



ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK  
ADULT FAITH FORMATION

January 2020

Dear Pastor,

A blessed new calendar year to you and your flock. I would first like to thank you again for all the ways that you serve our Church and for your continued “yes” to Christ's call.

Before we know it there will be not-so-familiar faces in our churches lining up for ashes. I would like to suggest a few ideas for you to think through and pray on as you plan for Ash Wednesday and Lent. Here are some suggestions that will appeal to Catholics at different stages of their faith journey:

- A movie night using FORMED *Did Jesus Really Rise from the Dead?*
- A group study on the Eucharist using FORMED *Presence* with the invitation: “Make this Lent count, learn why the Mass is so important” \*\*
- A group study on the biblical history of the Eucharist using FORMED *Lectio: Eucharist – Unveiling Scripture and Tradition*: with the invitation: “Make this Lent count, understand the Mass more fully” \* \*\*
- A group study on prayer using FORMED *Into the Desert: A Lenten Study on Prayer*
- A weekly bible study: *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* from Ascension Press \* \*\*

\* As I mentioned once before during the Revive missions we asked the participants what they would like to see more of in their parish. The overwhelming answer was bible studies. For a more comprehensive list of bible study options, contact our office at 646-794-2581 or at [adultfaithformation@archny.org](mailto:adultfaithformation@archny.org). Perhaps you are reading this and discern that your parish leaders are not ready to lead one of these initiatives with you during Lent. If that is the case, I encourage you to run a study with these leaders in anticipation of holding a study at the parish level.

One option would be to have your leaders take a retreat guided by the book *33 Days to Morning Glory* to consecrate themselves to Our Mother. If you choose this option, you could start your group on February 20<sup>th</sup> to consecrate on the feast of the Annunciation (March 25). The Young Adult Office organized for all parishes to receive 160 copies of the book this past October. If you would like more copies contact the Sarah Chichester with the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception at [schichester@marian.org](mailto:schichester@marian.org)

\*\* This resource has accompanying participant and leader guide books.

God's peace and blessings,

Elizabeth Guevara de Gonzalez

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T: 212.371.1000  
[www.archny.org](http://www.archny.org)  
[office@archny.org](mailto:office@archny.org)

1011 First Avenue, New York, NY 10022