



# Check It Out

Please post or copy and distribute this brochure to teachers and catechists!

November 2011

## Sharing Your Faith

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Benedict XVI announced a special "Year of Faith" to help Catholics appreciate the gift of faith, deepen their relationship with God and strengthen their commitment to sharing faith with others. Pope Benedict explained his intention more fully in ["Porta Fidei"](#) ("The Door of Faith"), an apostolic letter released Oct. 17th to formally announce this special year.

### Year of Faith

October 11, 2012 to November 24, 2013

#### A Well-Built Faith: A Catholic's Guide to Knowing and Sharing

**What We Believe** (Book) Paprocki, Joe Loyola Press, 2008. Presents a discussion, with Scripture and prayer, of the teachings of the Catholic church, to help with understanding of the Catechisms in order to make them more accessible and relevant to people's lives.

#### A Well-Built Faith: A Catholic's Guide to Knowing and Sharing What

**We Believe** (Leader's Guide) Paprocki, Joe, Loyola Press, 2008. Designed to help parish leaders such as pastors, adult faith-formation sessions structured around A Well-Built Faith. The guide provides a total of twenty sessions-one for each of the eighteen chapters, as well as the introduction and conclusion-to help participants know their faith more fully and feel comfortable sharing their faith with others.



**Handbook for Today's Catechist: The Role of the Catechist: Planning Effective Lessons, Sharing the Faith** (Book) Infantino, Ginger, Liguori Publications, 2009. Provides answers and support for catechists, religion teachers, and parents when teaching their children about Catholicism. The book addresses the challenge of catechizing youth in the age of computers and electronics, including how to identify good or misleading information on the Internet. Beginning and experienced teachers will enjoy some basic "dos and don'ts" to improve their effectiveness in teaching the faith.

**Sharing Your Catholic Faith: Building Bridges with Truth and Love** (Audio, 7 CDS) Curran, Tom, Trinity Formation Resources, 2006. In this entertaining and challenging audio series, Tom speaks about four different ways Catholics are called upon to share their faith. Tradition: Handing on the Riches of Catholic Faith; Dialogue: Sharing the Truth in Love; Apologetics: Showing that the Catholic Faith is Reasonable; Evangelization: Proclaiming the Truth. He offers many insights into church teaching, as well as practical ways to help us propose (not impose) our faith to family, friends and anyone we meet.

#### Turning Hearts to Christ: Engaging

#### People in a Lifetime of Faith (Book)

Anslinger, Leisa, Twenty-Third Publications, 2010. Offers essential principles that have evolved from discussions with pastoral leaders in a variety of ministerial settings, as well as careful study of sacred Scripture, theology, Church documents, and current research. She then pulls all the principles together by offering "seasonal renewal" focus points with examples of how the seasons can lead parishioners toward a living relationship with Christ--with Sunday Eucharist at the center.

#### Your Catholic Family: Simple Ways to Share the Faith at Home (Book)

Merhaut, Jim, St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2006. Parents and grandparents will find many activities to explore and share faith at home, all based on the four themes of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: Scriptural Foundations, Celebration of the Christian Mystery, Life in Christ and Prayer.

#### 52 Simple Ways to Talk to Your Kids About Faith: Opportunities for Catholic Families to Share God's Love (Book)

Campbell, Jim, Loyola Press, 2007. Family Life is full of "teachable moments"--occasions of hope and joy, worry and stress that provide excellent opportunities for children and parents to talk about their faith. Veteran religious educator Jim Campbell helps moms and dads turn these potentially awkward moments into grace-filled times when children can learn lasting spiritual lessons. He identifies dozens of every day opportunities for faith sharing.

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# Advent: Waiting, Preparing, Rejoicing

## Rediscover Advent

(Book) Kelly, Matthew, St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2011. Each day you will find a brief citation from one of the lectionary readings for the day, a reflection on some aspect of Catholic faith and practice taken from Kelly's best-selling book "Rediscover

Catholicism," questions for meditation, and a brief prayer. These inspirational words will help renew your enthusiasm for being Catholic, while encouraging you to delve more deeply into the spirituality of the Advent season.



## Advent and Christmas with the Church Fathers

(Book) United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2010. These selections from the writings of the Fathers of the Church provide prayerful meditations for Advent and Christmas. This daily companion will help readers prepare for and celebrate the Birth of Christ by reflecting on the teaching of some of the Church's greatest teachers.

**Advent Light** (Book) Binz, Stephen J., Twenty-Third Publications, 2004. Advent is a time for new understanding, for putting different pieces of God's revelation together to see the divine plan more clearly. We listen to the words of ancient prophets, to the wisdom of Jesus, and we make connections. Then we connect those truths to our own lives and our world and see how God is acting anew.

**The Angel's Advent Lesson** (DVD, 11 min), Costello, Gwen, Twenty Third Publications, 2008. Danny's Guardian Angel appears to him to help him remember the real meaning of Christmas. They discuss the Advent wreath, reciting prayers, doing kind acts and recalling Scripture characters in Advent.

*"Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah."* Jeremiah 33:14-16

## SAVE THE DATE

### Faith Formation Luncheon

Thursday, February 16, 2012

Archbishop Brunett Retreat and Faith FormationCenter at the Palisades, Federal Way

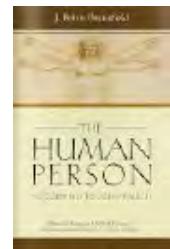
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Priests, Deacons, Principals, Religion Teachers,  
Catechists, and all those involved in parish  
and school ministry

*The New Evangelization and the Human Person*

Presented by Fr. Brian Bransfield

USCCB Associate General Secretary and author of *The Human Person: According to John Paul*



## Advent with the Saints:

### Daily Reflections (Book)

Friedman, Greg, St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2011. Insightful reflections connect the reader to the lives of the saints and holy ones suggested by the Scriptural readings of Advent. Fr. Greg draws on his love for the saints to offer daily

inspiration during this season of preparation. Each day of Advent, find brief reflections on each Advent lectionary reading, saintly connections to each reading, suggested actions for each day, and prayers to help you slow down and savor the season of waiting and hope.

## Live Advent at Home: Daily Prayers and Activities for Families (Book)

Mathson, Patricia L., Liguori Publications, 2011. This daily booklet for families is a perfect companion for the season of Advent. Each week begins with a reflection on the Sunday Gospel for parents and children to read together, followed by daily reflections, activities, and simple prayers for a meaningful Advent.