



The Catholic Center at The University of Georgia

1344 South Lumpkin Street
Athens, Georgia

faith Formation

2017-2018

Faith Formation should be an ongoing pursuit for every season of life.

At the Catholic Center at UGA we offer catechesis and sacramental preparation for children and adults plus a variety of other opportunities to inform and share your faith in community. For additional information about the groups and offerings in this brochure, please contact the coordinator listed.

New program offerings may be added and schedules adjusted throughout the school year. We frequently have visiting friars and other special guests come to the Catholic Center to offer spiritual reflections and retreats. New offerings, program updates and special events will be publicized in the weekly bulletin and on our website. Bookmark our website at ccatuga.org and check back often for updates and information.

CATECHISM & SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Religious Education

The Catholic Center offers Religious Education and Sacramental Preparation for children. RE classes meet on Sunday (Pre-K and Kindergarten) and Wednesday (1st through 7th grade). The Confirmation class meets the second Monday of each month. Confirmation and First Communion classes have a two year preparation period.

David Briones: brionesda@gmail.com



RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The RCIA is a process during which the participants gradually experience a shared spiritual journey as they discern their call to become Catholic. During the two-hour sessions on Tuesdays, 7-9 PM, team members present various topics of the Catholic faith: its doctrines, history, sacraments, prayers, practices, and rituals. The sessions run from late August to April (dates vary based on the academic year and Easter). Attendance at all classes is ideal. RCIA is for the baptized and the unbaptized, the devout and the curious, aged 18 and older. Join us when you are ready to grow in your relationship with God and to learn more about the Church with the possibility of becoming Catholic.

Sr. Barbara Daniels, MSC: ccuga.srbarbara@gmail.com

Adult Confirmation Class (Catholics aged 18 and older)

All college students and adult members of our faith community who have not been confirmed are invited to participate. These sessions provide an opportunity to complete the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. To be a godparent for Baptism or a Confirmation sponsor, you must be confirmed. Join us on Thursdays, 6-7 PM in the Center Library beginning February 1, 2018.

Sr. Barbara Daniels, MSC: ccuga.srbarbara@gmail.com

Marriage Preparation

We can assist with your pre-nuptial preparation as required by the Archdiocese of Atlanta. Couples planning to marry should contact Sr. Barbara at least six months in advance of your planned wedding date for assistance in choosing the most appropriate option for you as a couple. The Archdiocese of Atlanta offers a variety of approved marriage preparation programs or you may choose to work with a Sponsor Couple from the Catholic Center to prepare for marriage.

Sr. Barbara Daniels, MSC: ccuga.srbarbara@gmail.com

Baptism Preparation Class

Parents who will be having their infant baptized at the Catholic Center are required to attend a baptism preparation class. These single session classes are offered once a month, usually on the second Sunday of the month unless otherwise noted. Godparents are encouraged to attend, but not required by the Catholic Center. Parents and/or godparents of infants who will be baptized at another Catholic Church are also welcome to attend this class, as required by the church of baptism.

Sr. Barbara Daniels, MSC: ccuga.srbarbara@gmail.com

SPIRITUAL ACCOMPANIMENT & SUPPORT

One-on-One Spiritual Direction

Catholic Center lay minister **Milton Lopes** is available for individual spiritual direction. Please contact Dr. Lopes directly at **706-247-6052** or mlopes@thyspirit.com to make an appointment.

Bereavement Ministry

If you are dealing with the death of a loved one, please know that you are not alone. The Catholic Center Bereavement Support Group meets in the Catholic Center Library on an as-needed basis. Meetings typically involve listening, optional sharing and helping each other on our journey in grief. All sharing is confidential. No matter where you are on your journey (anticipatory grief, acute grief or long-standing grief) or if you feel you can contribute, please join us in our healing process. All are welcome to attend!

In addition to the Support Group, a private/closed Catholic Center Bereavement Group page is available on Facebook. Literature on bereavement is also available to be checked out from the Catholic Center Library. Information on local resources and internet resources on death and bereavement will also be available.

Mary Ellen Quinn: mquinn@augusta.edu or 706-546-1870

ONGOING FORMATION FOR ADULTS

Graduate Student and Young Professional Fellowship (GSYPF) Bible Study

GSYPF is a group for graduate students and young professionals to come together for spiritual growth, social outings, and service projects. A mainstay among the group's spiritual activities is the GSYPF Bible study, which meets Mondays at 7 PM for conversational study of the Bible, prayer, and fellowship. Beginners to Scripture study will feel at home here, and newcomers are always welcome.

Christy Sinksen: csinksen@uga.edu



KCC: Korean Catholic Community

The Catholic Center boasts a very active Korean community. We have a very precious event on every fourth Saturday of the month, as Father Cyril Chae from St. Patrick Catholic Church in Atlanta joins us to preside for Mass in Korean at 6:30 PM. Also, please join us for Bible study with Korean Catholic community friends.

