

Advent Prayer Service Catholic Diocese Of

Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship provides basic guidelines for understanding the role and ministry of music in the liturgy. An excellent resource for priests, deacons, and music ministers!

To “prepare for Christmas” in our society is to be sucked into a vortex of indulgence, from decor to gifts to calorie-rich foods. Layer upon layer of tinsel, lights, and wrapping paper create the illusion of abundance, disguising the feeling of emptiness in our souls. The arrival of the Messiah, by contrast, is true abundance disguised by the impression of scarcity. Training our eyes to see through the rough stable, the adolescent mother, and the anxious escape to Egypt, we can see in that poverty and powerlessness the wonder of God's abundant life and grace coming down to dwell among us. This powerful devotional by best-selling author Walter Brueggemann includes daily reflections on the Scriptures and stories of Advent in order to invite us to see beyond the world's faux extravagance and realize the true feast laid out before us. Twelve prayers are also included for the twelve days of Christmas.

Provides children and adults with a meaningful devotional experience at Christmas time now with a new cover!"

Veneration of martyrs is one of the earliest devotions in the Church. For centuries Christians looked upon the martyrs as the great heroes of the faith, offering the supreme testimony to Christ and the Gospel by laying down their lives rather than renounce their Christian faith. A Book of Martyrs is intended to remind the faithful of some of these powerful men and women who lived and suffered in the British Isles. Among the many Saints and Blesseds of England, Scotland and Wales are extraordinary figures who - through our devotion - provide us today with many wonderful gifts, such as wisdom, strength and comfort.

As hunger for the faith continues to grow, Pope Benedict XVI gives the Catholic Church the food it seeks with 598 questions and answers in the

"This book contains prayers for each day of the school year, is organized for easy use, and is a great catechetical tool. These features help you deepen and enrich classroom prayer: choice of brief or longer psalms, opening remarks, prayer services, resource pages, commentary, a feature call "also on this day". - cover.

Popular author, catechist, and creator of The Religion Teacher website Jared Dees learned a valuable lesson from his students: teaching is not the same as evangelization. He found instead—as in Jesus' own ministry—if you focus first on healing the wounded, then proclaiming the Word of God, and finally teaching, you can bring people of all ages to Christ. Using examples from his own teaching, stories from the Bible, and the lives of the saints, Dees offers a fresh and engaging approach and practical ideas for following the ministry of Jesus in your own work. Jesus had a threefold ministry on Earth: to heal the sick and wounded, proclaim the Good News, and teach those who became his disciples. It's an approach imitated by the saints throughout history and continues to be the cornerstone of successful ministry in parishes, Catholic schools, and other vibrant programs today. Jared Dees—author of 31 Days to Becoming a Better Religious Educator—will help you understand how Jesus' ministry transformed lives through biblical examples such as Paul, Bartimaeus, the centurion's servant, and the woman at the well. He shares the importance of healing through the ministries of saints, such as Mother Teresa, Br. André Bessette, Ignatius of Loyola, and Fr. Damien of Molokai. In To Heal, Proclaim, and Teach, Dees offers practical examples of how to apply Jesus' threefold ministry to everyday life: allow yourself to be constantly evangelized; learn to help others through both good and bad times; and root yourself in community. He also suggests examples of ministries that are effectively reaching the faithful of all ages today, including Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Life Teen, Teens Encounter Christ, Theology on Tap, FOCUS, and Christ Renews His Parish. Dees will guide you with practical ways to imitate Jesus' ministry in your own classrooms and faith formation programs at all levels. To Heal, Proclaim, and Teach was a 2017 winner of the Association of Catholic Publishers Excellence in Publishing Award: Resources for Ministry (Third Place) and the Catholic Press Association Book Award: Pastoral Ministry (Third Place).

Many Catholic parents are tempted to leave the religious education and spiritual formation of their children up to their parish or Catholic school. Professional catechist, popular blogger, and father of two, Marc Cardaronella has a passionate plea for those parents: be your child's primary educator in the faith by what you do and say. This practical guide gives parents what they need to be a bigger partner in handing on the faith to their children by creating a faith-nurturing environment at home. When Marc Cardaronella started his job as a catechist, he could empathize with parents who came to him to talk about how their now-grown children had left the Church because he had been there: Despite years of religious education and regular Mass attendance, Cardaronella never really practiced his faith. He fell away from the Church right after his Confirmation and stayed away for twenty years. Now it's his mission to equip families like yours to hand on your faith. His passionate message is that the kind of faith formation children need is not taught in standard religious education classes and probably never will be.

