

Curated Digital Resources for Faith Formation

Compiled by John Roberto

A 21st century approach to faith formation requires that the faith formation leader become a curator—a trusted guide who continually finds, groups, organizes, and connects the best and most relevant faith forming content and resources on a specific subject to match the needs of a specific audience. In the new digital world of abundant resources, the role of the faith formation leader is shifting from providing religious content and programming to curating religious content and experiences for all ages. The convergence of an abundance of content, the variety of programming to address the diverse needs and interests of people today, and the online platform for delivering programming and connecting people is creating the impetus for faith formation leaders to reimagine their primary role.

I have selected a variety of digital resources that are either free or low cost that you can use to develop online faith formation programming for all ages in your faith community in virtual and blended settings. Many publishers produce curriculum resources that can be downloaded and then printed for use in gathered programs at church. I have not included these resources because of their expense and the fact that they need to be used in physical settings at church.

The resources listed can be used in designing online programming and faith formation playlists, and adding content to faith formation websites for children, adolescents, adults, families, and all generations. If you are using a published program or textbook from a Christian publisher, be sure to check-out their website for online learning resources. Several publishers have produced digital versions of their texts or programs.

To determine if a resource is appropriate for your congregation develop evaluation criteria and a checklist to review resources that will work for you. Here are several categories to consider in evaluating a resource:

- biblical content & interpretation
- theological content and emphasis
- developmental appropriateness
- ethnic-cultural appropriateness
- inclusive of diversity
- respect for diverse ways of learning
- appearance and visual appeal
- ease-of-use
- quality of experience
- ability to be incorporated into daily and home life.

Curation Websites

Building Faith: <u>https://buildfaith.org</u>.

The **Building Faith** blog and website from the Center for Ministry of Teaching offers practical resources for ministry with children, youth, and adults with articles, advice, reviews, features, and resources for Christian formation with people of all ages

The Congregational Resource Guide: <u>https://thecrg.org</u>

The Congregational Resource Guide (CRG) is an online tool designed to help leaders of all congregations find the right resources to address their unique challenges and needs.

Strong Catholic Family Faith: www.catholicfamilyfaith.org

Strong Catholic Family Faith seeks to empower and equip Catholic leaders to accompany and form faith-filled Catholic families by curating relevant content and meaningful experiences so that leaders might better partner with parents in passing on the faith. All of these resources have been selected and reviewed by the project team and drawn from trusted sources.

Traci Smith's Treasure Box Tuesday: https://tracismith.substack.com

Be sure to subscribe to Treasure Box Tuesday. Traci Smith curates resources for faith at home and family ministry. <u>Click here for newsletter</u>.

Video/Film Resources & Streaming Services (subscription-based)

Amplify Media: https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify/home (Subscription)

Amplify Media is a streaming service allowing churches large and small unlimited video access in order to discover, customize, and share diverse resources that encourage deeper discipleship and equip churches to pursue their mission with greater impact. They offer digital content for group and individual study, training and worship, a fully searchable library with 1000's of videos for adults and children, an engaging, familiar and easy-to-navigate online experience, and easy tools to customize content features for your church.

Ascension Presents (Ascension Press): YouTube Channel

Ascension Presents seeks to present the truth and beauty of the Catholic faith through media, and to answer the longings of the human heart with the transformative power of the Gospel. The videos seek to strengthen faith, get answers to tough questions, and discover truth with fund, informative, and relatable Catholic videos.

BibleProject (https://bibleproject.com) and The Bible Project TV (https://bibleproject.com/stream)

BibleProject is an animation studio that produces short-form, fully animated Bible videos, podcasts, and Bible resources to make the biblical story accessible to everyone, everywhere. People can now stream BibleProject videos on their television at home using the most popular streaming devices: Roku, Amazon Firestick, and Apple TV.

BimBam: www.bimbam.com (Free)

BimBam uses digital storytelling to spark connections to Judaism for learners of all ages. They have created over 400 videos, including animated videos of the stories and people of the Hebrew Scriptures. <u>Bimbam on YouTube</u>.

BustedHalo: https://bustedhalo.com/category/video

Busted Halo is a unique media resource that utilizes a relevant and accessible voice to help people understand the Catholic faith, put it into practice in their everyday lives, and share it with others. Busted Halo videos include the "Two Minute" videos for the church year seasons, sacraments 101 and 201 videos, the "You Don't Know Jack" videos about Catholic teachings, and more. <u>BustedHalo YouTube Channel.</u>

Catholic Central: https://www.catholiccentral.com

Catholic Central" offers entertaining and authoritative answers to questions about Catholic thought, spirituality and practice guided by two hosts and presented by theologians. Catholic Central has produced a collection of videos that entertain, enlighten and inspire. Catholic Central is a project of Family Theater Productions based on Sunset Boulevard in Hollywood, California.

