

Christianity 101: Foundations of Faith and Practice in The Episcopal Church

Led by Fr. Rob Courtney



- **Who's it for?**
 - Current church members who want a refresher, or who are interested in formally reaffirming their Baptismal Vows.
 - Adults and Youth 16+ seeking Baptism, Confirmation, or Reception into the Episcopal Church. Bishop Thompson will baptize, confirm, receive, and reaffirm candidates at his annual visitation to St. Paul's on **Sunday, May 7, 2017**.
 - Anyone curious about Christian faith and practice.
- **What's it about?**
 - The fundamentals of the Christian faith from an Episcopal/Anglican perspective.
 - As the name of the course implies it is about the basics of our faith, both what we believe and how we practice our faith.
- **What are the required materials?**
 - We will provide you with the necessary materials. You may, however, find it helpful at least to obtain a good study Bible, preferably an NRSV translation. *The New Oxford Annotated Bible with Apocrypha: New Revised Standard Version, Fourth Edition*, (Oxford University Press, 2010) is recommended.
- **When and where are the sessions?**
 - **Sunday mornings Mar. 12 – May 7 from 9:00 am – 10:00 am in the Parlor.** We will not meet on April 16 (Easter Day). The May 7 gathering will be a meeting and breakfast with Bishop Morris Thompson. Childcare and children's Sunday school will be provided for all sessions.
 - Participants will also be expected to participate in a service activity during Lent—we will give you details in class.
- **How do I sign up?**
 - Please complete the attached registration form, and return it to Lori Lavelle in the Church Office by **Friday, Mar. 10**.
 - For further information, contact Fr. Rob Courtney at (504) 488-3729, ext. 122; (504) 655-7756; or email rcourtney@stpauls-lakeview.org.

Christianity 101 Syllabus

Please read and reflect upon all the assigned readings before each class meeting. Bring your materials to class, and an open heart and mind. You may also wish to bring a pad of paper and a pen with you to take notes (don't worry—no tests!).

I. March 12 – **Salvation: Who Needs It? And Why? And What Is It Anyway?**

Luke 24:1-35 (*One account of the resurrection of Jesus*)
Acts 2:1-4,22-24,32-36 (*The early church preaches the Resurrection*)
John 11:17-27 (*Eternal life now*)
1 Corinthians 15:1-20,35-37,42-44 (*Theology of life after death*)
Romans 8:18-25 (*The cosmic scope of salvation*)
Revelation 21:1-7 (*The new Heaven and the new Earth*)

BCP p. 845, Catechism, “Human Nature”
pp. 847-848, Catechism, “The Ten Commandments”
pp. 848-849, Catechism, “Sin and Redemption”
pp. 849-850, Catechism, “God the Son”
pp. 861-862, Catechism, “The Christian Hope”

II. March 19 – **Initiation and Participation in Christ's Body: Bathing and Feeding**

Exodus 14:1-31 (*Crossing the Red Sea*)
Acts 2:37-42 (*Conversion and Baptism*)
Romans 6:3-11 (*Baptism as participation in Christ's death and resurrection*)
1 Corinthians 12:4-27 (*Initiation into the Christ's Body, the Church*)
Exodus 12:1-20 (*The First Passover*)
Matthew 26:17-19,26-29 (*The old Passover and the new*)
1 Corinthians 5:6-7 (*Christ the Passover Lamb*)
1 Corinthians 10:16-17 (*The Body and Blood of Christ*)
1 Corinthians 11:23-32 (*The Eucharistic tradition*)
Luke 24:13-35 (*The road to Emmaus*)

BCP pp. 858-859, Catechism, “Holy Baptism”
pp. 859-860, Catechism, “The Holy Eucharist”
pp. 854-855, Catechism, “The Church”
pp. 852-853, Catechism, “The Holy Spirit”
pp. 298-314, The Liturgy for Holy Baptism
pp. 316-317, “An Exhortation”
pp. 361-366, “The Great Thanksgiving” (Eucharistic Prayer A)

