

# NEW CONNECTIONS

JEGEN CENTER FOR CATECHETICAL MEDIA AND RESEARCH  
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## A Note from the Editor

As the summertime approaches many activities and distractions occupy our minds. Some go on vacation, others participate in extra study or summer school, still others do some kind of immersion work to familiarize themselves with another culture or another way of thinking. This year no doubt we will all be watching the Vatican as Pope Benedict XVI takes up office. For many, Pope John Paul II was the only pope they knew, so this will be a totally new experience. Perhaps this would be a good time to brush up on some of your Church History. At the Jegen Center we have some very interesting videos that trace the happenings in the Church from early days to the present. Plan to come down and spend some time. We are open Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 4:30 and have lovely comfortable places for you to relax, rejuvenate reflect, and refresh yourself.

In this edition of the newsletter you will find an updated listing of the materials in conformity with the Catechism of the Catholic Church for use in your religious education programs. You will also find a description of the VideoFest, and a listing of some of the videos we are featuring about the history of the Church and about the Popes. Finally, you will read about some new changes we are initiating at the Jegen Center.

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## Approved Basal Catechetical Texts

### Benziger

Christ Jesus the Way! Sch/Par ©2003 K-6  
Christ Jesus the Way! Sch/Par ©2004 7-8  
Cristo Jesús, el Camino, ©2003 K-6  
Come Follow Me, Sch/Par©1998 K-8  
Share the Joy, Parish ©1997 K-6

### Harcourt

Call to Faith, Sch/Par ©2005 K-6  
Walking by Faith, Sch/Par ©1999 K-6

### Ignatius Press

Faith and Life, ©1984-87, 2002-03 1-8  
Image of God, ©1986-1993 K-8

### Loyola Press

Christ Our Life, Sch/Par ©1997-2002 K-8  
Finding God: Our Response to God's Gifts,  
Sch/Par ©2005 1-6

### RCL

FaithFirst, Sch/Par ©2000, 2001 K-6  
FaithFirst Junior High, Sch/Par ©2001 7-8  
FaithFirst/Legacy Edition, Par ©2006 K-8

### Sadlier

Acerandote a La Fe ©1999 K-6  
Coming to Faith Sch ©1998, Par ©1999 K-6  
Coming to Faith/Keystone Edition Sch ©1998  
& Par ©1999 K-6  
Creemos/We Believe Par ©2005 K-6  
We Believe, Sch/Par ©2004 K-6  
Faith and Witness Sch/Par ©1998-99 7-8  
One Faith, One Lord ©2003 7-8  
Un Solo Fe, Un Solo Señor ©2003 7-8

### Silver Burdett Ginn

Blest Are We, Par ©2002, Sch ©2004 1-6  
Blest Are We Jr High, Par ©2003, Sch ©2005  
7-8  
This Is Our Faith, Sch ©1998 K-8

## **Featured Videos**

### **The History of Vatican II**

**The Faithful Revolution**, Vatican II Productions; distributed by Lyrick Studios, [1997].

In 1962, Pope John XXIII called the Second Vatican Council, a significant event which still continues to affect human history. This series was filmed to document the council, its decisions, and its profound impact on humanity. It consists of five programs and is told by men and women who witnessed the Council.

VC090404 Program 1; **Genius of the Heart**. Program One is about Pope John XXIII and his vision to bring change and reform in the Church. From debates on changing the Mass and sacraments to the volatile relationship between the Catholic Church and modern culture, this Council certainly did bring sweeping reforms. To the profound sadness of both Catholics and non-Catholics, John XXIII died in Summer 1963, only a few months after the first session of the Council. He left behind a lasting legacy, but some wondered what would happen to the Council without his leadership. Running time is approximately 1 hour; includes study guide.

VC090405 Program 2; **Inspired Awakening**. A new pope is elected, Pope Paul VI, who decides to continue Vatican II and to discuss ideas set in motion by John XXIII. For the first time, the Catholic Church begins to examine and discuss the changing role of women in the Church and society. Important strides were also being made in Ecumenism which filled the entire Christian community with great hope for unity. Many people embraced the changes coming from the Council, but communities of believers rejected the reforms of Vatican II, putting themselves on the outer margins of the Church, believing that the Council was going too far. Running time is approximately 1 hour; includes study guide.