Church Knows Church: Things We Can Do: https://chuckknowschurch.com (Free)

Chuck Knows Church is two online video series that help interpret complex subjects and issues in a fun, yet informative, way. The ORIGINAL SERIES is all about the objects, symbols and terms we often hear in church. There are more than 100 episodes available on a variety of topics. Each episode is between 2 to 5 minutes long. THE COMMITTEE is a humorous and poignant 15-part online series that examines the struggles congregations face as they look toward a preferred future. Designed for both

individual viewing and group study, each episode of 10-13 minutes comes with a free downloadable study guide. <u>ChuckKnowsChurch YouTube Channel</u>

Common Sense Media: https://www.commonsensemedia.org (Free)

Common Sense Media rates movies, TV shows, books, and more so parents can feel good about the entertainment choices they make for their kids. They offer the largest, most trusted library of independent age-based ratings and reviews. Their timely parenting advice supports families as they navigate the challenges and possibilities of raising kids in the digital age

Formed: https://formed.org (Subscription)

Pulling together the best in Catholic movies, children's programming, audio dramas and books, Formed provides a trusted and engaging Catholic content. They offer Bible studies, sacramental prep materials, documentaries, books and audio talks from leading Catholic experts. Parishes can share the platform with parishioners, send a subscription to a friend and help them engage via their mobile, tablet, or connected TV device.

Minno Kids: https://visit.gominno.com (Family subscription)

Minno is an online subscription-based streaming media provider created by Phil Vischer (creator of Veggie Tales and much more). It specializes in Christian programming for children with over 130 shows and over 1500 episodes. <u>YouTube Channel</u>

ODB Films: https://odbfilms.com (Free and pay)

The mission of ODB Films, founded in 2005 as "Outside da Box," is to foster an encounter with Christ through artfully made, spiritually rich films. ODB has produced more than 250 <u>short films</u> - including the 60-film <u>Video Catechism (VCAT)</u> series for teens, feature films Full of Grace and Paul, Apostle of Christ, and a six part series RESTORED: Stories of Encounter.

Paraclete Press: <u>https://paracletepress.com/products/paraclete-video-streaming-4</u> (Individual items or subscription)

Paraclete Press offers a subscription services (\$299 per year) for their complete video streaming library—a collection of more than 50 full-length videos. And you can share access with every staff member, small group leader, pastoral care coordinator, teacher, and church member who would benefit from these award-winning resources!

Right Now Media: https://www.rightnowmedia.org (Subscription)

Right Now Media offers a large customizable library of biblical video resources for every person in a church or ministry to equip and inspire people beyond Sunday. In addition to there are videos on a wide range of topics: marriage, finances, parenting, youth, recovery, and leadership. Right Now Media @Work helps people flourish in every area of life with on-demand video resources about leadership, professional development, and personal care.

Saddleback Kids Videos: YouTube Channel

Saddleback Kids, the children's ministry at Saddleback Church has developed these fun and creative ways to teach children about God's word. The videos be used as stand-alone bible lessons that parents can view with their children.

The Skit Guys: https://skitguys.com (Individual items or subscription)

Watch and download videos for sermon illustrations, announcements and teaching for use in your church, small groups, or other event. Download motion and still backgrounds and slides to use during your worship service. MORE is a subscription service from SkitGuys.com that provides access to the whole library of videos, motion graphics, countdowns and call to worship. The Skit Guys have a YouTube channel: <u>The Skit Guys on YouTube</u>.

Thirty Seconds or Less: http://thirtysecondsorless.net (Free)

Thirty seconds or less is the world's shortest podcast in video format, a flash mob of ideas, hundreds of voices. The #30SecondBible series features dozens of voices reflecting on the Bible. From Genesis to Revelation, you will hear summaries of each book and reflections on the good news they contain. This is the Bible for busy people, thirty seconds at a time.

- Work of the People: <u>https://www.theworkofthepeople.com</u> (Individual items or subscription) The Work of the People is a spiritual visual library and virtual sanctuary for a growing community of people from all walks of life. The have more than 1000 films, multi-session thematic series, contemplative film pieces for liturgy, e-courses, and a sacred space for reflection. Over the years, TWOTP has become a safe place to discover our humanity and divinity, a place of inquiry about God and being human. A place to grow in empathy and compassion, to share heart. A place to explore and evolve with the rest of creation-kind. Plans start at \$7 per month for personal use up to \$250 per year for unlimited streaming and using videos with groups.
- Worship House Media: <u>https://www.worshiphousemedia.com</u> (Individual items or subscription) Worship House Media offers mini movies, worship song tracks, church countdowns, worship backgrounds, and small group videos. Whether it's a normal Sunday or you are preparing for a special holiday service, you can find the perfect mini movie for a sermon illustration or engaging background for worship lyrics and announcements. Each item is individually priced.
- Worship House Kids: <u>https://www.worshiphousekids.com</u> (Individual items or subscription) WorshipHouse Kids provides fun and effective materials such as kids videos, song tracks, motion and still backgrounds, audio, and curriculum that teach kids about living their life for Jesus.

