

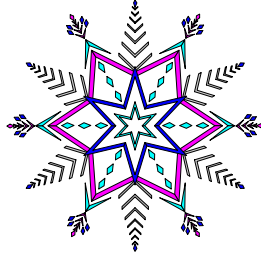
NEW CONNECTIONS

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A Note from the Editor

By the time you are reading this, the Chicago Catechetical Conference will be over, Thanksgiving will be upon us, and the Christmas season will be in full swing! It never ceases to amaze me how time flies! All of us at the Jegen Center for Catechetical Media and Research wish you and your family joy and peace at this special time of year. Most of this issue of *New Connections* will be given to listing the various media materials that will help you celebrate the Christmas season in a more intentional way as a family or class. However there are some pieces of information that you will probably want to know if you haven't heard already.



In the last issue we told you about some news from the publishing world and we gave you a listing of representatives. Since that time further changes have happened. The Silver Burdett Ginn Religion Publishing has also been acquired by the same group that purchased RCL and Benziger. The difference in this purchase is that the name of the company was not part of the package. Therefore, what was Silver Burdett Ginn Religion books is now part of RCL Benziger. CFM is retaining the complete product line of RCL, Benziger, and Silver Burdett Ginn Religion. They will continue to serve the Catholic catechetical needs formerly served by the three separate companies. Peter Caragiulo, who was the representative for Silver Burdett Ginn Religion, is still one of your reps. He and Ray Marchi are dividing the territory of the Archdiocese for RCL Benziger. Another change that occurred is with Harcourt. Brian Topping has gone back to working in a diocese, so for the present Matt Sumers is taking care of your needs from Harcourt.

The following is the updated list of your local reps with their phone numbers and email addresses:

Apostolate for Family Consecration: Theresa Lawson 800-77-FAMILY x 4015
theresa235@sbcglobal.net

Harcourt Religion Publishers: Matt Sumers 866-816-4204 matt.sumers@harcourt.com

Ignatius Press: Julie Johnson 800-779-5534 julie@ignatius.com

Loyola Press: Sr. Charlotte Enright 800-256-0589 x 241 enright@loyolapress.com

RCL Benziger: Peter Caragiulo 877-275-4725 x 3404 pcaragiulo@rclbenziger.com
Ray Marchi 877-275-4725 x 6925 rmarchi@rclbenziger.com

William H. Sadlier, Inc: Tom Ivanitz 877-714-2665 Tivanitz@sadlier.com

Resources Available for Advent and the Christmas Season:

Legend for Age Appropriateness:

- P = primary
- I = intermediate
- Y = youth and adolescence
- A = adult
- F = family

The letter listed first in a combination indicates the most appropriate age group.

Eleven Selections for Advent:

VC080077 **A**
Advent; The Journey Toward Christ; Program 1; Awakening. [1983].

VC082156 **P, I**
Advent with Saint Nicholas; Customs from Around the World. [2000].

VC084315 **A**
Advent; A Time to Hope. [1991].

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Advent Resources	p. 1
Christmas Resources	p. 2-3
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VC081751 P, I
The Angel's Advent Lesson. [1995].

VC083154 P, I
The Angel's Church Year Lesson. [2001].

VC084659 A, Y
Catholic Update; The Church Celebrates The Liturgical Year and Sunday. [2004].

VC083723 P, I
Following Jesus through the Church Year; Advent Roads. [1991].

VC045710 P
How Can I Celebrate Advent? A Young Christian's Guide to the Church Year. [2004].

VC151379 I, P
Jesus, A Kingdom Without Frontiers: The Announcement to Mary. [1997]

VC080091 F
Preparing for Christmas. [1987].

VC080092 F
Preparing for Christmas II.



Fifty-three Selections for Christmas:

VC044356 F
Alabaster's Song. [1996].

VC151710 P, I
Animated Stories from New Testament; The King Is Born. [1987].

VC040104 P
The Bear Who Slept Through Christmas. [1983].

