



Pope Francis on the Catechism and knowing Jesus:

“To know Jesus it is necessary to dialogue with him, talk with him in prayer, kneeling. If you do not pray, if you do not talk with Jesus, you do not know him. You know things about Jesus, but it does not go with the knowledge that your heart gets from prayer. To know Jesus with the mind, and from the study of the Catechism; to know Jesus with the heart, and in prayer, to dialogue with Him; this helps us immensely . . . to follow [him]; to go with him, to walk with him.”

WHAT IS THE LADDER OF ASCENT?

It is an exciting course offering from the Denver Catholic Catechetical School, in the lay division of the St. John Vianney Theological Seminary. Those who take the course will make an in-depth study of four areas: the Creed, the Sacraments, Christian Morality, and the Life of Prayer. Using the Catechism of the Catholic Church as the primary text, students will meet for two hours each week for a lecture and small group discussion on the weekly assignments from the Catechism and other supplementary texts. It is a two-year, four-semester course that addresses the whole content of faith. Each year consists of 30 weeks from September to May, as well as as outside preparation time. (This course was previously known as *Pillars*.)

NEW YEAR 1 CLASS LOCATIONS

ST. JOAN OF ARC, ARVADA

Mondays 9:30 a.m.

INFORMATION SESSIONS:

July 23, Aug 13 and 27 9:30 a.m.

SACRED HEART OF JESUS, BOULDER

Mondays 6:30 p.m.

INFORMATION SESSIONS:

July 30, Aug 6 and 20 6:30 p.m.

ST. MARY OF THE CROWN, CARBONDALE

Mondays 6:30 p.m.

INFORMATION SESSIONS:

July 30, Aug 13 and 27 6:30 p.m.

SACRED HEART OF MARY, BOULDER

Tuesdays 9:30 a.m.

INFORMATION SESSIONS:

July 31, Aug 14 and 28 9:30 a.m.

STS. PETER AND PAUL, WHEAT RIDGE

Tuesdays 6:30 p.m.

INFORMATION SESSIONS:

July 10, Aug 7 and 28 6:30 p.m.

ST. JOHN PAUL II CENTER, DENVER

Thursdays 6:30 p.m.

INFORMATION SESSIONS:

Aug 16 and 30 6:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

+ All classes are subject to a minimum enrollment +

Register online at:

sjvdenver.edu/laydivision

Classes begin the week of September 10, 2018
and end the week of May 20, 2019.

