



NEW CONNECTIONS

JEGEN CENTER FOR CATECHETICAL MEDIA AND RESEARCH ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
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A Note from the Editor:

This past year has seen many parishes and schools tightening the belts and trimming budgets. It has seen many of us deeply saddened by the scandals that have rocked the Church. It has seen us stretched to truly define our values as Catholics - about freedom, about war, about the dignity of life, about the death penalty.

On what do we base our value systems? How do we adequately form our consciences? Is it enough to rely on what we learned when we were growing up? Have we pursued further formation since we were confirmed? I know many people who wouldn't miss the daily news for anything - either in the form of the newspaper or in the form of the local news broadcasts. Hopefully they are as ardent in their pursuits of moral and faith formation!

In this issue of the *New Connections* we hope to offer some suggestions of what is available for formation as a Catholic. We will update you on the list of catechetical materials and textbooks that are in conformity with the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. We will also offer you some ideas of materials available at the Jegen Center to help in formation of a Catholic conscience on all levels. And finally we will give you some dates to remember for personal and professional enrichment.

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Updated List of Approved Catechetical Texts for the Archdiocese of Chicago

The Bishops' Committee on the Catechism has just published their updated conformity listing of catechetical texts and series. As of June 10, 2003 there are some new items included, and there are some previously listed items that have been deleted. The deletions are basically because the publisher has released the information that the text will no longer be published.

Up to now the approved listing in the Archdiocese has only applied to basal catechetical series. This has not yet changed, but it is good to know which are the sacramental preparation materials, the family life materials, the supplementary materials, and the high school texts that have been found in conformity with the Catechism by the Bishops' committee. These will be listed below in their specific categories for your information.



Approved Basal Catechetical Series

Benziger

Christ Jesus the Way! School/Parish © 2003 K-6
Come Follow Me School/Parish © 1998 K-8
Share the Joy Parish © 1997 K-6

Harcourt Religion Publishers

Walking by Faith School/Parish © 1999 K-6

Ignatius Press

Faith and Life © 1984-1987 1-8
Faith and Life © 2002 (1-2) © 2003 (6-8)
Image of God © 1986-1993 K-8

Loyola Press

Christ Our Life School/Parish © 1997-2002 K-8

Resources for Christian Living

FaithFirst School/Parish © 2000, 2001 K-6
FaithFirst Junior High © 2001 Jr. High

Sadlier (William H. Sadlier, Inc.)

Acerandote a La Fe/Coming to Faith © 1999 K-6
Coming to Faith/Keystone Edition School © 1998 & Parish © 1999 K-6
Faith and Witness Program School/Parish © 1998-1999 Jr. High

One Faith, One Lord © 2003 Jr. High (English and bi-lingual editions)
Sadlier We Believe School/Parish © 2004 K-6

Silver Burdett Ginn
Blest Are We Parish © 2002 & School © 2004 1-6
Blest Are We Junior High Parish © 2003 7-8
This Is Our Faith School © 1998 K-8



Sacramental Preparation Texts in Conformity with the Catechism

Reconciliation and Eucharist Texts

Harcourt Religion Publishers
Celebrating Our Faith: Reconciliation & Eucharist © 2000 primary level
Celebrating Our Faith: Reconciliation & Eucharist, Level II © 2002 intermediate level

Pauline Books & Media
Jesus Brings Us Life © 1996 primary level

Resources for Christian Living
Eucharist © 2003 primary level
Eucaristia © 2003 nível primário
Reconciliation © 2003 primary level
Reconciliación © 2003 nível primário

Sadlier (William H. Sadlier, Inc.)
Sacrament Program: First Reconciliation & Eucharist © 2000 primary level (English and bi-lingual editions)

Silver Burdett Ginn
The Gift of Eucharist © 2000 primary level
The Gift of Reconciliation © 2000 primary level

Confirmation Texts

Ave Maria Press
Send Out Your Spirit © 2003 high school level

Harcourt Religion Publishers
Celebrating Our Faith: Confirmation © 2000 junior high level

