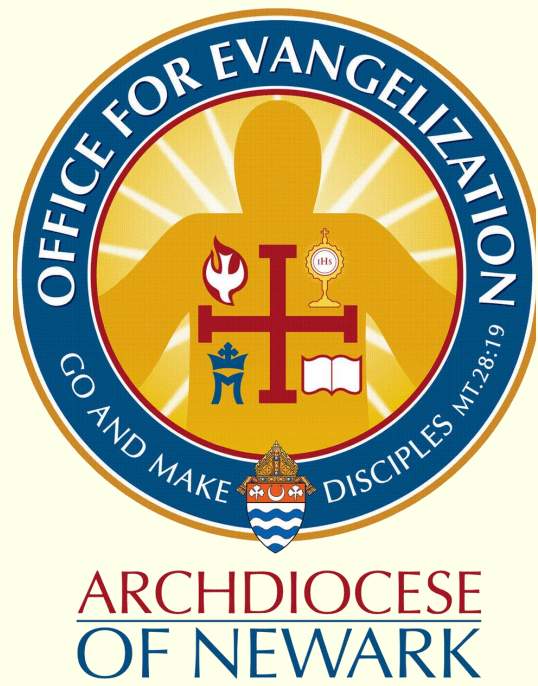


# School of Prayer



Everything is possible to one who has faith. - Mark 9:23

# Office for Evangelization

## Personnel



ARCHDIOCESE  
OF NEWARK



**REV. JOHN GORDON**  
**SECRETARY OF EVANGELIZATION**



**JENNIFER BEHNKE**  
**ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR**

# Office for Evangelization

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**Mission:**

***The office for Evangelization seeks to assist parishes and individuals in fostering and cultivating a culture of evangelization throughout the Archdiocese of Newark.***



**ARCHDIOCESE**  
**OF NEWARK**



# Prayer to the Holy Spirit

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***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.***

***Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit  
you have taught the hearts of your faithful.  
In the same Spirit  
help us to relish what is right  
and always rejoice in your consolation.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.***

