

Session Dates

Introduction	Saturday, October 10th (At the PU Conference)
Session One	Friday, November 13th
Session Two	Friday, January 8th
Session Three	Friday, February 5th
Session Four	Friday, March 11th
Session Five	Friday, April 8th

Schedule (at each session)

6:45 pm	Registration Open
7:00 pm	Class 1
8:10 pm	Break
8:15 pm	Class 2
9:25 pm	Refreshments

Registration Fee

One Person	Two Persons
\$75	\$135

To register, visit:

www.parentuniversityNRP.org

Payments can also be made at the door

Childcare

\$20 per family each night

Under the supervision of
The Embers Elementary School

A great opportunity for you, your spouse and your friends to come back to the classroom with a guided reading of a great work of literature, theology or philosophy.

PARENT UNIVERSITY

Classics Curriculum



“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.”

—Aristotle

2015-2016

Parent Course Offerings

www.parentuniversityNRP.org



8320 Ballard Road • Niles, IL 60714

Course 1

Restless Hearts in Search of Meaning: The Challenge of Educating in Hope

Teacher: Fr. Javier del Castillo, Ph.D.

Course 2

Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*: Timeless Wisdom about Marriage and Family Life

Teacher: Mr. Robert Barder

Course 3

What is Truth? Whose Right? Who's Wrong? A New Look at the Natural Law

Teacher: Frederick A. Smith, M.D. et al

Session One:

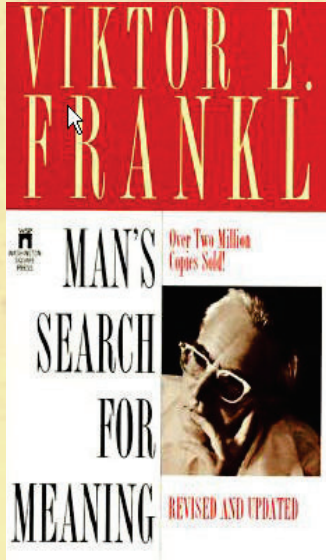
Romano Guardini's *Stages of Life*.

We will take a look at the definition of a "crisis" and how at every stage of life there is a specific crisis that can be overcome and viewed as an opportunity for personal growth.

Session Two:

Viktor Frankl's *Man's Search of Meaning*.

How is it that the strongest and most physically fit prisoners were not the ones who necessarily survived the Nazi atrocities at Auschwitz? As a psychiatrist and Holocaust survivor, Viktor Frankl shows us how to find meaning in suffering through love.



Session Three:

C.S. Lewis's *A Grief Observed*.

C.S. Lewis takes us on a journey through the depths of suffering as he reflects on the death of his wife. We will ask the question why God allows us to suffer.

Session Four:

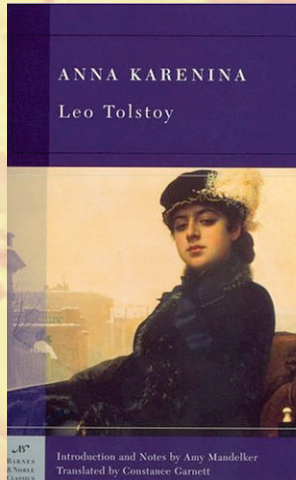
Benedict XVI's, *Spe Salvi*.

In this monumental encyclical, Pope Benedict gives us the key to understand why modern man often loses hope. We will see how to avoid the pitfalls to which our children will be exposed.

Session Five:

Josef Pieper's *Leisure the Basis of Culture*.

In this class, we will propose a culture in which we can find space and time to reflect, not only in order to make sense of our perplexities, but also in order to excel and discover the highest and fullest way of being human.



Session One: Will cover Part I of the novel.

Among the questions to be discussed will be: Why is one character, for Tolstoy, the image of evil and another character the embodiment of goodness? What two moral exercises are absolutely essential for married couples to practice and teach their children?

Session Two: Will cover Part II of the novel.

Among the questions to be discussed will be: How does this section of the novel emphasize the absolute importance of honesty in marriage relationships? If we wish to improve – ourselves, our marriages, our families – in a way that will last, what critical lesson do we need to learn from the experiences of one of Tolstoy's most remarkable characters?

Session Three: Will cover Parts III & IV of the novel.

Among the questions to be discussed will be: What would Tolstoy say are the happiest moments of our lives? How are work and forgiveness prominent themes in the novel, and similarly, how are they significant for today's married couples and their families?

Session Four: Will cover Parts V & VI of the novel.

Among the questions to be discussed will be: What is one critical component for the success of any marriage? Through a marvelously crafted section of the novel, how does Tolstoy encourage the patience and perseverance of parents in their vocation?

Session Five: Will cover Parts VII & VIII of the novel.

Among the questions to be discussed will be: What is the deep significance of the novel's epigraph? What are we to do if our lives do not seem meaningful?

Session One: The Law of the Jungle? – In this lecture, we will look at the concepts of Law, Nature and Natural Law. Thomas Aquinas' classic definitions of each will provide the starting point for our discussion. We will also cover several theories of Natural Law that have been developed.

Session Two: The Natural Moral Law – In this lecture we will see how Thomas Aquinas incorporated the work of Aristotle into a virtue-based approach to human excellence, one in which Natural Law is an intrinsic component. We will show, moreover, how although the Natural Law is a law of reason, it also serves as the basis and is compatible with revealed Truth.

Session Three: Subjective Conscience or Objective Truth? – If everyone is called to follow his/her conscience, how could there be objective, moral norms for everyone in society? Are proponents of the Natural Law "imposing" their views of morality on others who may not accept them? Who decides who is right? And on basis is that judgment made? Whose views should be tolerated and whose should not?



Session Four: How far can I go? – This is a common question among teenagers. The problem is not so much with the question as with what it presupposes. This question views law as arbitrary and in competition with freedom. What is the right relationship between freedom and law, nature and freedom, freedom and obedience? How can we educate our children in the proper outlook?

Session Five: Bioethics and Social Ethics

Today: A Slippery Slope? – In modern society, we see a vast divergence of views on a number of (literally) vital issues. Can natural law theory provide us with a common basis for reasoned discussion in issues such as cloning, euthanasia, abortion, eugenics, contraception, gay "marriage" and many others?