

PARISH LIBRARY NEWS

March - 2010

Location - Parish Center, across from the cafeteria.

Hours: First Sunday of the month 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Monday evening from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and Wednesday evening (when classes are in session) from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. For other times, watch for the OPEN sign in the window. If you have a need, call me (Marce) at 594-3716.

Lenten Suggestion:

Check out several DVD's or CD's to replace your "favorite T.V program or radio station". Watch something for the family with the family. Read a book together that helps prepare for Easter. How about some Church History - we have both local and universal Church.

The materials suggested in December of possible interest to parents and teenagers are again listed

Books:

Meat & Potatoes by Rev. Joseph Classen
Making Your Family Work by Mary Durkin
Sex, Lies, & the Media by Eva Marie & Everson
Margaret Sanger's Eugenic Legacy by Angela Franks
Where Does God Live? by Rabi Marc Gellman
Keeping Your Kids Catholic by Bert Ghessi (Editor)
Driven to Distraction -recognizing & coping-ADD by Edward M. Hallowell, M.D.

How to Win the Culture War by Peter Kreft
Saving Childhood by Michael & Diane Medved
Boys Should be Boys by Meg Meeker, M.D.
Strong Fathers, Strong Daughters by Meg Meeker, M.D.

Population Control- Real Cost, Illusory Benefits by Steven Mosher

Questions College Students Ask by Pinherio & Howell
Successful Fathers by James Stenson
Noise by Teresa Tameo.
How to Avoid Marrying a Jerk by John Van Epp
Sexual Wisdom by Richar Wetzal, M.D.

Legacy- A Father's Handbook for Raising Godly Children by Stephen Wood

CD's

Straight Talk To Teens About Sex & Morality
How to get the Most out of Mass
How to Make Sense Out of the Mass
The Healing Power of Confession
Understanding The Eucharist
Discipline of Children
Defending Life - Mar11, 2009
The Mass Explained
Successful Parenting
ABC's of Choosing a Good Husband
Building Marriage on the Rock
Legacy
Preventing Teen Problems
The Call of God the Father
The Power of the Eucharist
Teaching Teens Honorable Courtship
Why Are We Here?

There are a number of new DVD's and CD's since the above listing was compiled. These include some from the Journey Home programs from EWTN. I find it interesting to listen to such interviews and often wonder if I had not been born and raised in a good Catholic family, would I have drifted away from the Church and would I have had the will-power to go through some of the experiences and effort that many of these people have endured? It also sheds light upon what other Christians believe.

Many of you may have had similar experiences. Or you may have friends or relatives that actually have "left the Catholic Church". There seem to be some common threads, yet all are unique stories. Great "food for thought".

A suggestion for those who drive a distance to and from work and have a CD player in their car: Some of the programs are on CD's and make a good alternative to the radio (give up your favorite station for lent).

Notes:

If anyone is interested or concerned about allowing their

child or children to read the Harry Potter series of books by J.K. Rowlings, let me recommend you first read the book The Mystery of Harry Potter: A Catholic Family Guide by Nancy Carpentier Brown. (We have one copy in the Library).

I've read the series and I've read a number of articles on them. Some articles were NO, NO, No types rather horrified and claiming children were being urged into the occult. Others were less horrified and some were even approving. Most of the NO-No's blatantly (and very apparently) had not read the series (nor even one book).

In the recommended book, Nancy Carpentier Brown readily admits that she was originally one of the No-No's. She is a mother who home schools her children (and obviously has a broad background in literature). She not only explains her "change of heart" but goes on to do some comparing to well known, highly respected series such as "The Lord of the Rings" and "Narnia" books.

But she goes even further to explain how parents need to have some "control" as to the when and how to read the books with their children. She even goes so far as to make suggestions of questions you can use for helping your children to THINK and to have dinner table conversation with them. (Something that seems to be more and more difficult with t.v., text messaging, mp3 players, etc.).

I rather regret that I didn't have the book available as one of my grand-nephews and I read each book and saw the corresponding movie. In addition, I agree whole heartedly with most of Nancy Brown's conclusions. I found the series extremely interesting - but some of them "darker" than others and in need of mature reading. I also agree that it is the parent that should have control of when their child is ready to read whatever.

The book is published by Our Sunday Visitor Publishing Division, Our Sunday Visitor, Inc. In Huntington, Indiana 46750. It's in paperback and 175 pages with the bibliography. There's also "blogspot" given at the end for additional information.

The book is in the library but you may want your own copy if you are considering the Harry Potter series in your home - it still seems to be a great motivator for reading.

Another series that could be read in the same manner described above is the "Narnia Series". I did not read these as a child but after reading them I was talking about them with a friend who commented that the series had been a favorite of his when growing up. In further discussion he commented about some analogies he had missed as a child and that he'd reread them.

One other comment - be careful of what your children are reading. Some interesting "values" are sometime "slipped into the story" that can be undesirable or not what you want your child exposed to.

For example; years ago I wanted to send a book to a grandnephew who was around 12 or thirteen. The book I chose was advertised as "an award winning story" (I do not remember the organization that had given the "golden award" for children's literature). The story was generally a sailing adventure of a young boy. I'll not go into the details.

However, in the middle of one chapter there was a section where the young boy is reading his Uncle's "ship's journal". There were several pages of his uncle's description of a number of different overnight trips taken with friends and the sexual cavorting that occurred. The episodes had nothing to do with the main story and I concluded it was not exactly what I wanted to present to my nephew. It was the first book that went into the trash. Ever since, I read the book before I give it.

Other Lenten offerings: On DVD

1. Mel Gibson's "The Passion"
2. Fr. John Corapi's "Lenten Retreat"
3. Fr. John Corapi's "Pascal Mystery"

Note to fans of Father Corapi.

Father Corapi will be speaking on
May 1st 2010 at the Chaifetz Arena,
1 S. Compton, Saint Louis, Mo.

Event information : Chaifetz arena
Box Office (314)-534-1111
or (800)-293-5049.