

NEW CONNECTIONS

JEGEN CENTER FOR CATECHETICAL MEDIA AND RESEARCH ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Vol. VIII, No. 2

WINTER, 2004

A Note from the Editor:

Christmas seems to get earlier every year as stores begin promoting their wares and encouraging shoppers to immerse themselves in the throes of consumerism. It is so easy to get caught in the hustle and bustle of the season and to lose sight of the humble arrival of a tiny Infant in Bethlehem bringing the gift of salvation. How can we prepare ourselves, our families, and our classes for this special season? The Jegen Center has many videos to help all ages in preparation for the coming of the Lord. This issue of the newsletter will present some of the titles that are available for Advent and Christmas preparation. Get your reservations in early! They can be quite popular!

The last page also announces some workshops coming up in the new year. Be sure to save the dates.

May your Advent and Christmas be filled with the hope and joy that the coming of Jesus brought on that first Christmas night!

Videos for Advent and Christmas:

For the Family

VC232071 70 min Family
A Christmas Carol. This is the classic tale of Scrooge.

VC210094 25 min Family
A Good and Perfect Gift. A touching Christmas story of the power of prayer and how it can lead us to appreciate the gifts of those who enter our lives.

VC043232 22 min Family
The First Christmas. Narrated by Christopher Plummer, tells the traditional story of the birth of Jesus. Includes the journey to Bethlehem, encounter with the innkeeper, the angel's announcement to the shepherds and journey of the Magi. Background is familiar Christmas music.

VC 163155 30 min Family
Jacob's Gift. Jacob learns an important lesson about giving when he must choose between building the best woodworking project and helping a family with a newborn baby.

VC071617 28 min Family
The Journey. Paralleling the plight of Mary's and Joseph's seeking a place for Jesus to be born, a homeless couple struggles to find food and shelter for their child.



VC041312 23 min Family
Nestor, The Long-Eared Christmas Donkey. A long time ago a delightful little donkey named Nestor lived in a stable near Bethlehem with his mother. Mocked by everyone for his long ears, he and his mom are thrown out of the stable. During cold, snowy night, Nestor is protected by his mother who dies during the storm. In the spring, a cherub arrives to help guide Nestor on a path so he can save someone as his mother saved him. Mary and Joseph choose Nestor to take them to Bethlehem.

VC080091 60 min Family
Preparing for Christmas. Offers suggestions for experiencing the peace, love, and beauty of Christmas through preparation.

VC080092 56 min Family
Preparing for Christmas II. A sequel to *Preparing for Christmas*, Fr. Tony shows how to experience the peace, love, and beauty of Christmas by preparing for it in a contemporary fashion.

VC041338 27 min Family
The Selfish Giant. Oscar Wilde's timeless tale of the selfish giant can unlock the meaning of Christmas, but it is also a story of sacrifice, joy, and God's unselfish love. The giant's garden is so beautiful he forbids anyone to enter it. Without children's laughter, the garden turns to ice and the North Wind's snow stays all year round.

VC040872 30 min Family
Veggie Tales; The Toy that Saved Christmas. Mr. Nebby K. Nezzzer has convinced all of Dinkletown that "Christmas is when you get stuff." Much whining and begging for more toys seem to point to a terrible Christmas for the town. One Buzz-Saw Louie doll, with the help of Bob the Tomato and Larry the Cucumber, embarks on a hazardous journey to find the true meaning of Christmas. Viewers of all ages learn that Christmas is not about "getting" but about "giving," and mostly about the greatest gift of all, Baby Jesus.

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Visit our website at www.jegen.org.

For Children

VC082156 12 min Prim-Intermed



Advent with Saint Nicholas; Customs from Around the World. Ten-year old Holly arrives home from her religious education class eager to enter a contest about the meaning of Advent. St. Nicholas appears and helps her learn more about the meaning and background of customs

families practice during Advent, such as Advent calendars and wreaths, Christmas trees, Las Posadas, etc. St. Nicholas then offers ideas about practicing these customs in a way that celebrates the Advent spirit of expectation and mystery.