Ignatius Press
Image of God: Confirmation © 1986-1993 junior high level

Loyola Press
Christ Our Life: Confirmed in the Spirit © 1997 junior high level

Pauline Books & Media
Be Sealed © 1998 junior high level

Sadlier (William H. Sadlier, Inc.)
The Spirit Sets Us Free: Confirmation Prep for Youth © 2000 junior high level (English and bi-lingual editions)



Family Life Materials in Conformity with the Catechism

Benziger
Benziger Family Life © 2001 (3rd printing or later) K-8

Harcourt Religion Publishers
Growing in Love © 2001 K-8

Our Sunday Visitor
Catholic Vision of Love © 1996, revised edition 5-8



Supplementary Materials in Conformity with the Catechism

Loyola Press
Knowing Our Catholic Faith: Beliefs & Traditions © 2000 1-8

Resources for Christian Living
Nuestra Identidad Católica © 1998 1-8
Our Catholic Identity © 1998 1-8



High School Texts in Conformity with the Catechism

Ave Maria Press
Catholic Social Teaching: Learning and Living Justice © 2001
Encountering Jesus in the New Testament © 2003
Our Sacramental Life: Living and Worshiping in Christ © 2003
The Church: Our Story © 1999
Your Life in Christ: Foundations of Catholic Morality © 2001

C. R. Publications
Catholicism Series © 1996-1997

Harcourt Religion Publishers
Journey Through the Old Testament © 2002

Midwest Theological Forum
Introduction to Catholicism © 2003
Our Moral Life In Christ © 2003

Priory Press
Dominican Series © 2000

Resources for Christian Living
Understanding the Catechism © 1999 (four titles)



Videos for Moral Formation

The following videos in the Jegen Center can help in moral formation. Many of these listed can be classified as "hidden treasures." Most of them are appropriate for adolescents through adults, although some are appropriate for younger children. Call for more information on them.

The Widow's Mite

True story of a young missionary in Hong Kong and an elderly woman who showed him much about Christian caring.

Ambassadors of Love

A dedicated community farm in New Mexico works to raise food for their hungry neighbors across the border.

Amie

Shows the impact that one dedicated person can have on an inner city environment.

Beginning Again

Five stories highlight grassroots movements to solve some of America's most prevalent social problems.

Caring in the Inner City

Deals with inner city situations such as teenage prostitutes, runaways, bag ladies and hungry neighbors from a Christian perspective.

Little Friend

The story of an elderly Japanese man who hires a young boy to help him with his radio shop. Set in California just before U.S. entry into World War II.

Older and Better

The story of the beatitudes as seen through the living example of senior neighbors.

My Son, My Son

Looks at the human reality of homosexuality and AIDS. Raises a call for compassionate love and understanding set in these father-son relationships.

From the House of Fear to the House of Love

Moving toward peace not from fear but out of love for other people, the poor and Jesus, Nouwen considers spirituality to be a critical component.

Human Sexuality: Wonderful Gift, Awesome Responsibility

Explores what it means to be a sexual being through responsibility, fidelity and issues around sexuality.

Bioethical Issues: Ethics at the Edge of Life

Looks at the sanctity of human life - to treat or not to treat, ordinary - extraordinary, the living will, and the Christian perspective on these ethical issues.

The Gospel Is a Social Message: Justice in the Christian Tradition

Looks at social sin, racism, military and economic justice, the meaning of common good, human dignity, and Christian activity for immediate aid and long term reform.

Making Moral Decisions: Euthanasia

Gives insight on Christian beliefs, the importance of medical decisions, real life stories of people coping, living will, pain management, family support.

Making Moral Decisions: Conscience and Conflict

Decision making and difficulties with issues such as sex, stealing, abortion, euthanasia. Helps in the formation of conscience.

Making Moral Decisions: Facing Death

Aimed at understanding death - our own and others, acceptance of reality, dealing with mortality.

Death No More: A Look at the Death Penalty

A look at the death penalty, asking pertinent questions about murder, victims, the 5th commandment, execution, and conversion.

