EMMAUS INSTITUTE
BIBLICAL STUDIES

Parish Missions

In 2010, Pope Benedict XVI wrote, "Our own time, then, must be increasingly marked by a new hearing of God's word and a new evangelization" (*Verbum Domini*, §122). It is the mission of the Emmaus Institute to cultivate life-transforming encounters with Christ in his Word for parish clergy, catechists, parents, home group leaders, and others called to deeper formation. A parish mission facilitates opportunities for this formation in a retreat-like atmosphere. Each parish mission includes time for reflection and prayer around a particular biblical theme, in order to pursue the ways the Lord wishes to speak to us and form us through the Scriptures.

Package A: Day Mission/Day of Recollection (10am–3pm)

In this structure, the speaker would deliver two talks of about 60 minutes length each, with opportunities for Mass, prayer, and lunch dispersed throughout the day. A proposed itinerary would be as follows:

10:00am Talk 1
11:00am Mass
11:45am Lunch*
1:00pm Adoration + Confessions
2:00pm Talk 2
3:00pm Conclude

This structure allows for parishioners to have a retreat-like experience, while not having to commit multiple days of their week. *The suggested honorarium for this mission is $1,250 plus any mileage and lodging. *Lunch provided by the parish*

Package B: Single-Evening Mission

In this structure, the speaker would deliver one talk of about 60 minutes in length, with the recommendation that an hour of Adoration with Confessions follow. A proposed itinerary would be as follows:

6:30–7:30pm Talk
7:30–8:30pm Adoration + Confessions

This structure allows for parishioners to be stimulated in spirit and thought for an evening set apart for the Lord. *The suggested honorarium for this mission is $500 plus any mileage and lodging.*

Package C: Multi-Evening Mission

In this structure, the speaker would deliver one to three talks of about 60 minutes in length, with the recommendation that an hour of Adoration with Confessions follow. A proposed itinerary would be as follows:

Day One:
6:30–7:30pm Talk 1
7:30–8:30pm Adoration/Prayer

Day Two:
6:30–7:30pm Talk 2
7:30–8:30pm Adoration + Confessions

Day Three (Optional):
6:30–7:30pm Talk 3
7:30–8:30pm Adoration/Prayer

The fullness of a parish mission is best experienced in a two-to three-day structure, in which a parish community takes a multi-stage journey through the given theme and comes out refreshed in spirit. *The suggested honorarium for a two-day mission would be $1,250 + mileage/lodging; a three-day mission would cost $2,000 + mileage/lodging.*

Alternative Structures, Themes, and Pricing

If you would like to inquire about hosting a parish mission but cannot adapt to any of the recommended structures above, or if you have any questions about pricing or the ability to pay, please do not hesitate to reach out at emmaus@emmausinstitute.net or (402) 327-1671. Additionally, if you would like to host a parish mission on a theme that is not currently found on our website, a new theme can be requested at a suggested additional $250 (to compensate for the additional preparatory time required).

About the Speakers

Dr. Vern Steiner

Prior to entering the Catholic Church in 2015, Vern enjoyed a long career as an evangelical protestant pastor, seminary professor, and founder and president of a Bible institute. His teaching specializations include biblical introduction and interpretation, languages and exegesis, and exposition and theology. He focused on Bible, History, and Philosophy in his undergraduate studies; he holds masters degrees in Pastoral Ministry and Biblical Literature; and he earned his Ph.D. in Exegetical Theology. Vern has authored a number of published and unpublished materials at both general and technical levels. When he is not in his study, he enjoys watching sports, woodworking, and especially spending time with his wife Carol, their two married children, and their ten grandchildren.

Joshua Burks

Joshua Burks is the head of Mission Development at The Emmaus Institute, a biblical formation apostolate based in Lincoln, NE. Previous to Emmaus, Joshua spent four years as a missionary and Team Director with FOCUS, concurrently completing his graduate studies with the Augustine Institute Graduate School of Theology. Joshua is also the co-host alongside Fr. Andrew Dickinson of the podcast, FAD&DAD, a show that walks through the wisdom of the Church Fathers in the context of good friendship and conversation. Next to love of God is his love for his wife, Elizabeth, and their four boys.

Chad Steiner

Chad completed his undergraduate studies in Philosophy at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln while studying the biblical languages and biblical introduction and interpretation on the side. Following graduation, he taught with his father at a small Bible institute in Lincoln for a number of years before moving to England with his wife Kacy to begin graduate work in biblical studies. Upon their return to Lincoln in 2005, Chad resumed teaching and writing full time with the institute where he remained until its closure in 2013. His interests lie especially in cultivating Christian unity, and in sharing the task of interpreting Sacred Scripture with Christians across denominational lines. He and his family were received into the Roman Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil at St. Peter in 2011. Since then he has enjoyed singing in the choir and serving as a regular catechist for the OCIA program at the parish. He and Kacy have eight children, a goofy pyredoodle, an opinionated Quaker parrot, an easier-going rabbit, a growing population of fish in multiple aquariums, and an ark under construction.