

Why Catholic?

FAQ

Q: Who can join Why Catholic?

Participants include: Those thinking of becoming a Catholic, or Catholics looking to deepen their faith.

Parents with children preparing for sacraments and families who want to connect church teachings to their everyday life.

Q: Who created the Why Catholic Program?

Renew International, a canonically recognized Catholic organization, created the Why Catholic program. It has a 27-year record of revitalizing parish life in over 150 dioceses in the United States.

Q: How many folks are involved in the program at Saint Paul now?

There are currently 200+ people participating in small groups. There are 21 small groups and they are meeting on every day of the week. (Wow!)

Q: What resources are used in the small groups?

The materials are solidly based on sacred scripture, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. This year, Saint Paul is focusing on book 2 “The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacraments)”.

Q. Why does the program cost \$20 per person?

The registration fee covers your participant’s book, speakers’ fees, event hospitality and training materials for small group leaders, as well as overhead costs typical of running large programs such as shipping, photocopying and supplies.

Q. Do participants have to pay again in Fall 2008?

No! The \$20 fee covers participation in all Why Catholic events offered at Saint Paul for this year.

Q. What if someone has trouble affording the registration fee?

Please know that we do NOT want the cost to be a barrier to participation. Contact the rectory for details at 301-253-2027.

Q. How often should my small group meet? Small groups may wish to meet on a weekly basis, or an every-other-week basis. Some may even stretch it to a once-a-month schedule, but that is the longest stretch that we recommend.

Q. What “homework” expectations are there?

To be fully prepared to participate in the group’s session, participants would complete the following, in order of priority:

- 1) Make a “Living the Good News” commitment and consider talking about it in small group.
- 2) Read the next chapter in the Sacraments Book.
- 3) Read the corresponding Catechism readings.

Q. Does it matter that I missed the fall session?

Not at all. This is a brand new session with a brand new book. Everyone will be starting out in the same place.

Q. Does everyone in my small group need a copy of The Catechism of the Catholic Church?

Yes. The program is based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church. You could say that that is our 'text book'. Plus, this course will increase your knowledge of how to use this book, which can be an ongoing resource for you in your life's faith journey. You'll be able to research your own questions about Catholic doctrine and faith practices.

Q. Where can I get The Catechism of the Catholic Church?

Catechisms are available on the book cart in the narthex. The small version is \$5. The larger green version is \$20. The Adult Catechism (red) has the same content as the "regular" catechism, but it is written in narrative form. Catechisms may also be ordered from the rectory or directly at uscgb.org. Click on "Publications".

Q. Do we have a website?

Yes! The St. Paul's website is stpauldamascus.org. Click on "Why Catholic" for updates, cancellations, speaker events and more.

Q. I still have some questions.

Contact Lisa Nueslein, Susan Causey or Pat Ruppert.