

St. Jude

Small Church Communities Resources

Updated 06-06-07

Items in BLUE mean St. Jude owns a copy you can borrow (if not out on loan)

Lectionary (Sunday Readings) Based Studies

Celebrating the Word

Monthly subscription the parish has. Runs August – May.

Contact your DRE if you want to receive this resource, the parish pays based on the number of people that use the resource. (free, receive via e-mail to the pastoral facilitator)

Quest

Quest is published three times a year, each covers around the 18 weeks To order call Annette. Music CDs can also be ordered to go with each season's books. The format includes prayer, reflection and sharing questions. (Has to be ordered, cost 5.25 ea)

Faith Sharing for Small Church Communities: Question and Commentaries on the Sunday Readings.

This book contains listing of the readings and a short, one paragraph commentary and then discussion questions. (St. Jude has a set of 19, which can be borrowed)

Other Bible Studies:

The Gospel of Mark, Gathered in His Name Series, from St. Anthony Messenger.

Six session series. No homework all reading is done during your meeting. Each session includes opening prayer and discussion questions. (St. Jude has a set of 10 which can be borrowed) (there are others in this series that can be ordered if groups are interested and if they turn them back in when done there is no charge)

Notice some of these books we have copies of others have to be ordered check with the St. Jude Faith Formation Office 780-7591. If your group does not write in the books and returns them to faith formation there will be no charge.

Loyola Press has six meeting bible series: (Selections in blue St. Jude owns a set for lending to our small church communities.)

- Genesis 1-11: God makes a Start
- Genesis 12-23: Abraham and Sarah's Journey
- Genesis 25-33: Jacob's Blessing
- Genesis 37-50: Joseph the Dreamer
- Stories of the Old Testament
- Exodus: God to the Rescue
- Job: A Good Man Asks Why
- Psalms: An Invitation to Prayer
- Psalms II: Praying with Jesus
- Isaiah: 40-55: Build a Highway for God
- Proverbs: Wisdom for Living
- Jonah/Ruth: Love Crosses Boundaries
- Living for a Just Society
- Relating to Others as Jesus Would
- Becoming a Praying Person
- Being Disciples of Jesus
- Jesus the Healer
- **Matthew 1-2/Luke 1-2: Joy to the World**
- **Matthew 5-7: How to Be Happy**
- **Matthew 10-20: On the Road with Jesus**
- **Matthew 26-28: Jesus' Life-Giving Death**
- Opening the Scriptures: The Gospel According to Mark
- Mark: Getting to Know Jesus
- Parables: Stories of the Kingdom
- Luke: The Good News of God's Mercy
- John 1-10: I am the Bread of Life
- John 11-21: My Peace I Give You
- The Catholic Passion
- Acts: The Good News of the Holy Spirit
- Philippians: A Letter to Friends
- 1 Corinthians: Living as Christians
- 2 Corinthians: Power in Weakness
- Galatians: Free in Christ
- Romans
- James: Put Your Faith to Work
- Revelations: God's Gift of Hope

Threshold Bible Study: Twenty Third Publications

Threshold Bible Study is a thematic Scripture study program, designed for both personal study and group discussion.. Each study is presented in a workbook format, designed for reading, reflecting, writing, discussing, and praying. The thirty lessons in each study may be used by an individual for daily study over the period of a month, or they may be divided into six lessons per week, providing a group study of six weekly sessions.

- The Tragic and Triumphant Cross
- People of the Passion
- The Resurrection and the Life
- The Holy Spirit and Spiritual Gifts
- The Lamb and the Beasts
- Eucharist
- The Sacred Heart of Jesus
- Jerusalem, the Holy City
- Stewardship of the Earth
- Angels of God
- Mysteries of the Rosary
- The Feast of Judaism
- Advent Light
- The Names of Jesus
- Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of Jesus.
 - More topics coming.....

Catechism Studies

The Catholic Faith Handbook for Youth, St. Mary's Press

Clear, concise information about the beliefs and practices of the Catholic Church-- organized to parallel the Catechism of the Catholic Church so that young people (adults too) can appreciate the richness of Catholic teaching. Useful sidebars include "Pray It!" "Looking Back," "Saintly Profiles," "Did You Know?" and "Live It!" Also discussion questions at the end of each chapter. (St. Jude has a set of 11, which can be borrowed)

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults

An invaluable tool for adult catechesis, especially the RCIA, the US Catholic Catechism is published by the USCCB. It is a comprehensive review of the catechism put into terms for study by US Catholics. Each chapter start with the story of a great person, many of them noted US Catholics. The chapter ends with group discussion questions. (St. Jude does not yet have a set of these in house for lending, but would get one if a group was interested)

This is Our Faith; Michael Francis Pennock, Ave Maria Press

This is Our Faith is arranged with four parts along the pillars of the Catechism. Each part is divided into chapters with personal and practical introductions and organized in the popular question and answer format. Also included in the back of each section are discussion questions to be used for groups. (If your group does not write in them and returns them to faith formation there will be no charge).