VC044356 30 min Prim-Intermed

Alabaster's Song. This video tells the story of Alabaster, the little angel on top of the Christmas tree, who was sent from heaven and sang a remarkable song. The tender music of the heart unites a boy, his father, and a glorious long ago night in Bethlehem.

VC081751 11 min Prim-Intermed

The Angel's Advent Lesson. Danny is happily making out his Christmas list--adding more and more things--when his Guardian Angel appears and realizes that Danny has forgotten the real meaning of Christmas. Together they review practices like the Advent wreath, reciting daily prayers at home, and doing daily acts of kindness.

VC083154 11 min Prim-Intermed

The Angel's Church Year Lesson. Angels Vita, Caritas, and Benedicta take students on a journey throughout the church year to convince them that Jesus is always with them. They learn what happened to Jesus in each church season and on special feasts, including Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, and Ordinary Time.

VC151710 30 min Prim-Intermed

Animated Stories from New Testament; The King Is Born. A video classic of the true meaning of Christmas - the birth of Jesus.



VC040104 60 min Prim-Intermed

The Bear Who Slept Through Christmas. Bears usually sleep through Christmas except for Ted E. Bear who finds out from Santa that Christmas means loving, sharing and joy.

VC041349 30 min Prim-Intermed

A Christmas for Little Children, Sing-Along Celebration. Music, stories of Mary, Francis of Assisi, and Nicholas, animation and puppets.

VC040102 8 min Prim-Intermed

A Christmas Gift. Claymation characters find the real meaning of Christmas in this adaptation of a song by Peter, Paul and Mary.

VC042108 9 min Prim-Intermed

A Christmas Wish. The story stresses the importance of Advent as a season of anticipation and preparation. Justine discovers that the time of preparation increases the joy of Christmas.

VC150048 25 min each Prim-Intermed

The City That Forgot About Christmas; I will take you to the Christ Child. In the *City that Forgot about Christmas 2* boys learn about a city that forgot the meaning of Christmas. *I Will Take You to the Christ Child*, features a marionette troop's retelling of the Christmas story.

VC083723 10 min Prim-Intermed

Following Jesus through the Church Year: Advent Roads. Detective Krispin travels through the four weeks of Advent, guided by the lit Advent Wreath, and by the people and events he encounters.

VC083724 10 min Prim-Intermed

Following Jesus through the Church Year: Christmas Crossroads. Detective Krispin is lost in the crowded streets of Bethlehem. Aaron, a shepherd, brings him to the stable where Jesus was born, but Jesus is no longer there.

VC040843 30 min Primary

Gerbert: The Gift of Giving. Gerbert finds in this Christmas tale the joy of choosing to give over the hunger to get.

VC150984 30 min Prim-Intermed

In the Beginning; The Birth of Jesus. The ancient prophecies of the Old Testament are fulfilled through the birth of the Messiah in a stable in Bethlehem. Animated.

VC153810 5 seg. of 10 min Primary

Jesus for Kids: Animated Bible Stories for Kids Ages 4-6. Designed as an introduction of the life of Jesus for young children, the first 10 minute segment is on The First Christmas.

VC151383 30 min Prim-Intermed

Jesus, A Kingdom Without Frontiers: The King is Born. The ancient prophecies are fulfilled with the birth of Jesus in a stable in Bethlehem. Study Guide. Animated.

VC151393 30 min Prim-Intermed

Jesus, A Kingdom Without Frontiers: King Herod and the Wise Men. A spiteful King Herod calls for the murder of the innocent children of Bethlehem as the Holy Family escapes into Egypt under God's watchful eye. Study Guide. Animated.

VC151198 c.30 min Primary

A Little Stable in Bethlehem. A re-enactment of the Christmas Story from perspective of the animals in the stable. 6 traditional carols sung by life-size puppet characters. Study Guide.



VC150047 10 min Primary

Mary's Story; Clem the Clumsy Camel. *Mary's Story* shows pictures of the baby Jesus. *Clem the Clumsy Camel* carries one of the Wise Men.

VC040828 30 min Prim-Intermed

McGee and Me! 'Twas the Fight Before Christmas. Loving people who are hard to love is the lesson for 11 year old Nicolas and his animated friend McGee. Study Guide.