Cardaronella is on a quest to help you fill the gaps by first strengthening your own faith—opening your heart to God, practicing trust, clearing away obstacles to God's grace, and creating regular prayer and study routines at home. He gives you the tools to pass that faith on to your kids and make it stick by teaching you how to pray with your children consistently, about adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the power of the Examen prayer, and how to motivate your kids to be engaged in parish life and Christian outreach. Keep Your Kids Catholic offers equal shares of inspiration, challenge, and practical advice. Each chapter includes Reflect, Pray, and Live sections to help you integrate Cardaronella's message into family life.

This revised, expanded edition of the Common Worship President's Edition contains everything to celebrate Holy Communion Order One throughout the church year. It combines relevant material from the original President's Edition with Eucharistic material from Times and Seasons, Festivals and Pastoral Services, and the Additional Collects.

Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers USCCB Publishing

Lectio Divina of the Gospels for the Liturgical Year, 2020-2021 takes the reader through the traditional process of lectio divina, with reading, meditation, prayer, and contemplation, focused on the Sunday gospel reading. A unique guide is offered for each gospel reading to help the reader explore the sacred texts with greater attention and allow the Word to permeate their mind and imagination more deeply. Each week's lectio divina includes a dedicated page for writing out reflections, thoughts, and prayers. This book takes the reader through a cycle of praying with the Gospels for Sundays and major feasts of the liturgical year, beginning with the first Sunday of Advent on November 29, 2020 and concluding with the last Sunday in Ordinary Time on November 28, 2021. This lectio divina prayer guide can be used for personal meditation, as a tool for family prayer, and would also be great for parish small-group reflections on the Sunday Gospel.

Taking her inspiration from the medieval tradition of carving Jesse Trees - a method used to explain the genealogy of Jesus - McCaughrean uses all her skill as a storyteller to weave together evocative retellings of Bible stories with a contemporary tale about the creation of a modern-day Jesse Tree and the transforming power of friendship and love. First published as a picture

book, *The Jesse Tree* has received much critical acclaim.

Now in paperback, *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers* is the family resource for exploring the Catholic tradition of prayer. Use *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers to Learn* prayers by memory Bless the advent wreath, Christmas crèche, and Easter foods Lead grace before and after meals Bless the home before a move and in times of trouble *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers* brings solace, joy, and hope in God's mercy to families.

Creator of the popular website *The Religion Teacher*, Jared Dees shares practical, easy-to-use teaching strategies and exercises for spiritual growth in his book *31 Days to Becoming a Better Religious Educator*. These components are designed to improve the effectiveness of any busy religious educator. Volunteer catechists and professional religion teachers are responsible for two unique and challenging tasks: sharing (and assessing) information and the spiritual formation of their students. This succinct, practical resource helps busy catechists and religion teachers with both tasks and is designed for use either over consecutive days in one month, or by specific themes that encourage personal improvement in areas of discipleship, service, leadership, and overall teaching. Each of the thirty-one days includes a clear title that gives the lesson theme, a quotation from Scripture, an introduction to the exercise, step-by-step actions to take for the day, and spiritual enrichment ideas for the educator.

For over thirty years, *Sourcebook for Sundays, Seasons, and Weekdays* has been a trusted resource for preparing the various liturgies of the Church. This annual resource has been revised, reorganized, and redesigned to bring you more concise and helpful material to enlighten and inspire those who prepare the liturgy, especially the Sunday Mass, the "source and summit of the Christian life."

This hymnal is designed for all-age worship, with the aim of the full inclusion of children in weekly worship. It is organized into two main sections, the Eucharistic liturgy and the church year. Additional thematic sections include songs for baptism and confirmation, songs of thanks and praise, and songs of suffering, healing, and assurance.