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# School of Evangelization

**7 session course  
offered in 2018 -2019  
and virtually 2020**

KICK START  
EVANGELIZATION  
IN YOUR PARISH

...It's easier than you think





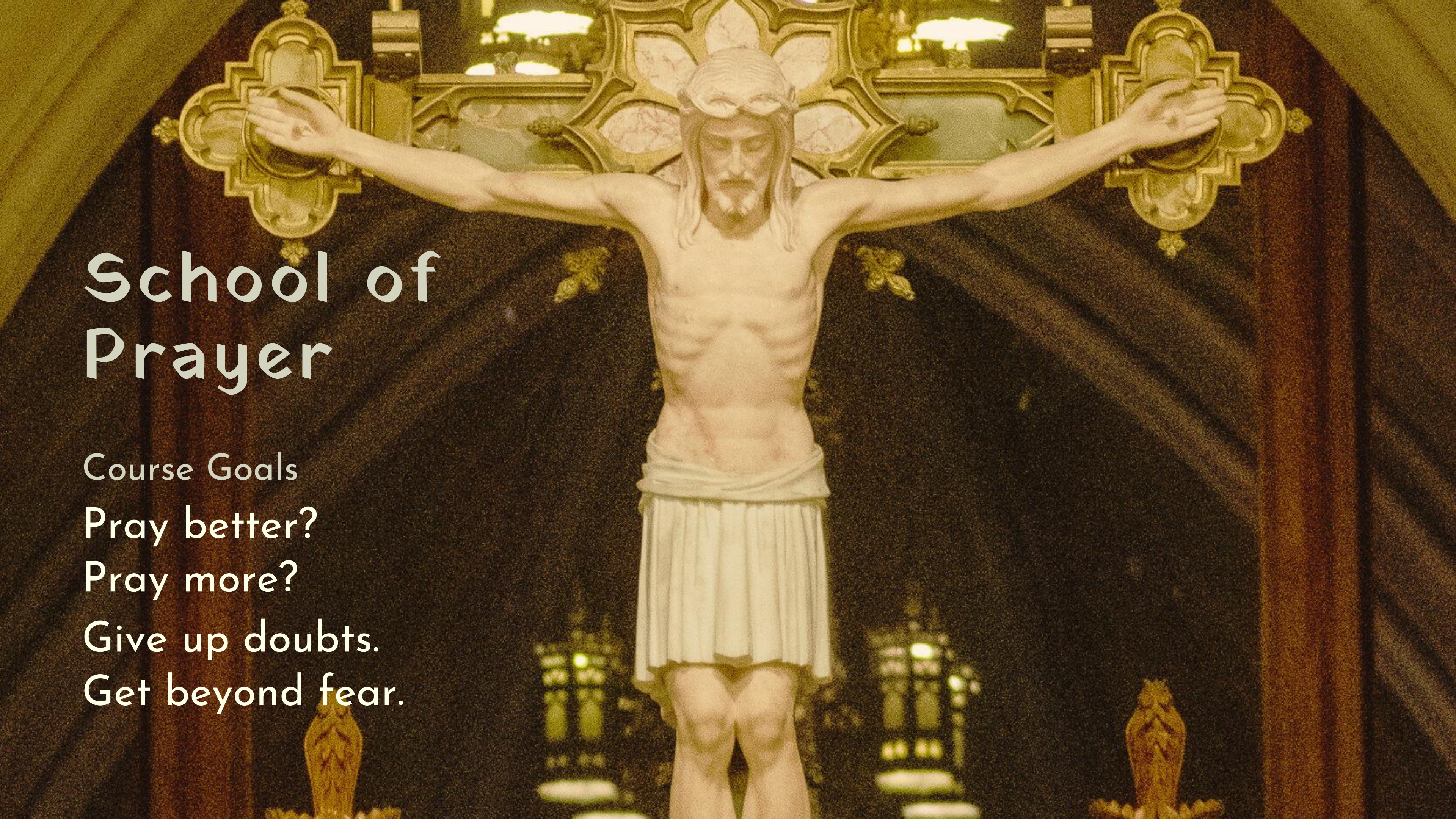
# School of Prayer

***PRAYER IS VITAL!***

***What does prayer have to do with evangelization?***

Trust in the LORD with all your heart,  
and do not rely on your own insight.  
In all your ways acknowledge him,  
and he will make straight your paths.

- *Proverbs 3:5-6*



# School of Prayer

Course Goals

Pray better?

Pray more?

Give up doubts.

Get beyond fear.

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# School of Prayer Session Breakdown

Everything is possible to one who has faith.  
– Mark 9:23

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**Session 1**  
**Why We Pray**

***MAN'S DESIRE,***  
***GOD'S INITIATION***

Wednesday, September 20, 2023



**Session 2**  
**To Whom do we pray**

***Jesus Christ: Embodiment of  
prayer, Fully human, Fully  
Divine***

Wednesday, October 18, 2023



**Session 3**  
**How do we pray**

***Church, Holy Spirit  
and Mary***

**Wednesday, November 15, 2023**

**December  
2023**

**No Session**

Advent and Christmas reflection  
given out at November meeting





**Session 4**  
**Who prays with us**

***The Saints  
and Prayer***

**Wednesday, January 17, 2024**



## Session 5

Who joins us in prayer

## *Schools of Spirituality*

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

**March  
2024**



**No Session**

Lenten reflection given out at  
February meeting



# Session 6

## Traditions of prayer

***Piety and Devotions of Peoples and movements***

Wednesday, April 17, 2024





**Session 7**  
**Prayer changes us**

***Personal transformation and  
making our homes schools of  
prayer***

**Wednesday, May 15, 2024**

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# School of Prayer

You are already an expert  
when it comes to your own prayer life.

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BLESSED BE THE GOD  
AND FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,  
WHO HAS BLESSED US IN CHRIST  
WITH EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING IN THE HEAVENS,

AS HE CHOSE US IN HIM,  
BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD,  
TO BE HOLY AND WITHOUT BLEMISH BEFORE HIM.  
IN LOVE HE DESTINED US FOR ADOPTION TO HIMSELF  
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST,  
IN ACCORD WITH THE FAVOR OF HIS WILL,  
FOR THE PRAISE OF THE GLORY OF HIS GRACE  
THAT HE GRANTED US IN THE BELOVED.

IN HIM WE HAVE REDEMPTION BY HIS BLOOD,  
THE FORGIVENESS OF TRANSGRESSIONS,  
IN ACCORD WITH THE RICHES OF HIS GRACE  
THAT HE LAVISHED UPON US.

IN ALL WISDOM AND INSIGHT,  
HE HAS MADE KNOWN TO US THE MYSTERY  
OF HIS WILL IN ACCORD WITH HIS FAVOR  
THAT HE SET FORTH IN HIM AS A PLAN  
FOR THE FULLNESS OF TIMES,  
TO SUM UP ALL THINGS IN CHRIST,  
IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH.

