



SUGGESTED RESOURCES

1 What version of the Bible?

A Catholic bible and a good translation are both important. The *Jerusalem Bible* is very popular. For study purposes, the **Revised Standard Version (RSV)** or the **New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)** is recommended.

2 Why use a Bible commentary?

To help you delve deeper into the text.

The Didache Bible: an excellent resource which links the RSV text with paragraphs from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and provides a glossary of many biblical terms and themes.

The Ignatius Study Bible: accompanies the RSV text with study notes, questions and charts. Individual Books of the Bible are available.

3 Valuable Biblical Study programmes

These web-based materials are not cheap, but the wealth of resources they offer would be a permanent treasure for a school, a parish or simply a group of friends:

- **The Great Adventure; Your Journey Through The Bible:** by Jeff Cavins and Sarah Christmyer, claims to have helped "more than one million Catholics learn the big picture of salvation history". A remarkable resource offering 'the things every Catholic needs to get started reading the Bible', including a beautiful colour-coded Bible Timeline.
- **The King and his Kingdom:** a follow-up study in St Matthew's Gospel. In all 24, 50-minute video presentations and a Workbook with summaries, questions and responses together with notes.
- **Dr. Scott Hahn on the Bible:** a minefield for those wishing to engage in a serious study of Scripture! Includes access to Hahn's video and audio links on the subject, plus resources he himself recommends.
- **Mary in the Bible:** an informative 10-min video presentation, plus references to many other articles on the subject.

4 Books of particular note, all of which can be purchased through Pauline Media.

Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist and others by Brant Pitre, a renowned biblical scholar. His website gives access to much of his work.

Rethinking Mary in the New Testament by Edward Sri, a comprehensive presentation of the Mother of Jesus based solely on biblical texts.

Dr Hahn's books on the Bible. This gifted scholar is very readable.

"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart"

(Hebrews 4:12)



For details of the Year of the Word presented by the Bishops' Conference: www.cbcew.org.uk

For up-to-date details of the diocesan programme of activities, consult the Diocesan website or see the calendar pages in the Shrewsbury Catholic Voice.

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All activities are aimed at the general public. No prior knowledge needed.

Come and explore the beauty of Sacred Scripture, and discover how it can transform your life through a loving encounter with
THE GOD WHO SPEAKS!

Year of the Word

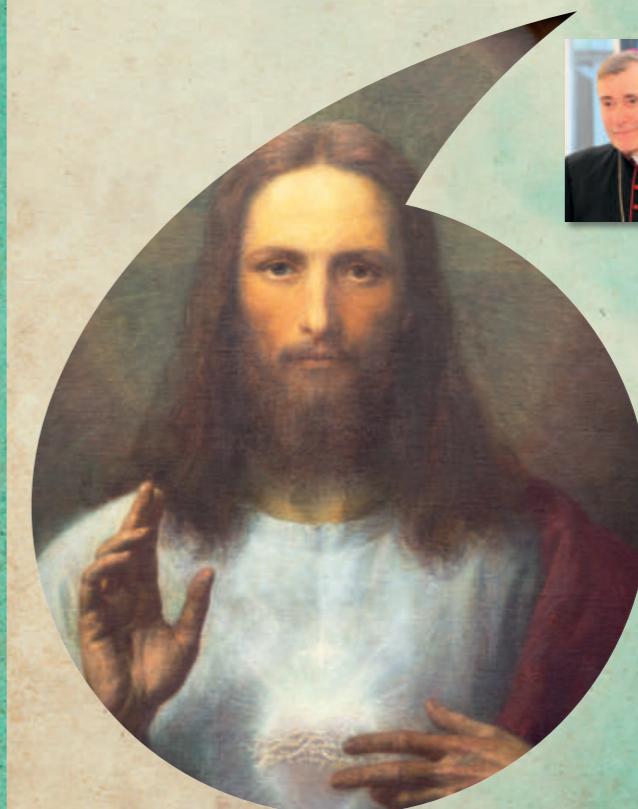


As Advent 2019 begins, we join the Dioceses of England and Wales in celebrating a Year of the Word as we seek to listen to The God who Speaks.

