



SUMMER CALENDAR!

SAVE THESE WEDNESDAY NIGHTS FROM 6 TO 7 P.M.

It is not sufficient to know about Jesus Christ. We must come to encounter him as a living person. While this encounter can take many forms, in its essence the encounter with Jesus Christ moves from an object for our consideration to a subject with whom we enter into personal relationship.

en·coun·ter catholicism© allows adults from all faith backgrounds to explore the Catholic faith, its tenets, practices, history and meaning in the world today. Weekly topics are broad-based and are designed to enrich the faith of cradle Catholics, non-Catholics, those raised without any faith tradition at all, converts, or those simply curious about Catholicism. Not a class, not a series, but a **fast paced engaging hour** on a different topic by a different presenter each week. Join us **Wednesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Monsignor Ben Kasteel Hall** of Christ the King Cathedral Family Activity Center, 4011 54th Street, Lubbock. Come every week, once or twice a month, or whenever the Spirit leads you. **Each session stands alone.** No RSVP required, simply show up on Wednesday nights.

Upcoming Sessions

May 25: "The True Significance of Memorial Day"

Presented by Ysidro Gutierrez and Catholic War Veterans

Those who are sworn to serve their country in the armed forces are servants of the security and freedom of nations. If they carry out their duty honorably, they truly contribute to the common good of the nation and the maintenance of peace (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2310). Meet a group of Catholics who honor those who paid the ultimate price for the freedoms we enjoy. Learn through prayer and ceremony ways we can honor our war dead to make this upcoming Memorial Day one of true reverence and respect, and more than a day off from work for barbeque and retail shopping.

June 1: "The Making of a Priest" Presented by Rev. Joseph Palacios

On Saturday, June 11, two seminarians – Jonathan Phillips and Jose de Dios Gonzalez – will be ordained as priests at Christ the King Cathedral. Gain insights into priestly formation, the sacrament of Holy Orders and what to watch for during the Rite of Ordination from the perspective of a young priest and diocesan vocations director who stood in their same shoes just three short years ago.

June 8: "Latin 101: A Really, Really Short Course for Catholics" Presented by Brad James

If your last brush with Latin was in high school, pre-Vatican II or never, you will **en·coun·ter** the universal language of the Church with new appreciation. Is the increasing interest in Gregorian Chant, Latin Mass and hymns a back-to-basics

movement or a regression? What are the basics in understanding and pronouncing Latin words? What are the prayer of the Mass and rosary that Catholics should be able to recite in Latin? And since it's the base for much of the English language, you'll be surprised to **en·coun·ter** how much Latin you already know.

June 15: "The Gospel of Mark" Presented by Eben Emerson

The author of Mark's gospel probably relied heavily on the stories of Jesus passed down among his followers, shared during worship, and reflected on in light of his community's daily life of faith. Since Mark is the earliest written gospel that we still have today, it's hard to tell exactly how these oral stories of Jesus and communal reflections on the "good news" were affected by being written down. While Mark's Greek isn't thought to be that great, the narrative he constructs from these stories is fast-paced, compelling and rhetorically strong. Join us this week for an overview of the Gospel of Mark from one of **en·coun·ter's** most popular presenters, then continue your learning next week at Bible Fest.

June 22 No Session Please Join Us at Bible Fest!

**June 29: “Saint Thomas More: A Man for All Seasons”
Presented by Judge J.Q. Warnick**

Few saints are more relevant to our time than Thomas More, patron of political leaders, attorneys and civil servants. The supreme diplomat and counselor, whose feast we celebrated on June 22, did not compromise his own moral values in order to please King Henry, knowing that true allegiance to authority is not blind acceptance of everything that authority wants – even though it ultimately led to his martyrdom. Judge J.Q. Warnick is a devotee of this man whose personal integrity no one questioned. What lessons does Thomas More have for us today in this era of relativism and attacks on our religious liberty? It’s a discussion that you will want to **en-coun-ter** first hand.