Why is being happy such an imperative in our world today? What is the meaning of happiness? In this book Abbot Christopher Jamison turns to monastic wisdom for answers. He explains that, in essence, happiness is a gift not an achievement. It is the fruit of giving and receiving blessings. Following the same accessible and engaging format of his previous book, *Finding Sanctuary*, Abbot Christopher examines different aspects of happiness and tells us what monastic wisdom has to say about them. In doing so, he offers steps for the journey of finding happiness. Christopher Jamison is abbot of Worth Abbey, a Benedictine monastery near London. He is also president of the International Commission on Benedictine Education and sits on the Council of the alliance for International Monasticism, a body that promotes links between monasteries across the North/South divide. He is author of *Finding Sanctuary: Monastic Steps for Everyday Life* and was the host of the popular BBC documentary series *The Monastery*. Watch and listen to what Abbot Christopher Jamison has to say about his book *Finding Happiness* "The new edition of the prayer book of the Anglican Church of Canada. Includes: the Divine Office; Baptism and Reconciliation; the Holy Eucharist; the Proper of the Church Year; Pastoral Offices; Episcopal Offices; Parish Thanksgiving and Prayers; the Psalter; and Music. (ABC).

Due to growing interest in ecumenism, dialogue among Christian churches has grown in the last 50 years. This one-of-a-kind book offers selections from ecumenical dialogues formally sponsored by the Catholic Church arranged according to the order of the Catechism of the Catholic Church; readers can learn what the Catholic Church believes and what other Christian churches believe on the same topic gathered together. The volume of selections begins with a chapter on Catholic ecumenical principles, and a chapter on the churches involved in the dialogue. Following these introductory chapters are seven chapters on agreements in faith, sacraments, the Christian life, and spirituality following the four parts of the Catechism. Throughout the seven final chapters are editor's notes to help the reader understand the context of the dialogues, the pertinent issues involved, and the significance of what has been addressed, all in clear, easy-to-understand language.

Each volume in this series is liturgically accurate, magnificently printed, and beautifully bound as befits its use for the Prayer of the Church. You will find this set ideal for both your private and your communal daily prayer.

Introduces young readers to Catholic beliefs as expressed in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

In the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, it's easy for families to forget the true meaning of the season. In this new book of faith practices for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, parents, grandparents, Sunday School teachers, pastors, and anyone who cares about kids will find 100 easy, fun, and meaningful ideas for bringing the sacred back into the season. Divided into three sections of prayers, practices, and lessons, with pages decorated with whimsical Christmas doodles from the cover, *Faithful Families for Advent and Christmas* will delight kids and adults alike and offers families an abundance of ideas for making the Christmas season sparkle with faith and spirit.

From USCCB Publishing, this revision of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) seeks to promote more conscious, active, and full participation of the faithful in the mystery of the Eucharist. While the *Missale Romanum* contains the rite and prayers for Mass, the GIRM provides specific detail about each element of the Order of Mass as well as other information related to the Mass.

By meditating on personal examples from the author's life, as well as reflecting on the inspirational life and writings of Thomas Merton, stories from the Gospels, as well as the lives of other holy men and women (among them, Henri Nouwen, Therese of Lisieux and Pope John XXIII) the reader will see how becoming who you are, and becoming the person that God created, is a simple path to happiness, peace of mind and even sanctity.

A concise yet comprehensive collection of Advent and Christmas prayers, this book is uniquely organized around the story of the Incarnation, beginning with the Immaculate Conception of Mary and continuing all the way through Jesus' appearance in the Temple at age 12.

How to focus on Christ during Advent Most Christians agree that Christmas is all about Jesus, yet most of us spend little time preparing our hearts to celebrate Him. Why is this? Partly because we don't know how. In *Unwrapping the Names of Jesus*, Asheritah Ciuciu leads readers through the four weeks of Advent (Hope, Preparation, Joy, and Love). Each week: Begins

with an interactive family devotional that equips readers to celebrate Advent together Offers five daily reflections that focus on that week's name of Jesus Includes suggestions for fun-filled family activities or service projects This devotional can be used by readers in their own personal worship times or as a tool to engage in family worship during the busy holiday season. Either way, participants will gain a greater sense of awe and wonder at who Jesus is. By focusing on the person and character of Jesus throughout the Advent season, readers will prepare their hearts so that when they admire the live nativity, sit in the candlelight service, or wake up on Christian morning, they can join the faithful who sing from the bottom of their hearts, "O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!"

