

## Faith Formation Classes – Becoming a Credible Witness

“What the world is in particular need of today is the credible witness of people enlightened in mind and heart by the word of the Lord, and capable of opening the hearts and minds of many to the desire for God and for true life, life without end.” **Porta Fidei, Pope Benedict XVI, October 11, 2011.**

Credible Witness 2	Credible Witness 3	Credible Witness 4
<p><b>Go Forth the Mass Is Ended</b></p> <p>There is so much we say and do during Mass that we can often slip into automatic responses and then lose awareness of the sacred and miraculous events occurring before our eyes. Wouldn't it be nice if you could slow the Mass down so you could focus on all the various parts and realize their significance? This program will take you step-by-step through all the parts of the Mass, and add insight and understanding to your celebration of the Sacred Liturgy.</p>	<p><b>Be Merciful Like Your Heavenly Father</b></p> <p>Have you ever thought about what it means to believe in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting? How do you respond to someone who asks you about praying to saints, purgatory, confessing sins to a priest, and indulgences? This program is for those who want to develop a better understanding of what Catholics believe about God's mercy and how it relates to the end times, or last things.</p>	<p><b>God's Plan of Salvation</b></p> <p>The golden thread that unites the Biblical narrative, from the Old Testament through the New Testament, is called "the covenant." Understanding the nature of a covenant is vital to fully understanding the important Biblical message God reveals to His people through time. This class will cover important aspects of a covenant, from the covenant of creation to the covenant with Abraham. Learn to interpret sacred Scripture as an ancient Israelite with a covenantal, Hebrew worldview and apply it to 21<sup>st</sup> century Christianity.</p>

In the end, the goal is for all participants to become *Credible Witnesses* for the Lord.

### Credible Witness 4

Monday evenings, from 6:45 PM – 9:00 PM, Beginning **Monday, March 6**, in the library.

Tuesday mornings, from 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM, Beginning **Tuesday, March 7**, in the OLV Art Room.

Wednesday mornings, from 9:00 AM – 11:15 AM, Beginning **Wednesday, March 8**, at home of David & Rose Drost (578-2309)

Wednesday evenings, 6:30 PM – 8:45 PM, Beginning **Wednesday, March 8**, at home of Cody & Bianca Horton (361-550-2280)

Wednesday evenings, 6:45 PM – 9:00 PM, Beginning **Wednesday, March 8**, at Brookdale Victoria, (Janet Jones 827-1222)

### Credible Witness 3

Tuesday evenings, from 6:45 PM – 9:00 PM, beginning **Tuesday, March 7**, in the library.

### Credible Witness 2

Wednesday evenings, from 6:45 PM – 9:00 PM, beginning **Wednesday, March 8**, in the cafeteria.

### Resources Needed:

1. Catholic Bible
  - a. New American Bible, Revised Edition (NABRE), **OR**
  - b. New Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition
 (Be sure you bring a Bible you feel comfortable highlighting and marking)
2. Highlighters and sticky notes.
3. 2-inch binder for your notes.

“If someone loves the Church and wants to learn about why we do what we do at Mass, and also learn how to defend the faith when confronted with questions from non-Catholics, then take a step out of your comfort zone and attend one of the Credible Witness classes this Lent. ... Not only is it a chance to get to know other inquiring and faithful members of the parish, but it presents the opportunity to delve into the very heart of the Church: to understand who we are as Catholics, and why we believe what we believe. I believe you will always be glad you set aside these few hours during Lent.” -A. G. W., OLV parishioner

To register for a class or to obtain more information, contact Jenny Vincent at [jvincent@olvcathedral.org](mailto:jvincent@olvcathedral.org).