READING RESOURCES - on SACRAMENTS

A New Look at the Sacraments
William J. Bausch
This book presents fresh insights into understanding the sacraments in a parish environment. The author details changes in sacramental ritual experienced after the Second Vatican Council, and describes how these have affected both personal faith and parish practice. 29.BAUSCH

How to Understand the Sacraments
Philippe Beguerie, Claude Duchesneau
Crossroad Publishing, 1991
By showing what characterized the Christian community from the beginning and how it's life developed, the authors of this illuminating book put the sacraments in a new light and with a wealth of material demonstrate that they are a revelation not only of the mysteries of God but also of the mystery of what it is to be human. 29.BEGU

Our 7 Powerful Sacraments
Martin Benedict
St. Paul Publications
Chapters include: New Life in Christ; Christ Works in the Sacraments; Source of Life; Sacrament of Courage; The Eucharist - Sacred Banquet; Pledge of Future Glory; Sacrament of God's Mercy; Bridge Between God and Man; Sacrament of the Sick; Marriage - A Great Sacrament. 29.BENE

Special Signs of Grace: The Sacraments and Sacramentals
Joseph M. Champlin
The Liturgical Press
The seven sacraments and the many sacramentals of the Church provide powerful rituals to help us recognize Christ's presence. This book, written for a popular readership, weaves together the ancient heritage of Catholic tradition and the current teaching of the Church on the sacraments and sacramentals. Excellent resources and a bibliography for each sacrament is included. (1986). 29.CHAM

Understanding the Sacraments
AUTHOR: J.D. Crichton
PUBLISHER: Geoffrey Chapman (1993)
Christian Celebration has long been a seminal textbook for liturgy students, and is now available again in three separate volumes. This volume on the sacraments has been extensively revised to incorporate developments since the book was first published, notably the new Order of Christian Funerals and the rite of Marriage. This new edition also covers revisions to the rites of ordination and updated commentary on the RCIA and Confirmation. 29.CHRI

Cornerstones of Faith
Thomas Cardinal Collins
This book encourages today’s Catholics to explore three experiences that are key to a healthy and life-giving relationship with God: Reconciliation, Eucharist and Stewardship. 29.COLL

Seven Sacrament Workshops
William DeAngelis
Twenty Third Publications, 1989
Here’s a great “can-do” program that offers much more than just “how-to.” Everything needed to present these workshops is included, from flyers, announcements, song sheets, clip-art, cutouts and handout certificates. Each sacrament workshop is designed for a particular grade level or levels, and can be adapted to fit any basic religious education program. 29.DEAN
**Pentecost Comes to Church:** Sacraments and Spiritual Gifts  
John Gunstone  
1994

The author examines the origins of the Pentecostal and charismatic movements which influence our experience and understanding of the sacraments.  

**Swear to God:** The Promise and Power of the Sacraments  
Scott Hahn  
Doubleday, 2004

In this book, the author explores the richness of Christ’s sacraments – their doctrine, history, symbols and rituals. Drawing upon the Bible and the Church’s tradition, he shows how God’s covenants – with Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David – became the driving forces in history.

**Come Join Us at the Table** (see also RCIA section)  
Muriel Loftus, Lawrence DeMong, OSB  
Novalis, 2000

Presents both “a new vision of children’s sacramental preparation and an improved way of implementing it on a parish level and within the family.” Filled with activities, discussion, prayer and celebrations, it’s flexible and easy to use for large and small parish communities.

**Doors to the Sacred**  
Joseph Martos  
Doubleday, 1982

An intriguing history of sacramental practice and the seven ecclesial sacraments of the Catholic Church.

**Becoming Church Preparation Program**  
Theresa M. McKenzie  
Catechist Manual  
Program Manual

This is both a formal catechetical program as well as a process that involves children and parents in a rewarding experience and celebration of Church.

**Sacramental Guidelines**  
Kenan Osborne, O.F.M.  
Paulist Press, 1995

This book provides helpful guidelines for anyone preparing classes that deal with the sacraments. In a clear and logical order, the author puts forth the hierarchy of truths involved in sacramental instruction. An indispensable tool for religious education teachers. Parents and pastors will appreciate its straightforward overview of the sacraments and how they function in our faith as the heart of our Catholic belief and the soul of our spirituality.

**The Sacraments:** How Catholics Pray  
Thomas Richstatter, O.F.M.  
St. Anthony Messenger Press, 1995

Catholic prayer is sacramental. Sign and symbol say more than mere words can ever say. Catholic prayer is also ritual. The “first look” at the sacraments explains the meaning of the rites, gives reasons for why Catholics do what they do and tells something of the history of the sacraments to help us understand how Catholics pray.