EPHESIANS 1:3 - 10

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# School of Prayer

What is prayer?

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**Session 1**  
**Why We Pray**

***MAN'S DESIRE,***  
***GOD'S INITIATION***

Wednesday, September 20, 2023



# ***Catechism of the Catholic Church***

## ***Part I, Chapter 1, Paragraph 27***

27 The desire for God is written in the human heart, because man is created by God and for God; and God never ceases to draw man to himself. Only in God will he find the truth and happiness he never stops searching for:

The dignity of man rests above all on the fact that he is called to communion with God. This invitation to converse with God is addressed to man as soon as he comes into being. For if man exists it is because God has created him through love, and through love continues to hold him in existence. He cannot live fully according to truth unless he freely acknowledges that love and entrusts himself to his creator.[1](#)

[1](#).Vatican Council II, GS 19 § 1.



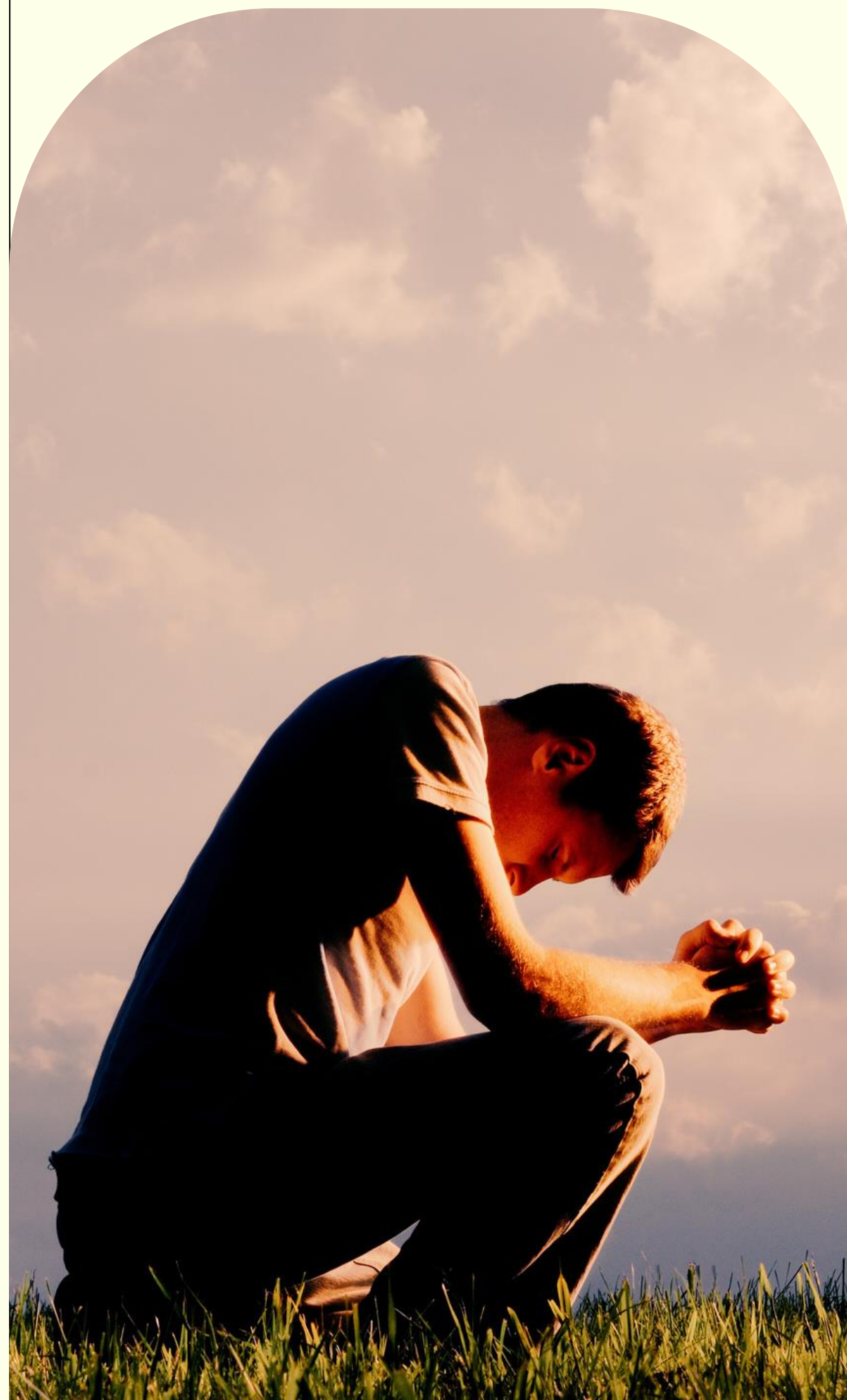
## **CCC Part I, Ch 1, Pp 30**

30 "Let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice."5 Although man can forget God or reject him, He never ceases to call every man to seek him, so as to find life and happiness. But this search for God demands of man every effort of intellect, a sound will, "an upright heart", as well as the witness of others who teach him to seek God.

You are great, O Lord, and greatly to be praised: great is your power and your wisdom is without measure. And man, so small a part of your creation, wants to praise you: this man, though clothed with mortality and bearing the evidence of sin and the proof that you withstand the proud. Despite everything, man, though but a small a part of your creation, wants to praise you. You yourself encourage him to delight in your praise, for you have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.6

5. [Ps 105:3.](#)

6. St. Augustine, Conf. 1,1,1:PL 32,659-661.



## Romans 8:18 - 27

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now;

and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

For in hope we were saved. Now hope that sees for itself is not hope. For who hopes for what one sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait with endurance.

In the same way, the Spirit too comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit itself intercedes with inexpressible groanings. And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit, because it intercedes for the holy ones according to God's will.





## **CCC Part I, Ch 1, Pps 35**

35 Man's faculties make him capable of coming to a knowledge of the existence of a personal God. But for man to be able to enter into real intimacy with him, God willed both to reveal himself to man, and to give him the grace of being able to welcome this revelation in faith.(so) the proofs of God's existence, however, can predispose one to faith and help one to see that faith is not opposed to reason.

