

OLV SMALL GROUPS SUMMER 2023

To Register for a Group
go to: <https://rb.gy/h86qd>
or scan this QR code:



The KidZone will be open Tuesday, Wednesday evenings (if needed) during Summer Small Groups. Please contact Lenka Beckage (kidzone@ourladyofthevalley.net) for more information.

TUESDAY PM – PRAYER: THE GREAT MEANS OF SALVATION AND PERFECTION (Small Group)

Proclaimed a Doctor of the Church and justly revered for his efforts and achievements as a pastor and bishop, St. Alphonsus offers here one of the most powerful and accessible primers on the art of prayer ever written. The graces necessary for salvation cannot be obtained from God except by prayer, explains the legendary eighteenth-century saint and scholar. Indeed, the damned have been lost precisely through their failure to pray, and all the blessed have been saved by their perseverance in prayer. Prayer is a port where we are safe in every storm, and a treasure that provides us with every good. With St. Alphonsus's wise and holy advice, you'll learn not only how to master the art of mental prayer, but also: how to become docile and tender to the influence of grace, why God permits you to be assaulted by your enemies, the three reasons God delays granting you perseverance, how prayer overcomes worries about being saved, how souls in Purgatory can serve as spiritual aides for you, the critical differences between mental prayer and devotional prayer, what the ancient Church Fathers determined was the single most useful prayer exercise, the ideal place, time, duration, and posture for prayer and much more.

Group for/Location: Adults/OLV Campus

Materials/Cost: Book/\$15.95 (online)

Day of Week/Time: Tuesdays 6:30 - 8:00pm

Start Date: Tuesday, June 6th (6 Weeks)

Leader: Andrew Logan, OLV Director of Adult Evangelization and Discipleship

Contact: Andrew Logan – andrew@ourladyofthevalley.net

TUESDAY PM – PIVOTAL PLAYERS by Bishop Robert Barron (Small Group)

Bishop Barron is on a new journey to unlock the truth behind the Catholic Church's most influential people. You'll discover the places where St. Thomas Aquinas lived, learned, and wrote. Visit the countryside where St. Francis gathered a group of friars and revived the Church. See the places where St. Catherine of Siena ministered and prayed. Trek through England to where Bl. John Henry Newman and G.K. Chesterton left their mark and sparked an English Catholic revival. And through unprecedented HD footage, marvel at the extraordinary art of Michelangelo, from his David statue in Florence, to the Pietà at St. Peter's, to the Sistine Chapel.

Group for/Location: Adults/OLV Campus

Materials/Cost: No Cost

Day of Week/Time: Tuesdays 6:30 - 8:00pm

Start Date/Duration: Tuesday, June 6th (6 Weeks)

Leader: Kathy Kunz

Contact: Kathy Kunz – pinkykunz@aol.com

TUESDAY PM

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TUESDAYS PM – W.I.S.D.O.M. MEN'S GROUP (Small Group)

W.I.S.D.O.M. (Weekly Inspirational and Spiritual Discussions of Men) We will be exploring the wisdom books in the Bible and talking about how they relate to our lives as men, fathers, and husbands. The goals of this group are to foster a community of Catholic men, explore the faith together, help each other to grow spiritually, and learn from each other what it means to be a Catholic man in today's world. We will be creating an encouraging community of men as we go through the challenges and joys of building relationships, starting families, and navigating our careers.

Group for/Location: Men (21-early 30's) /OLV Campus

Materials/Cost: Bring your Bible

Day of Week/Time: Tuesday 7:00-8:30pm

Start Date/Duration: Ongoing

Leader: Eli Baier

Contact: eliasbaier@yahoo.com

WEDNESDAY AM – FINDING TRUE HAPPINESS by Fulton Sheen (Small Group)

Are you perfectly happy, or are you still looking for perfect happiness? Most people are still actively searching for true and lasting happiness, but are looking in the wrong places. It's easy to be misled into believing that happiness is found in money, rank, or renown. While these things are not inherently bad, and can in fact be used to do much good, they will, in the final analysis, not bring a happiness that endures. Once we realize that nothing less than a complete union with God will satisfy our souls, we will not let transitory things distract or disappoint us. This is because then, according to Fulton Sheen, you put no more hope in things than they can bear. You cease looking for first-rate joys where there are only tenth-rate pleasures. In addition to addressing the topic of joy vs. pleasure in Finding True Happiness, Fulton Sheen also helps us gain the right perspective on things such as loneliness and the secret of sanctity. This brings us to our ultimate purpose, which is found in God alone. Only by losing oneself in God, will we find our true selves—and true happiness along with it.

