



Plunging our Roots into Christ

“That you, rooted and grounded in love, may know the love of Christ that surpasses understanding.”

During the Year of Faith, we will be moving successively through the 12 Articles of the Catholic Faith as found in the Nicene Creed.



**“I believe in one God, the Father
almighty, maker of heaven and
earth, of all things visible and
invisible.”**

“Abba! Father” -Romans 8:15

It will never cease to be a cause of wonder for the Church that she is able to address God as “Father”. Through the coming of the Son of God in the flesh, Christians are given a share in the Son’s own identity and can call out, with Him, to the first Person of the Trinity, “Abba!” This “Abba!” is the baptismal cry of every believer. It is the language of perfect prayer, the very utterance of the Holy Spirit who speaks this word within our baptized hearts. What does it mean to say “Abba”? Its significance is far more profound than we realize. A Protestant minister, Malcolm Smith, gave a sermon that sheds light on this. In the Hebrew language, “Abba” is not so much properly translated as “Father”, but more appropriately as “Dadda or Daddy”. “Abba” is not a word that would be used by an adult, it is a word that an infant would use when just beginning to formulate words. It is the language of a Hebrew infant fumbling about with sounds trying to address the man who gave him life. For Jesus, and then St. Paul, to take up the language of “Abba” was to communicate something dramatic—that the Son belongs to the Father at the level of intimacy only analogous to an infant in the arms of his Daddy. This is why the Jews were so scandalized by the Son’s reference to God as *Abba*—it was because Christ was using language of such familiarity, such radical dependence, such total identity to describe the God whose name could not even be uttered without the penalty of death. And what is so astonishing is that we, when baptized, receive the Holy Spirit who enters our hearts and cries out this same “Abba!” on our behalf. What does this mean but that we are granted a share in the intimacy and radical dependence of the Son on the Father? It means that we are grafted into the trinitarian dialogue of love between Father and Son and are able too to address God, not just as Father, but more significantly as “Daddy” - the one on whom the totality of my existence and happiness depends. It means that we, as Christians, are called to assume a posture before God of total vulnerability and dependence, as an infant just learning to speak who depends on his father for even the most basic of needs.

An even further wonder is that not only do we as Christians participate in this beautiful gift but also, according to Saint Paul, the whole of creation is “groaning under labor pains” waiting for our adoption as children of God (Rom 8). What this reveals to us is that not only human beings, but also all of creation is destined to be the recipient of the Father’s outpouring of love in His Son and Holy Spirit. What a magnificent reality that we profess each time in the Creed that, as the Father’s creation, we and the entire created world are destined for his love! We, along with the whole created order, bear the stamp of being *from Him and for Him*. And on behalf of the whole created world, we acknowledge our Creator as such by crying out *Abba!* This is the role of the Church, the very reason for her existence. This is the fundamental meaning of evangelization.

Visit our website: http://archphila.org/evangelization/formlaity/parish_evangelization/parish_evangelization.htm



God the Father's Plan: The Dignity and Vocation of Women

"It is a question of understanding the reason for and the consequences of the Creator's decision that the human being should always and only exist as a woman or a man. It is only by beginning from these bases, which make it possible to understand the greatness of the dignity and vocation of women that one is able to speak of their active presence in the Church and in society."

-Pope John Paul II

Night Out for Ladies: Join us in celebrating the Feminine Genius!

The Archdiocesan Office for Life, Family and Laity and Endow invite you to consider the truth about your origin, identity, and mission as a woman. Join us for a night out and learn about the beauty and dignity of femininity. Endow is a Catholic educational program that brings women together to discover their God-given dignity and to understand their role in humanizing and transforming society.

Women and girls of all ages are welcome!

Monday, November 5, 2012, 6:30pm
The Eddington House Restaurant
2813 Hulmeville Rd, Bensalem

or

Wednesday, November 7, 2012, 7-8:30pm
St. Mary Magdalen Parish Center
2400 N. Providence Road, Media

Please RSVP at www.EndowGroups.org/calendar or 720-382-7125

The Office for Life, Family and Laity will host a training session for Endow facilitators in January 2013. Endow faith formation programs are available for adult women, teenage girls and middle school girls. Please contact Meghan Cokeley if your parish is interested in being trained to run Endow programs.

