

St. Raymond of Peñafort

Adult Bible Study 2026-27

The Deuterocanon

Jerusalem Will Be Built with Gold.

The Preamble to the New Testament

Seven books have been excluded from the Protestant canon of Scripture and kept by the Catholic Church: Baruch, Sirach, Wisdom, Judith, Tobit, and 1 & 2 Maccabees, along with portions of Daniel and Esther. These books, to quote one famous theologian, “form an organic part of the canon of the Catholic Church and she, therefore, considers them to be inspired in an unqualified sense.” Without looking for it, the Catholic Church has been made the sole inheritor of the treasures that these books contain. They are a brilliant gem in her crown, “a wholly indispensable link in the economy of revelation,” connecting the world of the Hebrew Bible to the life and times of Christ.

In this course (Fall 2026 through Spring 2027), we will carefully unravel the mysteries of these books, discovering their place in salvation history and what they tell us about God’s love for his people. All who want to discover these treasures are welcome. We extend a special invitation to Protestant friends and relatives of the parish community who want to learn more.

Classes Begin September 14



Monday Mornings

8:30 am Mass

9 am Light Refreshments

9:30 am -11 am Class in the Parish Hall



Monday Evenings

(please note this is a different day than previous years)

7- 8:30 pm in the Maurer Room

About Our Facilitator:

Thomas Hoerner is a husband and father. He studied Theology and Philosophy at Benedictine College, going on to earn a Master’s in Biblical Studies at the University of Notre Dame. Thomas then returned to Benedictine to teach Hebrew, Theology, and Great Books courses alongside his old mentors. This year he is beginning his second year of doctoral studies at the Catholic University of America, serving as a research assistant for the Sheen Preaching Initiative’s three volume manual on the Sunday lectionary. He is passionate about sharing the discoveries of biblical studies with the Church and placing them at the service of prayer. He hopes to write his dissertation on the theology of the Septuagint translators, the scribes of the third and second centuries BC who brought the Old Testament from Hebrew into Greek.