Group for/Location: Adults/OLV Campus

Materials/Cost: Book/Free

Day of Week/Time: Wednesdays 10:00 - 11:30am

Start Date/Duration: Wednesday, June 7th (6 Weeks)

Leader: Andrew Logan, OLV Director of Adult Evangelization and Discipleship

Contact: Andrew Logan – andrew@ourladyofthevalley.net

WEDNESDAY PM – A MAP OF LIFE by Frank Sheed (Small Group)

This is a carefully made summary of the dogmatic teaching of the Catholic Church, making clear the content of Catholic doctrine. It provides the reader with an opportunity to get a firm hold on that body of truth-speculative and practical-that lies behind the steady spiritual development of the modern Catholic. Considered one of Frank Sheed's most accessible works, it is also considered as one of the best and most popular short summaries of the Catholic faith. Contents: The problem of life's purpose -- The problem of life's laws -- Heaven -- The creation and fall -- The incarnation -- The mystical body -- Truth : (A.) the teaching church -- Truth : (B.) the mystery of the Trinity -- Law and sin -- Law and suffering -- The supernatural life : (A.) how it comes to the soul -- The supernatural life : (B.) how it works in the soul -- Hell -- Purgatory : Heaven.

Group for/Location: Adults/OLV Campus

Materials/Cost: Book/\$8.23 (online)

Day of Week/Time: Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00pm

Start Date/Duration: Wednesday, June 7th (6 Weeks)

Leader: Andrew Logan, OLV Director of Adult Evangelization and Discipleship

THURSDAY AM - HAPPINESS, VIRTUE AND HOLINESS (Small Group)

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It is not uncommon to be surrounded by family, friends, and strangers that are not Catholic, totally disinterested and antagonistic or even militant toward God. The trouble is you might not feel prepared to engage them, because you don't want to say the wrong thing or get embarrassed by someone who seems to know more. Fortunately, there is a common ground, the most universal common ground, the thing we all want—Happiness. Happiness a great and stable starting point when conversing with unbelievers because it's something that all people can agree on. Everyone wants to be happy. If happiness is the basis of a good conversation, that gives us a very clear, concrete, and consistent criterion for evaluating different moral topics, different moral lines of questions, and different kinds of actions. The course begins with an analysis of human flourishing/happiness and introduces the concept of virtue as its indispensable condition. The entire Christian life is then presented according to the cardinal, theological virtues and the Commandments as stated in the Catechism. Since virtue demands balance, a special emphasis is placed on properly distinguishing and harmonizing grace/nature, terrestrial pursuit/heavenly ambition, soul/body, self/neighbor, and individual/community within the pursuit of holiness.

Group for/Location: Adults/OLV Campus

Materials/Cost: Book/\$5.00

Day of Week/Time: Thursdays 10:00-11:30am

Start Date/Duration: Thursday, June 8th (6 Weeks)

Leader: Andrew Logan, OLV Director of Adult Evangelization and Discipleship

Contact: Andrew Logan – andrew@ourladyofthevalley.net

INDIVIDUAL SPIRITUAL COACHING

Many people have questions about the spiritual life and how to get started. Spiritual Coaching can be a great opportunity to learn more about the life of prayer and to formulate a plan of life in the pursuit of becoming holy. It focuses on learning the mechanics and principles of the spiritual life with the intention of applying them. Coaching consists of monthly individual meetings with specific and practical goals utilized by the saints. There will be no discussion of one's (or others) sins which should only be disclosed in the Sacrament of Confession. The discussion will focus on education, answering questions, practical steps and understanding what true and false progress is in the spiritual life.

Location: Adults/OLV Campus

Day of Week/Time: Throughout the week

Occurrences/Length of Session: Monthly/One Hour

Spiritual Coach: Andrew Logan, OLV Director of Adult Evangelization and Discipleship

Contact: andrew@ourladyofthevalley.net

If you have questions about a specific class, please e-mail the individual listed under the "Contact" for that small group. If you have general questions or need help registering, e-mail: office@ourladyofthevalley.net

INDIVIDUAL
SPIRITUAL
COACHING