Amplify: https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify/home

Amplify provides a variety of children's resources (subscription) including a weekly adventure through the Bible for children with engaging, animated videos that tell a Bible story through the kids' point of view, with help from the Deep Blue kids, Asia, Edgar, Kat, and Caleb.

Bible App for Kids: <u>https://bibleappforkids.com</u>

The Bible App for Kids is a free app for Android, Apple, and Kindle devices, available in over 50 languages. The App introduces children to 41 of the "big" Bible stories and helps them understand the overall story that the Bible is telling. Throughout each story, fun, interactive animations keep children engaged, and select stories even include games designed to help them learn, understand, and retain important Bible story concepts.

Catholic Kids Media: YouTube Channel

Catholic Kids Media provides quality Catholic programming for kids to help parents and teachers instruct children in the Catholic faith and practices. These videos tackle questions such as "What is the Eucharist?" and "What is the Trinity?"

Children's Ministry: https://childrensministry.com

ChildrensMinistry.com from Group Publishing has a library of lesson plans for all children of all ages on a wide variety of themes or topics, as well as on holidays throughout the year. In addition to the library of lesson plans, there is a library of Bible activities and teaching tips for leaders.

Episcopal Children's Curriculum (ECC): Curriculum Website

The Episcopal Children's Curriculum is a thematic Sunday school curriculum tied to the seasons of the church year. It was developed by the Center for the Ministry of Teaching under the direction of the Rev. Locke E. Bowman, Jr. and Amelia J. Dyer, Ph.D. Although no longer in print, ECC curriculum materials are available for free download.

Good Ground Press: https://goodgroundpress.com/resources/

Good Ground Press offers a variety of free Catholic resources for home and church, including prayers and short weekly Gospel reflections.

Group Publishing Free Resource Hub: <u>https://www.group.com/category/ministry-resources/free</u>

Group Publishing's Free Resource Hub has resources for children, youth, & families.

Illustrated Ministry: https://www.illustratedministry.com

Illustrated Ministry creates accessible faith-based resources for the church and home. Their thoughtful and easy to use materials are designed to foster authentic faith engagement with refreshing designs, creative activities, and intergenerational focus. They produce worship resources, formation resources, and family resources—many of which are digital downloads.

Kids Corner: https://kidscorner.reframemedia.com

Kids Corner, produced by ReFrame Media and geared for children age 6-12, is a weekly half-hour radio program and website that teach in a contemporary way, the wisdom and the truth of God to

the issues and challenges that affect a child's life. Through audio drama and web resources, children are not only entertained, but are helped to develop an interest in the Bible and in becoming followers of Jesus.

Lesson Plans that Work: https://lessonplansthatwork.org

Published by The Episcopal Church and designed to follow the Revised Common Lectionary, these lesson weekly plans include sessions for young children, for older children, and usually a lesson plan for adults. Intergenerational lesson plans are available for many major feast days throughout the liturgical year. Most lesson plans are based on the Gospel, and some also have an Old Testament Lesson Plan.

Life.Church Open Network Resources for Young Children: <u>https://open.life.church/categories/301-</u> early-childhood

Created to work in tandem with the Bible App for Kids, the Life.Church Open Network curriculum features interactive videos, leader training, in-class activities, and all support materials. This 23-unit, two-year curriculum teaches young children about Jesus and allows them to reinforce what they learn in church at home through the app.

Life.Church Open Network Resources for Elementary Age Children:

https://open.life.church/categories/301-early-childhood

The Life.Church Open Network elementary curriculum includes colorful, Bible-based series for elementary students of all ages. You'll find free lessons, videos, art, teacher guides, and in-class activities for children in 1st grade through 4th grade.

Lost Sheep Children's Books: https://www.lostsheep.com.au

Lost Sheep Books makes available their children's books in digital format. You can purchase one book and email the digital Activity books to families associated with your church community to print out at home. They have lots of free resources, activity sheets, coloring pages, crosswords, mazes, word searches, and more. Go to: <u>https://www.lostsheep.com.au/shop/browse/purchase</u>

Loyola Press Catholic Resources: https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith

Loyola Press Catholic Resources are a library of activities for the family, liturgical year, prayer, sacraments, saints, Scripture and tradition, and Ignatian spirituality.

Milestones Ministry: https://milestonesministry.org

Milestones Ministry has produced 18 **Milestone** resources for children and youth; and 12 Milestone resource for adults. They have also produced dozens of **Milestone Moments** that connect significant occasions in people's lives (birthday, blessing animals) with the ongoing journey of faith. All are available as digital downloads.

Ministries Across Generations, Disciples Home Missions: <u>https://www.docfamiliesandchildren.org</u> There are a variety of free online resources available on their website.

Ministry Spark (David C. Cook Publishers): https://ministryspark.com

Ministry Spark has free at-home-resources individuals and families, including at home lessons for families, Bible devotions, Bible lessons, and a variety of guides.

