

THE BIBLE *and the* CHURCH FATHERS



Join us for an Inspiring Bible Study

Where: Historic Church of St. Patrick

When: January 19-April 13; 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Workbook Cost: \$24.95 + s/h

Sign up or for more info: martha.farrell15@gmail.com

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- + Learn how the Fathers approached Scripture

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HOLY FAMILY OF *Jesus, Mary, and Joseph*

The Holy Family is celebrated on the Sunday following Christmas. The Holy Family serves as a model for all families. This feast honors their lives together, beginning in Bethlehem and then moving to Nazareth, Egypt and back to Nazareth. The feast recognizes the humility of Jesus, Mary's virtue and Joseph's steadfastness, along with the obedience of all three to God's plan for them in salvation history.

MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD



January 1

We close out the Christmas octave—the eight days following the birth of Christ—with a day honoring Mary as the Mother of God. This holiday is a celebration of Mary's motherhood of Jesus. It is a reminder of the role she played in the salvation of humankind.

The title "Mother of God" is a western derivation from the Greek Theotokos, which means "God-bearer". Mary being chosen by God, the Father, to bring Jesus Christ into this world, and her willingness to do so is a great cause for celebration. The honoring of Mary as the Mother of God can be traced back to the Council of Ephesus in 431.



Plan together

New Years Day is a great time to make a resolution to get to know Jesus' mother better. How can your family do that?



Pray together

Most years, January 1 is a Holy Day of Obligation. In 2022, the Solemnity falls on a Saturday, so it's not a holy day of obligation. It's still a wonderful chance to go to Mass, though. It's also a perfect opportunity to pray the Hail Mary slowly and intentionally.

Hail, Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.

Listen for the words, "Mother of God."



Work together

Create a Marian Altar in your home. It's simple:

- Select a location. Where in your home do you want the altar to be?
- Find a surface. It could be a small table or a shelf.
- Add religious items. A Marian altar should include an image of the Blessed Virgin Mary. That could be as simple as a holy card or as ornate as a beautiful statue.

That's all you need! From there, you can get as creative as you wish.



Explore together

Find a statue of Mary in your church. Make a special visit (this can be right after Mass).

Would you like to make the Historic Church of St. Patrick your forever home (with all due respects to *Property Brothers* who use that same caption)?



The Staff and Finance Council are considering the installation of an Irish-themed columbarium on the property but want to

make sure there's enough interest to make the substantial investment in building the niches here at St. Patrick's.

A columbarium is a free-standing structure housing a number of niches for the interment of cremated remains. The system we're considering consists of a cubic foot sized niche (adequate for up to five urns) and would also feature scenes from the Irish countryside. The cost of a niche would be competitive with other places around the city and region; in part to fund the required "Perpetual Care" endowment to make sure the units are adequately cared for over the long time between now and when the Second Coming is announced.

Would the Cliffs of Moher appeal? Or perhaps a hillside studded with Irish wool still 'on the hoof'?



Or simply a magnificent wall of Connemara marble?



Imagine our campus graced with such a unit. If interested, please fill in the information below and drop it in the collection any time before Christmas. If we move forward (we'd be looking for around 150 pre-completion reservations) the system would be ready by summer 2022.

----- trim here -----

Yes, I'm interested in having my cremains in a columbarium at the Historic Church of St. Patrick.

Name _____

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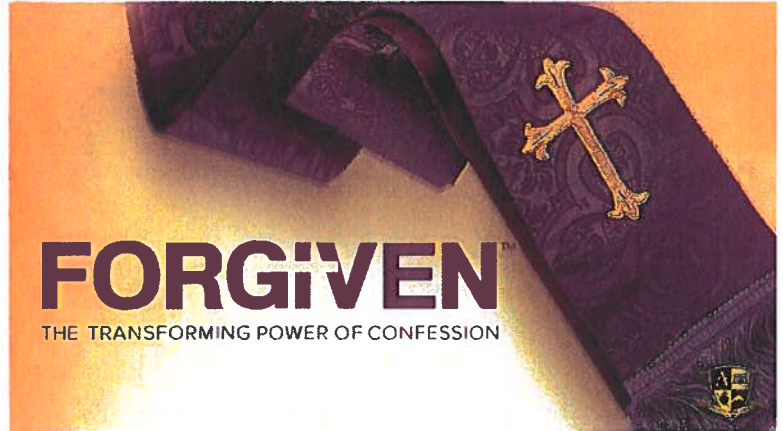
PICK OF THE WEEK

December 26, 2021

WATCH

FORGIVEN—SESSION 1: WHERE ARE YOU?

As we make resolutions for 2021, don't forget about your spiritual well-being! Through our Forgiven series, you can help guide friends and family to new spiritual beginnings!



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Now!

FORMED NOW! WHO IS SAINT STEPHEN?

This past week, we celebrated the life of St. Stephen, heroic leader of the early Church. Join Dr. Gray and Dr. Barber as they discuss the first Christian martyr.

LEARN

LISTEN

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY: LOVE UNVEILED BY DR. SCOTT HAHN

The feast of the Holy Family reminds us to help our own families grow in holiness. With this in mind, join Scott Hahn as he shares his advice on how to bring sanctity into the home.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY DR. SCOTT HAHN



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