

# Workshop Topics

## **Discipleship**

What, exactly, does it mean to be a Christian, to follow Jesus Christ as His disciple, and how do we do that in our daily lives? This workshop explores the basics of Christian discipleship, its meaning and how to grow in it.

## **Walking with Others Closer to Jesus**

God has put particular people in your path at a particular time and place for a particular reason. In this workshop we are going to see how you can walk with these people effectively and fruitfully in your daily life.

## **Conversion: Evangelizing Catholics**

If we are going to make disciples of all nations, we first have to begin with ourselves, individually, at a family level, a parish level, even a diocesan level. As a Church, we need to be a people set ablaze with love for Jesus Christ so we can answer his call to go out and evangelize the rest of the world.

## **You, Too, Go Into the Vineyard**

Everyone in the Church, including the laity, are called into the Lord's work of making disciples of all nations. In this workshop, we will learn the ways we can make disciples of Jesus Christ.

## **Evangelization and Stewardship**

God has blessed each of us with many gifts, and in this workshop we look at how we can put those gifts to work to build up His Kingdom and help make disciples. We'll look in a particular way at how we are called to be faithful stewards of our gifts and how good stewardship leads to fruitful evangelization.

## **Good News**

As Christians we are called to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. But what, exactly, is that News, and what makes it Good? This workshop unpacks the beautiful, life-changing power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

## **Obstacles and Aids to Conversion**

In this workshop, we will look at the things in our culture that make it easier and more difficult to lead others to Christ in order to make our work of evangelization more effective and fruitful.

## **Why Be Catholic?**

Being Catholic today is a hard thing, and there are so many other options available to us. In that light, This workshop focuses on the basic answers to the question, “Why should I — or anyone — be a Catholic?”

## **The Catholic Church: Does It Matter?**

While we often see the sinfulness of the Church’s leaders and other members, the deeper reality is that the Church is the Bride of Christ and is the means by which we deepen our discipleship with Him. This workshop addresses the importance and necessity of the Church for growing closer to God and growing in His truth.

## **Four Marks of the Church**

Each Sunday we profess that the Church is One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic. But what do these words mean and how do they matter in my life? This workshop will explore these four characteristics or marks of the Church and how they matter for us today.

## **The Church and the Eucharist**

Both the Church and the Eucharist are described as the Body of Christ, but their relationship goes much deeper than simply sharing the same name. This workshop explores the deep relationship between the Church and the Eucharist and shows how our own participation in one impacts the other.

## **The Mass: Its Biblical Origins and Its Meaning for Us Today**

When we deepen our understanding of the Mass, we come to behold the hidden but deep truth: the Mass is a participation in the heavenly worship of God which is happening right now. This workshop looks at the basis for the Mass in the Word of God and its relevance for us today as we seek to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

## **Day of Reflection: Getting More Out of Mass**

At this day of reflection participants will learn how Jesus turned the Passover meal (the Seder) into the ultimate fulfillment of all God's Promises. They will experience a simple Seder celebration, see how Jesus took the Seder meal and turned it into the Last Supper and celebrate Mass with a greater understanding and renewed heart.

## **How to Read the Bible**

Reading the Bible can be intimidating or confusing, but it doesn't have to be that way. In this workshop, you will learn how to prayerfully and fruitfully read the Bible and in doing so, transform your life and your relationship with Jesus Christ.

## **How to Pray**

Often we think of prayer as something we memorized as a child or perhaps the petitions we have for our loved ones, but prayer can be so much deeper than that. Dr. Chris shares how we are able to pray in lived relationship with Jesus Christ that leads us to the heavenly Father by the power of the Holy Spirit.

## **Praying the Liturgy of the Hours**

Obligatory for clergy and religious, many laity are coming to discover the beauty of praying the Liturgy of the Hours. This workshop provides an introduction to the Liturgy of the Hours or Divine Office and how to pray it.

## **Vatican II: Sources of Renewal**

St. John Paul II described the Second Vatican Council as the great gift of the Spirit to the Church in our time, and yet in many ways it remains an unopened gift. This workshop will provide an introduction to the Council and some of its key documents and show its continuing relevance to Catholics in our time.

## **The Relationship Between the Parish & the Diocese**

While our regular experience of the Church is in our local parish, it is the diocesan Church that is actually the “local Church”. But what does that mean, and how does the diocese relate to the parish? This workshop answers these and related questions about the relationship between the parish and the diocese.

## **High Priest of the Land: The Role and Importance of a Diocesan Bishop**

With the arrival and ordination of a new bishop, many people naturally wonder about what, exactly, a bishop is and what he does. In this workshop, Dr. Chris will explain and unpack the role and importance of a bishop for the life of every Catholic — and even every person — within the diocese.

## **Strengthening our Faith When It's Stormy**

Throughout the centuries the Church has experienced corruption, turmoil, and chaos and yet we cling to our faith because Jesus promised us that the ‘gates of hell will not prevail’ against His Church. In this talk Dr. Chris Burgwald explains how we can strengthen our faith in times of turmoil, and the reasons why we can confidently proclaim “I am proud to be Catholic”.

## **Who Are You to Judge?**

So often when we try to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with others, we are met with complaints of judgmentalism and intolerance, summarized in the phrase “Don’t impose your morality on me!” In this workshop we look at ways to help others see that contrary to their expectations, the Church’s teachings are in fact all about truth, happiness & love.

## **The Rise of the Nones**

When we look at the latest statistics for the Catholic Church in our country, they don’t paint a pretty picture. More and more Catholics are leaving the Church, many of them becoming nones, having no religious affiliation. In this workshop we look at the reasons for this trend and more importantly, see what we can each do to stop and reverse it.

## **Male & Female He Created Them**

God created each of us on purpose, and He gives us our bodies and our sexuality as an essential part of who we are. But what is the meaning of the human body and of our sexuality? The answer to that question goes to the heart of many controversial issues today, from gay marriage to transgender issues. In this workshop we look at the meaning of our bodies and our sexuality and see how understanding that meaning can transform our lives.

To bring a workshop to your parish, contact Dr. Chris.

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