VC150852 P
Beginner's Bible; The Story of the Nativity. [1995].

VC142069 A, Y
Bethlehem. [1993].

VC140061 A, Y
Bible on Video; The Gospel of Luke; Christmas, Part I. [1979].

VC140032 A
The Birth of Jesus; A Scriptural pilgrimage to the Holy Land . [1987].

VC162700 F
The Chimes. [2000].

VC232071 F
A Christmas Carol. [1938].

VC040102 F
A Christmas Gift. [1981].

VC041349 P
A Christmas for Little Children, Sing-Along Celebration. [1996].

VC082108 P, I
A Christmas Wish. [1998].

VC150048 P
The City that Forgot about Christmas and I Will Take You to the Christ Child. [1985].

CD075692 F
Family Theater Classic Radio Series Volume 1: A Daddy for Christmas, and God and a Red Scooter.

VC043232 F
The First Christmas. [1998].

VC083724 P, I
Following Jesus through the Church Year; Christmas Crossroads. [1991].

VC224357 A, Y
The Footprints of God: Mary the Mother of God. [2002]

VC045724 P, I
Francesco's Friendly World; The Gifts of Christmas. [1997].

VC040843 P
Gerbert: The Gift of Giving. [1991].

VC210094 F
A Good and Perfect Gift; A Christmas Story.

VC150984 I, P
In the Beginning; The Birth of Jesus : Stories from the Old Testament. [1995].

VC163155 I, Y, A
Jacob's Gift. [1999].

VC144783 F
Jesus, The Complete Story; Volume 1, The Early Years. [2001].



VC153810 P
Jesus for Kids; Animated Bible Stories for Ages 4-6. [1997].

VC151383 I, P
Jesus, A Kingdom Without Frontiers: The King is Born. [1997].

VC151393 I, P
Jesus, A Kingdom Without Frontiers: King Herod and the Wise Men. [1997].

VC162416 I, Y, A
Keeper of the Peace. [1999].

VC041198 P
A Little Stable in Bethlehem.



VC222841 A, Y
Mary of Nazareth: From Icon to Woman [2000]

VC150047 P
Mary's Story and Clem, the Clumsy Camel [1985].

VC040828 I
McGee and Me! 'Twas the Fight before Christmas. [1990].

VC041270 P
The Mouse in the Manger. [1992].

VC151312 P
The Nativity. (Hanna Barbera) [1987].

VC143453 A, Y, I
The Nativity; A Video Translation of Luke 2:1-21.

DVD230102 Y, A
The Nativity Story. [2006]

VC041312 P
Nestor, The Long-Eared Christmas Donkey. [1977].

VC221348 P, I
Nicholas, the Boy Who Became Santa. [1989].

VC162144 F
Norman Rockwell Christmas. [1993].

VC165156 F
Punchinello and the Most Marvelous Gift. [2004]

VC041448 P
Quigley's Village: A Christmas Story; The Joy of Giving. [1993].

VC140035 Y, A
Readers' Digest: Jesus, the Story Begins [1991]

VC224284 I
Saints for All Seasons; Saint Joseph, Foster Father of Jesus. [1997].

VC222109 P
Saints for Kids; Volume 2; Nicholas, Stephen, Anne and Joachim. [1998].

VC040877 I
Secret Adventures: I'm Dreaming of a Right Christmas. [1994].

VC040105 P, I
The Secret of the Second Basement. [1984].

VC041338 F
The Selfish Giant.

VC040103 P, I
A Star for Jeremy. [1986].



VC190176 P, I
There's No Such Thing As A Chanukah Bush, Sandy Goldstein.