VC090406 Program 3; **Human Dignity**. Some say that without Vatican II, the Church would not have found its calling to work among the poor and oppressed. Important also was the Council's declaration on religious freedom, the struggle for which is an ongoing challenge. Examples of this challenge and struggle are the

success of the Solidarity movement in Poland, and a healing dialogue among Catholics, Jews, and other religions. Running time is approximately 1 hour; includes study guide

VC090407 Program 4; **A World Transformed**.

After Vatican II, the Church was described in new terms, and the role of the laity changed drastically. Lay people became full and active participants in almost every aspect of Church life, which affected the discussion of a wide variety of controversial subjects. Work for peace and justice was recognized as an essential aspect of Christian life. More people now viewed acts of civil disobedience as obedience to God in the defense of human rights. Running time is approximately 1 hour; includes study guide.

VC090408 Program 5, **The Dynamics of Hope**.

The legacy of Vatican II carried on through the newly elected Pope John Paul II, but not without controversy. Many saw him as a man of the council, but others believed that he slowed down many of the council's reforms. Certainly Pope John Paul II was greatly influenced by council, and because of his fight for religious freedom, helped bring down the Berlin Wall. At the same time, liberation theology was taking hold in Latin America. Controversy on this subject includes those who think it is a Marxist theology, and others who say it is a theology that opposes the hierarchical Church. Also the issue of collegiality, the relationship between the bishops and the Pope was hotly discussed then, and still is. Supportive and critical perspectives have been shared regarding the changes brought about by Vatican II. The lasting impression seems to be that this council still continues to nurture the dynamics of hope in the Catholic Church. Running time is approximately 1 hour; includes study guide.



## History of the Popes

**Saints and Sinners** Bethesda, MD: Acorn Media, 1997. This is a six volume series tracing the history of the papacy up to the third millennium.

VC091272 Volume 1: **Upon This Rock.** Volume 1 examines the early Church and traces the development of papal authority in the first five centuries.

VC091273 Volume 2: **Between Two Empires.** Volume 2 focuses on the developing role of the Papacy as a religious and political force during the conversion of Europe to Christianity, 6th - 10th centuries.

VC091274 Volume 3: **Set Over Nations.** Volume 3 covers the reforms instituted by Pope Gregory VII and his conflicts with the Holy Roman Empire as well as the Inquisition, the Crusades and the move to Avignon.

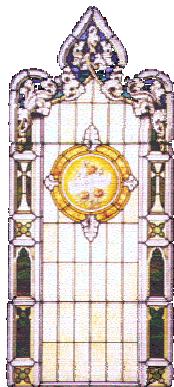
VC091275 Volume 4: **Protest and Division.** Volume 4 shows the aftermath of the Schism in the Renaissance, the cultural heights and spiritual depths of the period, the Reformation and the Counter Reformation.

VC091276 Volume 5: **The Pope and the People.** Volume 5 studies the modern era beginning with the French Revolution, and papal resistance in Pius IX and Leo XIII's more conciliatory and progressive approach at dawn of twentieth century.

VC091277 Volume 6: **Oracles of God.** Volume 6 describes the period of 1903 to the 1990's, ending by considering the challenges of the Third Millennium.

## Church History

VC092827 **The Inquisition.** The History Channel, 1999. Its very name conjures up horrific images of torture, persecution, and corruption of power. The Inquisition was a special court established by Pope Gregory IX in 1231 to root out heresy. This History Channel program presents a



balanced and fair-minded history of this time in the Catholic Church, and also the Vatican is conducting its own inquisition into this dark period in Church history. Running time is approximately 100 minutes.

## About Pope John Paul II

VC060437 **We Love You: Pope John Paul II in the Philippines 1995.**

Recorded in the Philippines during World Youth Day in 1995, this film attempts to capture the excitement that calls all the world's youth to become disciples for Christ.

VC061216 **I Come as a Pilgrim**

This is a news record of the visit of Pope John Paul II to America in 1987. Narrated by Maria Shriver.