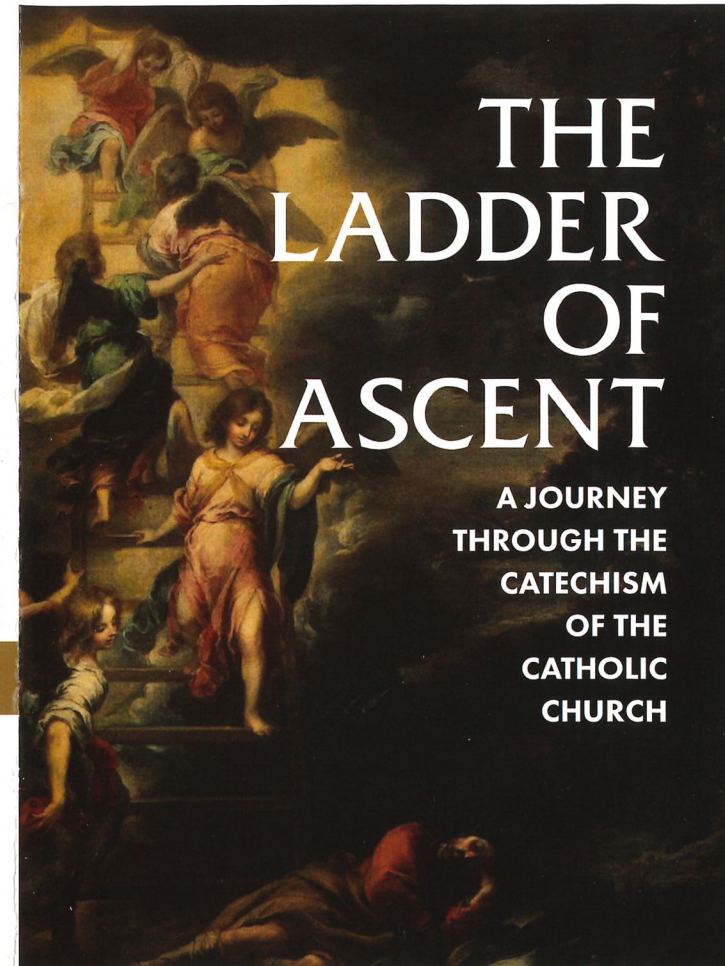
303.715.3195

2018-2019 CLASSES



DENVER CATHOLIC
CATECHETICAL
SCHOOL

ST. JOHN VIANNEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY LAY DIVISION



THE LADDER OF ASCENT

A JOURNEY
THROUGH THE
CATECHISM
OF THE
CATHOLIC
CHURCH

303.715.3195

sjvdenver.edu/laydivision

THE JOURNEY

WHAT DOES IT COVER?

THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH (CCC), published in 1994, was the first universal Catechism intended for the whole Catholic Church in over 400 years! It is divided into 4 sections, upon which the Church's teaching is based. The four sections are suggested in a description of the early Church found in Acts of the Apostles 2:42: "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

Semester 1: "APOSTLES TEACHING", CCC Pillar 1—THE CREED: THE STORY IN MINIATURE, offered in the fall of the first year, investigates the faith we profess in the Creed.

Semester 2: "BREAKING OF THE BREAD", CCC Pillar 2—THE SACRAMENTS: THE BLESSING REVEALED AND COMMUNICATED, offered in the spring of the first year, explores the Sacraments of the Church, the faith we celebrate.

Semester 3: "FELLOWSHIP", CCC Pillar 3—THE MORAL LIFE: FULFILLMENT IN BEATITUDE, offered in the fall of the second year, invites us to enter into the Moral Life of the Beatitudes and how to live the faith we profess.

Semester 4: "PRAYERS", CCC Pillar 4—PRAYER: THE BLESSING GIVEN AND RECEIVED, offered in the spring of the second year, introduces us to the importance of Prayer in the life of faith, especially the Lord's Prayer.

WHO SHOULD TAKE IT?

If you are interested in the faith, this course is for you! This course is aimed at committed adult learners who are willing to give themselves to a deeper study of their faith. No particular educational background is required and don't worry if you haven't been a student in a long time. One does not need to be a graduate of the Catholic Biblical School to attend these classes.

WHY SHOULD I TAKE IT?

If you have ever been stumped by a faith question from a relative, friend or neighbor; if you're a catechist or a youth minister looking for a little refresher; if you're just a Catholic (or even a non-Catholic) who wants to enjoy a deeper faith experience, this course is for you! Much more than a rehashing of facts about the faith, this course will show you the narrative thread linking the teachings of the Church together. It goes deeply into the questions about the faith and will even answer questions you never thought to ask.

HOW DO WE DO IT?

Each two-hour class session will include a lecture with time for questions and discussion, and a period of small group reflection. To encourage full involvement, each participant will be expected to finish the assigned reading and to answer the provided study questions prior to class. The reading is challenging, but not burdensome, and will guide our reflections, and so it is essential to the full experience of each of the four semesters. A pass/fail assessment will also be given at the end of each semester as a learning tool.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The school year consists of 30 weeks of classes, spanning September to May with breaks included. Tuition for the year is \$600, plus a \$20 non-refundable registration fee. This includes your workbook—the cost of textbooks is additional. A 10% tuition discount is offered to students 65 and older, military, 1st responders, and parish catechists. Limited scholarships and financial assistance are available, based on need. Contact the office at 303-715-3195 for details.



"God, infinitely perfect and blessed in himself, in a plan of sheer goodness freely created man to make him share in his own blessed life. For this reason, at every time and in every place, God draws close to man. He calls man to seek him, to know him, to love him with all his strength. He calls together all men, scattered and divided by sin, into the unity of his family, the Church. To accomplish this, when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son as Redeemer and Savior. In his Son and through him, he invites men to become, in the Holy Spirit, his adopted children and thus heirs of his blessed life."

(Catechism of the Catholic Church, Paragraph 1)