

COURSE IN SHARING OUR FAITH

The parishes of Washington County are hearing the call to reach out to many people who are spiritually lost, wounded or confused. All of us know people, including our friends and co-workers, who are no longer practicing their faith. We've heard them say things like, "I don't go to church anymore because..."

- "Church doesn't do anything for me."
- "I don't need Church; I've found God other ways."
- "A priest wouldn't bury my grandfather."
- "A priest 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 Washington County's parishes have united to ask **Fr. Martin Pable, OFM Cap**, to conduct a training course on how to help people like this. It is a course he has developed and given to many people and parishes. He calls it "**How to Share Your Faith without Being Obnoxious**" and is a very simple approach you can use with people one-to-one: in your home, at work, in the bar or bowling alley, over the phone.

You will **not** be going out to ring doorbells or be asked to make 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 as well as learn how to **invite, not pressure**, people to take whatever step they may be ready for to reconnect with God or the Church.

Topics to be covered include:

- **Our call to be an Evangelizing Church and Parish**
- **Who are we trying to reach?**
 - **Non-practicing Catholics**
 - **Non-practicing Protestants**
 - **Secularists and others with no religion**
- **Method: "Relational Evangelism" – Three Basic Skills**
 - **Listening**
 - **Sharing Your Faith Story**
 - **Inviting People to Reconnect**

We will demonstrate and practice these skills in order to develop your confidence! All that's required of a participant(s) is that they be practicing Catholics and have a desire to help others find God and spiritual peace in their lives. We believe this will be an important step for the growth of all our parishes. The course will be held at:

ST. PETER PARISH 200 E. WASHINGTON STREET SLINGER WI
SATURDAY, APRIL 09, 2011, FROM 8:30AM – 4:00PM LUNCH INCLUDED
CATECHISTS/TEACHERS: 5 Clock hours, Methods/Psychology, Basic/Intermediate
REGISTER: 644-8083, ext #29 or jan.clemins@stpeterslinger.com LIMIT: 40 people
A \$15 PER PERSON OFFERING IS REQUESTED, COVERING PROGRAM AND LUNCH