VC221793 **John Paul II; Visiting the Pope, A Day with John Paul II**

This video goes through an "average" day in the life of Pope John Paul II when he is at the Vatican. It shows many parts of the papal residence area, as well as some of the public halls and other places where the Pope holds audiences or has important meetings. Running time is approximately 30 minutes.

VC092072 **Gateway to Faith**

Covers the Pope's visit in St. Louis and traces the history of the Catholic Church in St. Louis. The Pope addresses the youth to celebrate their baptismal call, ecumenical prayer service, challenge to enter the new millennium with Christ as the Shepherd.

VC223109 **The Pope; Life and Times of John Paul II**

This is a video documentary about the private life of Pope John Paul II, the 263rd successor to the Apostle Peter. It includes rare film footage, historic photographs, and intimate interviews with friends, colleagues, and biographers about this very recognized and well-known man. Karol Wojtyla, the future pontiff. He started as a modest chemical plant worker in Poland, and survived Nazi atrocities and communist persecutions, before his rise to the office of Pope. His example through his ordeal of an assassination attempt is an inspiration for all. Running time is approximately 60 minutes.

**VC223110 Witness To Hope; The Life of Karol Wojtyla, Pope John Paul II**

This video is about Karol Wojtyla, Pope John Paul II who is a poet, playwright, actor, mystic, and pope. Shaped by the terrors of World War II and the subsequent brutalities of the Communist era in Poland, he became one of the world's great defenders of religious freedom and human rights. Filmed on location in Krakow and Rome, this documentary traces the personal life and struggles of the first non-Italian Pope in over 450 years; based on the book *Witness to Hope* by George Weigel. Running time is almost 2 hours.

**VC223868 From a Far Country; Pope John Paul II**

This video follows the life of Polish Roman Catholic Karol Wojtyla who became Pope John Paul II. He was a bright student as a young boy and when he was older. Archbishop Sapieha recognized his special qualities and encouraged him to consider the priesthood, although originally Wojtyla was determined to study Polish literature. He entered the seminary, was ordained, and studied in Italy, France, and Belgium. In post-Stalin Eastern Europe torn by fear and repression, he became a thorn in the communists' side. His deep reverence and commitment to the church eventually returned him to Poland as Pope John Paul II. Starring Sam Neill. Running time is approximately 126 minutes; partly live action story format and partly documentary.

**VC184780 Pope John Paul II. The Way of the Cross- Part One: In the heart of the city.**

**VC184781 Pope John Paul II. The Way of the Cross-part two. Stations 7 thru 14: In the heart of the city.**

On Friday evening, July 26th 2002, the World Youth Day Way of the Cross began at 7:30 pm, in Nathan Philips Square in front of Toronto's modern City Hall. A group of 150 young people representing the countries of the World Youth Day pilgrims accompanied the Way of the Cross. The principal actors followed the Cross from stage to stage along University Avenue. At each station a scene was acted out, a prayer was said, and the station concluded with the Our Father and Hail Mary. Pope John Paul himself wrote the text of the Way of the Cross, which increased the significance of this special event. And although he was not present there in person, the Pontiff watched the event unfold via a special television link from his retreat north of Toronto.

**Upcoming VideoFest**

Looking for something new and exciting to animate your classes for the coming year? Once again we will have a VideoFest where we show clips of many films and discuss their possible use. It is always an afternoon of enjoyable learning! Plan to join us at the Jegen Center on Friday, June 17th from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Fliers have already been sent to your parish but if you have any questions, just call the Jegen Center at 312-243-4562.



**Changes at the Jegen Center**

New ideas are taking root regarding forms of membership at the Jegen Center. The best offer for membership still remains the Parish Membership for Unlimited Usage. However we are aware that this does not always suit everyone. There are some areas where a parish membership is not supported, so we are planning something new to attend to the need for good media resources in these places. Beginning in July we will be piloting family or individual memberships. The pilot will begin with the individuals and families who consistently patronize the Jegen Center at the present time, using the materials for their families or for their classes. If the pilot appears to be successful we will promote this form of membership to others who cannot participate as Parish or Institution members. Keep watching for further updates.



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