Ministry to Children: https://ministry-to-children.com

Ministry to Children provides free lessons, activities, and printables. Download a single lesson plan or choose a curriculum series. There are thousands of Bible lesson plans and activities. You can search by Scripture, Bible story, or theme.

Minno Kids (formerly JellyTelly): https://www.gominno.com

Instantly stream or download thousands of hand-picked episodes reflecting the Christian faith and values including 30 episodes of class VeggieTales and shows like What's in the Bible, Superbook, Friends and Heroes, and more. The goal is to help families connect with God through amazing stories, books, and resources. The monthly cost per family is \$6.99 (or \$69.99 per year).

Network - Christian Reformed Church of North American: <u>https://network.crcna.org</u> and <u>https://www.crcna.org/FaithFormation</u>

The Network and Faith Formation Ministries of the Christian Reformed Church publishes a variety of guides with links to resources and ideas for churches, families, children, and more. On example is "35 Tech Free, Faith Forming, Fun Activities For Families to Do at Home" (<u>https://network.crcna.org/</u> childrens-ministry/35-tech-free-faith-forming-fun-activities-families-do-home).

OSV Digital Resources for Home Faith Formation: https://reply.osv.com/FreeAtHomeResources

Our Sunday Visitor has made available are variety of free Catholic catechetical resources for preK3-K, grades 1-8, and sacrament preparation in English and Spanish.

The Pastoral Center: https://pastoral.center

The Pastoral Center offers a wide variety of resources and programs for faith formation with children, parents, and the whole family—at church or home. They have digital resources that you can purchase and distribute to people.

The Religion Teacher: https://www.thereligionteacher.com

The Religion Teacher provides a large collection of Catholic religious education activities for various liturgical seasons, topics, and age levels. The activities include crafts, worksheets, prayer ideas, etc.

Saddleback Kids Videos: YouTube Channel

On this channel you'll see some of the videos Saddleback Church produces for Saddleback Kids curriculum, including a variety of Bible story videos that can easily be organized into a Bible program for children.

Sadlier Religion Publishers: https://www.sadlier.com/religion/resources

Sadlier Religion Publishers is making available free resources for children and families including seasonal and thematic resources to support professional development and faith formation in class and at home.

Worship House Kids: <u>https://www.worshiphousekids.com</u> (Individual items or subscription) WorshipHouse Kids provides fun and effective materials such as kids videos, song tracks, motion and still backgrounds, audio, and curriculum that teach kids about living their life for Jesus.

Alpha Online: https://alphausa.org/alpha-youth-online

Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith, typically run over eleven weeks. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha is now offering an online youth version. They have created Alpha Youth resources to help leaders either move their current youth course online, or to help launch a brand-new way to connect with youth.

Episcopal Curriculum for Youth: Curriculum Website

Episcopal Curriculum for Youth (ECY) is a thematic program developed by the Center for the Ministry of Teaching at Virginia Theological Seminary under the direction of Dr. Amy Gearey Dyer. Although it is no longer in print, all curriculum materials are available for free download. CY is offered in modular format for maximum flexibility. The materials may be used in any order for classes, retreats, or youth group meetings.

Faith Lens (ELCA): Faith Lens: https://blogs.elca.org/faithlens

Faith Lens provides weekly Bible studies that engage youth and young adults in connecting world events with the Bible, faith, and everyday life.

Group Publishing Free Resource Hub: <u>https://www.group.com/category/ministry-resources/free-resources.do</u>

Group Publishing's Free Resource Hub has resources for children, youth, & families.

Life.Church Open Network Resources for Grades 6-12: <u>https://open.life.church/categories/267-6-</u> <u>12th-grade</u>

Life.Church Open Network makes available engaging video dramas and Bible-based topics from the Switch curriculum for middle and high school series—complete with leader guides, youth pastor notes, video promos, and activities. There are over 100 topical sessions available for download.

Milestones Ministry: https://milestonesministry.org

Milestones Ministry has produced 18 **Milestone** resources for children and youth; and 12 Milestone resource for adults. They have also produced dozens of **Milestone Moments** that connect significant occasions in people's lives (birthday, blessing animals) with the ongoing journey of faith. All are available as digital downloads.

Saint Mary's Press Resource Center: http://www.smp.org/resourcecenter

The Saint Mary's Press Resource Center presents hundreds of free activities, videos, and teachings organized by theme (church, Jesus, morality, prayer, sacraments, Scripture, social justice). liturgical resources (liturgical events, prayer, and seasonal activities), activities, and media.

SPIRIT Online: https://goodgroundpress.com/faith/spirit/

SPIRIT Online is a 28-week Catholic lectionary-based program based on the Sunday Gospels. It is an online program (with teacher guides) so youth can read issues on a computer, phone or tablet device, or download and print them.

Good Ground Press: <u>https://goodgroundpress.com/resources/</u> offers a variety of free Catholic resources for youth including online retreats, social justice resources, prayers, and short weekly Gospel reflections.