July 6: “Lessons on Forgiveness from the Church’s Youngest Saint” Presented by Sister Celine Thames OSF

In a continuing conversation about the incorruptible saints and their relics, Sr. Celine will share through video and discussion the story of a beautiful, pious farm girl from Italy, who In 1902 at age twelve, was attacked by a 19-year-old farm-hand who attempted to rape her. What followed is a story of faith, martyrdom, forgiveness and healing, as well as many miracles attributed to veneration of her relics and through intercessory prayer. Come **en-coun-ter** Saint Maria Goretti on her feast day and discover the beautiful lessons she teaches us even today.

**July 13: “Lessons from the Desert Fathers”
Presented by the Pilgrims to Christ in the Desert Monastery**

In early May a group of 17 pilgrims spent four days devoted solely to God among the Benedictine monks in the most secluded monastery in the Western Hemisphere. Following the rule of silence, these pilgrims encountered prayer, Mass, work, dining in the refectory, hiking, solitude, creation, community and reflection in a way like never before. In this panel discussion facilitated by Ann Krier you will **en-coun-ter** the gifts of the desert and what they can bring to your own spiritual life, whether or not you choose to make a pilgrimage there yourself.

July 20: “The Parables of Mercy” Presented by Renée Underwood

Three stories in Luke 15:1-32: the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the prodigal son are commonly identified as the “parables of mercy.” Six other parables in Luke expand the concept of mercy and draw us to become part of the story through a disarming truth that causes us to rethink our everyday relationships. The three-way relationship: “he, I and other” structure of these parables links God’s mercy to the

mercy displayed by human beings. “Be merciful, as your Father is merciful” (Lk 6:36) is the central architectural beam of mercy in parable form. Common to all the parables is a reversal that catches the hearer off guard. In this Year of Mercy **en-coun-ter** no one will be left untouched as we actively reflect on the parables of mercy and how they might challenge us in our own lives.

July 27: To Be Announced

August 3: To Be Announced

August 10: “So You Think You Might Want to Become Catholic?” RCIA Team and Recent Participants

Inquirer. Candidate. Catechumen. Elect. Sponsor. Neophyte. Mystagogy. If you think the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a lot of confusing “word soup,” come to this **en-coun-ter** session that demystifies the process for entering the Church. Hear from a panel of recent participants about their journeys – what they learned, how it changed their lives and how you can get involved in the upcoming inquiry sessions on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

August 17: “Recognizing Your Spiritual Gifts” Presented by Rachel Martinez

As we approach Stewardship Sunday on August 21, many parish organizations and ministries will be reaching out to ask you to consider giving the gift of your time. In this timely **en-coun-ter** session based on *Living Your Strengths Catholic Edition* and the Clifton StrengthsFinder©, a personality assessment that reveals your top five talent themes, Rachel will give participants insights into their own personal strengths – as unique as each one of us – and how they may be used for the service of the mission of the Church.

August 24: “Saint Monica and the Power of Persistent Prayer” Presented by Tricia Vowels

Many of us give up on prayer when we don't get the answer we want WHEN we want it. For nearly two decades, Saint Monica prayed for her wayward son. Years and years of prayers, seemingly unanswered. Countless tears shed with no relief. Yet she would not give up. That very act of persistent prayer blessed the entire Church, for we have all benefitted from the conversion of her son, Augustine, who became one of the most revered saints of all time. Parents of any age or at any stage can cultivate the same virtues in prayer that Saint Monica discovered during her long wait for God's answer for her child. In this **en-coun-ter** with Saint Monica, whose feast we celebrate on Saturday, Tricia will encourage us not to give up, because persistence in prayer can change everything – for you, your children, and maybe even the world.

Please contact **Paula Bradley**, paulab83@me.com, 577-8644; **Cassi Griswold**, cassi_griswold@hotmail.com, 790-8975; **Ann Krier**, 793-3379; or **Renée Underwood**, ru1390@yahoo.com, 928-0463, to offer your ideas, time and talent. www.ctkcathedral.org/encounter