The Shopping Bag Lady

Portrays a teenage girl's encounter with a homeless old woman that leads to her eventual understanding of the problems of aging and the dignity of all individuals. It is about the initiation of a 14-year old girl into the knowledge of life as a shared journey.

Suspect

The story takes place in New York City late at night. An impatient, frustrated African American businessman encounters a Latino cab driver who is reluctant to take him home to Harlem. As they drive through the violent streets of New York mutual paranoia sets in, tension between the two increases, and weapons are concealed in what could be a dangerous cab ride. Is there an attacker? Is there a victim? Who is "Suspect"? This film takes an insightful look at prejudice and perceptions between minorities, and really all people. It encourages the viewer to examine his or her preconceived notions, stereotypes, and ways of thinking about people different from oneself.

The Martyrs' Cry

Thirteen Sudanese boys are captured by the Islamic Army, and only nine survive to tell their story. Rikka, an Indonesian teenage Christian, had a piece of broken glass forced against her stomach as she was told to deny Christ. Ruth, a Vietnamese Hmong Christian, has witnessed so much persecution she no longer fears what the authorities can do to her; she is willing to die for Christ. These people live in different parts of the world, and have grown up in different cultures, but they share in common their persecution for their faith. In this video, they testify to the sufferings they have endured, and how their faith allowed them to hold fast to the Rock of Salvation.

Moving On; Responding in the Spirit

A story about choices that a family faces when they move into a new neighborhood. "K.C.", a Vietnam veteran, lives next door to the Martinez family. K.C.'s service has left him scarred with memories from the past, challenged to cope in the present, and threatened with uncertainty in the future. The Martinez children befriend K.C. and his dog. For the children's mother, the new neighbor stirs up her feelings about the father she never knew, who died in Vietnam. K.C. shares the family's table; when the bank moves to repossess his house, all the members are confronted by choices, to decide literally how to take the Gospel message of Jesus.

We Are Called; Catholic Social Teaching for Today

Connects the Catholic fundamental baptismal call to holiness with the rich tradition of the Social Gospel. It includes explanations of the basic principles of Catholic Social Teaching, and stories of everyday people telling how they live by these principles. It presents a good introduction to these basic teachings grounded in specific issues.

The Broken Toy

Raymond is a lonely twelve-year-old boy who lives with his grandmother. His life is made very difficult by the cruel verbal and physical treatment he receives from the other children at school. In the halls, on the playground, and even in the classroom, Raymond is the victim of constant bullying and teasing, namely from Mike, Troy, and their followers. Raymond's feelings mean nothing to these other students, until one day things get out of hand. No one intended a tragedy to happen, but it does. The incident provides a "wake-up" call to the other students, only it may be too late.

Handle with Care; Helping Children Recognize Moral Values

The five open-ended stories in this video involve second through fourth graders in problem solving and decision making, inviting them to examine their values. The "moral dilemmas" in these stories help children develop caring attitudes and responsible behavior toward others. Jessica wonders if she did the right thing when she buys new hair barrettes with money she found in a soda machine. Keith is faced with giving up his friendship with a black friend for the sake of a new friend who is prejudiced. Jimmy has to decide whether or not to return a ten dollar bill to its rightful owner, or use it to help buy a video he really wants. Monique's Dilemma involves stealing and dealing with the consequences. Maria's Dilemma deals with competition and revenge. These stories encourage children to search their consciences for moral solutions, share responsibility for decision making, and help one another solve problems that are part of daily living.



Save the Dates!

**October 30, 31, November 1 and 2, 2003
Catholic Festival of Faith
At Navy Pier
You won't want to miss this!**

**November 12, 2003 Morning and Evening
Diane Lampitt**

Topic: Parental Involvement in Sacramental Preparation

Sponsored by Resources for Christian Living
Details to follow.

**Watch for more details on the web at
www.jegen.org and in the mail.**

For information call 312-243-4562 or e-mail
jegen@archchicago.org