Thoughtful Christian: https://www.thethoughtfulchristian.com

The Thoughtful Christian.com is an ecumenical site dedicated to helping Christians and seekers understand, share, practice, and be challenged in their faith. Their digital offerings include downloads for individual and group studies for adults and youth. TheThoughtfulChristian.com also offers all-access subscriptions to downloadable group studies for adults and high-school youth.

VCAT - Catholic Video Catechism for Teens: <u>http://vcat.org</u>

The Video Catechism for Teens includes videos developed around the Creed, sacraments, morality, and prayer. At the heart of each video is a key message from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, presented in stories and language that make it more understandable for young people.

Yale Youth Ministry Flourishing Life Project: <u>https://yaleyouthministryinstitute.org/flourishing-life-project</u>

Yale Youth Ministry is providing the curriculum of The YMI Quest Program for free: The YMI Quest for Life, The YMI Quest for the Spirit and The YMI Quest for Truth; general programming curriculum ideas; and articles, essays and other readings and resources. <u>Go to YMI Quest</u>.

Youth Ministry: https://youthministry.com

YouthMinistry.com from Group Publishing is a library of ideas, lessons, events, and service opportunities for youth ministry. The Lessons and Resources section provides ideas and inspiration for creating, planning and delivering weekly youth lessons.

Adult Faith Formation

Alpha Online: https://alphausa.org/alpha-online

Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith, typically run over eleven weeks. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha is run all around the globe, and everyone is welcome. Alpha is now offering an online version. They have produced three guides to assist in running Alpha Online: Moving Alpha Online, Hosting Alpha Online, and Alpha Online In Action.

Amplify Media: https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify/home (Subscription)

Amplify Media is a subscription streaming service with a vast library of videos and small group programs for adults.

BibleProject (https://bibleproject.com) and The Bible Project TV (https://bibleproject.com/stream)

BibleProject is an animation studio that produces short-form, fully animated Bible videos, podcasts, and Bible resources to make the biblical story accessible to everyone, everywhere. People can now stream BibleProject videos on their television at home using the most popular streaming devices: Roku, Amazon Firestick, and Apple TV.

Chuck Knows Church (Videos): https://chuckknowschurch.com

Chuck Knows Church who helps people learn more about our church while inviting them to have deeper conversations. The Original Series is all the objects, symbols and terms we often hear in church. There are more than 100 episodes (2-6 minutes in length) available on a variety of topics that can easily be combined into multi-session programs.

Church Next - Online Adult Faith Formation: https://www.churchnext.tv/p/churchnext

ChurchNext provides a wide variety of adult faith formation courses from expert teachers in Scripture, liturgy, and important Christian topics for a small fee. Adults can interact in a safe, online environment that's convenient, engaging, and affordable. They also have videos on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/user/ChurchNext.

Daily Discipleship and Daily Faith Practices (ELCA): https://www.elca.org/Resources/Bible-Studies

Daily Discipleship and Daily Faith Practices are downloadable Bible studies based on the lectionary used at Sunday worship (Revised Common Lectionary). These two-page Bible Studies connect the Word of God with daily life experiences and strengthen faith practices in everyday living.

Faith Gateway: https://www.faithgateway.com

Faith Gateway is an online community for readers to discover great content and engage with Christian authors. Faith Gateway brings together content in many different forms: daily blog posts, book excerpts, devotionals, free downloads, videos, giveaways, contests, author chats, and more.

Forward Movement: https://www.forwardmovement.org

Forward Movement provides resources online, and for smartphones and tablets: ebooks, downloadable resources, apps, online engagement opportunities through Twitter and Facebook, and even a Forward Day by Day podcast.

FULLER Formation: https://formation.fuller.edu

Whether you are seeking ways to grow deeper in your faith or looking to learn with your small group or congregation, FULLER Formation provides access to a variety of guided lessons from Fuller experts. With anytime-access to spiritual formation content, you can start engaging your faith on a deeper level today. The library of content created exclusively for FULLER Formation includes topics such as integrating your faith and work, and discerning your calling. There are over 60 resources. The subscription is \$10 per month.

FULLER Studio: https://fullerstudio.fuller.edu

Fuller Studio provides free resources for churches, communities, and individuals committed to a deeply formed spiritual life. Guided by an editorial team and advisory board, FULLER studio produces and curates content drawn from our outstanding faculty as well as from the worldwide Fuller community, translating this wealth of scholarship into high-quality videos, podcasts, articles, and the award-winning FULLER magazine. All content on this website is free for your use.

Good Ground Press: https://goodgroundpress.com/resources/

Good Ground Press offers free online retreats for adults.

Group Publishing Free Resource Hub: <u>https://www.group.com/category/ministry-resources/free-resources.do</u>

Group Publishing's Free Resource Hub has resources for children, youth, & families.

Learn25: https://www.learn25.com

Learn 25 has over 450 titles in religion, psychology, spirituality, health and living, biographies, and more in video and audio courses, talks, audiobooks, and podcast-style programs. Their lectures fit conveniently into people's schedule, learning for 25 minutes a day. Courses are taught by some of the world's most inspiring professors, subject matter experts chosen by Learn25 and customers. All programs can be purchased separately, but they have made the audio versions of programs available through Learn25 Unlimited subscription.