III. March 26 – **A Sacramental Church: Outward and Visible Signs**

James 5:13-16 (*Anointing with prayer*)
John 20:19-23 (*The Church's authority to forgive sins*)

Mark 10:2-9 (*Jesus' teaching on marriage and divorce*)
Acts 1:15-22 (*A successor is chosen for Judas*)
Acts 6:1-6 (*Seven chosen to serve*)
Acts 8:14-17 (*Peter and John lay hands on the Samaritans*)

BCP pp. 857-858, Catechism, "The Sacraments"
pp. 860-861, Catechism, "Other Sacramental Rites"
pp. 446, 449-451, "The Reconciliation of a Penitent"
pp. 455-456, "Laying on of Hands and Anointing"
pp. 422-434, "The Celebration of a Marriage" and "The Blessing of a Civil Marriage"
p. 510, "Preface to the Ordination Rites"

IV. April 2 – **The Bible: "The Most Owned, Least Read Book In History"**

Micah 6:6-8 (*Summary of the prophetic message*)
Matthew 5:17 (*The old Law and the new*)
2 Timothy 3:16 (*The purpose of scripture*)

BCP pp. 846-847, Catechism, "The Old Covenant"
pp. 850-851, Catechism, "The New Covenant"
pp. 853-854, Catechism, "The Holy Scriptures"

V. April 9 – **Holy Week: Walking the Way of the Cross**

Luke 19:29-40 (*Jesus' entry into Jerusalem*)
Luke 22:14-30 (*The Last Supper*)
John 13:1-15 (*The Washing of the Disciples' Feet*)
John 18:1—19:37 (*The Passion Narrative*)
Matthew 27:57-66 (*The Burial of Jesus*)
Matthew 28:1-10 (*The Resurrection of Jesus*)

BCP pp. 270-295, The Proper Liturgies for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and The Great Vigil of Easter

NO CLASS APRIL 16, EASTER

VI. April 23 – **The Anglican Way: What Distinguishes the Episcopal Church?**

BCP p. 358, "The Nicene Creed"

pp. 876-877, “The Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral”
pp. 854-856, Catechism, “The Church” and “The Ministry”
p. 517, “The Examination” from the Ordination of a Bishop
p. 531, “The Examination” from the Ordination of a Priest
p. 543, “The Examination” from the Ordination of a Deacon

VII. April 30 – **Discipleship: “Not Only With Our Lips”**

Luke 10:38—11:13 (*Jesus desires our friendship*)

Romans 8:14-17,26-27 (*Prayer in the Spirit*)

Acts 2:42-47 (*The apostolic community*)

Galatians 5:22-23 (*Fruit of the Spirit*)

Matthew 28:18-20 (*The Great Commission*)

Matthew 22:27-40 (*The Great Commandment*)

BCP pp. 304-305, “The Baptismal Covenant”

pp. 856-857, Catechism, “Prayer and Worship”

pp. 136-140, “Daily Devotions for Individuals and Families”

pp. 15-33 (skim), “The Calendar of the Church Year”

pp. 75-135 (skim), “The Daily Office”

VIII. April 17 – **The Bishop’s Visitation: Confirmation/Reception Day!**

CHRISTIANITY 101 REGISTRATION FORM
Please return to the Church Office by Friday, Mar. 10, 2017

Date _____

First & Middle Name _____

Last Name _____ Nickname _____

Date Of Birth: ____/____/____ Age ____ Place of Birth: _____

Sex: M F

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

E-Mail _____

Baptism Date ____/____/____ (*list approximate year if unsure*)

Church or Tradition in which you were Baptized _____

Confirmation Date ____/____/____ (*list approximate year if unsure*)

Church or Tradition in which you were Confirmed _____

If not an Anglican/Episcopalian, name & location of previous church

Purpose for taking "Christianity 101: Foundations of Faith and Practice in The Episcopal Church":

- Baptism
- Reception (*if a confirmed Roman Catholic, Orthodox, or ELCA*)
- Confirmation
- Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows
- Personal growth

Please check here if you need childcare: Yes For how many children? _____

All information on this form will be maintained in confidence by St. Paul's