Jay Lim: dl91856@uga.edu

Secular Franciscan Order (OFS)

<https://www.nafra-sfo.org/>

The Catholic Center hosts a lay religious order of Secular Franciscans, the San Damiano fraternity. We meet from 6-8 PM on the first Tuesday of the month in the Center Library. To be a Secular Franciscan is to commit to a way of life of "From gospel to life, life to gospel." This is not a club or class, but a canonically established lay order. All are welcome to attend to learn more about this lay order of the Catholic Church, the lives of St. Francis of Assisi and St. Clare, Franciscan theology, and Church doctrine and teachings. If you find you are called to pursue this path, welcome! You will meet with our Formation team during periods of inquiry and orientation, candidacy, and, ultimately, lifelong profession. Pax et bonum!

Julie Lorenz, OFS: julie_lorenz@hotmail.com

Sue Stephens, OFS: suestep46@yahoo.com

Monday Night Scripture

This Scripture Study group draws members from across the spectrum of parishioners at the Catholic Center who come together to share our faith journeys as we read and reflect on a variety of material, including Scripture, authors such as C.S. Lewis and Richard Rohr, and Church theologians. All are welcome to join us regularly or occasionally as we meet every Monday from 7:00-8:30 PM in the Center Library. Come to explore and deepen your faith along with other members of our faith community!

Cathy Clutter: cclutter@uga.edu

Men's Bible Study

Join the men of the Catholic Center on Thursdays at 7 AM from September through mid May for prayerful dialogue on scripture and books of interest. Meetings open and close with prayer; what comes in between varies from week to week! Bring your questions and your open mind and share in meaningful ways with other men of the faith community.

Glenn Farrar: gm_farrar@icloud.com

Women's Bible Study

Led by Sr. Barbara Daniels, this group is for women able to meet Thursdays at 10 AM. Books and materials have included study of the prophets and an in-depth look at [Jesus, A Pilgrimage](#) written by James Martin, SJ. The focus of the group's study is understanding the teachings of Jesus and the Bible. Come and learn more about the Church and the faith you call your own. Enjoy abiding friendships with the women of your faith community.

Kathy McGill: jmmcgill2@bellsouth.net

Couples Bible Study

You are invited to join the Couple's Bible Study group. We meet every other Tuesday night at 6:30 PM in the Center. We have an open-minded group which allows all of us to share and learn from each other. Together we are learning, growing, and developing meaningful relationships. Currently we are studying the book of Acts of the Apostles through a video series.

Janelle & Doug Paustian: janellep@me.com

COLLEGIATE FORMATION PROGRAMS

IGNITE

IGNITE is designed for freshman students at UGA. Our goal is to build community, deepen the Catholic faith and presence around campus and provide students with the necessary tools to maintain and grow their faith in college. We provide food and fellowship along with small groups and discussion topics.

Kimberly Stier: kas53528@uga.edu

Katie Buck: buckkatie@uga.edu



Thursday Night Theology (TNT)

Led by Fr. John, David Briones, and fellow students, TNT meets on Thursday nights and fosters growing together in faith. Throughout the semester the group will read a spiritual book and discuss it over a casual supper. The dialogue is engaging and insightful. Participants are always welcome, regardless of whether or not they have read the text. All that is needed is a desire to share in fellowship and faith formation.

David Briones: brionesda@gmail.com

Scripture Quest

Scripture Quest is an undergraduate Bible group that is facilitated by Fr. John. The group reads, reflects on, discusses, and prays with the scripture passages for the upcoming Sunday liturgy. Group members seek to understand, be nourished by, and apply scripture to their lives as well as deepen their experience of the Mass.

Fr. John Coughlin, OFM: stsixtus66@gmail.com

Seeking Water

Seeking Water is a student led praise and worship group that meets Tuesday nights in the Chapel. Come and join us as we listen to student testimonies and worship with live music.

Kimberly Stier: kas53528@uga.edu

Katie Buck: buckkatie@uga.edu

Laudato Si

The Laudato Si Squad is a student led initiative that spreads the message of the dignity of all of God's creation, emphasized by Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si, which is Latin for "Praise be to Him." The focus of Laudato Si is our relationship to the earth in light of our Catholic faith and our common home. By cultivating more eco-conscious actions in the community, we seek to inspire a greater awareness and gratitude of God's creation. This dedicated group of students collaborates with members of the community on projects such as native plant gardening, beekeeping, and composting. We are always looking for more students to be involved and are open to new ideas, no matter what year or major you are. If you are a student who is vaguely interested or even better, passionate about the environment and living things in general, or are just eager to know what all of the buzz is about, come join us this year in making the Catholic Center a place that radiantly reflects and glorifies our Creator.

Suzie Henderson: suziek.henderson@gmail.com

Undergraduate Men's and Women's Bible Studies

There are several men's and women's study groups in Athens that welcome individuals who are interested in growing deeper in their Catholic faith. Each of the study groups has a slightly different focus. Some are based on Sacred Scripture, while others are book studies which focus on a theological concept of the Church. Participating in an undergraduate Bible study group provides an opportunity to learn more about the Bible and our faith, and to belong to a small faith community that will both encourage and challenge you. Contact Mariana Rodriguez for information about specific offerings.

Mariana Rodriguez: mr19932@uga.edu