



## Small Christian Community Resource List

### Lectionary-Based Publications

**SUNDAY BY SUNDAY** for both adults and teens is a four-page weekly with an accompanying leader's guide that invites readers to the regular spiritual exercise of reflecting on the Sunday scriptures together. The material is suitable for a SCC, RCIA or a scripture study group and has four component elements: prayer, a pamphlet of commentary on the Sunday scripture, community sharing, and concludes with a call to service and justice. For teens the series offers the lectionary based *The Spirit Program*. The series can be purchased in annual or smaller units or simply in a seasonal package (Advent and Lent). Call 800-232-5533 or through the website: [www.goodgroundpress.com](http://www.goodgroundpress.com).

**Exploring the Sunday Readings** is a four-page monthly publication that includes scripture reflections, faith-sharing questions and a call to make a faith response for the particular Sunday. The approach is simple and direct with no frills. To order call Twenty-Third Publications at 800-321-0411 or visit their website [www.twentythirdpublications.com](http://www.twentythirdpublications.com).

**Ministry Center for Catholic Community** has a variety of excellent publications for faith-sharing among small groups and parish adult formation. The lectionary-based materials include Advent and Lenten resources. They also offer bible-sharing resources for the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Their series *Putting Faith into Practice* covers work and leisure, Catholic spirituality, and Catholic social teaching. Contact the center at 206-763-6222.

**RENEW International** publishes the *IMPACT* series for the growth of SCCs. Each publication offers a faith-sharing time with a rich diversity of topics designed to raise consciousness, deepen spirituality and instill action. Consider purchasing a sample packet to get an overview of all their current resources.

You will find an excellent introduction to SCCs in a four-part video series called *Parish Core Communities: Renewing the Face of the Earth*. Viewers explore the mission of SCCs through a historical overview and examine the relevance of SCCs to the Church in the 21st Century. The videos also highlight the major responsibilities of the parish core community and provide guidance for developing structures, a planning process and support materials for the ongoing pastoring of SCCs. A video guide provides brief summaries of the content of each video and offers faith-sharing questions that enhance the usefulness of the series. Suggested readings from the book *Small Christian Communities: A Vision of Hope for the 21st Century* are also included in the video guide.

*Prayer Time*, which covers all three cycles of the Liturgical Year, is appropriate for all groups because it is well suited to a short faith-sharing time period.

**Share the Word** presents devotional articles and scriptural material for personal or communal sharing, reflection and growth. Each edition provides guidelines, commentary and questions for faith-sharing all the Sunday scriptures in the liturgical cycle. The tone of its publications is evangelization as the essential component of our Christian life. For the weekday readings, a short meditation is offered to enrich the sense of the scripture. The devotional is available through Paulist National Catholic Evangelization Association by calling 202-832-5022 or visiting their website [www.paulistpress.com](http://www.paulistpress.com).

**Living Liturgy: Spirituality, Celebration and Catechesis for Sundays and Solemnities** is a treasure for faith-sharing in and of itself because it offers the entire text for the Sunday readings along with a commentary on the scriptures and catechetical instruction. Living Liturgy provides a practical and prayerful means to reflect on, celebrate and live the paschal mystery. Each liturgical cycle is completely redone annually. To order call the Liturgical Press at 800-585-5450 or visit their website at [www.litpress.org](http://www.litpress.org).

### **St. Louis University**

This website offers many different perspectives on the Sunday readings. One of the perspectives offered is "The Perspective of Justice." Select the Sunday from the home page, select "Spirituality for Sunday" and then "The Perspective of Justice."

### **Center of Concern**

The Center of Concern offers reflections on the Sunday readings from a justice perspective. The resource also offers questions for faith sharing groups.

### **Peace Connections**

This website has peace and justice reflections for the Sunday readings for all three cycles. The documents are available in Microsoft Word or pdf format.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Day Center for Justice**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Day Center offers a downloadable guide for reflection "Toward a Spirituality of Justice."

### **AT HOME WITH THE WORD – Sunday Scriptures and Scripture Insights**

Useful for meditation on the Sunday scriptures by yourself or with others. Appropriate for every Sunday of the Liturgical Year, it provides the three scripture readings and psalm as well as insights into the readings and suggestions for reflection. Contact: Liturgy Training Publications [www.ltp.org](http://www.ltp.org).

