

CATHOLIC BIBLICAL SCHOOL Diocese of Shreveport Program for 2009-2010

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

The School of Ministry Catholic Biblical School is intended for adults who want to deepen their knowledge of the Bible. No particular educational background is required. The program addresses both the head and the heart with the goal of deepening both the student's knowledge of Sacred Scripture and the student's faith in God who is revealed there. It is especially beneficial for religious education teachers, lectors, leaders of Bible study groups and others involved in various ministries in the Church or community.

In its entirety, it is a four-year program of intensive study that covers every book of the Bible. However, students commit to the program one year at a time.

Biblical books studied each year:

- Year One: Foundations of the Old Testament (Genesis – 2 Kings).
- Year Two: Foundations of the New Testament (Mark, Luke-Acts, Pauline Letters, John, Book of Revelation).
- Year Three: Old Testament Prophets, Psalms and other writings.
- Year Four: Wisdom Literature, Deuterocanonical Books, Catholic/Pastoral Letters, Hebrews, Matthew.

For Year One there will be ELEVEN 6-hour classes and a summer reading assignment:

- Three units of nine lessons plus a review week to complete each year.
- Saturday classes meet from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Catholic Center, 3500 Fairfield Ave. Shreveport.
- Dates for classes:

<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
August 29 (Orientation)	January 9
September 26	January 30
October 17	February 20
November 14	March 13
December 12	April 10
	May 8

- Each Saturday includes: an opening prayer time, three small group discussion periods on specific written questions, and three presentations by the instructor that prepare students for the next Saturday's written assignments.
- Students are expected to complete the written assignments between the class dates.
- The average student spends approximately 3-4 hours per lesson (three for each class date) on the homework assignment which includes reading chapters from the biblical book being studied, reading supplementary materials, doing a geography task, and writing the answers to 5–6 questions per lesson.
- Students take a short review exercise to conclude each 10-week unit.

Communal Days

- An optional Lenten Day of Prayer will be available in 2010 at the University of Dallas.

Summer Assignments

- In preparation for Year One, students are asked to read Introduction to the Bible: A Catholic Guide to Studying Scripture by Stephen J. Binz and write answers to questions based on their reading.
- The questions will be given at Information Sessions and also posted online.
- Students discuss their summer assignments in their small groups at the Orientation Day on August 29.

School of Ministry Catholic Biblical School is a certificate program and available for undergraduate credit from the University of Dallas

❖ **Certificate.**

- After completing two years of the program, students earn a certificate of basic biblical studies.
- After completing four years of the program, students earn a certificate of advanced biblical studies.
- To earn the certificates, students must be at all Saturday classes (emergencies will be handled appropriately), complete all written assignments, and pass all unit reviews.
- A student who is unable to fulfill these requirements will still be eligible to receive a “participant” certificate at the end of four years.

❖ **Undergraduate credit**

- Students may earn one credit hour for each successfully completed unit (up to three credits per year)
- Requirements for earning undergraduate credit include:
 - ❖ Proof of eligibility to receive college credit
 - ❖ Submission of an application for undergraduate credit by October 12, 2009
 - ❖ Additional work to be explained at the Information Session
 - ❖ An additional cost of \$145 per credit hour (see below for COURSE FEE for the Biblical School)

WHAT DOES IT COST?

The course fee is \$545 per year payable in full with your application and upon acceptance into the program. NO PART of the course fee is refundable. There is an additional cost for books.

TEXTBOOKS USED IN THE PROGRAM

Bible: Students may use any of these translations:

- ❖ New American (recommended as *The Catholic Study Bible*; also available as the *College Study Bible*).
- ❖ New Jerusalem.
- ❖ New Revised Standard with Apocrypha.

Other Textbooks (Available through University of Dallas Bookstore <http://www.udallas.edu/ministry/cbs/> or on-line): *Dictionary of the Bible* edited by David N. Freedman; *Reading the Old Testament: An Introduction* by Lawrence Boadt; *Atlas of Bible Lands* by Harry Thomas Frank; *Genesis* by Pauline Viviano; First Year CBS Student Workbook: *Old Testament Foundations – Genesis Through Second Kings*.

The total cost of these books is approximately (\$95.00).

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

- Applications are available online at <http://www.udallas.edu/ministry/cbs/applicationinfo.cfm> or by calling 1-888-447-4777
- **Fill out the application and call to schedule your attendance at one of the following Information Sessions:**
- **Saturday March 28, 2009 at the Catholic Center.**
- **Saturday May 30, 2009 at the Catholic Center.**

During the information meeting:

- You will be given general information about the School of Ministry Catholic Biblical School.
- You will be able to ask questions about this program.
- You and the instructor will get to know each other.
- You will receive your summer assignment.
- You will submit your application, tuition payment and be registered in the program.

INSTRUCTOR FOR SHREVEPORT SATURDAY PROGRAM

Mr. James McGill

- Catholic Biblical School Assistant Professor for the University of Dallas, 2008—2009
- 972-721-5393
- mcgill@udallas.edu