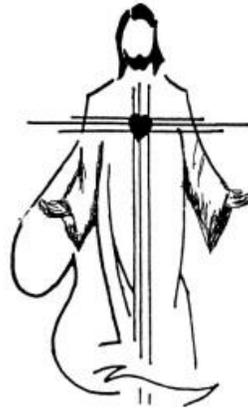


We are called to be intentional disciples



*Deepen your understanding
and relationship with Jesus through*

Adult Faith Enrichment Events & Classes

2017-2018

*St. Anne-St. Catherine Collaborative
Littleton-Westford*

Special Events

Inquiry Nights—Are you thinking about Becoming Catholic?

Tues. Sept. 19th, 7:30-9 p.m., St. Catherine Parish Center (2nd floor Mezzanine)

Wed. Sept. 20th, 7:30-9 p.m., St. Anne Rectory

Adults preparing to become members of the Catholic Church meet regularly on Sunday mornings after the 9 a.m. Mass at St. Catherine. Come to the Inquiry night above, *or* contact Coordinator Sharon Laronga at 978-692-6353 ext. 127 if you are interested in entering the process to become Catholic, or in becoming a sponsor. *No pre-registration needed for Inquiry Nights -- just attend! See you there!*

Catechetical Kick-Off Night, with Guest Speaker Thomas Groome

“Challenges for Missionary Disciples: What to Teach and How to Teach it”

Sunday Sept. 10th, 7 p.m., St. Catherine Parish Center

Tom is a well-known author, Professor of Theology and Religious Ed. at Boston College, and Director of B.C.’s *Church in the 21st Century Center*. This is a special evening for all catechists and religious education volunteers—don’t miss it! **FREE!** *To reserve a seat, RSVP to*

KathyM@LWCatholic.org

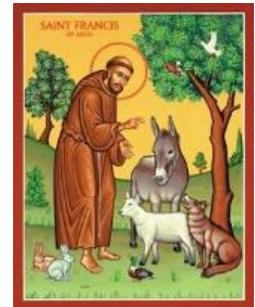
Blessing of the Animals

This blessing takes place annually, on or around the Oct. 4th Feast Day of St. Francis. Free; No pre-registration needed. Bring your pets for a short (15-20 minute) ceremony and blessing to either

St. Anne parking area near chapel entry, Sat. Sept. 30, 11 a.m.

OR

St. Catherine parking lot next to rectory, Sun. Oct. 1st, 1 p.m.



Ministry Fair Weekends!

Come discover some of wonderful life-giving ministries of the Collaborative of St. Anne-St. Catherine parishes. You might be surprised at the number (70 ministries, with over 900 dedicated workers) as well as the variety. Perhaps you might find one in which to share your own God-given gifts.

St. Catherine’s Ministry Fair: after all the Masses Oct. 14-15, Parish Center

St. Anne’s Ministry Fair: after all the Masses Oct. 21-22, Parish Hall

Women’s Retreat- *Gratitude: The Transformative Power of Living with a Grateful Heart* (retreat leader Sue Gormley)

Wed. Nov. 15th, 5-8 p.m., St. Anne Parish Hall

Gratitude is the heart’s response to God’s infinite blessings. As we live in awareness and appreciation, we experience and express the richness of life and become transformed. Join us for an evening of prayer, song, lecture, small group discussion and refreshments. Sponsored by the St. Anne-St. Catherine Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality.

Pre-register by contacting SusanB@LWCatholic.org or 978-486-4100 ext. 129.

Littleton Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m. at St. Anne Church, Littleton

All are welcome; no pre-registration needed.

Westford Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Time & location TBA—watch the bulletins

Advent Day of Reflection for Liturgical Ministers

Saturday Dec. 9, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., St. Anne Parish Hall

All Liturgical Musicians, Lectors, Ministers of Communion, Ushers and Greeters, Ministers of Hope are invited to gather for prayer, reflection, quiet, and sharing food, and sharing the joys and challenges of ministry. Pre-registration necessary; please contact Peg Hicks at 978-320-4209 or PegH@LWCatholic.org



Mary's Advent Journey

Wednesday Dec. 13, 7 p.m. at St. Anne Church

Celebrate Advent by joining Jackie Butterfield in this beautiful holy hour of prayer, readings and hymns. Jackie is Director of Religious Education, K-6, at St. Anne Parish. Pre-register with Jackie at 978-320-4207 or JackieB@LWCatholic.org

Prayer Fair Weekends!

After celebrating the Mass on Prayer Fair weekend, take a few extra moments to experience a variety of other ways that Catholics pray—Eucharistic adoration, guided meditation, music especially the psalms, the rosary, *lectio divina*, liturgy of the hours—these are just a few.

St. Catherine Prayer Fair Weekend: after all the Masses Jan. 27-28, Parish Center

St. Anne Prayer Fair Weekend: after all the Masses Feb. 3-4, Parish Hall

A Mid-Winter Song-and-Story-fest

Friday Feb. 2, 7 p.m., St. Catherine Parish Center (2nd floor Mezzanine)

Do you like to sing? Share stories or jokes? Read a poem or two? Your admission ticket is to bring with you at least one song, poem, or story of hope (religious or secular) to share with others. No fee, but pre-registration is required so that we can plan for space and refreshments. Contact PegH@LWCatholic.org or 978-320-4209 to pre-register.