**The Meaning of the Sacramental Symbols**  
Klemens Richter

In this comprehensive examination of the symbols of worship, the author traces their origins, what they have meant through the ages, and whether their meaning is clear for Christians today, as he examines these symbols.
in the light of liturgical reform. 29.RICH

**Encounters with Christ**
William Roberts
The author examines each sacrament, reflecting on the experience celebrated. 29.ROBE

**Christ the Sacrament of the Encounter with God**
Edward Schillebeeckx, O.P.
After Trent, the theology of the sacraments tended to centre on the recipient of the sacrament and his "dispositions," but little was said of the fact that in the sacramental action the individual encountered the very God who reconciled the world to Himself in Christ. Even less was said in post-Tridentine theology of the sacraments as the actions of Christ in His Church-actions whereby the Church expresses most fully what she is - the community of men and women who live in and for Christ. Father Schillebeeckx restores these and other perspectives. 29.SCHI

**The Church Speaks About Sacraments with Children**
Mark Searle
The author gathers together important questions of official church documents in a convenient form so that their origin, authority and relevance can be compared. He shows that a clear pattern emerges. Pastoral leaders will find direction and assurance in the documentation and commentary contained in this handy book. And sacraments with children will receive new focus. 29.SEAR

**Liturgy 101: Sacraments & Sacramentals**
Daniel G. Van Slyke, STL, PhD
This book provides a concise and easy-to-follow overview of the liturgy that will immerse you into the Church's teaching and practice of the seven sacraments. Each chapter explains, in an accessible manner, the sacrament's origins, how and by whom it is celebrated, and what it accomplishes. The book also addresses frequently asked pastoral, practical, and canonical questions concerning the celebration of the sacraments. 29.SLYKE

**Celebrating Confirmation before First Communion**
This book gives parishes some great tools for catechizing both parishioners at large and the parents of children to be initiated. The book includes background material on the history and pastoral issues involved, a series of pulpit announcements, a model retreat for families, and helpful observations about youth ministry. 29.VARI
VIDEOS ON SACRAMENTS IN O.R.E.

VID#: 14.100

SACRAMENTS FOR CHILDREN

SPEAKER: Fr. Ray Hain

PUBLISHED: Liguori Publications (1992)

In this video, Fr. Ray expertly conveys the signs, symbols, and meaning of the seven sacraments to a group of middle-grade children. The video is divided into eight vignettes, all of which take place at "Camp Sacrament." The first vignette addresses the concept of sacrament -- the next seven cover each sacrament individually. In each, Fr. Ray's down-to-earth explanations and examples from real life are highlighted by scenes from the actual rites of the sacraments. During the discussions, members of the group openly ask questions and clarify important points. **GUIDE LENGTH:** 50 min. **VID#: 14.101**

UNDERSTANDING THE SACRAMENTS

PUBLISHED: Franciscan Communications

This video provides insight and inspiration for the celebration of the sacraments which mark the faith-lives of Catholics. The story segment introduces viewers to a unique couple whose real-life experience brought home to them the meaning of their shared commitment to Christ, not only in the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage on their wedding day, but in the daily living out of that sacrament. Their story reveals how any of the sacraments we celebrate make Christ present in our world. Other segments: witness segment, teaching segment, music video reflection. **GUIDE LENGTH:** 30 min. **VID#: 14.102**

VID#: 14.103

THE ANGEL'S SACRAMENT LESSON

Twenty-Third Publications

Angel Christina shares with children her enthusiasm for the seven great sacraments of the church. She describes them as special ways to meet Jesus and receive his blessing. She tells children about the times in their lives when they will receive each sacrament and how each is a special moment to experience the love and presence of Jesus. Angel Christina develops the "sign" theme by sharing with children some of the outward signs used in the sacraments like water, chrism, rings, and bread and wine. Her forgetful little “helper” Alphonse adds a touch of humor to this beautiful message. **Guide. VID#: 14.104**

ON OUR WAY WITH JESUS (Teacher Pre-Pack)

PUBLISHED: Novalis, 1997

A new program which offers an innovative approach to sacramental preparation which invites both parishes and families into active ministry. **VID#: 11.715** (on youth shelf)

- Offers children a true experience of Christian initiation
- Works with the seasons of the liturgical year
- Takes into account the different levels of children's development
- Gives parents the opportunity to be evangelized and deepen their faith
- Encourages parents in their role as spiritual guides for their children
- Provides parishes with a practical program for sacramental preparation

Contains:
- We Discover God's Paths: Preparation for Reconciliation
- We Share in the Eucharist: Preparation for First Communion
- On Our Way With Jesus: Leader's Guide
- On Our Way With Jesus: Parent's Video
- On Our Way With Jesus: Catechist Video