Life.Church Open Network Small Group Studies: <u>https://open.life.church/categories/319-small-groups</u>

Life.Church Open Network makes available the entire library of Life.Church resources for adults including over 100 small group studies on a wide range of topics.

Living Well: Christian Practices for Everyday Life (LifelongFaith Associates): <u>Living Well: Christian</u> <u>Practices for Everyday Life</u>

Living Well: Christian Practices for Everyday Life presents twelve essential practices for a Christian way of life: Caring for the Body, Celebrating Life, Discernment, Dying Well, Eating Well, Forgiving, Keeping Sabbath, Managing Household Life, Participating in Community, Praying, Reading the Bible, and Transforming the World. Each chapter presents the Biblical foundation of the Christian practice and a variety of practical suggestions for living the practice in everyday life.

Milestones Ministry: https://milestonesministry.org

Milestones Ministry has produced 18 **Milestone** resources for children and youth; and 12 Milestone resource for adults. They have also produced dozens of **Milestone Moments** that connect significant occasions in people's lives (birthday, blessing animals) with the ongoing journey of faith. All are available as digital downloads.

The Pastoral Center: https://pastoral.center/adult-faith-formation

The online Pastoral Center produces a wide variety of digital faith formation resources for adults: individual study, small groups, retreats, or more.

Theology Live Podcast: https://theologylive.podomatic.com

Once a month, the 20s and 30s community of Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church gathers over food and drinks to engage Memphis' most compelling theological minds. The Theology Live Podcast incorporates the presentation and interaction for each program.

Theology of Work Project: https://www.theologyofwork.org

The Theology of Work Project (TOW) is the deepest, largest, and most trusted source of biblical, theological, and pastoral material related to work. Most of our materials are available free of charge on this website. Their cornerstone resource, the <u>Theology of Work Bible Commentary</u>, is the only commentary covering what the entire Bible says about work.

Thoughtful Christian: https://www.thethoughtfulchristian.com

The Thoughtful Christian.com is an ecumenical site dedicated to helping Christians and seekers understand, share, practice, and be challenged in their faith. Their digital offerings include downloads for individual and group studies for adults and youth. TheThoughtfulChristian.com also offers all-access subscriptions to downloadable group studies for adults and high-school youth.

Spirituality & Practice: <u>https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com</u>

This website is devoted to resources for spiritual journeys. The site is organized around "The Alphabet of Spiritual Literacy," 37 essential practices of the spiritual life. The "Spiritual Practices Toolkit" is compilation of links to articles, reviews, and instructions for more than 260 ways people practice their spirituality. The site includes dozens of e-courses on topics in spirituality, explorations into spiritual traditions, and reviews of books and films.

Yale Bible Study: <u>https://yalebiblestudy.org</u>

The mission of the Yale Bible Study is to engage people in small group Bible study by providing studies of biblical books, deepened by insights from Yale Divinity School professors. There are over 25 bible courses of 8 sessions each with videos and study guide. These materials form an accessible, free, and deeply thoughtful and informed group Bible study program. All course materials available freely without registration; sign up for additional tools and discussion

YouVersion Bible Reading Plan(s) for Adults: Reading Plans Online

The YouVersion Bible App (<u>https://www.youversion.com</u>) has dozens of Bible Reading Plans online and in the App. Adults can download the App (for iOS and Android) and then select a reading plan. You church can focus on a reading plan for all adults and then organize a Facebook Group to connect everyone.

The Work of the People—Films for Discovery and Transformation:

https://www.theworkofthepeople.com

The Work of the People is an eclectic, ecumenical, and growing collection of provocative short films and interviews with spiritual leaders and thinkers, authors, practitioners, and theologians. Films are available individually, in multi-session thematic series, in contemplative themes (visual prayers, poems, and benedictions), and as e-courses. There is a small fee for purchasing the films.

Catholic Mom: http://catholicmom.com

Catholic Mom seeks to create a community for Catholic parents to share insights on living out their faith with their family. Through an array of contributors, CatholicMom.com provides information through articles, books, podcasts, activities, and daily reflections. These resources provide transformative solutions and faith-based insights to thousands of parents, thus strengthening families.

Grow Christians—A Community of Disciples Practicing Faith at Home: <u>https://www.growchristians.org</u>

Grow Christians from Forward Movement is a great website to find inspiration for faith at home, describing itself as "striving to create an online community of discipleship focused on the practical details of life at home." It includes reflections, stories, images, and recipes, celebrating the presence of God through the Christian year.

Faith at Home: <u>https://www.dofaithathome.org</u>

Forward Movement and Forma offer a free daily faith-at-home resource through Faith @ Home. Each day offers a set of activities—watch, listen, read, do—for families, based on the lectionary.