### **SHARING GOD'S WORD THROUGH THE YEAR – A Guide for Small Groups of Young Adults – Cycles A, B & C**

Sharing God's Word Through the Year helps young adults reflect on the Scripture and relate them to daily life in a small faith sharing group. It uses the Gospel readings from each Sunday as a springboard for reflection. A short historical-cultural commentary helps young adults understand the context of the Sunday readings. Each Sunday includes a story written by a young adult on the meaning of the gospel theme. The questions for discussion and sharing along with the action suggestions are geared to the needs and issues of people in their twenties. The binder is fully reproducible and ready to use in a variety of settings.

Contact: Center for Ministry Development 203-723-1622 [www.cmdnet.org](http://www.cmdnet.org).

## **TOPICAL ISSUES**

With keyword identifiers

### **CONNECTIONS: A Spirituality of Life and Work: A Paulist Ministry**

A small group Paulist program designed to enhance the spirituality we live in the real world. The process is open to use by Catholics and other Christians who want to help each other become more conformed to the image of Jesus Christ. Contact: 512-452-7566 [www.landings-international.org](http://www.landings-international.org).

### **DISCIPLES IN PRAYER – A Resource for Faith Sharing**

A resource helpful for private prayer, small faith-sharing groups, for all those at various stages of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, or for anyone who takes delight in understanding the Word at the center of Catholic faith and teaching. Contact: Oregon Catholic Press 503-281-1191 [liturgy@ocp.org](mailto:liturgy@ocp.org).

### **EMMAUS JOURNEY – A Catholic Bible Study from the Word Among Us Press**

This set of booklets incorporate reflection on Scripture passages around various important topics of personal spirituality and discipleship. Each discussion topic is presented and reinforced by references to valuable Catholic resources. Contact: [info@emmausjourney.org](mailto:info@emmausjourney.org) [www.emmausjourney.org](http://www.emmausjourney.org).

### **St. Andrew Society**

A **six-week Scripture study on hunger**. You can order hard copies at a cost, but it is a free download from the website. The website has other information about hunger and about gleaning programs and wasted food in our country.

### **Justice Walking**

This is the youth and early college age version of JustFaith.

### Just Faith

This is a year-long program modeled on the RCIA to empower people of faith to develop a passion and thirst for justice. There is also a JustFaith II program which is aimed at skill development at justice work and advocacy.

### Catholic Campaign for Human Development

CCHD has five faith sharing booklets available for a nominal cost. The titles are Sharing the Tradition, Shaping the Future; The Call to Family, Community and Participation; Dignity of the Human Person; Preferential Option For and With the Poor; and Solidarity with the Poor.

Each booklet contains selected Scripture readings, reflections, focus questions and suggested group actions. They are available both in English and Spanish.

### Dominican Justice and Peace Workbooks

The [Peace and Justice Commission](#) of the Dominican Order has produced five workbooks to assist their brothers and sisters, and all concerned, to become more aware of the resources, the stories and the techniques for pursuing justice and peace issues in our day. It is easier to navigate the text using the individual books rather than downloading the whole file which needs to be unzipped.

### Spirituality of Justice Reflections: Thirty Daily Reflections with Pope Benedict XVI

This is just one of the many resources from the [Education for Justice](#) website. Although this resource is mainly intended for personal reflection, it could be easily adapted for use by a group.

### Surefish- Act Justly

This contains an Act Justly I and II which can be downloaded. Each is a six session Scripture study linking the scriptures to justice issues. There are also prayer resources on the website.

### Mennonite Central Committee

These [peace studies](#) are meant for group sharing. There are samples on the web page, but the actual materials need to be ordered. The cost is minimal. They also have [peace prayers](#) available online.

### Vatican II

**Vatican II: Act II – An Adult Discussion Program.** Rev. Robert L. Kinast's four-part series guides the convener and participant in the faith-sharing group whether seasonal, ministerial or SCC through documents of Vatican II. There is an abundance of material for nourishment and growth allowing participants to move beyond a level of personal comfort and into new areas of ministry. The four titles in the series are: *Work, Living in God's World, Families, and Called to Holiness*. The latter is typical and explores the theme of spirituality as lived out in everyday circumstances and families using the bible and liturgy to respond to God's call to holiness. To order call the NPLC at 212-431-7825 or email [cpatten@nplc.org](mailto:cpatten@nplc.org).

