



## Highlights from the Library and Media Resource Center

Visit <http://www.stmmdwc.org/library.html>

A Library is a Hospital for the Mind. Did you know our collection contains over 5600 books, 1300 VHS tapes, 100 DVDs, 50 CDs, 1000 audio tapes and 1400 religious devotional booklets? Some features include Children's Books, "Need One, Take One, Have Some, Leave Some" sections, and Free Books including Bibles. Included are over 2500 faith formation items from the former Parkersburg and Clarksburg Vicariate Pastoral Liaison Offices.

**Family Friendly.** A special area is devoted to children and children's books. There are small chairs, coloring books and crayons to occupy kids while other family members browse. There are over 200 children's books in categories such as Biblical and Religious Books, Christmas and Easter Stories, Classic Tales and Tales with a Message. Over 150 videos for children may be found in the A/V stacks.

The Library has no budget and relies almost entirely on donations of books, videos, and other media to stock its shelves. Please consider your parish Library when you are thinning your own shelves. The Library has a box where you may drop donated items. Thank you!

The Library has a growing collection of books and videos that are specifically for children and youth. A separate card catalog is available for the Children's book collection. If your children have outgrown their own collection, please consider donating them to the Library.

The Library's collection includes many reference works that do not circulate. These include the Catholic Encyclopedia, the Encyclopedia Britannica, Who's Who in the Bible, The Dictionary of Religion, and many others. Find the answers to your questions on faith, religion, Catholicism and the Papacy during your next visit to the Library.

The category *Mary and the Saints* includes sets of "lives of the saints" plus many biographies and autobiographies of canonized men and women, e.g.,

The Cure of Ars, Francis of Assisi, Mother Seton, the Little Flower and many more. Also there are books devoted to people who, though not canonized saints, are noted for lives well lived. Visit the Library and browse this category.

If you are looking for information about the Bible, the Library's *Biblical/Scripture* category is where you should start. Here you will find numerous commentaries on various books of the Bible, along with multi-volume sets such as The Gospel of St. John, The Family Bible Library and others. Books on biblical scholarship include The Gnostic Scriptures, The Genesis Flood, and many others.

Parishioners interested in church history will find the category *Catholic History* (Ecclesiology) a goldmine of information. From Eusebius's History of the Church, dating from about 400 A.D. to Brian Monahan's 2002 work, The Faith – A History of Christianity. Also here: Daily Life in the World of Charlemagne, The Twelve Caesars by Suetonius, and Thomas Sheehan's The First Coming.

*Christian Classics* contains many volumes written by saints: The Collected Works of St. John of the Cross (including The Dark Night of the Soul), St. Augustine's Confessions and The City of God. There are theological texts of St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Teresa of Avila and more. Modern works include books by or about Dorothy Day, Teilhard de Chardin, and Cardinal Newman. Several books by Thomas Merton grace this category.

Lovers of good *Fiction* will enjoy browsing through this small but select category. Most are novelized biographies of Joshua, St. Paul, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Francis of Assisi and others.

Parents preparing their children for the *Sacraments* will find that this category is one of the best stocked in the Library, with over 140 books and 80 videos in the collection.

Anyone interested in the *Religious Vocations* will find much to consider in this category. The Library has several books on the priesthood, the diaconate, and other ministries. Authors include Pope John Paul II, Fulton Sheen, and Thomas Merton.

Our Library's *Liturgy* collection includes volumes of readings for Mass (all cycles), with exegesis and tips to lectors and other readers. The set "Guide for the Christian Assembly" has in-depth commentary on Sunday Mass readings, while the multi-volume set "God's Word" has readings for both Sundays and weekdays.

Every Catholic has, at one time or another, heard about *Canon Law*. Have you ever wondered what it's all about? Our Parish Library's collection is small but includes a 2 volume set "The Sacred Canons" that should get you started on your journey of discovery!

In the *Philosophy and Ethics* category parishioners will find works by such noted theologians and philosophers as Bernard Häring and Etienne Gilson plus books by F. J. Sheed and Jon Meacham. Books on the problem of evil and the history of philosophy are also found here.

The St. Margaret Mary category *Inspirational* and the Vicariate category *Spirituality* have much in common. Together they account for the largest group in the library with well over 1100 books and audio-visual materials. Diversity is primary here, with authors ranging from Pope John Paul II to Jack Canfield (the Chicken Soup series.) Come and browse!

The library's *Vatican II* category is small, but contains texts of all the conciliar and post-conciliar documents. In addition there are commentaries, including Xavier Rynne's famous day-to-day reporting of the activities of the council and the personalities involved.

*World Religions* contains several volumes on Judaism, Islam, Greek Orthodox, Anglican / Episcopal, and many other religious systems. If you are looking for books on the history of religion you will find them here as well.

Five shelves are devoted to the Library's collection of books on *Theology*. Holiness, the spiritual life, Catholic Church doctrine, are among the topics to be found in this category's volumes. Among the authors: Karl Rahner, Thomas Merton, Hans Küng, Elaine Pagels, and Paul Tillich.

When you visit the Library be sure to browse the Parish video collection at the rear of the room. You will find over 1300 VHS tapes and DVDs representing about all the Parish categories, including *Youth* (e.g. Veggie Tales!) These videos are not in the card catalog but are checked out by filling out the form on a clipboard that you'll find on one of the shelves.

The *Marriage and Family* (Family Life) consists of books and videos on all aspects of family, love, sexuality, marriage therapy and problem solving.

Books on *Social Justice* can be found in stack 17. A few titles will give the flavor: "A Vision for Appalachia", "Violence Unveiled", "Peace Behind Bars", "Justice in the Marketplace", "Radical Compassion." Come and browse.

Do you have an audiocassette player around the house or in the family car? We have a large collection of cassettes in most categories that are ideal for listening while working around the house or driving the car. This collection is split: against the wall in a case between stacks 16 and 20, and in a "tower" between stacks 13 and 17. Check them out using the form on a clipboard in stack 20.

Print and Audio/Video Item Categories include Biblical/Scripture, Biographies, Canon Law, Catholic Education/Catechesis, Catholic History/Ecclesiology, Children's Books, Christian Classics, Evangelization, Faith/Facts Series, Fiction, General/Unclassified, Homilies, Inspirational/Spirituality, Jesus/Christology, Leadership, Liturgy, Marriage/Family Life, Mary/Saints, Ministry, Philosophy/Ethics, Psychology, Reference Books, Religious Vocations, Sacraments, Social Justice, Theology, Vatican II, World Religions and Youth Religious Education.