



# Giáo Lý Ơi

Welcome to Issue #9 of GLO!  
Easter is coming! Let us prepare for the Resurrection of our Lord!  
<http://groups.vmpwa.org/GiaoLy>



## **With Easter coming...don't forget to prepare!**

During the Lenten season, we take some time to look at our lives to see how we can improve our relationship with God. Part of that process include receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Take the time to receive this important Sacrament either at our parish or another parish near you! Jesus is always waiting for you to come back to him.



## **Registration for 2017-2018 will be shared through [phuhuynh-all@groups.vmpwa.org](mailto:phuhuynh-all@groups.vmpwa.org)**

Attention Parents! We will be sharing registration information for 2017-2018 year through email. You will receive some initial information, later this month. We also distribute this newsletter via email through the email group, as well. If you are not receiving these announcements, please let us know ([minhquan.trieu@vmpwa.org](mailto:minhquan.trieu@vmpwa.org)).



## **April Classes Reminder! (full calendar on our website!)**

Saturday, April 1st - Normal classes  
Saturday, April 8th - Normal classes (Palm Sunday!)  
Saturday, April 15th - No classes because of Easter!  
Saturday, April 22nd - Normal classes, Divine Mercy Weekend  
Saturday, April 29th - Normal classes



**Thank you** to Chị Hà and all the parent volunteers who come and provide us with delicious food! If you would like to help, please contact Chị Hà through email ([hatran98012@yahoo.com](mailto:hatran98012@yahoo.com)).



## **Young Adult Retreat Recap!**

We were blessed with our first ever Giáo Lý/Thiếu Nhi/Việt Ngữ Đắc Lộ retreat in March! Thank you to everyone who came to the retreat and those who supported us in our retreat whether that be through spiritual or physical means. It was truly special to have teachers from the three programs come together for a weekend of fellowship!



## **Updated Class Calendar!**

Over the winter break, Giáo Lý + TNTT + VNDL met and revised our school calendar. Most all classes have remained the same, except for a few small changes. The new schedule confirms the Confirmation retreat in May, as well as the many Parish events for the coming year. **Specifically, the Parish Lenten retreat (March), Divine Mercy Weekend (April), and 100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima (May) will extend TNTT and VNDL classes into June.** The parish office can provide families a paper copy, or you may download through our website (<http://groups.vmpwa.org/giaoly>).



# Giáo Lý Ơi Continued



## “Do you believe this?” (Jn 11:1-45)

*A reflection from Triệu Minh-Quân, Phụ Trách Chung (General Coordinator)*



While in college, I told my mom that I didn't believe in Jesus, and that I didn't want to be Catholic, anymore. I was tired of going to church, and made the excuse that I just didn't "feel" God in my life.

For a very long time, I presumed faith was based on how I "feel" God in my life. I pondered... the Samaritan woman at the well, to the healing of the man born blind, and this week in bringing Martha's brother Lazarus back to life... sometimes I wished God would do some of that for me!



I realize now that I was waiting for the wrong thing, and that feelings alone are too fleeting. In these Gospel encounters leading up to Easter, the miracles aren't the highlight, but rather the single question Jesus asks, personally. Standing face to face, eye to eye, Jesus asked, "Do you believe?"

Yes, or No?

And each - the Samaritan woman, the blind beggar, and Martha (before any miracle while Lazarus lay dead), had to make a decision.

I can only imagine what that choice would feel like. To actually stand facing Jesus. A man as kind and compassionate as he is, yet also someone who would tell me when I am wrong. A man who would speak truth to me, in the right way, at the right time. A man who I may have seen do incredible things.



He would ask me, too, candidly, "Do YOU believe?"



So after proclaiming to my mom back then that I wanted to be Catholic no-more, I quickly realized Jesus asked the same question of me. And I wrestled with it. And asked God to ask me again... please not this week but next week. And the next week after that. And the next one, after that.

What saved my faith was to pray that God help make the choice clearer to me, regularly. I imagined Jesus standing in front of me, and asking me face to face. I could ask questions back to Jesus if I struggled.

After reading this week's Gospel, what if you were standing there when Jesus asked Martha? What if Jesus suddenly turned to you and asked, "Do you believe?" How would you respond?