A Gathering of Ministry Leaders

April 28, 9-11 a.m., St. Anne's Parish Hall

Come gather together with ministry leaders from both parishes to pray, strategize, and share ideas, joys, and challenges. R.S.V.P. to Deb Rhodes DebbieR@LWCatholic.org

Passion & Purpose for Marriage

This is a very special event coming to St. Catherine's the weekend of May 4-5th—watch the bulletins for details, or check out www.dynamiccatholic.org for details. This very popular program will be presented by Dr. Allen Hunt of Dynamic Catholic. The tickets (\$25 each) can be purchased online, and include a book, cd, journal, and other materials.

Faith Sharing Groups

Women's Book Group

Beginning Sept. 25th, and meeting Monday mornings at St. Catherine Parish Center (2nd floor/Mezzanine), 9:30-11:30 a.m.

The book for this fall is *Story of a Soul: the Autobiography of St. Therese of Lisieux*. For further details, please contact Karen McNamara at 978-486-3762 or Mary Eve Miller at 978-692-7651.

“God, Pizza, Wine & Beer” Faith Sharing Group (now co-ed!)

Once a month (usually Thursday) from 6:30 - 8 p.m. at St. Catherine Parish Center. *The first gatherings will be Tues. Sept. 26, Thursday Oct. 26, and Thurs. Nov. 30, St. Catherine. See weekly bulletin for other dates and more details.*

Combining prayer, witness talks, Gospel readings, and small group interactions, we provide the nourishment and supportive fellowship needed to take on life's challenges and opportunities in the ways Jesus calls us. All are welcome. For information, contact coordinator Ken Hanly at khanly@verizon.net

Reading & Reflecting Together about the Sunday Readings

Would you be interested in gathering once a week with others to read and reflect on the readings for Sunday Mass? Would you be interested in becoming a group facilitator of a small group? If either or both apply, please contact Peg at PegH@LWCatholic.org, and she will connect you with other interested adults. Please indicate (1) if you would be willing to facilitate a small group, or just be a participant (2) what days and times work for you. (3) if you already facilitate a small group, do you have room in your group for a few more participants?

Lenten Discussion Groups

These groups gather once a week for 5-6 weeks during Lent to pray, share and discuss the Word of God. Some gather in homes, others at the Church. **We are currently looking for group coordinators**—are you interested? If so, please contact Peg (PegH@LWCatholic.org) or Sue (SueG@LWCatholic.org).

Theology Café

(St. Catherine Parish Center Mezzanine)

Thurs, Oct. 5th, 7:15 –9 pm, Christology—exploring some answers to Jesus' question “And who do you say I am?”

Thursday Oct. 12, 7:15-9 pm: Sacramental Theology—exploring the way Catholics understand the presence of God through sacramental signs and actions.

Thursday Oct. 19th, 7:15-9 pm: Ecclesiology--- exploring different models and concepts of Church. St. Anselm defined theology as "*faith seeking understanding*." Are you interested in learning about Catholicism on a deeper level? Join us as we explore various topics related to our faith. Each session begins with a 30-40 minute presentation, followed by discussion.

You are welcome to attend any or all sessions-- pre-registration required (sessions with fewer than 5 participants may be cancelled). Pre-register by contacting Peg Hicks at PegH@LWCatholic.org or 978-320-4209.

Courses, and Workshops

Adult Confirmation Preparation

6 Tuesday evenings, 7:15-8:30 p.m., Oct. 17-Nov. 28 (no class on Halloween)
St. Anne Parish Hall



Are you a baptized adult Catholic who has never been confirmed? Please join us for a six week program that will prepare you for confirmation on Dec. 3 at St. Catherine Church. The preparation includes participating in the *Catholic Basics Course* (see below), as well a class on Nov. 28 which focuses on the Sacrament of Confirmation. Pre-registration is required by contacting Peg at 978-320-4209 or PegH@LWCatholic.org

Catholic Basics Course

5 Tuesday evenings, 7:15-8:30 p.m. St. Anne Parish Hall

Would you like to review the basics of the Catholic faith? To enrich your understanding of Catholicism from an adult perspective? You are welcome to pre-register and attend any or all of the following sessions:

--**The Creed** (Oct. 17) instructor: Peg Hicks

--**The Sacraments** (Oct. 24) instructor: Jackie Butterfield

--**The Bible** (Nov. 7) instructor: Sue Gormley

--**The Church** (Nov. 14) instructor: Peg Hicks

--**Catholic Prayer, especially the Mass** (Nov. 21) instructor: Jackie Butterfield

Pre-registration is required by contacting Peg at 978-320-4209 or PegH@LWCatholic.org

Brief Overview of the Old Testament (with Peg Hicks)

Tues. Oct. 3, 7 p.m. at St. Catherine Parish Center

The Old Testament was written over a period of 1000 years, and can seem overwhelming. This introductory overview is open to all, and will be especially useful to 6th grade catechists.

