

A SPECIAL EVENT!



Thursday, March 26, 2015
St. Basil the Great Church 6pm

For Christians, there has been a long association between their celebration of the Eucharist and the Jewish celebration of Passover. Indeed, the first three gospels, Matthew, Mark, and Luke, portray this event as one in which Jesus and his disciples shared the Passover meal. On the other hand, many Scripture scholars think that John's account is more accurate, placing it before "the day of Preparation for the Passover" (John 19) when he says that Jesus was crucified. In either case, the symbolism of the Passover celebration continues to be a source of rich meaning for those who share in the Eucharistic feast.

Yet how many of us have an appreciation for the Passover meal as it is traditionally celebrated in its own right by our Jewish neighbors and friends? This Seder meal is always evolving as it continues to reinterpret the significance of the Exodus event for the modern world and for contemporary Jewish life. You are invited to share in the experience of a traditional Seder—with prayer, joyful music, symbolic foods, and a full chicken dinner. It will be led by **Rabbi Susan Stone and Rabbi Steve Segar, together with members of the Kol Halev synagogue.** Come and enjoy this festival of freedom!

Tickets for this event will be \$10.00 per person; \$5.00 for children ages 12 and under—contact your parish ACE representative.

Rabbi Susan Stone was ordained as a rabbi at Hebrew Union College. She is a long-time friend and is thrilled to be back for this ACE program. Rabbi Stone currently serves as Director of Spiritual Care at Hillcrest Hospital. At home, her two sons are grown enough that they are only (too infrequently) visitors, but all is not quiet there, since she is newly married to Wayne Easthon.

Rabbi Steve Segar was ordained as a rabbi at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He has served as the spiritual leader of Congregation Kol Halev in Pepper Pike for the past 15 years. Steve and his wife are kept busy raising their three sons in Shaker Heights. With his long time interest in interfaith dialogue, Steve is also delighted to return for this special ACE event.

WHAT IS ACE?

A.C.E. (an acronym for Adult Catholic Education). It is a collaborative regional effort on the part of several neighboring parish communities to provide ongoing faith development and religious education for adults. Our speakers represent the best of pastoral and academic leadership in the Cleveland area and beyond. Each presenter brings a special expertise and unique perspective on the topic he or she addresses. It is our hope that many people will continue to avail themselves of the opportunities offered through the A.C.E. program.



Pastors' Comments from Participating Parishes

"It is a rare opportunity for parishes to be able to offer their members exposure to a wide variety of theological subjects and issues. The ACE Program makes this opportunity a reality. All one has to do is make the effort to participate by attending the lectures. There is always a topic to address all interests."

Fr. Justin, O.S.B.
ASSUMPTION CHURCH

440-526-1177

9183 Broadview Road, Broadview Heights

"Updating our understanding of the Catholic Faith is vital in the world today. We are pleased to be a member of ACE which promotes this important endeavor."

Fr. Thomas Haren
ST. MONICA CHURCH

216-662-8685

13623 Rockside Road, Garfield Heights

"There is a great hunger among adult Catholics for quality adult education. For years, the ACE program has successfully provided for that need in our area by providing topics of interest presented by noted local experts and scholars. Anyone who says we don't provide quality adult education has not experienced ACE."

Fr. Ray Sutter
ST. MATTHIAS CHURCH

440-888-8220

1200 West Sprague Road, Parma

"What an opportunity parishioners have to experience quality speakers. These occasions fly too much under the radar, so make it a priority in your spiritual journey to attend multiple presentations this season. I'd love to see attendance double."

Fr. Bruce Riebe
ST. JOSEPH BYZANTINE CHURCH

440-526-1818

8111 Brecksville Road, Brecksville

"Cooperation among all the ACE parishes has resulted in an excellent Adult Education program. The topics that are chosen are always appropriate to the times and the needs of parishioners. The presenters are always highly qualified and well prepared, and the sessions are consistently well organized. ACE has my highest recommendation."

Fr. Allen F. Corrigan
ST. VICTOR CHURCH

330-659-6591

3435 Everett Road, Richfield

"I really appreciate the ACE program and the wonderful presentations brought to the members of our Cluster parishes. We never stop learning in life, and this contributes to living our faith as fully as possible."

