

Lenten Series to feature conversations about racism

St. Hilary's 2017 Lenten Series is *Building Bridges . . . Conversations on Race*, a continuation of last year's series, *But I'm not a Racist! Racial Realities in the USA*. It features four sessions, each of which will focus on an aspect of race. The objective of each evening is to engage, educate and empower participants on racial issues that are present in our country today.

The series is a combined effort of St. Hilary Parish, Faith Lutheran Church, New Hope Baptist Church and Temple Israel, and will include dinner, prayer, and dialogue between participants on each topic. Each Wednesday evening event includes:

6-6:30 Gathering and sign-in

6:30-7:15 Shared meal

7:15-7:45 Prayer

7:45-9 Presentation and table sharing

The series features:

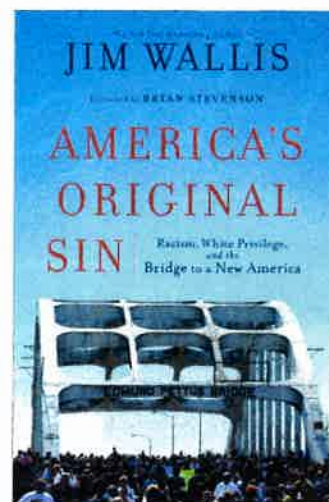
Session 1: *Conversations on Racism and Policing* on March 8 at St Hilary.

Session 2: *Conversations on Racism and the Criminal Justice System* on March 22 at New Hope Baptist Church, 1706 S. Hawkins Ave.

Session 3: *Conversations on Racism and Voting Rights* on March 29 at Faith Lutheran Church, 2726 W. Market St.

Session 4: *Conversations on Race, Local Issues, and Where do we go from Here?* On April 5 at St. Hilary.

Mary Lou Grossmann, member of the Lenten Series planning team explained, "It is our hope that our collaboration with New Hope Baptist Church will allow for more diverse participation as we discuss the reality of growing up black in America."



Participants are strongly urged to read the book, *America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege and the Bridge to a New America* by Jim Wallis. Mary Lou said that many of the ideas discussed throughout the series will be based on this book. A limited quantity of these will be available for sale in the parish office, or they can be purchased from Amazon.

Advance registration is required. Reserve your spot through sthilaryparish.org/lenten-series or call the parish office at (330) 867-1055.

Events, activities to help grow your faith this Lent

While not a holy day of obligation, **Ash Wednesday** is a great way to start Lent on March 1, 7 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; prayer service with ashes at 12:10 p.m.

Learn more about your faith with a study of Bishop Robert Barron's *The Mystery of God and Why He Matters*. The study, led by Randy Malick, Director of Adult Faith Formation, explores how Christians should respond to the "New Atheism" of people like Richard Dawkins, Christopher Hitchens and Sam Harris who vigorously attack belief in God as irrational, or even worse, dangerous. This thinking has attracted millions of young people thanks to best selling books such as the *God Delusion* and *God is Not Great*. It meets Thursday mornings March 2-April 6 from 9:15 to 11:15 a.m. in the Spiritual Center. Contact rmalick@sthilarychurch.org by Feb. 6 to register. Cost is \$25.

Attend the **Faith Alive Retreat** with Fr. Norm Douglas, at St. Hilary beginning Friday evening and continuing

Saturday, March 3-4. Call the parish office to register at (330) 867-1055.

Experience a traditional Lenten devotion, **Stations of the Cross**, each Friday at 7 p.m. in church.

Preparation for Easter is not complete without the Sacrament of Penance. The **Diocesan Evening of Reconciliation** on Wednesday March 15 offers private confessions at all parishes from 5 to 8 p.m.

Enrich your spirituality with Sacred Music at the **Palm Sunday Concert**, April 9 at 7 p.m. in church. The St. Hilary choir, St. Cecilia Singers and Hand Bell choir will present an evening of music and prayer. The choruses will present John Rutter's Requiem with Elizabeth Rickel, soprano soloist, accompanied by strings and wood winds. This concert is a St. Hilary tradition which prepares our hearts for the Triduum.