VC041270 c.15 min Prim-Intermed

The Mouse in the Manger. Oscar, the mouse, leaves home because he is angry with his father. In his adventure he learns a lot about himself as he talks to various animals who are in the manger of Bethlehem at Jesus' birth.

VC151312 30 min Prim-Intermed

The Nativity. Travel with three adventuresome children to the time of Jesus' birth. Relive with them the excitement of Bethlehem's welcome to the new king.

VC041348 30 min Primary

Nicholas, the Boy Who Became Santa. Animated story of the traditional figure, Nicholas, the man we call Santa Claus.

VC041448 30 min Primary

Quigley's Village: A Christmas Story; The Joy of Giving. Everyone learns that Christmas is more than getting presents when unexpected things happen in preparing the Christmas pageant. Mr. Quigley loses Danny's present. Spike and Bubba play Mary and Joseph in the pageant and do their best to make Baby Jesus more comfortable than the Bible story describes.

VC222109 14 min Prim-Intermed

Saints for Kids; Vol. 2; Nicholas, Stephen, Anne and Joachim. This video has three stories, highlighting the stories of Nicholas, Stephen, and Anne and Joachim. Nicholas is the popular patron of children whose kindhearted goodness reminds us of the true meaning of Christmas. Stephen was the first saint to give his life for Jesus. The Anne and Joachim segment tells the legendary story of the parents of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Each story lasts approximately four minutes. Closed Captioned.

VC040877 30 min Intermediate

Secret Adventures: I'm Dreaming of a Right Christmas. The story of Andrea Thomas and her friends as they come to an adventuresome understanding of what Christmas is really about, loving someone and living it out. Study Guide.

VC040105 30 min Prim-Intermed

The Secret of the Second Basement. At Christmastime a loving family of street people teaches that nothing-- no "things"-- bring greater joy than Jesus, God's gift to the world. Featuring the Peppercorn Puppets.

VC040103 22 min Prim-Intermed

A Star for Jeremy. A night before Christmas dream of a young boy and a special star that awaits the birth of Jesus.

VC150852 30 min Primary

The Story of the Nativity/Beginner's Bible. The story of the birth of Jesus as told by animated characters as part of "The Beginner's Bible Series." Animated.



VC190176 23 min Prim-Intermed

There's No Such Thing as a Chanukah Bush.

Robin, a young Jewish girl, longs for a Christmas tree, or Chanukah Bush. Parents and grandfather show her ways to help Christian friends celebrate while remaining proud of her own faith. Study Guide.

VC153421 30 min Prim-Adol

Visual Bible for Kids: The Birth of Jesus. A cozy fire, cookies and cocoa, a family, and a visit from a favorite uncle create the environment to read the Christmas Story.

VC150049 16 min Prim-Intermed

Welcome the Stranger. Two children, strangers themselves in a strange land, witness the birth of the baby Jesus.

For Youth and Adults

VC160077 30 min Adol-Adult

Advent: The Journey Toward Christ; Program 1; Awakening. A look at the everyday awakening that surrounds us and how we experience God in that world.

VC084315 20 min Adult

Advent: A Time to Hope. Kathy Chesto ties everyday events to Advent and teaches viewers what it means to hope. Family life can provide signs and symbols of hope as one waits for the coming of the Kingdom of God.

VC140032 25 min Adol-Adult

The Birth of Jesus; A Scriptural pilgrimage to the Holy Land locales of the hope and promise of Jesus' coming. Scripture scholar Father Stephen Doyle guides the viewer through the ancient land of prophecies, including the ruins of the city of David; Qumran, site of the Jewish sect who lived in intense expectation of the Messiah's coming Nazareth with the wonder of Mary's "yes"; the site of Mary and Elizabeth's warm visit; the Basilica of the Annunciation; Shepherds' Fields, where the viewer will be touched by the glory and humility of the Christmas story; and the Basilica of the Nativity, the place of Jesus' birth.

VC140061 c.45 min Adol-Adult

The Genesis Project. The Gospel of Luke: Christmas / The Bible on Video. The story of the birth of Jesus according to Luke visually set against the holy land and told through word for word from the King James Version of the Bible.

