

## The U of Faith 2025-2026

# Understanding Vatican II

*Sixty years since the close of the Second Vatican Council, how has the Church in theory and practice come to understand itself? This year's U of Faith Sessions will explore this question and more as we seek to more deeply understand Vatican II.*

### **Session 1 (September 15 – October 13): The History & Context**

#### **What was Vatican II?**

*This 5-week session will explore the dynamics that led to the Second Vatican Council, and why, after less than 100 years from the previous council, the Church called a second council to gather at the Vatican.*

### **Session 2 (October 20 – November 24 no class October 27): The Mass & Liturgy**

#### **Sacrosanctum Concilium - The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy**

*This 5-week session will study the first document produced by the Council, the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy. In these classes we will explore the words, and, as far as we may be able to deduce, the intention, of the council.*

### **Session 3 (January 5 – February 9 no class January 19): The Church**

#### **Lumen Gentium - The Dogmatic Constitution on the Church**

*Vatican II positively defined the Church, giving all the Baptized a role and mission to be lived. This 5-week course will both explore this document and call us to respond to the call to be "Light for all people."*

### **Session 4 (February 23 – March 23): The Bible & Tradition**

#### **Dei Verbum - The Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation**

*The Constitution on Divine Revelation is pivotal for Catholics. While Scripture scholarship changed significantly in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries, the Second Vatican Council both acknowledged this, while simultaneously holding to the Church's deep tradition of biblical interpretation, and understanding of the power of the Holy Spirit working in and through the Tradition. These 5 weeks will explore the paradigm for Divine Revelation (Scripture and Tradition) offered by the Second Vatican Council.*

### **Session 5 (March 30 – May 4 no class April 6): The Church & the World**

#### **Gadium et Spes – The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World**

*The fathers of the Second Vatican Council gave the Church a road map for the council's implementation. The final constitution of Vatican II was this pastoral road map that the world's bishops could employ for the ongoing work of the Church. This 5-week study will explore this document, and its implications for our Church and lives today.*

**Monday Evenings, 6:30-8:00pm**

**\$25.00 per 5-week Session OR \$100.00 for All Five 5-week Sessions.**

*(Registration includes a text of all 16 documents of The Second Vatican Council)*

*Register at: [www.bscaz.org/u-faith](http://www.bscaz.org/u-faith)*