Forward Movement: https://www.forwardmovement.org

Forward Movement provides resources online, and for smartphones and tablets: ebooks, downloadable resources, apps, online engagement opportunities through Twitter and Facebook, and even a Forward Day by Day podcast.

Faith Gateway Family Devotionals & Articles: https://www.faithgateway.com/topics/family

FaithGateway from HarperCollins Christian Publishing is an online community for readers to discover great content and engage from Christian authors. FaithGateway brings together content in many different forms: daily blog posts, book excerpts, devotionals, free downloads, videos, giveaways, contests, author chats, and more. The mission of FaithGateway is to help people grow and share your faith.

Family Fire (ReFrame Media): https://familyfire.reframemedia.com

Family Fire is a Christian ministry committed to sharing the good news of God's design for relationships, marriage, and parenting by exploring spiritual, emotional, and physical intimacy and how the Spirit empowers us to live out our faith in relationship. The Family Fire website offers you an extensive library of resources, written by a team of pastors, therapists, and writers.

Family Resource Center at Loyola Press: https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources

Loyola Press has compiled of library of digital resources for families, liturgical year, prayer, sacraments, saints, Scripture and tradition, Ignatian spirituality. There is also a section of resources in Spanish.

For Your Marriage: <u>https://www.foryourmarriage.org</u>

For Your Marriage helps couples at all stages of life (dating, engaged, married, and parents) to understand and live God's plan for happy, holy marriages by providing Catholic educational and spiritual resources.

Fuller Youth Institute – Parenting: https://fulleryouthinstitute.org/category/parenting

Fuller Youth Institute has created books and programs for youth and parents. In addition they have articles, podcasts, and blog posts for parents. Parent Library: <u>https://fulleryouthinstitute.org/parent/library</u>.

Group Publishing Free Resource Hub: <u>https://www.group.com/category/ministry-resources/free-resources.do</u>

Group Publishing's Free Resource Hub has resources for children, youth, & families.

HomeWord: https://homeword.com

HomeWord, founded by Jim Burns, seeks to advance the work of God in the world by educating, equipping, and encouraging parents and churches to build God-honoring families from generation to generation. Among the free digital resources are Jim's blog, daily devotion, marriage newsletter, parent newsletter, and weekly culture update.

Living Well: Christian Practices for Everyday Life: <u>https://www.lifelongfaith.com/curate-christian-practices.html</u>

Living Well presents twelve essential practices for a Christian way of life: Caring for the Body, Celebrating Life, Discernment, Dying Well, Eating Well, Forgiving, Keeping Sabbath, Managing Household Life, Participating in Community, Praying, Reading the Bible, and Transforming the World. There is a free, full color book for adults and parents, and a children's workbook.

Parent Cue: <u>https://theparentcue.org</u>

Parent Cue, from Think Orange, is centered around a blog, podcasts, and video library on YouTube for parents and family faith. Resources focus on the parents and how parents can practice faith at home. Each Sunday the provide a 20–30 minute meaningful family experience custom-designed for preschool, elementary (grades 1-3), and pre-teen (grades 4-5) at <u>https://theparentcue.org/faith</u>. For their YouTube channel go to <u>Parent Cue on YouTube</u>.

Milestones Ministry: https://milestonesministry.org

Milestones Ministry has produced 18 **Milestone** resources for children and youth; and 12 Milestone resource for adults. They have also produced dozens of **Milestone Moments** that connect significant occasions in people's lives (birthday, blessing animals) with the ongoing journey of faith. All are available as digital downloads.

Spirit and Truth Publishing: Living the Word: God's Word @ Home (RCL):

https://spiritandtruthpublishing.com/shop/ltw-family-rcl-2020-2021

God's Word at Home brings faith formation into the home with a lectionary-based curriculum (Revised Common Lectionary) designed especially for families. Created as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, these easy-to-use digital lessons can be emailed to families. The activities use simple, inexpensive supplies that families may have at home or that congregations may provide. This digital product is available for the entire 2020-2021 program year. Pricing is based upon the number of families that you estimate you will be sending the lessons to. For all Spirit and Truth publications go to: <u>https://spiritandtruthpublishing.com</u>.

Sunday Worship & Lectionary-Based Faith Formation

Calvin Institute of Christian Worship: https://worship.calvin.edu

Practical resources and scholarly works for preparing, planning for, and leading worship as well as for studying the history, theology, and practice of worship worldwide. The website provides free resources: articles, conversations, audio files, slideshow and video presentations.

Catholic Mom: http://catholicmom.com/kids/catholic-gospel-coloring-worksheets-sunday-mass

The Catholic Mom website has a Sunday Mass section with coloring pages, lesson plans, Mass worksheets, crossword and word search puzzles, and more to help you prepare for Sunday Mass.

Daily Discipleship and Daily Faith Practices (ELCA): Bible Studies

Daily Discipleship and Daily Faith Practices are online <u>downloadable Bible studies</u> based on the Revised Common Lectionary used at Sunday worship. Use these Bible Studies for small group discussions, personal devotions, or sermon preparation. These two-page Bible Studies connect the Word of God with daily life experiences and strengthen faith practices in everyday living.