I hope you may be able to take advantage of the many opportunities presented in our 2020 Diocesan programme which aims to help us deepen our love and knowledge of Scripture.

May this year be for us a renewed invitation to encounter Christ Himself, the Word of the Father.

+ Mark
Bishop of Shrewsbury





DRAWING LIFE FROM THE WORD OF GOD

"Whoever sees me sees him who sent me"

(John 12:45)

At Easter and in Advent 2020,
Dr Caroline Farey will offer two
possibilities to explore meditatively the
place of **Scripture in Sacred Art**:
All are welcome - no previous knowledge required.

1 The Passion, Death, Resurrection and Ascension
19th April, St Columba's, Chester,
(4:00) 4:30-5:30pm.

2 The Incarnation and Pentecost
6th December, St Vincent's, Altrincham
(4:00) 4:30-5:30pm.

"Take and read!"

(St Augustine's conversion began with this
invitation to read Scripture)

2nd May 2020,
The Benedictine Convent, Chester.
Irene Brannon will lead us to experience
Lectio Divina of which Pope Benedict XVI
said: "A time honoured way to study and
savour the word of God, *Lectio Divina*
constitutes a real and veritable 'spiritual
journey' marked out in stages".

Barbara Davies will then explore
how *Lectio Divina* can lead to deep
contemplation of God, the ultimate aim
of all Christian prayer.



REFLECTING ON THE WORD OF GOD

"Behold, your mother"

(John 19:27)

2nd-5th October 2020,
in Holywell, North Wales.
An evangelising retreat on Mary in Scripture.
Some ask if the Catholic Church gives too
great a place to Mary? Fr Neill Robb and
Barbara Davies will look to Scripture to find the
answer and discover the mission and role of
the one St John calls "the Mother of Jesus".
For the good of the retreat, numbers will
be limited. Be sure to apply early if you are
interested in attending.

"Let the little children come to me... for to such belongs the kingdom of God"

(Matthew 19:14)

23rd November 2019,
St Joseph's, North Road Birkenhead.
The diocesan Liturgical commission and
Members of the Catechetical Mission
Team will offer a session on **Celebrating Children's Liturgy**.

Especially for Catechists, this will be of value
to anyone helping children to discover the
beauty and truth of God's word, and what it
means for their spiritual growth.

"Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ"

(St Jerome)

In spring 2020, an opportunity in venues in the
north, east and south of the Diocese to hear
four foundational reflections on Scripture:

1 Fr Nick Kern will present **Dei verbum/The Word of God**. One of the principle documents from Vatican II (Feb 16, 19, 22).

2 Miss Barbara Davies will explore **Verbum domini/The Word of the Lord**. A text on Scripture by Pope Benedict XVI (Feb 23, 26, 29).

3 Dr Caroline Farey will lead a reflection on **"The Language we use to speak of God in the Bible"** (Mar 1, 4, 7).

4 Fr Michael Coughlan addresses the question:
"Why four versions of the Gospel?"
(Mar 29, April 01 and 04)

Everyone welcome, no background in the study of Scripture required.

For full details of time and place, see the diocesan website.



PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

"Go make disciples of all nations"

(Matthew 28:28)

Summer 2020,
Annual Diocesan Conference,
on Evangelising Young People

The Youth Mission Team will lead the
Annual Diocesan Conference on the
Evangelisation of Youth. All details will be
found in the Diocesan website.

"Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

(Luke 11:28)

24th October 2020,
St Nicholas' High School, Northwich:
A Diocesan Open-Day entitled:
Listening to the God who speaks.

As the Year of the Word draws to a close,
we will come together to celebrate the untold
numbers of individuals and groups across the
Diocese who seek to proclaim the word of God.
Groups will be invited to share something of
the evangelising mission and their proclamation
of God's word today.