



Questions & Answers

How is this program different from a parish Bible study or a university Bible course ?

We use a structured curriculum that covers every book of the Bible. You study the Bible systematically and comprehensively, using a curriculum designed to teach you the main themes and the story of the Bible both as a whole and in each book.

The entire program, covering all 73 books of the Catholic Bible, takes four years. However, we ask for only a two-year commitment, and if you stay two years you'll study the foundational books of both the Old Testament and the New Testament.

You have an experienced Scripture teacher who prepares you with lectures, reviews your homework, and answers your questions.

Each week, the teacher presents the basic biblical scholarship necessary for you to read your weekly assignment with more understanding.

As you work through the program book-by-book, you'll get a good introduction to the Catholic approach to interpreting the Bible.

You become part of a faith community centered on Scripture.

Small group discussion and Bible-centered communal prayer will help your faith grow and deepen.

You'll make friendships with other Catholics who are serious about their faith journey.

Tell me more about the homework.

Each week you read several chapters of Scripture. You may also read 5-10 pages in one of your textbooks (basic introductions to the Old Testament and New Testament) or a short reading in your student workbook. Often, you read 2-3 entries in your Bible dictionary and find places in your Bible atlas.

You also provide written answers to 5-6 short-answer questions. These questions help you truly read the Scripture texts and offer you opportunities for reflection and creative expression. They also serve as the basis for the small group discussions in class.

What do we do in class?

Each two-hour session follows the same format. Class opens with a short prayer based on the previous week's assigned Scripture readings. You then meet in your small groups to discuss your homework questions. After a break, you have question and lecture time with the teacher.

Why do we pay tuition?

Your \$500 annual tuition pays for the qualified instructor and for the administration of the program.

What background do I need to join?

You don't need any special background in Bible study or formal courses on the Bible. The main requirements are a real desire to learn more about Scripture and the commitment to attend class and do the homework each week.

When and where does the class meet?

In 2009/2010, class meets at St. Mary Immaculate Parish, 15629 S. Rt. 59, Plainfield (just south of the center of Plainfield). on Saturdays from 9-11 a.m. for 31 Saturdays from mid-September, 2009 through mid-May, 2010.

EXCEPTION: The first class meets for an extra hour, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., so we can give you an overview of the program and books.

Specific class dates will be available soon. They include breaks at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Holy Week.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, call 815-727-6411 or email carol@scriptureschool.org
FOR A REGISTRATION FORM, go to <http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/reo/BiblicalInstituteDOJ.asp>**