### Catholic Social Teaching/Social Justice/Peace

**Sharing the Tradition, Shaping the Future** is a five-booklet series structured for faith-sharing on the basic themes of Catholic social teaching. Its purpose is to enable adults to enter into and grow in awareness of the social justice tradition of the Catholic Church. Topics include: *Sharing Experience, Sharing the Tradition; Shaping the Future: Family, Community and Participation; Dignity of the Human Person; Preferential Option for the Poor; and Solidarity with the Poor*. To order contact the USCCB Publishing Services at 800-235-8722 or visit their website at [www.nccbuscc.org/cchd/index.htm](http://www.nccbuscc.org/cchd/index.htm).

### Missalette with Faith-Sharing Content

**Living with Christ: Your Daily Scriptural Companion** - The familiar pocket-sized monthly missalette format of daily readings is retained but is enriched to move readers more deeply into the eucharistic liturgy through faith-sharing questions, starter prayers, saints biographies, and more. Each monthly edition has two weeks of material for faith-sharing groups. To order call Bayard, Inc. at 800-572-0788 or email: [lwc@bayard-inc.com](mailto:lwc@bayard-inc.com).

### Catechism of the Catholic Church with Faith-Sharing

**Why Catholic? Journey through the Catechism** offers a concrete approach to adult faith formation based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church employing the methods of adult learning theory. The faith-sharing approach will help deepen a participant's Catholic identity. To order contact RENEW International at 888-433-3221 or visit their website at [www.renewintl.org](http://www.renewintl.org).

*Saints on CD*

**Faith-Sharing with a Saint: CD-Based Study of a Saint Scripture Sharing – Journey of the Sacred Series – St. John of the Cross: Session Guides for Small Faith Communities (G-5625).** This CD is one in a series on saints. It offers six sessions that highlights the spirituality of St. John of the Cross, the great saint and Doctor of the Church. The set comes with a booklet of song lyrics as well as the music CD (CD-520) and offers a change of pace to faith-sharing communities. To order call GIA at 800-442-1358 or visit their website at [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com).

*Faith-Sharing for Young Mothers*

**MOMS: Ministry of Mothers Sharing** creates an awareness of the inner sacred self while teaching new ways to inspire, encourage and affirm each other. Through the process of personal and spiritual growth, women have the opportunity to clarify their values, claim their own giftedness, and bring new strengths to their family relationships and to the Christian Community. The experience triggers a growth in faith and engagement in the life of the Church. For more information contact the national M.O.M.S office at 651-748-4089 or visit their website at [www.osb.org/spm/moms.html](http://www.osb.org/spm/moms.html).

*Intergenerational Faith-Sharing*

**Family Faith Communities** offers a process and place for families to form relationships with other families who share a common faith tradition, explore the presence of God in their daily lives, learn more about our Catholic faith in an intergenerational setting (all ages gathering together), and to have some fun. The book provides ten gatherings with accompanying activities to help begin a faith family community experience. These gatherings explore themes important to Catholic Christians. The outcome is relationships beyond the immediate family circle and a lot of fun. The child in you will grow! To order call Good Ground Press at 800-232-5533 or visit their website at [www.goodgroundpress.com](http://www.goodgroundpress.com).

*Growth in Discipleship*

**Reaching Jesus: 5 Steps to a Fuller Life** by David Knight. The author maps out a new path to a fuller life in Jesus Christ. He offers readers a clear and compelling guide. Those who choose to follow will know where they are, what steps they have already taken and what steps they need to take in order to arrive at the abundant life Jesus came to give. Reading the text is energizing and will lead individuals and groups to reflect on the challenging questions and steps needed to deepen the walk with the Lord. You will want to read more of David Knight's publications after reading *Reaching Jesus*. To order contact the St. Anthony Messenger Press at 800-488-0488 or visit their website at [www.americancatholic.org](http://www.americancatholic.org).

Claire Colella, Rory Cooney, Joseph Favazza. **Reconciliation: The Unfolding Mystery of God's Mercy and Love**, New Berlin, Wisconsin: Liturgical Press, 2007.