

Dear Catechetical Leaders,

As we draw near the Easter Season and look forward to Pentecost, please check out the exciting learning opportunities described below. We will be having our annual PAFF Conference on Wednesday, June 6th at the Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center at the Palisades. The day will be filled with the music of Vallimar Jensen and Tom Kendzia. If you haven't yet registered, now is the time to do so!

CYO Camp is almost here! Did you know that campers have an opportunity for "Extreme Sports" including cooperative paintball games? I recommend you check out <http://seattleooyam.org/programs/cyo-camp-services/summer-camp> for the latest news on registrations and open staff positions.

The Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center is also hosting a wide range of spiritual programs over the next few months. As we move toward summer, this is an excellent time to consider planning some quiet time with God.

Would you like to learn a foreign language? The Rosetta Stone Project might be just the right choice for you, one of your staff people and/or your students.

This edition of our catechetical newsletter also contains recent statements from Pope Benedict XVI on prayer and immigration, student resources on the life of Dorothy Day, a review guide on apocalyptic movies and a video contest on the blessings of Natural Family Planning.

Yours in Christ,

Anne

Anne Frederick, Ed.D.

Upcoming Palisades Retreats:

<http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org/Retreats/Palisades/calendar.aspx>

ANNUAL MEETING OF PASTORAL ASSISTANTS FOR FAITH FORMATION, YOUTH MINISTERS, & PARISH STAFF

Date: Wednesday, June 6, 2012
Place: The Archbishop Brunett Retreat and Faith Formation Center at the Palisades, Federal Way
Schedule: 9:00 AM Welcome and Opening Prayer
9:30 AM Presentation
12:00 PM Lunch
1:00 PM Ocff Updates
2:30 PM Wine and Cheese Social by RCL Benziger
3:15 PM End of Day
Cost: Free for 1st parish rep., \$15 for additional attendees
RSVP: 206-382-4096; ocff@seattlearch.org by June 1st

We would like to honor those celebrating a retirement or significant milestone in ministry. Please include this information with your RSVP.

TOPIC AND PRESENTERS

PLANTING THE SEEDS OF DISCIPLESHIP

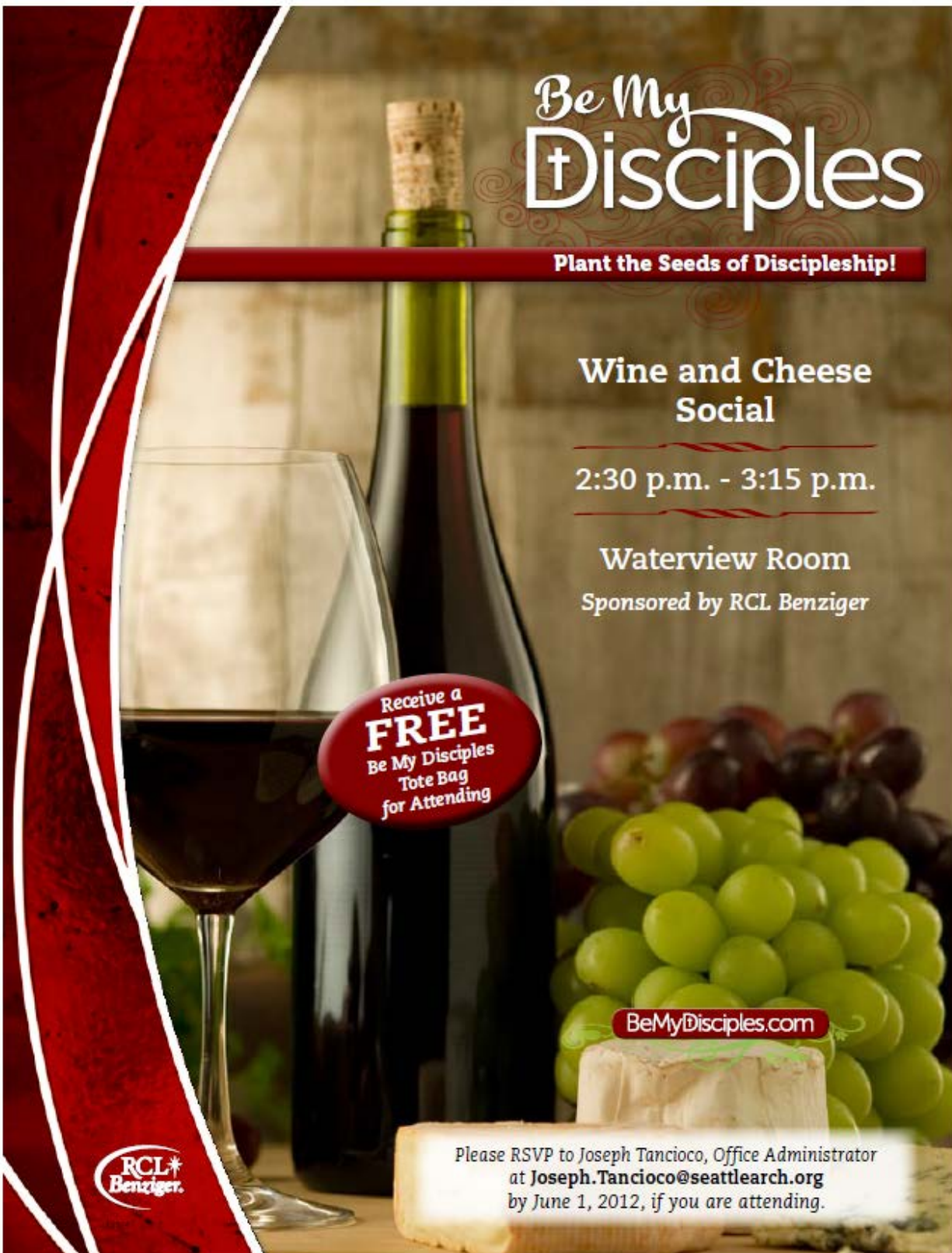
Presented by ValLimar Jansen and Tom Kendzia
Sponsored by RCL Benziger



Join ValLimar Jansen and Tom Kendzia for this day of discipleship, fellowship, music, and prayer as we gather to imagine what the world would be like if everyone lived as disciples of Jesus.

ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE • Office of Catholic Faith Formation
710 Ninth Avenue • Seattle, WA 98104

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR MORE INFO ON THE WINE & CHEESE SOCIAL



Be My Disciples

Plant the Seeds of Discipleship!

Wine and Cheese Social

2:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Waterview Room
Sponsored by RCL Benziger

Receive a
FREE
Be My Disciples
Tote Bag
for Attending

BeMyDisciples.com

Please RSVP to Joseph Tancioco, Office Administrator
at Joseph.Tancioco@seattlearch.org
by June 1, 2012, if you are attending.

RCL Benziger.

Interesting in Learning a Foreign Language? – We Have a DEAL for You!

» MAY 31ST REGISTRATION DEADLINE «

Please share this information with your friends and colleagues, with Home School Parents and with your Catholic school principal. They ALL CAN PARTICIPATE.

Thanks to the Baltimore-Washington Province, you and anyone you know have a unique opportunity at an affordable price. This is the best deal you can find to learn a foreign language. Please check the Rosetta Stone Flyer on the NCCL website (www.nccl.org) homepage. Here are some answers to the most often asked questions.

FAQ's about the NCCL/Rosetta Stone Project

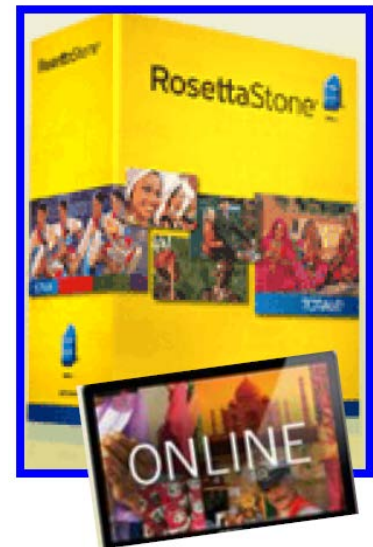
Who Can Participate? - Anyone, age 13 and older may participate. The opportunity is provided as a service to NCCL members, but any individual or organization may take advantage of our group discount.

What is a “User License”? – The \$285 fee covers the cost for a “Single User License” for 1 year, July 1, 2012 to July 1, 2013. This means 1 person is given complete access to all levels and online resources, including unlimited live coaching for 1 selected language. That individual user may access the site from any computer (home, work, school) or iPad/ Android device at any time, in any location.

Can you switch users? – Yes and No... The Rosetta Stone license is for a single user, not a single computer station with multiple users. However, at any time during the usage year, you have the option to re-assign your license to a different user. All you have to do is contact our NCCL/Rosetta Stone administrator, Jeanne McKeets, and she will re-issue your license to your new user and provide you with a new temporary password. This option is especially handy for a high school that has new participants each semester, or for an office that wants to rotate their licenses to individual employees for 4 to 6 months.

Can you switch languages? – Yes, 1 time... During registration, you must select a language. You are free to change your language choice, if needed, anytime before the official July 1st start date, simply by sending an email to Jeanne McKeets. After the July 1st start date, you are only allowed to change your language choice 1 time during the active license year, and you may do so at any time during the license year. This allows schools and offices that are rotating their licenses to accommodate the needs of a new license user.

Can an office purchase a “block” of licenses? – Yes! If you have employees or parish ministers in need of language training, your office or parish can choose to purchase several licenses and label them “Youth Office 1”, “Youth Office 2”, etc. Then you can issue your user



licenses to the individuals that you choose (and send Jeanne McKeets their names and email addresses). Later in the year, you can rotate your user licenses to new individuals as the need arises. This enables an office or parish to budget for a certain number of language resources each year, while still having enough flexibility to adjust when employees move or change job descriptions. For accountability, you can ask Jeanne McKeets to provide your office with quarterly progress reports of all your participants.

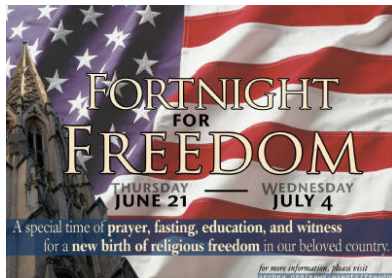
How does this work for a school? - A school can purchase several individual user licenses, and select the languages that you anticipate will be needed for the upcoming year. You can issue the licenses to individual students for the 1st semester and then re-issue the licenses to new users for the 2nd semester. All you need is high-speed internet access in a computer lab or individual classrooms. During the summer months, you can give your students or your faculty the option of practicing at home. For accountability and grading, you can ask Jeanne McKeets for regular progress reports of all your learners. The progress reports include time online, accuracy levels in several categories, and reports of live-coaching activity. Your only limits are that each user license can only change the selected language 1 time during the use year, and students **MUST** be at least 13 years old (in compliance with COPPA regulations).

More Questions? – contact Jeanne McKeets at jmckeets@dwc.org (304) 233-0880 ext 376

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mtomshack@dwc.org (304) 233-0880 ext 376

Parish Catechetical Leaders' Co-Chair: Patricia Clement St. James Parish Hopewell, VA
st.jameschristianinformation@verizon.net (804) 458-9223

National Celebration of Fortnight for Freedom - Bell ringing called for on July 4



Mass at the Baltimore's historic Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, scheduled for June 21 at 7:00pm EDT, will open the Fortnight For Freedom, which runs from June 21 to July 4. Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore will celebrate the liturgy to kick off the Catholic Church's national education campaign on Religious Liberty. Immaculate Conception in Washington, July 4 at 12:10 p.m. EDT. The Mass in the nation's capital will be celebrated by Cardinal Donald Wuerl of Washington. Archbishop Charles Chaput of Philadelphia will be the homilist. EWTN television will carry the Shrine Mass live.

Further details about the Fortnight can be found at www.fortnight4freedom.org. . . . Both national and local efforts will comprise the campaign that has been launched by the bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Liberty.

In addition to the Baltimore and Washington liturgies, national efforts include establishment of the [fortnight4freedom](http://www.fortnight4freedom.org) website. The site hosts resources such as frequently asked questions about religious liberty, including quotes from the Founding Fathers, the Second Vatican Council and

Popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI. Another valuable resource is a study guide on *Dignitatis Humanae*, Vatican II's document on religious liberty. In addition, the site provides several one-page sheets outlining current threats to religious freedom both in the United States and abroad. The website also lists sample of activities already planned in particular dioceses, as well as resources and recommendations for other local efforts, such as special liturgies and prayer services. Bell ringing is planned for noon on July 4 to remind citizens nationwide of the primary place of religious freedom in the history, law, and culture of the United States.

Pope Lauds Welcome of Immigrants Given by Church in US



Benedict XVI greeted the final group of United States bishops to come to Rome for their ad limina visits, praising the bishops for the welcome immigrants find in the Church in the U.S.. "I am particularly pleased," said Pope Benedict, "that this, our final meeting, takes place in the presence of the Bishops of the various Eastern Churches present in the United States, since you and your faithful embody in a unique way the ethnic, cultural and spiritual richness of the American Catholic

community, past and present."

"Historically, the Church in America has struggled to recognize and incorporate this diversity, and has succeeded, not without difficulty, in forging a communion in Christ and in the apostolic faith which mirrors the catholicity which is an indefectible mark of the Church." The Holy Father praised their efforts to respond to the phenomena of immigration with compassion, taking into account the many complexities that society faces as a result. "The Catholic community in the United States continues, with great generosity, to welcome waves of new immigrants, to provide them with pastoral care and charitable assistance, and to support ways of regularizing their situation, especially with regard to the unification of families... It is thus of profound concern to the Church, since it involves ensuring the just treatment and the defense of the human dignity of immigrants."

As the Church approaches the Year of Faith in October, which coincides with the 50th anniversary of the convening of the Second Vatican Council, the Catholic community in American will "awaken a desire... to reappropriate with joy and gratitude the priceless treasure of our faith," the Pope said. This Year of Faith, however, comes at a time when progressive ideologies threaten to overturn many of the Christian values in society. "The truth of Christ needs not only to be understood, articulated and defended," he affirmed, "but to be proposed joyfully and confidently as the key to authentic human fulfillment and to the welfare of society as a whole." You can read the full text at <http://www.zenit.org/article-34803?l=english>.

Media Project Hosting Video Contest on Natural Family Planning

Building on its mission to engage young adults and media makers to explore important faith-related issues through media and art, an initiative called Goodness Reigns is launching a mini contest, a short video competition titled "Natural Family Planning: The Better Way."

Prizes include a Panasonic GH2 camera, a Manfrotto monopod or the choice of a \$1,000 gift card to B&H Photo.

Anyone may enter the contest by submitting a video under five minutes that either explains or explores Natural Family Planning. Submissions will be accepted from May 25 to June 25 through the Goodness Reigns Web site. Winners will be announced July 16, at which time the public will be invited to participate in a People's Choice voting period until July 22. The People's Choice winner will be announced on July 23.

The contest is a new offering from Goodness Reigns, which orchestrated an international video contest that brought together amateur filmmakers from the United States, India and Mexico for World Youth Day 2011 in Madrid, Spain. There, they presented their videos to other WYD pilgrims and developed friendships and future contacts for collaboration. A similar contest will be launched in July 2012 leading up to WYD 2013 in Brazil.

Benedict XVI Gives Advice for Those Struggling to Pray



Taking up the theme of prayer in the letters of St. Paul, Benedict XVI reflected on the essential role of the Holy Spirit for those who wish to communicate with God. The Pope spoke of prayer not primarily as a fruit of human effort, but as a gift, "the fruit of the living, vivifying presence of the Father of Jesus Christ in us."

Speaking extemporaneously, the Holy Father reflected on the human desire for prayer: "We want to pray, but God is far off, we do not have the words, the language, to speak with God, nor even the thought to do so. We can only open ourselves, place our time at God's disposition, wait for Him to help us to enter into true dialogue. The Apostle says: this very lack of words, this absence of words, yet this desire to enter into contact with God, is prayer that the Holy Spirit not only understands, but brings and interprets before God. This very weakness of ours becomes -- through the Holy Spirit -- true prayer, true contact with God. The Holy Spirit is, as it were, the interpreter who makes us, and God, understand what it is we wish to say."

The Pontiff suggested that prayer brings us to understand more than in other aspects of life that we are weak, poor creatures. "And the more we advance in listening and in dialogue with God, so that prayer becomes the daily breath of our souls, the more we also perceive the measure of our limitations, not only in the face of the concrete situations of everyday life, but also in our relationship with the Lord," he said.

But again, "it is the Holy Spirit who helps our inability, who enlightens our minds and warms our hearts, guiding us as we turn to God. For St. Paul, prayer is above all the work of the Holy Spirit in our humanity, to take our weakness and to transform us from men bound to material realities into spiritual men."

Benedict XVI drew from Paul's teaching three consequences for our Christian lives "when we allow the Spirit of Christ, and not the spirit of the world, to work in us as the interior principle of all our actions."

- First, he said, prayer animated by the Spirit "enables us to abandon and to overcome every form of fear and slavery, and so to experience the true freedom of the children of God."
- "A second consequence that comes about in our lives when we allow the Spirit of Christ to work in us is that our relationship with God becomes so deep that it cannot be affected by any circumstance or situation," the Holy Father continued. "We then come to understand that, through prayer, we are not delivered from trials or sufferings, but we are able to live them in union with Christ, with His sufferings, with a view to participating also in His glory."
- Finally, the Pontiff reflected, "the prayer of the believer opens out to the dimensions of humanity and of the whole creation. [...] This means that prayer, sustained by the Spirit of Christ who speaks in our interior depths, never remains closed in upon itself, it is never only prayer for me; rather, it opens out to a sharing in the suffering of our time, of others. It becomes intercession for others, and thus freedom for me; a channel of hope for all creation and the expression of that love of God, which has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit who has been given to us."

And this is a sign of true prayer, that it does not end in ourselves, but opens out to others and so liberates me, and so helps in the redemption of the world." The full text of his comments can be found at www.zenit.org/article-34792?l=english.

Can Positive Thoughts Help Heal Another Person?

This program is the fourth in a series and lasts about eight (8) minutes. You can either read or listen to the program at [http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=104351710/](http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=104351710) Here are some excerpts:

Ninety percent of Americans say they pray — for their health, or their love life or their final exams. But does prayer do any good? For decades, scientists have tried to test the power of prayer and positive thinking, with mixed results. Now some scientists are fording new — and controversial — territory.

Ironson began to zero in on a patient's relationship with God in an attempt to predict how fast the disease would progress. She focused on two key indicators. She measured viral

load, which tells how much of the virus is present in a person's body, and immune cells called CD-4 cells, which help fight off the AIDS virus.

Ironson says over time, those who turned to God after their diagnosis had a much lower viral load and maintained those powerful immune cells at a much higher rate than those who turned away from God. "In fact, people who felt abandoned by God and who decreased in spirituality lost their CD4 cells 4.5 times faster than people who increased in spirituality," Ironson says. "That was actually our most powerful psychological predictor to date."

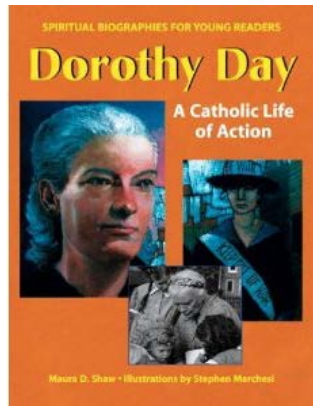
Apocalyptic Movies- A PowerPoint from Sr. Rose Pacatte



Sr. Rose has shared her latest PowerPoint on Apocalyptic Movies. Check out this 20 slide presentation she uploaded at SlideShare at

http://www.slideshare.net/RosePacatte/apocalyptic-themes-in-movies?from=new_upload_email.

Dorothy Day: A Catholic Life of Action – FREE – You Pay P & H.



Dorothy Day lived her life helping the hungry and the homeless and sticking to her pacifist principles, even during World War II. You will learn about Day's life--from her efforts to further peace and equality as a young woman to her work helping the hungry and homeless with food, shelter, and unconditional love--and her belief that we all have the power to make the world a better place. Shaw notes that Day was considered a saint for her good works, though she was still quite human--a woman who sometimes lost her temper and had little use for volunteers who didn't work. What emerges most clearly is the way Day's common-sense Christianity translated into better lives for untold numbers of people.

Originally \$12.95, this is an excellent opportunity. Order copies for your students, your catechists, your families. Quantities are limited. Call/Fax the office with your request.

From the Inside Flap

If You Answer "Yes" to Any of These Questions, You Have Something in Common with Dorothy Day

Do you ever see people who don't have enough food to eat or a place to live?

Does it bother you when things are not fair, or when people don't respect each other and seem to ignore that they can help poor people?

Are you one of the more outspoken kids in your class at school?

Do you think it's important to be kind to everyone?

This book is for you!

An Immigrant's Prayer

O holy God, Heart of heaven and earth, praised be your holy name.
Your daughters and sons, from all peoples of the world,
regardless of borders, praise you.

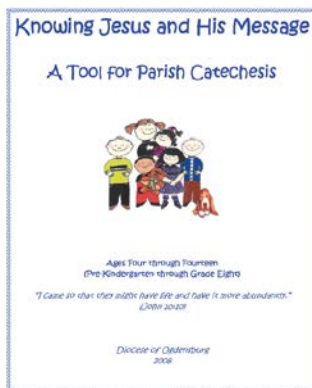
We praise you and give you thanks
because you have placed in our hands the immigrant pilgrims
who make the earth flourish and produce,
to bring food to the table of the rich and poor alike.

We praise you and give you thanks because you walk always
with those who cross borders in search of wellbeing,
doing their part in building the world you entrusted to us.
On our way, we are mindful of your Presence
in the promise to Abraham and in the liberation of your people, Israel.

We praise you and give you thanks for your blessings on all immigrants,
on those who cross all the borders in the United States.

And you, O lady of Guadalupe, empress of the Americas,
be always our protector and intercessor for reconciliation
and the building of equality and peace. Amen.

Knowing Jesus and His Message – Conociendo a Jesús y su Mensaje



This is an excellent resource. Immediately following the Learning Session on this resources at the NCCL Conference and Exposition in Atlanta, the NCCL Bookstore sold over twenty (20) copies of the book in English and Spanish.



Based on the protocol used to evaluate elementary religion series, the book used

fifteen standards for Pre-K and K through Grades 7 & 8. Included with the binder is a CD with all the materials available for duplication. This is an ideal help for any elementary catechist regardless of the series you might be using. Check out the following and use the Order Form.

- **PREFACE - Knowing Jesus and His Message** (<http://tiny.cc/nvsql>)
- **EXPLANATION - Knowing Jesus and His Message** (<http://tiny.cc/xuvw8>)
- **Standards - Explained** (<http://tiny.cc/65wmc>)
- **Normas y Fundamentos** (<http://tiny.cc/zfrg2>)
- **ORDER FORM - Knowing Jesus and His Message** (<http://tiny.cc/9j0mb>)

Looking For A Good Book?

Stop by the [NCCL Bookstore](#). Purchasing books, CDs, DVDs, and other products on *Amazon* through the [NCCL Bookstore](#) (<http://astore.amazon.com/natioconfefor-20>) helps support this valuable online ministry.

If you are an on-line shopper and you frequent Amazon.com, please enter through the NCCL Amazon Bookstore as the organization benefits from every purchase you make. It's an ideal way to support our ministry. Just go to our Home page (www.NCCL.org) and click on the *Store* tab or click on <http://astore.amazon.com/natioconfefor-20> and it will take you directly to our bookstore. It doesn't matter what you buy, as long as you enter through the NCCL Amazon Bookstore, we get a percentage of your purchases.

We are just building our bookstore and adding titles every day, so if you have any suggestions for books you believe should be available through our bookstore, please drop NCCL a note. All books mentioned in *CL Weekly* are available at the NCCL Bookstore.