Pre-register with Peg at 978-320-4209 or PegH@LWCatholic.org.

The Gospels: Four Faces of Jesus (with Peg Hicks)

Thurs. Sept. 21, 7 pm, St. Catherine Parish Center

Who were the Gospel writers? What do they teach us about Jesus? This introductory overview is open to all, and will be especially useful to 7th grade catechists.

Pre-register with Peg at 978-320-4209 or PegH@LWCatholic.org



The Book of Exodus (with Peg Hicks)

5 Thursday mornings 9:30-11 am Sept. 14-Oct. 12
at St. Catherine Parish Center (2nd floor/Mezzanine)



The Book of Exodus, written in a dynamic storytelling style, is the heart of the Old Testament. In the first three chapters, we encounter a villain (Pharaoh), five brave women, Moses the protector of the oppressed, and a God burning with incredible compassion. Come explore the powerful imagery of this most inspired, faith-filled book.

Pre-registration is required by contacting Peg at 978-320-4209 or PegH@LWCatholic.org

Exploring the Bible (with Sue Gormley)

Fridays 9-11 a.m. at St. Anne Church.



Exploring the Bible: The Dickinson Series consists of three 6-week courses. You are welcome to sign up for one, two, or all three! This small-group study will explore some of the best-known Bible passages and help you discover some of the many ways that they can be interpreted. You will learn how the Bible as we know it was put together and where to go with your questions about the Bible.

I. What is the Bible? 6 Fridays: Sept. 15, 22, 29 and Oct. 6, 13, 20

II. Introducing the Old Testament 6 Fridays: Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26 and Feb. 2, 9, 16.

III. Parables 7 Fridays: April 6, 13, 27 and May 4, 11, 18, 25.

Textbooks will be available for purchase. Pre-registration is required-- please contact Sue Gormley at SueG@LWCatholic.org or 978-320-4210.

Catholicism: Pivotal Players (with Jackie Butterfield)

Part I: Thursdays 9-11 a.m. Oct. 19, 26, & Nov. 2, 9, 16, St. Anne Rectory Conference Room

Part II: Thursdays 9-11 a.m. April 5, 12, 19, 26 & May 3, 10, St. Anne Rectory Conference Room

Discover some of the amazing people who shaped the Church and changed the world. This program uses videos from the popular Bishop Robert Barron series to look at saints, artists, mystics, and scholars and how they influenced the Church. Pre-register for Part I, Part II, or both Parts by contacting Jackie at JackieB@LWCatholic.org or 978-320-4207.



Catholicism: What do Catholics Believe? *(sponsored by the St. Anne Men's Group)*

Ten episodes over 10 months, from 7-8:30 p.m. every second Thursday, St. Anne Parish Hall and Rector's Conference Room. First meeting Thurs. Sept. 14th.

The St. Anne Men's Group invites you to join us in watching Bishop Robert Barron's "Catholicism" series. Learn what Catholics believe and why, while being immersed in the art, architecture, literature, beliefs, and practices of the Catholic tradition. Refreshments will be served, no commitment required, but please notify Dan Taylor if planning to attend dan.taylorstreet@gmail.com or text (978)908-7085.



Altarations *(with Phil Oslin)*

*4 Sunday evenings, 7-9 p.m., St. Anne Parish Hall
Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17*

Join with Phil Oslin to view and discuss videos from *Altaration: the Mystery of the Mass Revealed* (Ascension Press) which explore the power and wonder of the Catholic Mass, our encounter with Jesus Christ. This would be a wonderful way to prepare for Christmas during the holy season of Advent. Pre-register by contacting Phil at oslinfamily@yahoo.com

Strengths and Gifts Workshop *(with Diane Spera)*

Two Saturdays March 3 & 10, 9 a.m. -2 p.m., St. Catherine Mezzanine

This workshop will help you to discover your strengths and share your gifts. Come learn how your specific talents and strengths can empower the way you experience your life. Discover how your gifts can be shared and appreciated within your spiritual and church community. To pre-register, and for information contact Diane Spera at tdjaspera@aol.com.



Who is invited?

These programs are open to all Catholics, as well as all non-Catholics interested in learning about the Catholic tradition. Most programs have no fee (although donations to either St. Anne or St. Catherine parishes are always most welcome). **Pre-registration is required for some programs**, so that we can plan for space and materials, and so that we can notify you if a program is moved or cancelled.

Where?

These programs are held at either St. Anne Church & Parish Hall, 75 King St., Littleton, or St. Catherine Church & Parish Center, 107 N. Main St. Westford.

For further information, contact

PegH@LWCatholic.org or SueG@LWCatholic.org

***AND... don't forget that there are
Learning Opportunities as Close as your Computer!***

Online Courses available through Boston College's "STM Crossroads" program. Courses range from two to six weeks. Some of this fall's topics include "*Spirituality Matters*," "*At the Heart of Parenting*," "*The Gospel of Mark*," "*Mary, the Mother of Jesus*," and "*The Psalms*." To register, or to find out more, go to www.bc.edu/schools/stm/crossroads

10 Sept. 2017