The Angelus is a centuries-old Catholic devotion that recalls the annunciation of Christ's birth by the Angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary. In *Praying the Angelus*, popular author and speaker Jared Dees reinvigorates the devotion, shares intimately from his own experience of it, shows us how to get started, and enriches the practice with original meditations to reflect on the words of both the Angelus and the Regina Caeli. Jared Dees was twenty-seven and in his fourth year of teaching religion in a Catholic school when he first experienced the Angelus. The creator of The Religion Teacher website allows the devotion to anchor his prayer life and challenge him to daily conversion of heart and will. Dees introduces the Angelus devotion and explores its rich history and significance for the Church. As spiritual companion and guide, he offers meditations on the words and images of both the Angelus and the Regina Caeli, which is prayed during the Easter season. We find lessons about the power of repetitive prayer, the humility of being a disciple, the importance of admitting time belongs to God, the wisdom of taking time with discernment, and the joy of resting in the Lord's presence. He shares personal stories of the life-change power of the Angelus and guides both newcomers and those already familiar with the prayer to contemplate the mysteries of salvation that lie at the heart of the devotion—the Annunciation, Incarnation, and Resurrection. Named for the opening words of the devotion's first prayer in Latin, "The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary," the Angelus is typically prayed at 6:00 a.m., noon, and 6:00 p.m. each day. Likewise the Regina Caeli is named for the opening lines of its prayer, "Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia." *Praying the Angelus* is supported by Dees's website, TheAngelusPrayer.com, where people can gather online to participate in and share this devotion with others.

This updated second edition of the Catechism of the Catholic Church incorporates all the final modifications made in the complete, official Latin text, accompanied by line-by-line explanations of orthodox Catholicism, summaries of each section, a detailed index, extensive cross-references, and helpful footnotes.

At the Heart of Christmas is the Church of England's campaign for Advent and Christmas 2021. Inspired by readings from the Gospels of Luke and John read at so many Christmas services, this booklet is an invitation to everyone to explore the good news of God's saving love as revealed in the birth of Jesus. It is also a challenge to each of us to ponder in our hearts, as Mary did, what the extraordinary events of the first Christmas might mean for us now and in the years ahead. Starting on Christmas Eve and continuing daily until the Epiphany (6 January), twelve contributors share something that lies close to the heart of Christmas for them, bringing the theme to life through a mixture of personal story, Bible reading, reflection and questions to ponder. Catechesis is an ancient practice of Christian disciple making that uses a simple question-and-answer format to instruct new believers and church members in the core beliefs of Christianity. *To Be a Christian*, by J. I. Packer and a team of other Anglican leaders, was written to renew this oft-forgotten tradition for today's Christians. With over 360 questions and answers, plus Scripture references to support each teaching, this catechism covers the full range of Christian doctrine and life, drawing from the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, and other important doctrinal summaries. Clear, concise, and conversational, this resource was written for all believers who seek to be grounded more deeply in the truth of God's Word.

"All of us are called to keep striving towards something greater than ourselves and our families, and every family must feel this constant impulse. Let us make this journey as families, let us keep walking together." Pope Francis, *Amoris Laetitia* In his groundbreaking work on modern family life, *Amoris Laetitia: On Love in the Family*, Pope Francis continues to guide and lead the Church, calling us to be a sign of mercy and encouragement for families of all shapes and sizes. The Our Sunday Visitor edition includes exclusive reflection and discussion questions, to help Catholics grow in our understanding of this call, and act upon it. In *Amoris Laetitia: On Love in the Family* the Holy Father expands on the topics and considerations of the two Synods on the family, and adds his own considerations to help us provide pastoral guidance to support and strengthen today's families. *On Love in the Family* guides us through: Scripture – what we can learn from Biblical families and relationships with God and each other Reality – the experiences and challenges we face in today's world Tradition – essential aspects of Church teaching on marriage and families Love – what it means for all our relationships Ministry – Pope Francis offers pastoral perspectives for helping build strong families Spirituality – the expression of the Gospel message in our relationships

