



Useful Books, Bibles and Resources

There are a huge number of resources available to help you in your own Scriptural exploration, as well as to help unpack the Bible with young people... here are some of the ones that we have found the most useful at NYMO.

BOOKS

'Whose Bible is it? A History of Scripture through the Ages' by Jaroslav Pelikan

A detailed look at how the Bible came to be in the way it is nowadays - good for answering tricky questions!

'The Bible Jesus Read' by Philip Yancey

A great introduction to the Old Testament for people who don't really know where to start.

'The Gift of Scripture' - Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

Clearly explains Catholic teaching on the Bible, and gives a short introduction to most of the books of the Bible!

'Eat this Book' by Eugene Peterson

An excellent look at the process of lectio divina and application of scripture from a non-Catholic perspective.

'The Drama of Scripture' by Craig Bartholomew and Michael Goheen

A good overview of the narrative of the whole Bible, using it as a way to demonstrate the story of our salvation.

Also, anything written by **NT Wright** is usually excellent, and helps get to grips with particular books of the Bible – try his '..... for everyone' series (ie 'Mark for Everyone', 'Luke for Everyone' etc)

BIBLES

We're often asked which Bible translation is best to use with young people. Our favourite at the moment is the '**STUDENT LIFE APPLICATION BIBLE**', in the New Living Translation (NLT)... it has inspirational stories and insights, but also a good amount of background information about each of the books etc. Unfortunately, you won't be able to get hold of a copy with the full Catholic Bible (we have slightly more Old Testament books recognized as authoritative scripture), but we think it's worth the compromise, alongside a standard Catholic Bible.

Elsewhere, see if you can get hold of any kind of '**YOUTH BIBLE**' with extra notes and explanations to help readers think. There is a '**CATHOLIC YOUTH BIBLE**' published in the States and available in the UK (which avoids the problem of missing texts!), although some of the translation and language feels quite American.



To help interpret a text and bring it to life, you could look at using either **'THE MESSAGE'** paraphrase (the latest 'remix' version has verses marked in it to help you find your way), or **'THE WORD ON THE STREET'**, which is more British, but is quite cliché in its slang etc.

Elsewhere, we've found **'The New Testament' translated by Nicholas King** to be an excellent new translation, with interspersed theological reflections, and a really fresh-sounding approach.

Our current readings at Mass are taken from 'The Jerusalem Bible', although in the coming years, this is likely to change to the 'New Revised Standard Version' – both of which are available with all the Catholic books, but can be quite hard for some young people to understand.

STUDY GUIDES

for young people (all published by Scripture Union):

- 'Submerge' is nicely laid out and gives a variety of ways to respond to the text – good for younger teens
- 'Air Lock' is aimed at more committed mid-teens, and gives relevant life stories
- 'Encounter with God' is less fussy, and more appropriate for older teens upwards

There is also our own 'Daily Abide' monthly reading notes, which follow through various themes over the course of 3 months, and tie them into Mass and our Sacramental lives as young Catholics. For more information, visit www.themicahspace.com/dailyabide or order a 1 month copy for £2 via info@nymo.org / 01844 273337

for adults:

- Many Catholics find 'Magnificat' or 'Bible Alive' helpful as a daily prayer guide (both available in many parishes, and in Catholic bookshops)
- Elsewhere, there are tons of different daily reading guides available from Christian Bookshops – we especially like 'Encounter with God' (published by Scripture Union) and 'New Daylight' and 'Guidelines' (both published by Bible Reading Fellowship)

AND WEBSITES...

- www.biblegateway.com - online searchable database of the Bible
- www.closetogod.org.uk - daily reading and explanation of a wide variety of Bible passages
- www.textweek.com - gives a variety of cultural and theological responses to the current readings from the Revised Common Lectionary (occasionally may vary slightly from UK Catholic readings)
- www.newadvent.org - Catholic online theological dictionary with a Biblical theology section
- <http://bibletab.com> - good multi-version concordance