

# FAQ

## What is Saints of The City?

*Saints of the City (SotC)* is an outreach initiative of Theological Horizons, a ministry based at the University of Virginia. SotC seeks to provide a warm environment for people from different ages, faith and cultural backgrounds, an invitation to connect with others and consider one aspect of spiritual truth or practical wisdom as modeled by a saint from the Christian tradition.

## What is Theological Horizons?

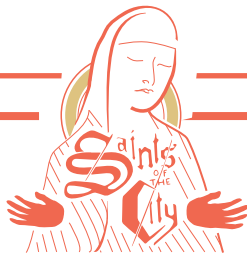
Theological Horizons is a ministry that supports Christians and seekers in academia by providing a welcoming community for engaging faith, thought and life. It is based on Grounds at the University of Virginia, but its distinctive ministry style, robust alumni network, *Vintage Saints and Sinners* podcast, and online discipleship resources help its ministry reach well beyond Charlottesville's city limits.

Learn more at [www.theologicalhorizons.org](http://www.theologicalhorizons.org). Get in touch at [info@theologicalhorizons.org](mailto:info@theologicalhorizons.org)

## What's With the Name?

Saints of the City gatherings are loosely modeled after a popular student outreach at UVA called "Vintage Lunch". There students are invited to share a meal and engage with a brief passage from the life or writings of a saint that connects to a modern-day challenge (e.g. finding rest, coping with anxiety, discovering one's calling, etc). The idea of "vintage" Christianity presses on the idea that throughout history, even the holiest among us have struggled along the journey.

In 2017, Theological Horizons' Director, Karen Marsh, compiled years of reflections and stories about these wonderfully human "saints" from Vintage lunch gatherings in her best-selling book, *Vintage Saints and Sinners: 25 Christians Who Transformed My Faith*. That book, its corresponding podcast, and now, a pilot Saints of the City initiative in 3 U.S. Cities, all seek to discover how we can learn from the saints who have gone before us, recognize the saints both past and present who are in our midst, and endeavor to become more saint-like ourselves.



# FAQ cont.

## What Can I Expect?

*Saints of the City* gatherings are designed to foster easy and natural connections with others and substantively engage questions of faith and life without intimidation or pressure. Ahead of each gathering an optional reading and reflection prompt will be circulated to highlight the saint(s) and theme(s) to be discussed. Every gathering will feature time for introductions and casual conversation, a brief teaching or passage from the life of a saint that connects to a contemporary theme, and time for reflection and discussion.

## Who Is It For?

Everyone! While UVA alumni or those with other UVA connections may naturally have a closer connection to Theological Horizons' work, *Saints of the City* gatherings are designed to welcome anyone who is eager to connect with others from their city, curious about faith, or simply looking to learn something new. UVA and non-UVA alumni are welcome. Christians and non-Christians are welcome. Older folks, younger adults, and everyone in between are welcome. You are welcome.

## How Can I Find Out More?

Contact your local Saints of the City Ambassador Nancy Beane at [nancybeane99@gmail.com](mailto:nancybeane99@gmail.com) or Micah Iverson at [micahciverson@gmail.com](mailto:micahciverson@gmail.com). Or, visit Theological Horizons at [www.theologicalhorizons.org](http://www.theologicalhorizons.org)