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Parish Evangelization Formation Series

The Year of Faith

A Time of Grace

"A Time of Grace" formation series, available January through May 2013, is designed to help all those involved in the Church's great work of evangelization to receive and celebrate the Year of Faith in fullness. We will explore the major themes of the Year of Faith, discuss how to celebrate the holy year in our parishes and prepare to cultivate the rich fruits of that celebration in the years that follow. Presentations given by: Meghan Cokeley, Assistant Director, Office for Life, Family and Laity

Session 1: *Porta Fidei* - **The Themes of the Year of Faith**
virtue of faith • encounter with Jesus Christ • joy & hope in Christ • rediscovering the content of our faith • new evangelization

Session 2: *Content of the Mystery* - **Year of Faith Texts**
Documents of Vatican II • Catechism of the Catholic Church

Session 3: *The New Evangelization* - **Fruit of the Year of Faith**
October Synod on the New Evangelization • documents of the Synod • new evangelization as the fruit of the Year of Faith

The 3-part series is available at the following locations:

Tuesdays, Jan 8, 15, 22 7-9pm **St. Rose of Lima** • 428 S. Main Street • North Wales

Wednesdays, Feb 6, 20, 27 7-9pm **St. Alphonsus** • 33 Conwell Drive • Maple Glen

Thursdays, Mar 7, 14, 21 7-9pm **St. Maximilian Kolbe** • 15 E. Pleasant Grove Rd • West Chester

Mondays, Apr 8, 15, 22 7-9pm **Archdiocesan Pastoral Center** • 222 N. 17th St • Philadelphia

To register for this formation series, please contact:

Mary Cullinan, Program Coordinator mcullinan@adphila.org 215-587-0500

Visit our website: http://archphila.org/evangelization/formlaity/parish_evangelization/parish_evangelization.htm

Around the Archdiocese...

To share information about evangelization events being hosted in your parish, please contact:
Meghan Cokeley, Assistant Director, Office for Life, Family and Laity
215-587-5630 • mcokeley@adphila.org

<u>Date</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Where</u>
November 1	<i>All Saints Day</i>	
November 2	<i>All Souls Day</i>	
November 2, 7pm	<i>Mass for Religious Freedom & Eucharistic Adoration</i>	Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul
Topic:	Holy Mass followed by Eucharistic Adoration until Midnight	
For more information:	Steven Bozza, Office for Life, Family & Laity, sbozza@adphila.org , 215-587-5661	
November 10, 8:30am-3pm	<i>The New Evangelization, featuring Ralph Martin</i>	Diocese of Metuchen 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ
Topic:	The urgency of the new evangelization, the basic Gospel message, and a breakout session on practical experience	
Speaker:	Ralph Martin, president of Renewal Ministries, consultant for the Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization	
More info:	www.YearofFaithMetuchen.org , 732-562-1990 ext 1310	
November 17, 9am-3:15pm	<i>Catholic Life Congress</i>	Sheraton Hotel Race Street, Philadelphia
Topic:	Baptized in Christ: Live in the Joy of Believing	
Speaker:	Keynote English: Jonathan Reyes, PhD, Executive Director of USCCB Office of Justice, Peace and Human Development Keynote Spanish: Archbishop José Gomez, Archbishop of Los Angeles	
More info & registration:	www.phillycongress.org	
November 18, 4pm	<i>Pro-Life Union of Southeastern Pennsylvania Stand Up For Life Dinner</i>	Sheraton Hotel Race Street, Philadelphia
Speaker:	Eoghan de Faoite, M.D., Chairman of Youth Defence, Ireland	
More info and registration:	Tickets \$55 • www.prolifeunion.org • 215-885-8150	
<i>begins</i> November 27, 6:30pm or November 29, 9:30am	<i>Pillars: A Journey Through the Catechism</i>	St. John Bosco Parish 235 E County Line Rd • Hatboro
Topic:	Not just <i>how</i> to be Catholic but <i>why</i> to be Catholic; weekly adult study program by Ascension Press	
More info & registration:	Offered Tuesday evenings 6:30pm or Thursday mornings 9:30am Contact: Janet Sikina • jjsikina@comcast.net	

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