St. Jude

Small Church Communities Resources

Updated 06-06-07

Items in BLUE mean St. Jude owns a copy you can borrow (if not out on loan)

Growing Faith Project: Harcourt Religion Publishers

Six page leaflet which includes text and reflection questions. (St Jude has sets of 10 of the blue topics for lending)

THE CREED

1. Hunger for God
2. God's plan for us
3. Revelation
4. Holy Scripture
5. Faith is response
6. The one true God
7. The Trinity
8. God the Creator
9. Creation
10. Sin and grace
11. The Messiah
12. Mary our Mother
13. The Reign of God
14. The Passion
15. The Resurrection
16. The Holy Spirit
17. Church as mystery
18. Marks of Church
19. The Faithful
20. Heaven & Hell

THE LITURGY

21. Trinity & Liturgy
22. Our rites
23. Baptism
24. Confirmation
25. Eucharist
26. Reconciliation
27. Anointing
28. Holy Orders
29. Matrimony

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

30. Made for God
31. Conscience
32. Faith, hope, love
33. Sin
34. Social justice
35. Grace & merit
36. Magisterium
37. No strange gods
38. Keeping Sunday Holy
39. Honoring parents
40. How to protect the living
41. Called to chastity
42. Possessions, greed, & generosity
43. Telling the truth

THE LIFE OF PRAYER

44. Encounter God
45. Forms of prayer
46. Wellsprings
47. Ways to pray
48. Praying as Jesus taught

Other Book Series:

Come as You Are: The National Alliance of Parishes Restructuring into Communities

This book is recommended as a beginning experience for small groups. It contains twelve sessions. (St. Jude has several sets of available for borrowing, includes facilitator guide and tapes).

Pray as You Are: The National Alliance of Parishes Restructuring into Communities

A continuing experience for small church communities, many groups use this as their second book when they are forming. It contains eleven sessions (St. Jude has a set of seventeen available for borrowing, includes facilitator guide and tapes).

Praying Alone and Together: Arthur R. Baranowski

An eleven session prayer module for Small Faith Communities. It contains eleven sessions (St. Jude has a set of 10 available for borrowing, includes facilitator guide).

Lent and Easter, Gathered in His Name Series, from St. Anthony Messenger.

Six session series. No homework all reading is done during your meeting. Each session includes opening prayer and discussion questions. (St. Jude has a set of 10 which can be borrowed) (there are others in this series that can be ordered if groups are interested and if they turn them back in when done there is no charge)

Video Resources: Videos can be checked out for three days, unless other arrangements are made in advance.

Rob Bell Videos: Each video comes with a discussion guide.

- **Rain (11 Minutes) :** Where is God when it really hurts?
- **Flame (11 Minutes):** I love those shoes. Really? The same way I love my wife? What's up with the word "love"?
- **Tree (13 minutes):** We want to know why we are here. If our lives really matter. How our religion is relevant to this life. Today.
- **Sunday (12 Minutes):** We're tired of all the empty rituals and routines. And so is God. God hates it when we call ourselves Christians but ignore all the things he really cares about. He hates it when we go through hollow religious routines out of some feeling of duty or obligation. God doesn't want the meaningless rituals. God wants our hearts.
- **Noise (10 Minutes):** Why is silence so hard to deal with? There's always something going on. Always noise in our lives. Maybe there's a connection between the amount of noise in our lives and our inability to hear God.
- **Kickball (11 Minutes):** We always think we know what's missing from our lives in order to really make us happy, don't we? Do we really trust God? Do we trust that God is good and sees a bigger picture than we ever could? It's easy to want what's right in front of us, but maybe God knows what's better for us, and sometimes we just can't see it.
- **Luggage (13 Minutes):** Maybe a friend turned their back on you. Maybe someone you loved betrayed you. We all have wounds and we end up carrying around these things that people have done to us for weeks, months, and sometimes even years. It isn't always easy to forgive these people and after a while these hurts can get really heavy.
- **Dust (14 Minutes):** Believing in God is important, but what about God believing in us?. It's easy for us to sometimes get down on ourselves. To feel "not good enough" or feel like we don't have what it takes. But maybe if we had more insight into the culture that Jesus grew up in and some of the radical things he did, we'd understand the faith that God has in all of us
- **Bullhorn (12 minutes):** God loves everyone, so a Christian should, too. In fact, Jesus said that the most important thing in life is to love God with everything we've got and love others the same way. But it's not always easy to love everyone around us, is it? So maybe the best way for us to show our love for God is actually by loving other people no matter how hard it sometimes is. Maybe it's the only way.
- **Lump (12 Minutes):** A lot of us have done things in our lives that we're ashamed of. Some are small things, and some of us have really big and devastating things. Some of us even have things that people close to us don't know about. Personal junk that we keep to ourselves so we don't have to deal with it. Because we don't know how to deal with it, do we? God loves us, he always has and always will, and there's nothing we can do to change that.
- **Rhythm (12 minutes):** What does it mean to have a relationship with God? What does it look like? Maybe the way we live every day, every single choice we make, determines how in tune with God we are.
- **Matthew (14 Minutes):** Suffering the loss of someone we love can be the most difficult thing in life to deal with. One moment we have them and the next they're gone. What are we supposed to do? How are we supposed to feel? It might help us however is to understand how Jesus dealt with this kind of loss.
- **Rich (12 Minutes):** There's a popular bumper sticker that reads "God Bless America," but hasn't America already been blessed? It's easy for us to fall into a mindset of viewing "our" world as "the" world, because it's all we generally see. Maybe what we have is enough; maybe it's more than enough. Maybe God has blessed us with everything we have so we can bless and give to others.

