



**Winter-Spring 2018: February 15 – May 24**

***St. Paul in Chains:  
The Letters to the Philippians and Philemon***

On February 15, the day after Ash Wednesday, St. Patrick's Thursday Morning Scripture Group, led by parishioner Susan Carlson, will begin a 15-week study of two letters that St. Paul wrote while he was imprisoned: the Letter to the Philippians and the Letter to Philemon.

St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians is well suited for study during Lent. The season of Lent has been described as a "season of joy" even though it is also a penitential season during which we focus on the Passion of Jesus. The Letter to the Philippians has been described as a "letter of joy" and yet it was written to a community suffering persecution by a man who was imprisoned because of his preaching of the gospel. The Letter to the Philippians includes the beautiful "hymn to Christ" which we will hear as the second reading on Palm Sunday. St. Paul's Letter to Philemon, consisting of only 25 verses, is one of the shortest books in the New Testament, but this letter has much to say to us today.

The Thursday Morning Scripture Group's approach to the Scriptures is to combine study, prayer, reflection, and discussion. The group is co-ed and meets from 9:30 until 11:00 a.m. on Thursday in the O'Gara Parish Activity Center. In addition to the Bible, the group will use a commentary written by Dennis Hamm, S.J. that is part of the Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture series. The fee for the Winter-Spring 2018 session is \$20 and includes the cost of the commentary.

To register or to obtain more information, please contact Susan Carlson at [SMcCarlson@aol.com](mailto:SMcCarlson@aol.com) or 847-295-9714. No previous Bible study experience is necessary – all are welcome!