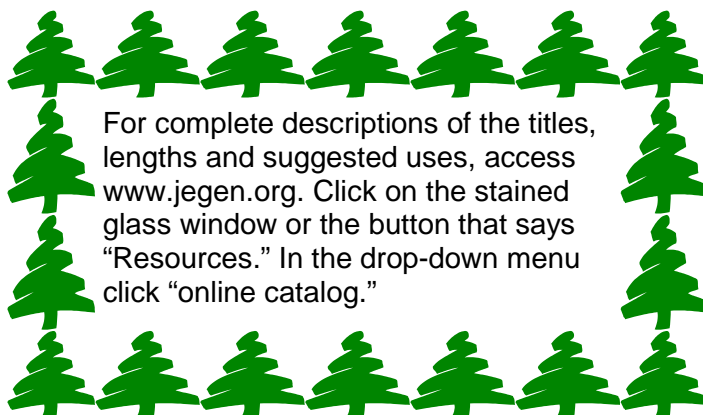
DVD040034 F
Veggie Tales; The Star of Christmas; [2002].

VC044672 F
Veggie Tales; The Star of Christmas. [2002].

VC040872 F
Veggie Tales; The Toy that Saved Christmas. [1996].

VC153421 I, P
Visual Bible for Kids; The Birth of Jesus. [1998].

VC150049 P
Welcome the Stranger. [1985].



For complete descriptions of the titles, lengths and suggested uses, access www.jegen.org. Click on the stained glass window or the button that says "Resources." In the drop-down menu click "online catalog."

En Español:

VC154898 P

La Biblia para Principiantes: La Historia del Nacimiento [1995]

VC151123 I, P

En el Principio: El Nascimento de Jesus. [1995].

VC042356 F

La Primera Navidad. [1998].

VC221348 P, I

Nicolas, Y Los Tres Sacos de Oro; Santa Claus, La Verdadera Historia. [1993].

VC210585 F

Un Regalo Bueno y Perfecto. [1992].

VC151670 I, P

Un Reino Sin Fronteras: Ha Nacido El Rey. [1997].

VC151672 I, P

Un Reino Sin Fronteras: Herodes y los Reyes de Oriente. [1997].

VC151664 I, P

Un Reino Sin Fronteras: La Anunciación. [1997].

VC151699 I, P

Relatos Animados del Nuevo Testamento: El Rey Nacio. [1987].

VC044495 F

Veggie Tales; El Juguete que salvo la Navidad. [1996].



Issues Arising Around *The Golden Compass*:

The television previews of the upcoming movie called *The Golden Compass* are out. It is causing quite a stir particularly with some Catholic audiences. The movie is based on the first in the series of books called *His Dark Materials* trilogy. Their titles are *The Golden Compass*, *The Subtle Knife*, and *The Amber Spyglass*. They were written by Philip Pullman and published in 1995, 1997 and 2000 respectively.

The release of this film has been discussed since the summertime by the National Association of Catechetical Media Professionals. The books were written for a junior and senior high school audience. The Catholic League has put out a campaign to boycott the film since they find the books to be anti-Catholic, and their fear is that seeing the film will encourage young people to want to read the books.

In talking with people about this issue, one media center coordinator said she had read all the books and found them to be an excellent fantasy/science fiction series. Another person said he didn't agree with the theology in the books but they had a great storyline. A third person said she and her fifteen-year-old son listened to one of the books together. She said it definitely has some anti-Catholic parts that are pretty overt, and that opened the opportunity for good discussion.

The best suggestions that surfaced are that if a young person is going to read, watch or listen to these stories it is best to do it together with a responsible adult. That way they can talk about the parts that are objectionable. One of the "rules" we learned well in media literacy from Sr. Rose Pacatte is "Control is for a moment; education lasts a lifetime!"

Even if we try to ban the film from being seen, we know that our youth will most likely hear about it or see it anyway. Let's take the positive approach of using it as a teachable moment where we teach the difference between truth and fantasy, and how to recognize and evaluate what we see and hear. To me, it echoes of discussions that arose around *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Harry Potter Series*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *The DaVinci Code*, and other such books and films that stimulate the imagination.

For further comments and analysis, I invite you to check out Sr. Rose Pacatte's reviews at <http://journals.aol.com/rosepacatte/MyMovies/> You may need to scroll down the page as she reviews numerous films.

