

The Ascension Weekly

February 4, 2018

A new approach for the upcoming session of Women's Group

Having wrapped up their latest Endow study on St. Thomas Aquinas and his examination of the virtues, the ladies of the Women's Group at Ascension will be focusing on a new resource when the next session begins on Monday, February 26th. Until now, the Women's Group, which resumed meeting in October 2016 after a long hiatus, has been using the study guides of Endow, a nationally acclaimed program that delves into Church documents, papal writings and the lives of the saints to learn more about the dignity and vocation of woman.

For the upcoming session, however, the ladies have decided to move in a slightly different direction. Instead of using Endow, they will continue to explore the virtues under the guidance and direction of a new book entitled *Courageous Virtue: A Bible Study on Moral Excellence for Women*. Written by popular Women's Bible Study author Stacy Mitch and published with an imprimatur by Emmaus Road Publishing, this Bible study explores how virtue can help women in their daily walks with the Lord and in everyday life. The author focuses on the cardinal virtues of fortitude, temperance, justice, and prudence, and the theological virtues of faith, hope, and love. *Courageous Virtue* is filled with scriptural teaching and the wisdom of the saints, and includes a leader's guide for group Bible studies. The study questions woven throughout the book lead readers to carefully examine their own lives in light of the virtues.

Maureen Garvis, a longtime parishioner of Ascension who facilitated the fall Women's Group study on Aquinas and will lead the new study, helped choose this new resource and is excited to begin the upcoming session. "*Courageous Virtue* has a different feel from Endow and has lots of great reviews," she explained, "so I am hoping it will be inspiring and motivational to the ladies."

Starting on February 26th, the group will meet on Mondays at 7:00 pm in the St. Michael's room in the Religious Education Center. Maureen projects that the Bible study will be an eight week course of study. She hopes that many women of the parish join up, and encourages anyone who is interested to check out the reviews and the "Look Inside" preview on the Amazon website (type *Courageous Virtue: A Bible Study on Moral Excellence for Women (Courageous Series)* into the search bar within the Amazon website). Anyone who would like to join should notify Maureen via email at maureen@garvis.net, and should also purchase the book online to be able to bring, along with a Bible, to the first class.

First Penance this Saturday

Please keep in your prayers the children of our parish listed below who are scheduled to receive the sacrament of First Penance this Saturday! May they always have faith and confidence in the love and compassion of our merciful Lord.

Faratioluwa Adesanya

Alistair Riley Alquiza

Joseph Bauer

Alexandra Centeno

Ryan Culfogienis

Noah Kay

Delali Kwakou

Fafa Kwakou

Anjolie Morales

Nicholas Murphy

Gianna San Juan

Kiley Smith