

**Do you have... Questions? Comments? Concerns? Issues?**

## **Returning Catholics**

Most of us don't have to look very far to find someone in our circle of family and friends who is an inactive Catholic like many of us have been. Many people can't explain why they stopped coming to church except that life just got in the way. Some inactive Catholics bear a tremendous amount of guilt, legitimate anger, or misinformation; some are afraid of rejection if they approach the Church. For a variety of reasons, some may mistakenly think they are excommunicated or unwelcome in the Catholic Church. Many are simply waiting for that invitation to return.

Our parish's Returning Catholics Program is for all Catholics who have been away from the Church for any length of time, regardless of the circumstances. They will be offered basic concepts of the faith, information and dialogue on current church practices and beliefs and personal faith life through discussion, reading materials, and lectures. They will have an opportunity to ask questions, share concerns, and hopefully feel welcomed back into the church.



St. John's Catholic Community is offers a six week program for Catholics to explore returning to active participation in the Catholic Church. Our next program starts January 3, 2010. Sessions are Sunday afternoon from 3-5 p.m. in the Parish Hall (beneath the cathedral). The program provides information about current Church practices and teachings. It's also an opportunity to discuss issues and ask questions. We invite you and perhaps those you may know who might benefit from this program to join us.

### **SESSION 1**

Meet with Father—What are the issues?  
Gather Desires: What do we want to learn?

### **SESSION 2**

Concepts of God and Jesus  
What is Church anyway?

### **SESSION 3**

How do Catholics use the Bible?  
Faith / Religion: Is there a Difference?

### **SESSION 4**

Conscience: Do You Mean, "Do What You're Told?"  
The Sacraments: Confession (Reconciliation)  
Eucharist

### **SESSION 5**

Marriage: Divorce, Annulment, Remarriage  
Our Blessed Mother and the Saints

### **SESSION 6**

Reflection, Resolve, Re-enter?  
Closing Liturgy

**For registration & information, please contact:**

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### **DATES**

**January 3—February 7, 2010**  
**April 11—May 9, 2010**

**St. John's Cathedral**