Fr. Walt Jenne
ST. BASIL THE GREAT CHURCH

440-526-1686

8700 Brecksville Road, Brecksville

"Adult Catholic Education is a primary effort of the whole Church. I am so grateful that we have the ACE program as a way of making that happen."

Fr. Ralph Wiatrowski
ST. BARNABAS CHURCH

330-467-7959

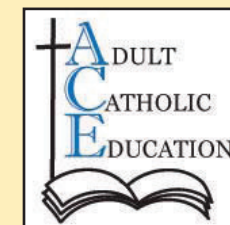
9451 Brandywine Road, Northfield

"I am proud of the ACE program. The participation of all the parishes for quality adult education is necessary. I'm proud of how we work together and proud of the speakers that we have chosen. The call to the "new evangelization" is fulfilled in this program."

Fr. Pete Coletti
ST. MICHAEL CHURCH

216-524-1394

6540 Brecksville Road, Independence



ADULT CATHOLIC EDUCATION

FALL 2014 – SPRING 2015



*"For everything there is a
season, and a time for every
matter under heaven..."*

—Ecclesiastes 3:1



HUMAN TRAFFICKING: FROM FACTS AND FIGURES TO FACES AND FUTURES

Sr. Cecilia Liberatore, SND

Monday, September 22, 2014
St. Victor Church 7–9pm

Human trafficking has become a social cancer in recent years. What is it? Who is affected? Why should we be concerned? Sr. Cecilia will draw on her vast experiences in providing support to women and girls who have been, or are in imminent danger of being trafficked. She will provide information about human trafficking from both a global and local perspective, and will show how this is a real social and moral issue in our neighborhoods and communities.

Sr. Cecilia is a Sister of Notre Dame who holds degrees from Notre Dame College in Cleveland, Kent State, and the University of Dayton. She is a member of the Collaborative to End Human Trafficking and participates in planning and leading conferences on this topic. She also acts as a court advocate for women arrested for prostitution, and engages in outreach on the streets to women who have been trafficked.



THEOSIS: OUR TRANSFORMATION INTO UNION WITH THE BLESSED TRINITY

Fr. Michael Lee

Wednesday, January 28, 2015
St. Joseph Byzantine Church 7-9pm

“God became man that man might become God.” This famous quote made by Athanasius (ca 298–373), one of the early church fathers, discloses the church teaching known as theosis: that our destiny is to become one with God. Fr. Lee will provide insight into the meaning of this teaching for the modern world and answer questions such as, how can such a transformation be realized and how does the mystery of the Eucharist exemplify that transformation?

Fr. Michael Lee is a priest of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma where he holds several positions including the Associate Director of Religious Education. He holds Pontifical Baccalaurate and Licentiate degrees in Sacred Theology from the International Theological Institute in Trumau, Austria. He and his wife Debbie have five children, and have together conducted Scripture studies and retreats for 15 years.



A MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS: THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL

Fr. Richard Fragomeni, Ph.D.

Thursday, October 23, 2014
St. Barnabas Church 7–9pm

Pope Francis wrote his apostolic exhortation “Evangelii Gaudium” (“The Joy of the Gospel”) in response to the October 2012 Synod of Bishops on the new evangelization. He writes that an “evangelizer must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral!” Looking for hope and joy in the church, Pope Francis offers encouragement. In his focus on “the beauty of the saving love of God made manifest in Jesus Christ...” Fr. Fragomeni will examine pertinent elements of the document and how they apply to our lives as Christians.

Fr. Fragomeni is a priest of the Diocese of Albany, New York and very popular speaker at Catholic conferences throughout the United States. He holds several advanced degrees in music and theology, including a Ph.D. from the Catholic University of America. Fr. Fragomeni is a member of the faculty of Catholic Theological Union in Chicago where he teaches Roman Catholic theology, with his current work focusing on word and sacrament.



THE CRUSADES OF THE MEDIEVAL CHURCH

Joseph Kelly, Ph.D.

Wednesday, March 11, 2015
Assumption Church 7-9pm

The Crusades began in 1095 in response to a plea by Pope Urban II to take back the Holy Land from the Muslims. Why did the Crusades initially succeed but ultimately fail? The impact of these campaigns for the Church and their negative consequences for its relations with the Orthodox Churches and Muslims until Vatican II will be explored, as well as the historic meeting between St. Francis of Assisi and an Islamic sultan.

