## Fall 2017 ELCOMING CATHOLICS

# HOME

Has it been a long time since you have attended Mass, or gone to Confession, and you are thinking about returning?

Do you go to Mass occasionally but do not really see the point? Do you go to Mass regularly but have yet to experience a deepening connection with Christ or the Church?

### WE CAN HELP.

Please join us for informal evenings of good cheer – wine and appetizers served – where we explore topics that can help reignite your faith and bring you closer to the truth and goodness of Jesus Christ and the Church.

Sept. 19 – Mass at 6:15 pm and Catholic Trivia Night – Please join us with your CCD children in the Church at 6:15 for a Mass for Welcoming Catholics Home followed by a night of friendly competition where teams will vie to be the first to correctly answer questions about the Catholic faith - referred by Father Thompson.

Sept. 26 – Being in Full Communion with the Catholic Faith Before Receiving Holy Communion and the Other Sacraments – What does it mean to be in full communion with the Catholic Church and why does the Church ask this of those who present themselves to receive Holy Communion? What does the Church ask of us before receiving the other six sacraments?

Oct. 3 – Refresher on Fatima – Celebrating Our Lady's Appearance at Fatima, Portugal 100 Years Ago on October 13, 1917 – Fatima expert, Frank Spicer, will join us again and bring to life the remarkable events of 100 years ago and the relevance of Our Lady's messages at Fatima for us today.

#### Oct. 10 – Contraception and Reproductive Technologies

St. John's Pastor, Father Pollard, will present the talk he gives to Pre-Cana couples about the Catholic Church's teaching on contraception and reproductive technologies. A night not to be missed!

**Oct. 17 – Informal Gathering and Fellowship** There is no presentation. Returning Catholics and CCD

parents are invited to gather in St. John's Teachers' Lounge to socialize. Please make yourselves at home and enjoy.

**Oct. 24 – All Saints Day and All Souls Day –** Why does the Catholic Church celebrate the lives of the saints on November 1 every year? Why does the Catholic Church pray for all departed souls on November 2 every year?

Oct. 31 - No CCD and No Gathering - All Hallows Eve

Nov. 7 – No CCD and No Gathering – Election Day

Nov. 14 – The Catholic Church's Powerful Influence on Western Culture and Institutions – Joe Cardenas, teacher at The Heights School, will provide us a journey through the foundational Catholic beliefs and ideas that have shaped Western art, history, institutions, law and culture. Nov. 21 – Advent Review – For the four weeks preceding the Feast of Christmas, the Church provides the liturgical season of Advent as a time of preparation for the great celebration of Christ's Incarnation. What are the spiritual practices and customs that the Church asks us to undertake to help us prepare?

#### Nov. 28 - No CCD and No Gathering

**Dec. 5 – The Sacrament of Confession** – We will consider more fully and more deeply the sacrament of confession where Christ and His mercy meet us in the most difficult and painful places in our lives.

**Dec. 12 – Informal Gathering and Fellowship** There is no presentation. Returning Catholics and CCD parents are invited to gather in St. John's Teachers' Lounge to socialize. Please make yourselves at home and enjoy.

Join us Tuesday evenings 7–8 PM Teachers' Lounge at St. John Academy • Questions? Contact us at welcome@stjohncatholicmclean.org St. John the Beloved Catholic Church, 6420 Linway Terrace, McLean, VA 22101 • www.stjohncatholicmclean.org