

This is a GOOD TIME to know.....

- ...you can make a positive difference;
- ...some Catholics who have drifted away from our faith hope to reconnect;
- ...a personal discussion with a friend is the best way to invite an inactive Catholic back to the Church community;
- ...less than active Catholics often want to learn more about our faith;
- ...those feeling emptiness in their lives should take another look at our faith;
- ...active Catholics generally are more optimistic and feel less stress;
- ...coming home to your parish brings true joy and peace;
- ...Jesus and sacraments bless you and your family.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
And kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you will renew the face of the earth.

This is a GOOD TIME to contact the Welcome Home Ministry

Ron Angner: 843-686-6037, angnerron@gmail.com

Joyce Kelleher: 404-552-5310

Parish Website: www.stfrancishhi.org

Catholics Come Home: www.catholicscomehome.org

Awakening Faith: www.pemdc.org/programs/awakeningfaith.aspx

Welcome Home

A Ministry of St. Francis by the Sea Catholic Church



THIS IS A GOOD TIME TO REACH OUT TO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN LESS ACTIVE IN THEIR FAITH LIVES

"An evangelizing community knows that the Lord has taken the initiative, he has loved us first, and therefore we can move forward, boldly take the initiative, go out to others, seek those who have fallen away. An evangelizing community gets involved by word and deed in people's daily lives; it bridges distances and it embraces human life. An evangelizing community is also supportive, standing by people at every step of the way, no matter how difficult or lengthy this may prove to be. Evangelization consists mostly of patience and disregard for constraints of time. Finally an evangelizing community is filled with joy; it knows how to rejoice always. It celebrates every small victory, every step forward in the work of evangelization."

Excerpts from *Evangelii Gaudium*, Apostolic Exhortation of Holy Father Francis, 2013

St. Francis by the Sea Catholic Church

Dear Parishioner,


I want to tell you about an exciting Ministry starting here at St Francis. I believe it can benefit many, particularly anyone who feels some desire to reconnect more deeply with our faith.

People today do not live as they did forty or even twenty five years ago. We are busier, make more commitments and ask more questions. Some drift away from things that are important to keep their lives in order. All too often this happens with the practice of our faith.

Our Welcome Home ministry will provide six sessions on the basic elements our Catholic faith, with opportunities for conversation and sharing. You might know someone who can benefit from this type of program; this person maybe you. There is no cost or obligation. The sessions will be confidential and in a safe, comfortable environment. We also realize someone may not be able to make all sessions, but can still benefit from coming to some of them.

This is a good time to help an inactive Catholic that you know be invited to attend the initial session to be held after Easter. Please submit your contact information as well as that of the inactive Catholic to the Welcome Home ministry team in the back of the Church or to Ron Angner, 843-686-6037, or Joyce Kelleher, 404-552-5310 Please pray that our parish will help others increase their faith today!

Yours in Christ,



Rev. Michael J. Oenbrink

ST. FRANCIS BY THE SEA CATHOLIC CHURCH . WELCOME HOME MINISTRY

Our Welcome Home program highlights:

Using *Awakening Faith* materials, our program presents an adult learning and faith-sharing process that has six core sessions and four optional follow-up sessions. Each session lasts not more than ninety minutes.

Core Sessions

Spirituality: What's the buzz?

Who is Jesus?

Do we need the Spirit?

Can I accept God's mercy?

Can Mass make my life meaningful?

The Church and Me

Optional Sessions

Is faith possible today?

Searching for Love

Marriage, Divorce and Annulment

Money and the treadmill of life

The number of program participants will vary from eight to twelve. There will be two facilitation teams for the program. Full details on the program will be given at the initial session. You can also learn more online at: <http://www.pemdc.org/programs/awakeningfaith.aspx>