

time. After seeing how she pursues us in love, learn how to grow closer to

Mary, Our Mother by making devotion to her part of our daily life.

Take this journey now and *discover the woman who, from the very*

*beginning, was destined to be the Queen of Heaven*.

**January-March 2021**

* **Jesus, the Way, The Truth and the Life**

The marvelous treasures of the Catholic Faith—the Eucharist, Mary, the saints, and the Creed—are all centered on a single figure: Jesus Christ. Jesus is more than a historical or theological figure. He is our Savior, our Redeemer, our Lord, and our God. While many of us already know a lot about him, how well can we say we really know him? Filmed on location in the Holy Land, Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life is a new and fresh look at Jesus—who he is, what he is really like, what he taught, and what he did for our salvation. This encounter with Christ will inspire and empower you to center your entire life on him as you come to know and love him in an ever-deeper and more intimate way.

**Lent**

* **Small Groups:**
  + **Lent:** 2021: Living the Eucharist Year B
  + Lent 2022: Living the Eucharist Year C
  + Lent 2023: TBD
* **Parish Lenten Mission:**
* 2021: Fr. Chris Koehn: March 8 & 9
* 2022: Steve Angrisano: March 28-29 (Steve will be at Masses

weekend before)

* 2023: TBD

**Sunday Mornings**

* **Catholic Sunday School for Adults:** This group studies Papal

Encyclicals in depth.

* **Families with Young Children: (current on hiatus)** Offers opportunities for social connection, shared faith discussions, children's activities, and

practical faith tools that parents can use to grow stronger families

who are reliant on Christ Jesus for our love and strength. Open to

families with children, aged newborn through 6 years old, to join us

for Family Bible Study twice a month on Sundays at 10:30am in

St. Anthony Room, where we discuss the Sunday Gospel

reading and engage the children in a short prayer or spiritual

activities. In addition, there will be a children’s homily on a regular basis, Social Activities - every month - potlucks, museum trips, crafts, cookie decorating and participating in STM community events, service activities - every other month - donating items to the Ronald McDonald house, participating in STM service activities

**Seasonal**

* **Walking with Purpose: (currently on hiatus)** Catholic Bible Study for Women that aims to bring women to a deeper personal relationship with Jesus Christ by offering personal study and small group discussion that link our everyday challenges with the solutions given through the teachings of

the Christ and the Roman Catholic Church.

**Three times per year**

* **Awakening Faith:** six week sessions that provide a safe place for

inactive Catholics to consider a return to the practice of their faith.

**Easter Season**

* Adult Confirmation Sessions: once a week

**Weekly**

* [**Enlightening Faith Group**](https://stmchapelhill.org/enlightening-faith)  
  Deepen your understanding and practice of faith through theological exploration of the upcoming Sunday Scripture on Wednesdays after the 12:15 PM Mass in the Sacred Heart Room. Reflective discussions illuminate how Sacred Scripture was and always will be essential to our lives.
* **Preparing the Heart for Sunday Mass: A Bible Study to help parishioners**

**prepare for a fruitful celebration of the Sunday Eucharist by studying**

**prayerfully the Sunday Scriptures. This program also draws on documents from Bishops, Popes and the Vatican on interpreting the Scriptures. It will focus upon “The Kerygma”, that is, the proclamation of the story of Jesus which leads people to conversion of heart and Intentional Discipleship**

* **Catholic Mothers’ Network:** A Bible Study Playgroup that serves the

mothers of the parish. The group meets every Friday morning from

9:30 - 11:00 AM in the St. Anthony Room in the Parish Center. Mothers bring their infants and preschoolers, and the children play

while moms read and discuss the current Bible Study. (Grandmothers

are welcome too!) This weekly meeting provides an opportunity for

women to grow in their understanding of the Scripture and grow in

fellowship with one another

**Future Date**

* **Called and Gifted Discernment Process:** The *Called & Gifted*™

*Discernment Process* has been used since 1993 by over 100,000 lay,

ordained, and religious Catholics and other Christians around the

world. It is designed to help Christians discern the presence of

*charisms* in their lives. Charisms, or spiritual gifts, are special abilities

given to all Christians by the Holy Spirit to give them power both to

represent Christ and to be a channel of God's goodness for people.

Whether extraordinary or ordinary, all charisms ought to be exercised

in the service of God (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2003). This

process is offered periodically with the next start date TBD

**Part III: Retreats**

**Each February (Feb. 19-20, 2022)**

* **Come and See:** A two-day retreat that takes place on campus and

promotes knowledge of and conversation with Christ through a series

of personal faith testimonies by members of our own parish and

through an experience of renewal of the Sacraments of Initiation

(Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist)

**Each May**

* **Benedictine Retreat:** A one day retreat given by a Benedictine monk

on various aspects of the Benedictine Spirituality.

**Annually**

* [**Ignatian Examen Retreat**](https://stmchapelhill.org/ignatian-examen-retreat)  
  The St. Thomas More/UNC-Newman Spiritual Direction Ministry is offering an opportunity to learn a prayer practice to help seekers find a closer relationship with God.

**Future date to be determined**

* **Women’s Retreat**: A future retreat, away from the parish, will be

under development.

**Part IV: Spiritual Development**

❖ **Iron Sharpens Iron:** A weekly men’s meeting for fellowship, Scripture study, discussion, prayer, service and social activities. Men in Iron Sharpens Iron help each other grow into the husbands, fathers, workers, citizens and

disciples that God calls them to be.

* [**Life in Christ Group for Evangelization**](https://stmchapelhill.org/lic-evangelization-group): The Life in Christ Group for Evangelization provides an environment for prayer and praise which allows the Holy Spirit to speak through the hearts of participants, open them to Jesus Christ and help them grow into Intentional Disciples.

❖ **Young Adult Ministry:** Collective group of young Catholics reaching out to other young Catholics and helping each other grow in their Catholic faith.

(Bible studies and faith groups, service. There is a parish group that is part

of a larger group “Chapel Hill-Durham Catholics-A Catholic Young Adult Ministry.”

❖**Privately organized prayer groups** who meet in church and homes, such as: Cenacle after Mass on Thursdays, Rosary Prayer Group, Marian Prayer

Group.

❖**Spiritual Direction:** Spiritual Direction allows someone to explore a closer

relationship with God. It is a ministry in which one person accompanies

another in the process of growing in awareness of and intimacy with God.

The focus of Spiritual Direction is on the person’s experience of the Holy

One in their life and prayer, and the ways God is communicating with them.

In Spiritual Direction, a person will look closely at his/her life circumstances,

and, as the person contemplates and learns to discern, will begin to

recognize God’s presence, grace and will for their life.

* **Ignatian Exercises**: : Ignatian spirituality is grounded in the conviction that

God is active in our world. As the great Jesuit paleontologist Pierre Teilhard

de Chardin wrote: "God is not remote from us. He is at the point of my pen,

my pick, my paintbrush, my needle — and my heart and my thoughts." The

spiritual path laid out by Ignatius is a way of discerning God's presence in

our everyday lives and God’s will for us as we say Yes to God’s call and

become willing to be formed into intentional disciples. The Ignatian

formed Spiritual Directors of St. Thomas More offer group experiences of

the Spiritual Exercises as well as individual accompaniment through the

19th Annotation, the Spiritual Exercises in Daily Life, a prayer journey of 36

weeks with weekly Spiritual Direction.

**Part V: Online Formation**

❖ **Formed.org:** a revolutionary digital platform that provides unprecedented access to video-based programs, feature films, audio presentations and eBooks from the Church’s foremost presenters.

❖ **Franciscan University Catechetical Institute:** online course free of charge. There are various tracks available with the diocese focuses on the following tracks:

* **Basic Diocesan Catechist Certification track** has been selected by the

Office of Evangelization and Discipleship as fulfilling the necessary

formation to receive an official diocesan catechist certification. This

certificate should be pursued by anyone working in parish ministry. It

is also a prerequisite for the Youth and RCIA ministry certificates.

* This **Youth Ministry Track** has been selected by the Office of

Evangelization and Discipleship as fulfilling the necessary formation

component for a diocesan youth ministry certificate. It is our hope

that everyone engaged in youth ministry in the diocese, work

towards acquisition of a youth ministry certificate.

* This **RCIA track** has been selected by the Office of Evangelization and

Discipleship as fulfilling the necessary formation component for a

diocesan RCIA ministry certificate. It is our hope that everyone

engaged in RCIA ministry in the diocese work towards acquisition of

the RCIA certificate.

* The **Mentor Training track** does not lead to any diocesan certificate.

Each parish that registers should have an “Institutional Leader”. That

leader should identify people in the parish that can help mentor the

parish learners. This Mentor Training track forms the mentors to carry out that role for your parish. The Office of Evangelization and

Discipleship recommends that anyone chosen to be a parish mentor

complete this training.

* **“The Wild Goose”:** The mission of The Ministry of The Wild Goose is to invite men and women to an encounter, or a renewed encounter, with Christ who perfectly reveals the love of the Father by the grace of the Holy Spirit…