St. Jude

Small Church Communities Resources

Updated 06-06-07

Items in BLUE mean St. Jude owns a copy you can borrow (if not out on loan)

Liguori's Video Series "What Catholics believe about...."

This series is in a question and answer format. The moderator asks the questions, gives you multiple choice answers, and then shows you some other people guessing at the answer and then an expert give you the answer. Each video is thirty minutes long, but can take longer if the group stops the tape to discuss what they think the answer is before the answer is given.

- The Holy Spirit
- The Bible
- The New Catechism
- Jesus Christ
- Mary and the Saints
- Death After Life

THE MYSTERY OF FAITH: An Introduction to Catholicism: *Featuring Father Michael Himes* The ten programs in this series provide a marvelous introduction to the depth of Catholic doctrine. Utilizing dramatic scenes, artwork and images to enhance his warm, humorous and challenging presentations, Father Himes focuses on ten vital faith topics: (tapes are 20-25 minutes and a study sheet is available for each video)

- Trinity
- Grace
- Incarnation
- Salvation.
- Church
- Baptism
- Eucharist
- Sacraments of Vocation
- Reconciliation
- Tradition.

AN ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS JOURNEY WITH MICHAEL HIMES *Michael Himes NEW for Advent 2005!*

Watch these videos and experience Advent and Christmas in a new way. Father Himes refers to biblical passages used in this season without relying on one particular liturgical cycle, so this series can be used in adult education, group discussion and sermon preparation for any year. Himes reflects on the spiritual themes and personalities of the season. The five video programs (each 22 to 29 minutes in length) in the set are:

- **Hope in the Darkness** : We are creatures of time and God is timeless. We look for the timeless one, God, to speak to us. We are constantly restless and nothing on this earth ultimately satisfies us. We wait, and hope, for God. Advent is only one month of the year but as Christians we are always in Advent. Father Himes uses quotes from the great poet W.H. Auden and his favorite theologian St. Augustine of Hippo to delve into the deep issues of what it means to be a human being and what it means to live in time, time that is constantly "slipping away."
- **The Second Coming is NOW:** Himes talks about the second coming of Christ—a major theme in Advent and a topic of much discussion in American culture. Himes tells us that the coming of the Kingdom of God is not predictable but takes us by surprise. The Kingdom is

constantly, relentlessly coming upon us in ordinary ways. Himes shows us that the Kingdom of God is among us now, reconciling all people with the living God.

- **Threatened by Grace:** Himes explores what the Last Judgment might mean. He does this by looking at what the "world" means in the Scriptures. Sometimes the world is seen as "good" but in other passages is seen as the enemy of God. Himes invites us to live in this tension and see the world as in transition. The Last Judgment will not mean the annihilation of the world but its transformation.
- **Prophets: John, Mary, Joseph:** Prophets live in expectation of something new. That is why they play such a prominent role in Advent. Something new is about to happen—the Savior will be born and that will change everything. With humor and wisdom, Himes looks at Old Testament prophets like Isaiah and three of the key New Testament figures of Advent—John the Baptist, Mary and Joseph—and shows how they inspire and challenge us today.
- **The Eternal Giving of God:** How can we say anything new about Christmas? Himes offers a Christmas banquet of provocative insights into the feast day. He looks at the early church controversies concerning the divinity and humanity of Christ. He connects Christmas and Easter: God gives life where life could not possibly exist—in a virgin womb and an empty tomb. Christmas is a season of generosity. Himes asks us not to reject the secularization of Christmas but to reinterpret it. Finally Himes talks about what Christmas tells us about the Trinity.

The Footprints of God:

Introducing the most original and dynamic video series in Catholic Church history! *The Footprints Of God: The Story Of Salvation From Abraham to Augustine* will take you on a journey of discovery through the sweeping saga of salvation. In this exciting **10-volume series**, you'll meet the key people and places of Scripture and Church history as they come to life in a fresh and powerful way! Embark on your journey with popular Catholic author, speaker and apologist Steve Ray as your guide. Follow The Footprints Of God through the most holy sites on Earth -- from Israel, Egypt and Rome to Greece, Turkey and Iraq. Steve asks the tough questions, and discovers answers that help Catholics and other Christians to truly understand and explain their faith. All in a fast-paced, entertaining format that combines the best elements of a travel documentary, a biography, a Bible study, an apologetics course and a Church history study!

- **Jesus: The Word Became Flesh**
- **Mary: The Mother of God**
- **Peter: Keeper of the Keys**
- **Paul: Contending for the Faith**