Grow Christians—A Community of Disciples Practicing Faith at Home: <u>https://www.growchristians.org</u>

Grow Christians from Forward Movement is a great website to find inspiration for faith at home, describing itself as "striving to create an online community of discipleship focused on the practical details of life at home." It includes reflections, stories, images, and recipes, celebrating the presence of God through the Christian year.

Faith at Home: <u>https://www.dofaithathome.org</u>

Forward Movement and Forma offer a free daily faith-at-home resource through Faith @ Home. Each day offers a set of activities—watch, listen, read, do—for families, based on the lectionary.

Forward Movement: https://www.forwardmovement.org

Forward Movement provides resources online, and for smartphones and tablets: ebooks, downloadable resources, apps, online engagement opportunities through Twitter and Facebook, and even a Forward Day by Day <u>podcast.</u>

Illustrated Ministry: https://www.illustratedministry.com

Illustrated Ministry creates accessible faith-based resources for the church and home. Their thoughtful and easy to use materials are designed to foster authentic faith engagement with refreshing designs, creative activities, and intergenerational focus. They produce worship resources, formation resources, and family resources—many of which are digital downloads.

Lectio Divina for the Sunday Readings in the Catholic Lectionary (American Bible Society): https://www.americanbible.org/resources/lectio-divina

Lectionary Sunday School Lessons for Kids (Ministry to Children): <u>https://ministry-to-</u> children.com/toc/lesson-plans/lectionary

Lessons for children according to the schedule of the Revised Common Lectionary.

Lesson Plans that Work: https://lessonplansthatwork.org

Weekly sessions for young children, for older children, and usually a lesson plan for adults for the Revised Common Lectionary.

OSV Lifelong Catechesis: https://lifelongcatechesis.osv.com

The website is focused on the Sunday readings with background, questions of the week, saint of the week, activity of the week, and general intercessions.

StoryPath (Union Presbyterian Seminary): http://storypath.upsem.edu/lectionary-links

Resources connecting weekly passages from both the Revised Common Lectionary and the Narrative Lectionary with stories from children's and youth literature.

Spirit and Truth Publishing: Living the Word: God's Word @ Home (RCL):

https://spiritandtruthpublishing.com/shop/ltw-family-rcl-2020-2021

God's Word at Home brings faith formation into the home with a lectionary-based curriculum (Revised Common Lectionary) designed especially for families. Created as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, these easy-to-use digital lessons can be emailed to families. The activities use simple, inexpensive supplies that families may have at home or that congregations may provide. This digital product is available for the entire 2020-2021 program year. Pricing is based upon the number of families that you estimate you will be sending the lessons to. For all Spirit and Truth publications go to: <u>https://spiritandtruthpublishing.com</u>.

SPIRIT Online: https://goodgroundpress.com/faith/spirit/

SPIRIT Online is a 28-week Catholic lectionary-based program based on the Sunday Gospels. It is an online program (with teacher guides) so youth can read issues on a computer, phone or tablet device, or download and print them.

Sunday Connection (Loyola Press): <u>https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/sunday-connection</u>

Background and activities from grade 1 through 8 and the whole family to better understand the Sunday Scripture readings and connect them to daily life in a meaningful way.

Sunday Gospels (Catholic Mom): http://catholicmom.com/category/sundays-gospel

Weekly lessons for children on the Sunday Gospel readings from the Catholic lectionary.

Taking Faith Home: https://milestonesministry.org/taking-faith-home

Taking Faith Home is an annual resource (digital download or CD) that provides a page of activities for each week during the church year. It is based on the Revised Common Lectionary and incorporates caring conversations, devotions, service, rituals and traditions, a weekly prayer, Bible verse, mealtime prayer, and blessing. It also offers a suggested daily Bible readings and hymn for the week.

The Sunday Website at St. Louis University: <u>https://liturgy.slu.edu</u>

Resources for every Sunday in the Catholic lectionary that includes praying toward Sunday, the spirituality of the readings, and getting to know the readings.

The Text This Week: http://www.textweek.com

Lectionary, Scripture study, worship links, and resources for every Sunday of the year for the Catholic, Revised Common, and Narrative lectionaries.

Virtual Church School: http://churchschool.info

Lessons for every Sunday of the Revised Common Lectionary using easily-accessible resources and hands-on projects that can be done with limited resources.

Working Preacher (Luther Seminary): http://www.workingpreacher.org

Scripture commentary on each of the Sunday readings from the Revised Common Lectionary and the Narrative Lectionary.

Worship House Media: https://www.worshiphousemedia.com

Worship House Media offers mini movies, worship song tracks, church countdowns, worship backgrounds, and small group videos. Whether it's a normal Sunday or you are preparing for a special holiday service, you can find the perfect mini movie for a sermon illustration or engaging background for worship lyrics and announcements. Each item is individually priced.