

Come Grow in Faith!

Fall 2021



In Baptism, we are each given a Seed of Faith which we are called to nurture throughout our lives. Please consider joining us for one or more the following events designed to help us grow closer to God who loves and is with us even in these challenging times.

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME AT OUR ONGOING EVENTS!

The Intercessory Prayer Group gathers biweekly at 1:30 PM on Mondays in the rectory to pray for the needs of our parish community. Upcoming meetings will be held on Sept. 13th & 27th, Oct. 12th & 25th, etc.

Bible Study, led by Fr. Steve, meets weekly on Tuesdays at 6:30PM. Through an open conversation, those attending, explore the coming Sunday's readings by learning about their context & discussing their meaning for us today. Join us in the hall at Holy Rosary or by conference call at 425-535-9043. Because these sessions do not build on each other you may drop in as you are able.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome to stop by Holy Spirit on Mon. from 6 to 8PM or Holy Rosary on Wed. any time between 6 AM and 8 PM to pray in the presence of the Lord. You may sign up at the back of church for a specific time every week or drop in as your schedule allows.

A Faith Sharing Group led by Dianne Scott will be meeting on Thursday mornings at 9 a.m. beginning on October 7th in the living room at Holy Spirit. Join them in reflecting on the Scripture readings of the day, and pray together for the needs of their families, our priests, church and community.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE:

THE ABANDONMENT OF HIPPOCRATIC MEDICINE

Dr. Mark Rollo will be joining us on Monday, September 20th at 7 p.m. in the church hall at Holy Rosary. His presentation will address Physician Assisted Suicide and the most recent attempts by the Massachusetts Legislature (*Bills H2381 & S1384*) to enact legislation that would legalize assisted suicide under the guise of "*An Act Relative to End of Life Options*". Please make the time to join us and become informed about this important life issue.

ASK THE PASTOR

Got questions? This fall Fr. Steve will be resuming his Facebook Live series "Ask the Pastor" answering *your* questions regarding the faith. Tune in to our Facebook page **Annunciation Parish Gardner** live on the first Monday of the month at 7 PM beginning in October or watch in "rerun" with a link that will be posted on our website. Feel free to send him your questions using the form on our website, by dropping your question in the collection basket, or by leaving a message with our office staff. Then stay tuned to see his answers.

WALKING TOWARD ETERNITY:

ENGAGING THE STRUGGLES OF YOUR HEART

Many of us struggle with anger, fear, shame, hopelessness or other spiritual roadblocks. This thought-provoking video series by Jeff Cavins challenges us to take the struggles that sometimes seem insurmountable and offer them to Christ to be transformed. The accompanying prayer journal and suggested scripture readings will help us to reflect on where Christ is acting in our lives, what He is calling us to do, and refocus on where we are headed... eternity Discussion on this video series will be facilitated by Fr. Miguel and Mrs. Sweeney on Wednesday evenings beginning October 6th at 6:30 in the lower church hall at Holy Rosary. Those unable to attend or who prefer to do so, may still benefit from the program by watching the videos and journaling at home. The suggested donation is \$23 per person and includes the journal and online access to all videos in the series. Please know that no one will be turned away if they are unable to make a donation at this time. Click here to learn more about the series and preregister.

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Frank Runyeon will be performing *The Sermon on the Mount* and *Faith vs. Hollywood* on Saturday, November 6th @ 7 p.m. in Holy Rosary Church. He will bring the story of the *Sermon on the Mount* alive as he plays the apostle Matthew sharing the story with the early church in Antioch (Us!).

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Faith vs. Hollywood Cont...

This 45 min production will be followed by *Faith vs. Hollywood* in which he will share what some of his experiences in Hollywood have taught him about the difference between where God calls us and where media leads us.

Both productions are appropriate for folks of all ages. Feel free to bring your friends of all faiths to hear the Good News. There is no cost to attend but free offerings will be welcome.

GRIT AND GRACE ~ WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women of all ages are invited to gather on the last Monday of each month to discuss books that help them explore their faith. In September and October, they will be discussing **Women of Hope: Doctors of the Church** by Terry Polakovi. This book will give us an opportunity to explore the lives and legacies of St. Teresa of Avila, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Therese of Lisieux and St. Hildegard of Bingen. We have a few copies of this book available at the Rectory or you may easily purchase a copy through Amazon.

LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS AT MASS

Our priests will be working together to do a *Teaching Mass* on Monday, October 18th at 6:30PM in Holy Rosary. As one priest says the Mass, he will pause at strategic points, so the other may explain what is happening. We invite all of our parishioners to attend and deepen their understanding of what is happening at Mass. This Mass will be recorded and made available on our parish website for all those who are unable to join us.

COMING LATER THIS FALL...

Loving the Two Halves of Life: The Further Journey. While our spiritual destination (heaven) remains the same as when we were baptized, our journey changes over time. Join Leonne Perreault and other parishioners in the "2nd half of life" for a workshop to reflect on that journey. Participants will gather from 11a.m. to 3p.m. for 3 days to prayerfully watch and discuss video presentations by Richard Rohr OFM, Ron Rolheiser OMI and Edwina Gately. A light lunch will be provided each day. *The schedule for this event will be solidified once the newly renovated parish center is available.*

WHAT'S FLOCKNOTE AND HOW DO I JOIN?

Flocknote is a communication tool that allows us to keep parishioners up to date on events via email and text messaging. Once you sign up you may choose which groups you want to hear from, and you can unsubscribe at any time by texting STOP to 84576. There is no charge for this service though data rates can apply for text messages depending on your carrier.



There are 3 easy ways to join our parish's Flocknote group.

1. You may go to our parish's website AnnunciationGardner.org and click on the little lamb in the blue box in the upper righthand corner of our home page.
2. *OR* visit our parish's page at flocknote.com/AnnunciationGardner.
3. *OR* text "**GoodNews4U**" to **84576** from your phone.

If you are having difficulty signing up for Flocknote please feel free to contact the parish office at 978-632-0253. Let them know your name, email and cell phone as well as what groups you are interested in belonging to and they can connect you.

Watch our website AnnunciationGardner.org & read our bulletin for details about these and other upcoming opportunities to deepen your faith this year!