

# INFORMED

THE FORMED NEWSLETTER FOR PASTORS AND PARISH LEADERS

## LOVING AND SERVING THE POOR

How do we love, serve, and help those who are less fortunate than us? This question is one that Christ challenges us to make through his teachings. He asks us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, and give alms to the poor. While we can act generously in many ways, it is also possible to neglect some of these commands in favor of convenience.

What, then, can be done to encourage a serving heart in your parish? One possible answer is found in Revive Parishes' *Loving and Serving the Poor* offered on FORMED. Taught by Franciscan friar Fr. Mark Mary Ames, C.F.R., this course can be your guide to understanding and living a life dedicated to the service of others.

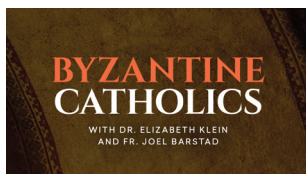
Each episode lasts only a few minutes long and covers the many aspects of living a life of authentic charity. Using Scripture and personal experiences as a model, Fr. Mark Mary clearly demonstrates the great need for service within our parishes and communities. He addresses specific challenges—including time, indifference, and judgment—as well as some of the beautiful outcomes of service. One of the episodes, “The Three Tiers,” focuses on the structural, material, and relational wounds, and how the Church addresses and demonstrates her role to play in the world. At each level, the Body of Christ is called to act and meet the needs of the people. Through Fr. Mark Mary’s teachings, viewers can realize the personal invitation from Christ to act while also feeling equipped to understand the responsibility and how to approach service.

This course is a wonderful opportunity for both education and action. By bringing together a group in your parish to watch and discuss each episode, you can also organize activities dedicated to serving the poor. This September, consider joining Fr. Mark Mary Ames in this powerful invitation to love and help those around you.



# HIGHLIGHTS ON FORMED

Help your flock learn more about the Church with these highlights on FORMED:



## **Byzantine Catholics | Catholic Rites**

Who are Byzantine Catholics, and what does it mean for them to be Catholic while having a different liturgical tradition? In this miniseries, Dr. Elizabeth Klein and Fr. Joel Barstad walk viewers through the Divine Liturgy, the nature of Byzantine piety, and how it differs from the Latin Rite. Through this series, your parish can learn more about the diverse traditions within the universal Church.



## **Source & Summit | Augustine Institute Bible Conference**

This collection of talks offered by the Augustine Institute opens the door to understanding Vatican II's teaching regarding the source and summit of our Christian faith: the Eucharist. Each lecture reveals how the Eucharist is present throughout Scripture. With informative presentations led by Dr. Brant Pitre, Dr. Tim Gray, and Dr. Mary Healy, this series is a great tool for your parish's eucharistic revival efforts.



## **Christine in Action**

Through the expression of music, *Christine in Action* instructs kids on prayer, the sacraments, salvation history, and more. Each video offers an informative song that is easy for all ages to follow along with. This is a great resource for families to use at home and for catechists to incorporate in their lessons.

# LITURGICAL CALENDAR

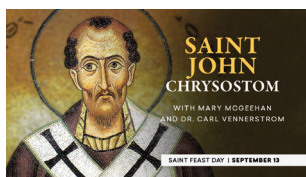
This September, teach your parishioners more about some of the Church's great saints with the following resources on FORMED:



## **September 5: St. Teresa of Calcutta**

### **Mother Teresa: No Greater Love**

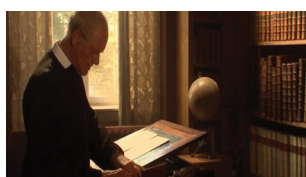
Years after her death, Mother Teresa remains a model of the faith and living out the corporal works of mercy. Her humility, love, and service for others imitates Christ's life and actions. *Mother Teresa: No Greater Love* is a powerful documentary that captures the heart of this saint through those around her and those who continue to live out the vocation of the Missionaries of Charity.



## **September 13: St. John Chrysostom**

### **St. John Chrysostom | Catholic Saints**

St. John Chrysostom is a powerful model of humility and obedience to God's call. In this episode of *Catholic Saints*, Mary McGeehan and Dr. Carl Vennerstrom discuss the life and teaching of this great Doctor of the Church. Encourage your parish to discover the saint who gave the Church countless prayers, homilies, and writings.



## **September 19: St. John Henry Newman**

### **One Step is Enough: Cardinal John Henry Newman**

This short biographical film encapsulates the life and teachings of St. John Henry Newman, a 19th-century theologian and historian. From Anglican pastor and professor to Catholic theologian and priest, St. John Henry Newman's life reflects how the Lord invites us in our search for him to his Church. Through this video, your parish can learn how his continues to influence the Church today.

# CONTENT SPOTLIGHT

## The Bible Project

As Christians, we have a deep understanding and appreciation for the necessity of Scripture. Through it, we can see who God is and come to know him personally. However, looking at the Bible in its entirety can be a daunting task. The historical complexities of the writings can confuse or prevent us from comprehending the weight and context of the words we are reading. Moreover, the many biblical genres and themes can be difficult to navigate without guidance.

Enter the Bible Project, a nonprofit group dedicated to spreading the Word of God through dynamic and engaging videos. The Bible Project has one goal: to present the narrative of the Bible

as a unified story that culminates in Jesus Christ. With these videos, each person can enjoy and understand Scripture through an approachable and effective platform.

The Bible Project presents overviews of nearly every book in the Bible and allows the viewer to easily understand the overarching biblical narrative, examine a multitude of biblical themes, and investigate the poetic masterwork of Sacred Scripture cohesively. This series provides a comprehensive approach to Sacred Scripture, without the difficulty of intense study. The Bible Project invites viewers into a transformative experience in which they are invited to encounter God's Word in a new way.



With over 150 videos available on FORMED, the Bible Project is a fantastic resource for your parish. Each video can be used for personal fulfillment, catechesis, Bible study, group discussions, and more. Due to their length and the extensive number of topics covered, they are perfect for adapting to any sort of parish-based education. Whether you are speaking with someone who has read the Bible countless times or someone who has never cracked it open, the Bible Project can be a helpful companion to any kind of Bible study.

## DEVOTIONAL CONTENT



### *Mysteries of the Rosary | Paradisus Dei: The Sorrowful Mysteries*

In Paradisus Dei's *Mysteries of the Rosary* series, your parishioners can enter the Mysteries of the Rosary on a new level. By taking Scripture and Tradition and weaving it into the breathtaking scenery of the Holy Land and illuminating sacred art, the Rosary can truly come alive in the hearts and minds of viewers. In its first season, this series focuses on the Sorrowful Mysteries, revealing the power and sacredness of each prayer and meditation.



# FORMED®

6160 S. Syracuse Way  
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and  ignatius press




Catholic Market™

## Don't wait to order Advent gift books!

Nourish the faith of your parish staff, teachers, volunteers, and parishioners with Dr. Brant Pitre's *Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist*. We offer this book in cases of 40 for as low as **\$2.00 per copy with FREE shipping** in the U.S. and Canada.

**Order now to ensure arrival by  
December 3, the First Sunday  
of Advent!**



 SCAN ME

An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE