



Check It Out

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

November 2014



ALL SOULS DAY
NOVEMBER 2ND

Many cultures have rich traditions associated with All Souls' Day, our Catholic recognition of those in the Body of Christ who have died and are in purgatory. This link has information on those traditions, including activities and food that could be part of an All Souls Day Celebration. (NCCL)

http://www.theholidayspot.com/all_souls_day/

All Saints & All Souls Day

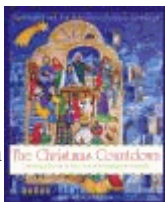
[Video](#) from Joe Aboumoussa

Advent & Christmas Wisdom from St. Thérèse of Lisieux

(Book) Cleary, John J., Liguori Publications, 2014. Thérèse believed that no act of faith is too small for God. Loving God in this way wasn't always easy for St. Thérèse, but even through her suffering and death at age twenty-four she tried to love God with all her heart. In her autobiography, *Story of a Soul* St. Thérèse shares the story of her "little way" and helps us see God in his smallest creations. John Cleary uses passages from *Story of a Soul* to inspire us to embrace our own smallness this Advent and Christmas and see past the glamour and hype of a material Christmas to the small miracle that comes on December 25. (A)

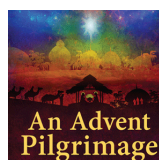
The Christmas Countdown: Creating 25 Days of New

Advent Traditions for Families (Book) Harding, Margie J., Paraclete Press, 2010. This guide provides easy-to-use devotionals with Scripture, music, food, and fun family activities to prepare your heart and home - and reach out to others - in celebration of Christ's coming. (A)



ADVENT BEGINS
NOVEMBER 30TH

An Advent Pilgrimage: Preparing Our Hearts for Jesus



Preparing Our Hearts for
Jesus

ARCHBISHOP J. PETER SARTAIN

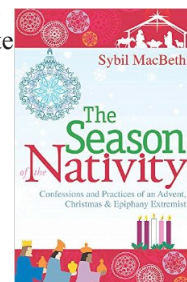
(Booklet) Archbishop J. Peter, Sertain, Our Sunday Visitor, 2014. Archbishop invites us to take an Advent trip with him, a journey that starts in our hearts, and ends at the humble manger. These brief reflections are like letters from a close friend, in which he shares personal stories, perspectives, and advice. (A)

Holding Jesus: Reflections on Mary, the Mother of God

(Book) McBride, Alfred, Franciscan Media, 2012. The most popular image of Mary in paintings, icons, stained glass, and statuary is her role as the Madonna, the mother of the Word made flesh. Throughout Jesus' life, Mary holds her son in her love and in her outstanding prayer and contemplation. In 42 scriptural reflections, Fr. Alfred McBride invites us to consider Mary as a young wife and new mother who holds her infant, as the Mother of Sorrows who holds her son when he is taken down from the cross, and as a witness to the infant Church when the Holy Spirit descends in the Upper Room at Pentecost. (A)

The Season of the Nativity: Confessions and Practices of an Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany

Extremist (Book) MacBeth, Sybil, Paraclete Press, 2014. Advent and Epiphany are the often-neglected parentheses around Christmas. The Season of the Nativity – Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany – deserves more attention and better publicity. As the opening three acts for the liturgical year, it sets the stage for our yearlong journey through Scripture and salvation history. This book combines memoir, front-porch theology, and pages of spiritual practices and activities to invite individuals and families into a deeper relationship with a time of year you may have never discovered before. (A)



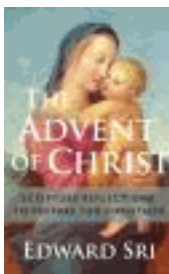
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[The Advent of Christ: Scripture Reflections to Prepare for Christmas](#) (Book) Sri, Edward P. Perhaps the Christmas story has become almost too familiar. A virgin giving birth. A child laid in a manger. Shepherds greeted by angels. The Christmas story has become so familiar that the profound, even shocking, nature of the incarnation might be overlooked. But what if we had never heard the story before? What if

we were hearing it for the first time, like the first-century Jews? These events certainly would not be taken for granted--they would signal something new: the dawning of the long-awaited Messiah. This Advent, put yourself in that ancient Jewish world. Containing an entry for each day of Advent and continuing through the Christmas season, Dr. Ted Sri will help you to discover spiritual treasures in the Gospels and gain a new understanding of the coming of Christ"--. "Daily reflections for Advent and Christmas based on the bestselling Dawn of the Messiah by Edward Sri, with new questions for reflection, Scripture, and prayers. (A)

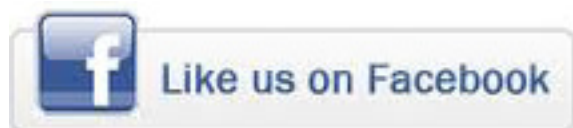
New On the Shelves

[The American Catholic Almanac: A Daily Reader of Patriots, Saints, Rogues, and Ordinary People Who Changed the United States](#) (Book) Image, 2014. In this page-a-day history, 365 inspiring stories celebrate the historic contributions of American men and women shaped by their Catholic faith. From famous figures to lesser-known saints and sinners, The American Catholic Almanac tells the fascinating, funny, uplifting, and unlikely tales of Catholics' influence on history, culture, and politics. Spanning the scope of the Revolutionary War to Notre Dame football, this unique collection of stories highlights the transformative role of the Catholic Church in American public life over the last 400 years. (A)

[Saints and Social Justice: A Guide to Changing the World](#) (Book) Vogt, Brandon, Our Sunday Visitor, 2014. The church has always taught certain undeniable truths that can and should affect our society. But over the years, these teachings have been distorted, misunderstood, and forgotten. With the help of fourteen saints, it's time we reclaim Catholic social teaching and rediscover it through the lives of those who best lived it out. Follow in the saints' footsteps, learn from their example, and become the spark of authentic social justice that sets the world on fire. (S,A)



[Saint Philip Neri: I Prefer Heaven](#) (DVD) Ignatius Press, 2011. Feature film of the life story of the 16th century priest and founder of the Oratory, a religious congregation that worked with youth and the re-evangelization of a decadent Rome. (S,A)



[An Advent and Christmas Journey](#) (DVD) St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2005. Father Himes has a great gift for taking traditional ideas and biblical stories and helping us see them in a whole new light. 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. (A)

[The Angel's Advent Lesson](#) (DVD) 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. (I,J)

Quick video on Advent ADVENT IN TWO MINUTES

[Priest, Prophet, King](#) (DVD) Word on Fire, 2014. The better we understand Jesus, the better we understand ourselves. But who was Jesus, this itinerant preacher whom many called the Messiah? In Priest, Prophet, King, you'll discover Jesus as the Anointed One--the ultimate priest, prophet, and king foreshadowed throughout the Hebrew Scriptures. Using biblical insights and engaging stories, Father Barron affirms that we see Jesus most clearly through the lens of the Old Testament. This deeply biblical program, filmed in high-definition video, features an accompanying study guide by notable Catholic writer and apologist, Carl Olson, written under Fr. Barron's direction. (A)



[Mini Retreats for Meaningful Living-Catechists: God's Call to Speak about Our Faith](#) (DVD) Our Sunday Visitor, 2014. Now you can bring Fr. Joe Kempf into your parish to do a retreat - any time you like - with this new, breakthrough DVD series created for catechists and all who are called to speak about our Catholic faith. Let Fr. Joe educate, entertain, and inspire in this dynamic mini-retreat that explains the "who, what, and why" of catechetical ministry. Use these three talks and one guided meditation however you like - all in one session, spread over four weekly meetings, or any other way that works for your team. (A)

[Mini Retreats for Meaningful Living-Family: God Is in the Mix of It All](#) (DVD) Our Sunday Visitor, 2014. Imagine being able to invite Fr. Joe Kempf to lead a dynamic family retreat in your parish. Or, imagine him coming visiting each parish family in their home and leading a personal retreat? Now both are possible with this DVD series created just for Catholic families. Let Fr. Joe educate, entertain, and inspire in this dynamic mini-retreat that helps families not just "get along" but learn when and how to let go, how to strengthen the family bond and ways to find a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. The three talks and one guided meditation can be shown in large-group settings such as adult education classes, Sacramental Preparation sessions or loaned out to families to view at home. (A)