

# Course in Sharing Our Catholic Faith – May 3<sup>rd</sup>

## “How to Share Your Faith Without Being Obnoxious”

Our parishes are hearing the call to reach out to those many people who are spiritually lost, wounded, or confused. **All of us know people, including friends, relatives, and co-workers, who are no longer practicing their faith.** We've heard statements like, “I don't go to church any more because:

- “I'm divorced and excommunicated”
- “I don't need the Church; I've found God in other ways”
- “A priest wouldn't bury my grandfather, and another one yelled at me in the confessional”
- “I'm confused about what the Church teaches nowadays.”

We often don't know what to say or do in these situations.



So our deanery has invited **Capuchin Fr. Martin Pable** to conduct a training course on how to help people like this. It is a course he has developed and given in a number of parishes over the years. He calls it “**kitchen-table evangelizing**”—a very simple approach that you can use with people one-to-one: in your home, at work, in the bar or bowling alley, over the telephone.

You will not have to go out ringing doorbells or making phone calls. You will be trained in how to listen to others, especially for the spiritual hungers underlying their concerns. You will **develop skill and confidence in sharing your faith in God.** And you will learn how to invite (not pressure) people to take whatever step they are ready for to reconnect with God or with the Church.

The course will be held **Saturday, May 3**, at **St. James Parish** in **Amherst**, beginning at **9:00 a.m.** and going no later than **4 p.m.** To receive the full benefit plan to participate the whole day, if you can. **Bring your own lunch**, plus your questions and insights to share at this wonderful opportunity with Father Marty, popular speaker and author.

For more information, directions to St. James, and to help us prepare materials in advance **please call:** Bob Rogers, **344-1494** or Leo Jacoby, **341-2790**. Feel free to **invite others to come with you.** All that's required is that they be practicing Catholics and have a desire to help others find God and spiritual peace for their lives. We believe this will be an important step for the growth of our parishes, and a great preparation for the **Feast of Pentecost!** You will really enjoy Father Marty and grow in your own faith!

*Free-will donations by participants or their parishes are welcome to help cover the costs, partially covered by a B.E.E.T. grant.*