Joseph Cardinal Bernardin is widely regarded as having had more impact on the Catholic Church in the United States than any other bishop this century. By the time of his death in 1996 he had attracted the respect and affection of millions around the world. *Selected Works of Joseph Cardinal Bernardin* provides in two volumes the "essential" Bernardin for those interested in the faith, ecclesial vision, and pastoral insights of this great church leader. The first volume, *Homilies and Teaching Documents*, captures the care and sensitivity with which Cardinal Bernardin carried out his teaching ministry as Archbishop of Chicago. It consists of his pastoral letters, reflections, and statements on liturgy, ministry, the Church, health care, religious education, Christology, consecrated life, AIDS, the Catholic Charismatic Movement, the permanent diaconate, and youth. The volume also includes Bernardin's interventions at four Synods of Bishops. Clergy, lay ministers and leaders will find the selected homilies, on a wide range of subjects, to be of particular value to their life and ministry. Volume 1 is divided into two parts. Part One: *Teaching Documents* includes the following articles under the heading *Pastoral Letters*: "Our Communion, Our Peace, Our Promise (1984)," "In Service of One Another (1985)," "The Family Gathered Here Before You (1989)," and "A Sign of Hope (1995)." Articles included under the heading *Pastoral Reflections* include "Christ Lives in Me (1985)," "Reflections on Religious Life (1986)," and "The Challenges We Face Together (1986)." Articles included under the heading *Pastoral Statements* include "A Challenge and a Responsibility (1986)," "Come, Holy Spirit (1988)," "The Call to Service (1993)," "Here and Now (1994)," and "Building Bridges Between Communities of Faith (1996)." Articles included under the heading *Synodal Interventions* include "The Sacrament of Penance in a Sacramental Church (1983)," "The Virtue of Penance: The Ideal and the Contemporary Reality (1983)," "The Church, the World, and the Kingdom (1987),"

"Spirituality of Diocesan Priests and Celibacy (1990)," and "Authenticity and Diversity in Consecrated Life (1994)." Part Two: Homilies includes the following articles under the heading First Days in Chicago: "I Am Joseph Your Brother (1982)," "It Is a Spiritual Event (1982)," and "Christ Calls Us Who Are Many to Be but One (1982)." Articles included under the heading Advent-Christmas Season include "Christmas Midnight Mass (1986)," "600th Jubilee of Christianity in Lithuania (1987)," "Simbang Gabi, (Filipino Celebration, 1987)," "Christmas Midnight Mass (1988)," "Christmas Mass (1988)," "Cathedral of St. Patrick (1990)," "50th Anniversary of the Cana Conference (1994)," "Mass of Healing (1994)," "Christmas Midnight Mass (1994)," and "Christmas Midnight Mass (1995)." Articles included under the heading Lent-Easter Season include "Passion (Palm) Sunday (1983)," "Sage Chapel (1985)," "Chrism Mass (1987)," "Pro-Life Pilgrimage (1988)," "Easter Sunday (1989)," "Old St. Patrick's Church (1989)," "Mass for the Newly Initiated (1989)," "Pentecost Sunday (1989)," "Easter Sunday (1990)," "Holy Name Cathedral (1991)," "Passion (Palm) Sunday (1991)," "Holy Name Cathedral (1991)," "Ash Wednesday (1993)," "Mass for the Newly Initiated (1993)," "Fifth Anniversary of AGLO (Archdiocesan Gay and Lesbian Outreach, 1993)," "Ash Wednesday (1994)," "Easter Sunday (1994)," "Annual Archdiocesan Charismatic Conference (1995)," and "Chrism Mass (1996)." Articles included under the heading Ordinary Time include "150th Anniversary of Old St. Mary's Church (1983)," "SS Faith, Hope and Charity Church (1983)," "Mass of the Holy Spirit (1984)," "Scouting Mass (1984)," "25th Anniversary of the Church of St. Alexander (1984)," "Catechists' Annual Resource Day (1984)," "Religion Enrichment Day (1985)," "Memorial Day (1985)," "St. Benedict's Home for the Aged (1985)," "Pro-Life Mass (1986)," "St. Patrick's Day (1986)," "Prayer Service in Honor of Mary (1986)," "Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate (1986)," "Religious Jubilarians' Celebration (1986)," "St. Mary of Providence School (1987)," "WEORC Retreat (1987)," "National Conference of Catholic Bishops Annual Meeting (1987)," "The Catholic Church Extension Society (1987)," "'Theology on Tap' Mass (1988)," "St. Gerard Majella Parish (1988)," "Mass with the Ephphetha Ecumenical Choir (1990)," "Colloquy of Bishops and Scholars (1990)," "Holy Name Cathedral (1990)," "Priesthood Ordination (1990)," "Festa Italiana (1991)," "Association of Catholic Diocesan Archivists (1992)," "Calvert House (1992)," "Diaconate Ordination (1993)," "Priesthood Ordination (1994)," "Church of St. Felicitas (1994)," "Celebration of 103 Korean Martyrs (1994)," "Casa Santa Maria dell'Umilta (1994)," and "Holy Name Cathedral (1995)." Articles included under the heading Special Occasions (Personal) include "Mass on the Occasion of Being Named to the Sacred College of Cardinals (1983)," "Ceremony of Taking Possession of the Titular Church, Jesus the Divine Worker (1983)," "Mass Commemorating the 20th Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination (1986)," and "Mass Commemorating the 25th Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination (1991)." Articles included under the heading Special Occasions (Archdiocese of Chicago) include "Liturgy for Sending Missionaries to the Diocese of Chilapa, Mexico (1989)," "Columbus Day Mass, V Centenary (1992)," "Mass for the Opening of the Archdiocesan Sesquicentennial Year (1993)," "Liturgy by the Lake, Sesquicentennial of the Archdiocese of Chicago (1994)," and "Mass for the Closing of the Archdiocesan Sesquicentennial Year (1994)." Articles included under the heading Special Occasions (Other) include "50th Anniversary of the Cathedral of Christ the King (1987)," "Funeral Mass for John Cardinal Dearden (1988)," "Millennium of Christianity in the Ukraine (1988)," "75th Anniversary of the Theological College (1992)," "25th Anniversary Mass (1993)," and "'Promoting the Common Good Through the Practice of Virtues' (1993)." Articles included under the heading The Challenges of the Last Years include "Priests of the Archdiocese of Chicago (1993)," "Prayer Service with the Presbyterate (1995)," "'Theology on Tap' Mass (1996)," "Communal Anointing of the Sick (8/24/1996)," "Communal Anointing of the Sick (8/31/1996)," "St. Joseph College Seminary (1996)," "Mundelein Seminary (1996)," "Prayer Service with Priests (1996)," and "Queen of Angels Church (1996)." The Power of Forgiveness, Pope Francis on Reconciliation calls the reader to explore the mercy of God, received in a profound way by turning toward God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This heartfelt collection of the Pope's reflections on the need for repentance, awareness of sin, God's divine mercy, forgiveness of others, and confession and absolution, is a transformative read for Catholics of all vocational states!