Joseph F. Kelly is Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at John Carroll University. He is a graduate of Boston College and received his doctorate from Fordham University. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, Dr. Kelly has won significant grants and fellowships, and he has spoken to scholarly groups in the United States, Canada, Ireland, Great Britain, Germany, and twice at the Vatican. His publications include 16 books and 58 scholarly articles.



FROM SYNAGOGUE TO CHURCH: THE JOURNEY OF THE FIRST CHRISTIANS

Sheila McGinn, Ph.D.

Saturday, November 15, 2014
St. Basil the Great Church 8:45am–1:00pm

The period following Pentecost and leading up to the time of Constantine, the 1st through 3rd centuries of Christianity, was one of continual evolution in the beliefs and identity of Christ’s disciples. We modern Catholics tend to think of this as a Golden Age of unity in thought and practice, but it was actually marked by great diversity and conflict. Come learn how we’ve not “always done things this way.”

This program includes a Brunch. Space is limited; see your parish ACE representative for tickets.

Dr. McGinn is a Professor and the Chair of the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at John Carroll University. She earned a Ph.D. from Northwestern University, and is known for her expertise in the area of New Testament Studies, as well as early Christian Theology and Spirituality. In addition, Dr. McGinn has served on the editorial board of the Catholic Biblical Quarterly.



CAN THERE BE A JUST WAR?

Fr. Joseph Koopman

Tuesday, April 21, 2015
St. Monica Church 7-9pm

Fr. Koopman will explore the teaching of the Church on war, particularly the question of whether there can be a “just war.” Beginning with Scripture and the teaching of the early church fathers, particular attention will be given to Augustine and Thomas Aquinas. Once the theological tradition has been presented, consideration will be given to recent documents and to new problems that arise with the advent of modern warfare.

Fr. Joseph Koopman, S.T.D. is an assistant professor of moral theology at St. Mary Seminary’s seminary where he lectures on Christian sexual ethics, social justice, and bioethics. He holds both a licentiate and doctorate in sacred theology from the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome. In addition, Fr. Koopman is a member of the Bishop’s Medical Moral Advisory Committee.



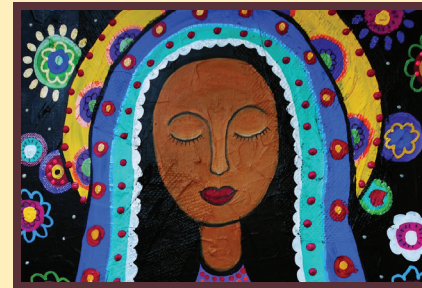
PRAYING THE SCRIPTURES: AN INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP

Fr. Michael Brunovsky, OSB

Wednesday, December 3, 2014
St. Matthias Church 7-9pm

Both the Liturgy of the Hours and Lectio Divina (“divine reading”) are forms of prayer that have been practiced in the Church since ancient times. However today, most Catholics are unfamiliar with these ways of deepening their experience of God’s presence in their lives. Through this interactive experience, Benedictine priest Fr. Brunovsky will guide those who are new as well as those experienced in these prayer practices toward a richer appreciation of praying with the Scriptures.

Fr. Michael Brunovsky is a priest for the Benedictine Order of Cleveland. With an MA in Theology and Monastic Studies and a BA in History, he has taught for 17 years at Benedictine High School where he is currently the Academic Dean. He serves as the Music Director and Director of Formation, as well as Director of their Oblate program. Fr. Brunovsky has also provided retreats and missions throughout the USA.



THE MANY FACES OF MARY

George Matejka, Ph.D.

Tuesday, May 19, 2015
St. Michael Church 7-9pm

Throughout the history of both the Eastern and Western branches of Christianity, artists have had a strong interest in portraying Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Both the Eastern tradition of icons and the Western tradition of painting Mary will be explored. Our focus here will be to examine how art can be an effective tool for communicating lessons from the Bible as well as Church teachings about Mary.

Dr. Matejka is Chair of the Philosophy Department at Ursuline College. He holds both a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Duquesne University and a Licentiate in Sacred Theology from the Gregorian University in Rome. He has lectured at conferences at Oxford University, England as well as at Yale, and is known for his expertise in the fields of Religion and Ethics.