

Barbara Reid

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW



In many ways, the Gospel of Matthew holds "primacy of place" for Christians. It is the first book in the New Testament, and was the Gospel most used in worship in the early Church. Some of the best-loved passages in Scripture, as well as some of the most difficult sayings of Jesus are found in this Gospel. The evangelist was likely a Jewish Christian who had extensive knowledge of the Hebrew Scriptures and a keen concern for Jewish observance and the law. Indeed, some scholars even suggest that Matthew's organizing principle was to present Jesus as the New Moses, giving five blocks of teaching, corresponding to the five books of the Pentateuch. As such, the Gospel of Matthew is a natural "bridge" between the Old and New Testaments - both shedding light on the Old and enriching our understanding of the New. Matthew presents Jesus as the crux of a new era - ushering in the arrival of the "Kingdom of Heaven". With its emphasis on Jesus as authoritative teacher, moreover, Matthew stresses the ethical implications of discipleship and our participation in the ministry and mission of Jesus.

Join us for a morning Bible Study

Who: All are welcome

What: An exploration of the Gospel of Matthew using the New Collegeville Bible Commentary as our guide

When: Thursdays, February 16 through April 13

Where: St. Victoria Parish, St. Anthony Room

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Cost: Suggested donation of \$10

RSVP: Mary Catino 443-2661