



## OUR LADY OF MALIBU

# Faith Fellowship

## Spring 2019

### *All events take place in Sheridan Hall*

This spring we will experience Bishop Robert Barron's *Pivotal Players* series. Each session will cover one episode where we will watch part/all of the video followed by a presentation/discussion period to better understand our faith.

#### JANUARY

Sunday, Jan 20,  
9:45-11:00 a.m.

#### **Session 1-St. Catherine of Siena**

**Facilitator: Jane Kelley Rodeheffer, PhD**

St. Catherine of Siena - The Mystic: Is the physical world all there is? Is science the only path to ascertaining truth? St. Catherine of Siena witnesses to a higher world beyond the material. Though the fourteenth century mystic never studied theology, and never learned how to read or write, her life constitutes a powerful challenge to the flattened-out secularism of our time.

Sunday, Jan 27,  
9:45-11:00 a.m.

#### **Session 2 – St. Augustine**

**Facilitator: Fr. Bill Kerze**

St. Augustine, the Teacher, is possibly the best example of how faith in Christ changed a person. Augustine's narrative of personal transformation in his book *Confessions* provides a template for life in Christ that still rings true today. Experience how St. Augustine's famous "restless heart" has become the paradigm for spiritual seekers across the ages.

#### FEBRUARY

Sunday, Feb 3,  
9:45-11:00 a.m.

#### **Session 3 – St. Thomas Aquinas**

**Facilitator: Jane Kelley Rodeheffer, PhD**

St. Thomas Aquinas - The Theologian: The relationship of faith and reason is under intense scrutiny in an age beholden to the competing claims of fundamentalism and secularism. So called "new atheists" insist that the claims of religion amount to mere superstition, a retrograde holdover from a time long ago. Others insist that the life of faith is a retreat into emotions and subjectivism. St. Thomas Aquinas anticipated these objections and trends and demonstrated that to believe is to think and that the life of the mind is integral to life in Christ.

Sunday, Feb 10

**No Session**

Sunday, Feb 17,  
9:45-11:00 a.m.

#### **Session 4 – St. Benedict**

**Facilitator: Philip Freeman, PhD**

Many would argue that St. Benedict, the Monk, contributed more to saving western Christian culture than anyone else. Born just after Rome fell, Benedict founded the religious community that would, in time, preserve the best of the old and allow for the emergence of an authentic, Christian way of life.

Sunday, Feb 24, 9:45-11:00 a.m.	<p><b>Session 5 – G.K. Chesterton</b>  <b>Facilitator: Fr. Bill Kerze</b>  G.K. Chesterton - The Evangelist: How does one engage a culture that is befuddled by Christ and suspicious of the Church? The life and witness of this nineteenth century literary convert shows that the fundamental disposition of effective evangelization is joy, and life in Christ is a day-to-day encounter with an abundant and surprising offer of grace.</p>
<b>MARCH</b>	
Sunday, Mar 3	<b>No Session</b>
Sunday, Mar 10, 9:45-11:00 a.m.	<p><b>Session 6 - Michelangelo</b>  <b>Facilitator: Cindy Colburn, PhD</b>  Michelangelo - The Artist: The master of sculpture and painting is not a saint but serves as the privileged representative of the creative potential engendered by the Catholic Faith. The Church professes that beauty is a route of access to God, and through humanity's creative artistry we glimpse the power and glory of the Lord.</p>
Sunday, Mar 17, 9:45-11:00 a.m.	<p><b>Session 7 – St. Francis of Assisi</b>  <b>Facilitator: Paul Contino, PhD</b>  St. Francis of Assisi - The Reformer: Rebuild my Church! That's the mission Christ gave to St. Francis and it's the perennial task of the Church in every age of its life. But how is the reform and renewal of the Church to be accomplished? The life of St. Francis demonstrates that Christ intends the foundations of true and lasting reform to be built on the solid rock that is the radical witness of the saints.</p>
Sunday, Mar 24	<b>No Session</b>
Sunday, Mar 31	<b>No Session</b>
<b>APRIL</b>	
Sunday, Apr 7, 9:45-11:00 a.m.	<p><b>Session 8 – Bl. John Henry Newman</b>  <b>Facilitator: Paul Contino, PhD</b>  Blessed John Henry Newman - The Convert: Is there any truth in matters of religion? Should the Church simply retreat in the face of the challenges of culture? John Henry Newman came into the Church as a convert and used his prodigious intellectual gifts to help the Church better understand its identity and mission and engage the challenges of a secular age.</p>

Our program facilitators:

- Fr. Bill Kerze: Our Lady of Malibu Pastor Emeritus
- Paul Contino, PhD: Pepperdine University Seaver College Professor of Humanities and Center for Faith and Learning Associate Director, Our Lady of Malibu parishioner
- Cynthia Colburn, PhD: Pepperdine University Seaver College Professor of Art History, Our Lady of Malibu parishioner
- Jane Kelley Rodeheffer, PhD: Pepperdine University Seaver College Professor of Humanities
- Philip Freeman, PhD: Pepperdine University Seaver College Professor of Humanities