

*What does it mean to be faithful?*

*Join us for our **GIFT** session*

**Sunday September 28**

**or**

**Monday September 29**

*As we explore*



# **Faithfulness in The Old Testament**

Featuring Fr. Bill Burkert, Marni Geissler,  
Deb Steppe & Tom Chmielewski as our Adult Presenters

*Fr. Bill, Marni, Deb and Tom are all faithful members of OLOL, struggling with some of the same questions that our Old Testament ancestors struggled with!*

***GIFT is for all parishioners, regardless of age, gender,  
marital, household or life situation.***

***We are all life long learners!***

## *Some Thoughts to Ponder...*

### **What is Faithfulness? According to Miriam Webster:**

FAITHFUL, LOYAL, CONSTANT, STAUNCH, STEADFAST, RESOLUTE mean firm in adherence to whatever one owes allegiance. FAITHFUL implies unswerving adherence to a person or thing or to the oath or promise by which a tie was contracted < *faithful* to her promise >. LOYAL implies a firm resistance to any temptation to desert or betray < remained *loyal* to the czar >. CONSTANT stresses continuing firmness of emotional attachment without necessarily implying strict obedience to promises or vows < *constant* friends >. STAUNCH suggests fortitude and resolution in adherence and imperviousness to influences that would weaken it < a *staunch* defender of free speech >. STEADFAST implies a steady and unwavering course in love, allegiance, or conviction < *steadfast* in their support >. RESOLUTE implies firm determination to adhere to a cause or purpose < a *resolute* ally >.



### **Faithfulness**

Fidelity or faithfulness (hb. *'emet*), a major attribute of God (Ex 34:6), is frequently associated with his paternal goodness (hb. *hesed*) toward the people of the covenant. These two complimentary attributes indicate that the covenant is at one and the same a free gift and a lien, the solidity of which has stood the proof of centuries...all through salvation history God's fidelity is shown to be immutable in contrast to the constant infidelity of [people] until Christ, faithful witness of the truth communicates the Grace with which he is filled...

[Dictionary of Biblical Theology. Leon-Dufour, ed., page 164.]

“Wherever you go I will go, wherever you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people and your God, my God. Where you die I will die, and there be buried. May the LORD do thus to me, and more, if even death separates me from you!” [Ruth 1:16-17]

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said: I am God the Almighty. Walk in my presence and be blameless. Between you and me I will establish my covenant, and I will multiply you exceedingly. Abram fell face down and God said to him: For my part, here is my covenant with you: you are to become the father of a multitude of nations. No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I am making you the father of a multitude of nations.” [Genesis 17:1-5]

***Please note:***

***If you are not registered for GIFT, an RSVP is necessary  
so that we have enough food and materials.***

***Please call Jenni at 414-541-9470***

***See you at GIFT!***