VC141417

116 min

Adol-Adult



O Holy Night

Jesus of Nazareth; Part 1 of 3. This film portrays the epic majesty of the life of Jesus as told by the Apostles. This first part begins before the Nativity and extending through the early years of the life of Jesus as told in the Gospels. Includes a very thorough Study Guide.

VC162416

22 min

Adol-Adult

Keeper of the Peace; A Christmas Story. This video tells the story of Christ's birth in a fresh, life-changing way. The familiar story is taken a step further as the drama unfolds in another stable in Bethlehem on that holy night. Marcus is a young Roman soldier and Ruth is an old Jewish woman who stumble upon each other, unaware that this chance encounter will change both their lives. Through forgiveness and reconciliation, they find the true keeper of the peace in the gift of Christ's birth. Includes discussion guide.

VC162144

50 min

Adult

Norman Rockwell Christmas. Take a nostalgic, heart-warming look at the world of Norman Rockwell. The 170 voice Pacific Chorale helps the Christmas scenes spring to life with all the magic and wonder Rockwell originally envisioned.

En Español

VC210585

25 min

Familia

Un Regalo Bueno y Perfecto. Nos cuenta de la navidad inolvidable de una niña que vive en un pueblo pequeño de Nuevo Mexico. Ella la pide a Dios un papa para navidad mientras en el pueblo llega un hombre huyendo a la policia. SG.

VC041348

30 min

Primaria

Nicolas, Y Los Tres Sacos de Oro. La fascinante historia del niño cuya generosidad y amor lo convirtió en una de las figuras más queridas de todos los tiempos y que hoy llamamos Santa Claus.

VC151123

30 min

Prim-Intermed

En el Principio: El Nacimiento de Jesús. Las ancestrales profecias del Antiguo Testamento se cumplen cuando en un establo de Belén, nace el Mesias: Jesús de Nazaret. Caricaturas.

VC151670

30 min

Prim-Intermed

Un Reino Sin Fronteras: Ha Nacido El Rey. En *Ha Nacido el Rey* se cumple la antigua profesia de que el Rey de los judíos había de nacer en un establo en Belén.

VC151672

30 min

Prim-Intermed

Un Reino Sin Fronteras: Herodes y los Reyes de Oriente. La soberbia del rey Herodes le hace ordenar la muerte de los niños inocentes de Belén, mientras que la Sagrada Familia escapa a Egipto, bajo la protección de Dios Padre.

VC151699

30 min

Prim-Intermed

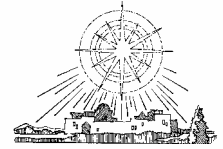
Relatos Animados del Nuevo Testamento: El Rey Nació. *El Rey Nació* es un video que contiene la historia clasica del nacimiento de Jesús según la Biblia. Las personas de todas las edades disfrutan inmensamente de este relato genuino de la Sagradas Escrituras.

VC040640

30 min

Primario

Santa Claus, la Verdadera Historia. Caricaturas. La fascinante historia del niño cuya generosidad y amor lo convirtió en una de las figuras más queridas de todos los tiempos y que hoy llamamos Santa Claus.



Location:

1025 West Fry Street
Chicago, IL 60622-5488
312-243-4562

Hours:

Monday through Friday
8:30 to 4:30 (other times by appointment)



Workshops - Save the Dates

February 23 and 24, 2005

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Curriculum Exploration Days

These two days are designed to let you see what is currently on the market in the area of religious education. The major religion textbook publishing companies will present their materials. Lunch will be provided. The same presentations will be given each day. There will be two sites—southwest on February 23 and northwest on February 24. Save the date now and watch for the detailed flyer.

March 8, 2005

9:15 am - 11:30 am

Evangelization and Interreligious Dialogue: Compatible?

The Office for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs will join the Jegen Center in exploring Jewish-Christian and Muslim-Christian dialogue. What is possible? What is the difference between dialogue and evangelization? Are they compatible? Put this date on your calendar now and watch for a detailed flyer!

Watch for upcoming events on the websites: www.catechesis-chicago.org and www.jegen.org