It's hard to imagine Advent or Christmas without music, and that goes beyond popular carols and handbells. Author Max Vincent invites readers to discover the music in the biblical story of Christmas. Four canticles ("little songs") precede, announce, and celebrate the birth of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke. These canticles invite readers to pause and consider the deeper meaning of the events surrounding his birth. In Good News of Great Joy, 24 daily readings explore the context, content, and spirituality of these canticles. Each of the four canticles has six daily readings. The daily readings include practices and questions to encourage further reflection on these little songs. In addition, the book provides a Leader's Guide for group study. Luke's canticles were some of the earliest songs of the church and are still prayed daily in some Christian traditions. Vincent encourages readers to pause and notice God's comforting presence as they reflect on these joyous songs of Advent.

If the goal of catechesis is to cultivate an encounter with Christ, why do religious educators spend so much time focused almost exclusively on ideas and not experiences? The reason is that many have never been shown a method that inspires the heart while also instructing the mind. Jared Dees, creator of the popular website The Religion Teacher, shows how applying the steps of lectio divina to teaching can reorient religious education toward encountering the person of Christ rather than merely sharing information about him. In Christ in the Classroom, Catholic author and speaker Jared Dees applies the five steps of lectio divina—reading/learning, meditation, prayer, contemplation, and action—to the ministry of catechesis. He offers teachers and catechists a practical framework for preparing lessons that broaden the focus of teaching from mostly intellectual learning to also encountering Christ in prayer, reflection, and action. Using this method, students and catechists come to know intimately the person of Christ at the same time that they are learning the tenets and traditions of the Church. Dees shares stories of success and failure from his own teaching experience and he offers dozens of field-tested strategies, tactics, and teaching methods to effectively integrate the steps of lectio divina into the classroom or other catechetical setting. Outfitted with these tools, both experienced and new religious educators will feel confident in their ability to teach effectively and lead their students to a life-changing encounter with Jesus.

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