10 St. Thomas Aquinas, S Th I, 2, 3.

# Genesis 12:1 – 3

The LORD said to Abram: Go forth from your land, your relatives, and from your father's house to a land that I will show you.

I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.

I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. All the families of the earth will find blessing in you.

# **CCC Part I, Ch 2, Pp 50**

50 “By natural reason man can know God with certainty, on the basis of his works. But there is another order of knowledge, which man cannot possibly arrive at by his own powers: the order of divine Revelation. Through an utterly free decision, God has revealed himself and given himself to man. This he does by revealing the mystery, his plan of loving goodness, formed from all eternity in Christ, for the benefit of all men. God has fully revealed this plan by sending us his beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.”

**1 Cf. Dei Filius:DS 3015**





## ***CCC Part I, Ch 2, Pp 52***

52 God, who "dwells in unapproachable light", wants to communicate his own divine life to the men he freely created, in order to adopt them as his sons in his only-begotten Son.<sup>3</sup> By revealing himself God wishes to make them capable of responding to him, and of knowing him and of loving him far beyond their own natural capacity.

<sup>3</sup> 1 Tim 6:16, cf. Eph 1:4-5

"Great art Thou, O Lord, and greatly to be praised; great is Thy power, and of Thy wisdom there is no end. And man, being a part of Thy creation, desires to praise Thee, man, who bears about with him his mortality, the witness of his sin, even the witness that Thou "resistest the proud, " - yet man, this part of Thy creation, desires to praise Thee. Thou movest us to delight in praising Thee; for Thou hast formed us for Thyself,

**and our hearts are restless  
till they find rest in Thee.**

Lord, teach me to know and understand which of these should be first, to call on Thee, or to praise Thee; and likewise to know Thee, or to call upon Thee.

Oh! how shall I find rest in Thee? Who will send Thee into my heart to inebriate it, so that I may forget my woes, and embrace Thee my only good? What art Thou to me? Have compassion on me, that I may speak. What am I to Thee that Thou demandest my love, and unless I give it Thee art angry, and threatenest me with great sorrows? Is it, then, a light sorrow not to love Thee? Alas! alas! tell me of Thy compassion, O Lord my God, what Thou art to me. "Say unto my soul, I am thy salvation." So speak that I may hear. Behold, Lord, the ears of my heart are before Thee; open Thou them, and "say unto my soul, I am thy salvation." When I hear, may I run and lay hold on Thee. Hide not Thy face from me. Let me die, lest I die, if only I may see Thy face."

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St. Augustine of Hippo,  
Confessions, 1,1.5



**How do I pray?**

**School of Prayer  
Session 1  
Homework**