

Some Scripture Study Programs for Catholics

For Adults

Little Rock Scripture Study Series Little Rock Scripture Study (www.littlerockscripture.org)

An outstanding and comprehensive basic Bible study program, suitable for parishes as well as informal groups. Individual courses vary in length from four sessions to sixteen sessions, and include studies for biblical books as well as thematic studies, such as Praying the Scriptures. The program includes leadership training, audio/video lectures, and excellent materials for both leaders and participants. Emphasizes basic information and reflection within small groups. Available in English and Spanish. Highly recommended for parishes that want to begin Bible study/sharing programs.

Paulist Bible Study Program Loyola Press (www.loyolabooks.org)

An older but still excellent Bible study program that emphasizes Bible scholarship. Covers the major books of the Old Testament and New Testament. Includes audio/video lectures, leader's guides, and good student workbooks. A little more intense than *the Little Rock Scripture Study* and *Six Weeks with the Bible*. Can easily be used by parish Bible study groups with a committed leader.

Six Weeks with the Bible Series Loyola Press (www.loyolabooks.org)

Short, excellent, simple courses on many books of the Bible, as well as many key themes of the Bible. Each course offers short introductions, reading guides, group advice, and good reflection questions. A great series for parish Bible sharing programs, and a good way to get started with the Bible. Available in English and Spanish.

Threshold Bible Study Series Twenty-Third Publications (www.pastoralplanning.com/TBS)

Unique Bible study program that focuses on personal transformation in our encounter with Scripture. Participants explore the Bible by themes connected to the Catholic faith, such as The Tragic and Triumphant Cross, Eucharist, The Holy Spirit and Spiritual Gifts, and Mysteries of the Rosary. Each book includes 30 lessons that can be used by an individual or by groups. Includes essential background for each reading, facilitator's suggestions, and good reflection questions. Based on a traditional method of praying the Bible, *lectio divina*. An outstanding choice for parishes that want to combine Bible study/sharing with teaching of the Catholic faith.

For Teens

Six Weeks with the Bible for Catholic Teens Loyola Press (www.loyolabooks.org)

Short, teen-oriented courses on major books of the Bible, with a focus on discovery and personal experience of the books studied. Courses include Genesis 1-11; Exodus; Mark; Luke; John 1-10; John 11-21; Acts and Revelation.

Youth Engaging Scripture: Diving into the Sunday Gospels Saint Mary's Press (www.smp.org)

Reflections on the Sunday gospels for all three years of the Sunday lectionary cycle (A-B-C). Helps teens reflect on how the Sunday gospel is relevant for their lives. Useful for catechetical leaders who work with teen, but can also easily be used by parents to help teens learn to study and pray the Bible.

For Older Catholics

Bible Stories Revisited: Discover Your Story in the Old Testament

by Macrina Scott, O.S.F. St. Anthony Messenger Press (www.americancatholic.org)

Bible Stories Revisited: Discover Your Story in the Gospel of Luke and Acts of the Apostles

by Macrina Scott, O.S.F. St. Anthony Messenger Press (www.americancatholic.org)

Simple Bible studies that help participants focus on the theme of aging, with guidance from selected stories in Scripture. Includes beautiful reflections and professional guidance by Sr. Macrina Scott, a pioneer in Catholic Bible study. The thoughtful reflection questions and prayers of participants make these books suitable for small group use.