

Theology at Saint Thomas

THE RECTOR'S CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE CLASS 2010



SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE

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CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE SERIES

**A systematic treatment of the essentials of the Christian faith,
as received through the Catholic heritage of Anglicanism
within the Episcopal Church**

On 14 Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in Andrew Hall on the 3rd floor of the Parish House, Father Mead will present his series on the basics teachings of the Christian Faith, with the assistance this year of Father Austin. This class is a must for adults who seek Confirmation or Reception by the Bishop but it is also a simple way to learn afresh that which you may have forgotten. Many enjoy repeating sections or all of this series. You are welcome to attend all or various sessions. Coffee, tea, and cookies are served at each class.

- 1) God the Father: Creation and Fall - January 5
- 2) God the Son: Incarnation and Atonement - January 12
- 3) God the Holy Spirit - January 19
- 4) The Holy Trinity - January 26
- 5) Church History - February 2
- 6) Church Organization and Ministry - February 9
- 7) Prayer - February 23
- 8) Sacraments and Baptism - March 2
- 9) Life after Baptism: The Ten Commandments - March 9
- 10) Sacramental Confession - March 16
- 11) The Holy Eucharist - March 23
- 12) Confirmation, Matrimony, Unction - April 6
- 13) Christian Hope: Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell - April 13
- 14) Wrap-up - April 27

Confirmation and Reception will take place at
the 11 a.m. Festal Eucharist on Sunday, May 2, 2010.

A companion text for this course is *Café Theology* by Michael Lloyd. Chapters from it will be discussed in class on the following schedule:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
January 5	1: Creation
January 12	4: Incarnation
January 19	7: Holy Spirit
January 26	8: Holy Trinity
February 2	2: Fall
February 9	3: Providence
February 23	5: Atonement
March 2	6: Resurrection and Ascension
March 19	10: The Church
April 13	9: Final Victory of God

Also recommended for reading through the course is *A Short World History of Christianity* by Robert Bruce Mullin.

The two texts are available at the Saint Thomas Bookstore, which is open most Sundays following the 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. services.

Andrew C. Mead is Rector of Saint Thomas Church, having been called here in 1996. An Anglo-Catholic priest committed to doctrinal orthodoxy in teaching and pastoral work, Father Mead has had long experience in the liturgical heritage of Catholic Anglicanism, grounded in the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer.

Father Mead will be teaching the Rector's doctrine class, with assistance from Father Austin.

Victor Lee Austin was called by Father Mead to Saint Thomas early in 2005 to be the Parish's first "Theologian-in-residence." At Mount Aloysius College in Cresson, Pennsylvania, Father Austin was assistant professor of religious studies, philosophy, and theology. He has also taught on the adjunct faculty of Marist College, Mount St. Mary College, the General Theological Seminary; and Fordham University.

Father Austin is the author of numerous scholarly articles and monographs. His book of vignettes from daily parish life, *A Priest's Journal*, was brought out by Church Publishing in 2001. *Up with Authority: Why We Need Authority to Flourish as Human Beings* is to be published by Continuum in 2010.

To receive weekly updates and other news about Theology at Saint Thomas, drop a line to Father Austin: vaustin@SaintThomasChurch.org.