

Archdiocese of Seattle Faith Formation Newsletter February 27, 2017

Dear Catechetical Colleagues,

This week we enter Lent with Ash Wednesday, which also fits very well with our "Essential Concept" of Personal and Social Sin. This time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving helps us reflect on those areas of our life where we need to deepen our relationship with God and reminds us of the many blessings we find in the **Sacrament of Confession.**

If you haven't looked at the **USCCB website** for its **extensive list of Lenten resources, this is the time to do so!** There are sections on penitential prayers and psalms as well as multiple videos and articles that can be used for all of your faith formation needs.

Here in the Archdiocese of Seattle we have several Lenten opportunities, many of them focused on our youth and young adults. Did you know:

- CRS has not only Rice Bowl, but also small group formation modules that include one session focused on poverty and the new Pastoral Letter?
- Junior High Rally on March 11th will be a day building souls on fire for God?
- This year's Holy Thursday Pilgrimage will be on April 13th and begins after 6 pm Mass at St. James Cathedral?

Important Notice: Speaking Event February 28, 2017. We would like to draw your attention to a wonderful event for those in the Southern Deanery area. The Rosary: Spiritual Weapon of Mary-An Evening with Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Vancouver. Please see flyer for complete details.

In Christ,

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Essential Religious Education Concepts

Personal & Social Sin [1846-1876]

The Essential Concepts come from the Table of Contents for the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC). They have been re-organized to fit under the Six Tasks of Catechesis. CCC articles numbers associated with each Essential Concept are listed throughout this document. Referencing CCC article numbers is a recommended resource for catechist preparation.

TASK 3- Moral Formation - *Students develop a moral conscience that is informed by Church teachings and conformed to Christ, as modeled in a personal life of virtue, and demonstrated in service of the Gospel's demands for society.*

Implementation Ideas for the Classroom:

Religious Education Standards-Essential Concepts Bibliography from the LMC*

**Please note the Library's Essential Concepts list is a working document, being updated on an ongoing basis.*

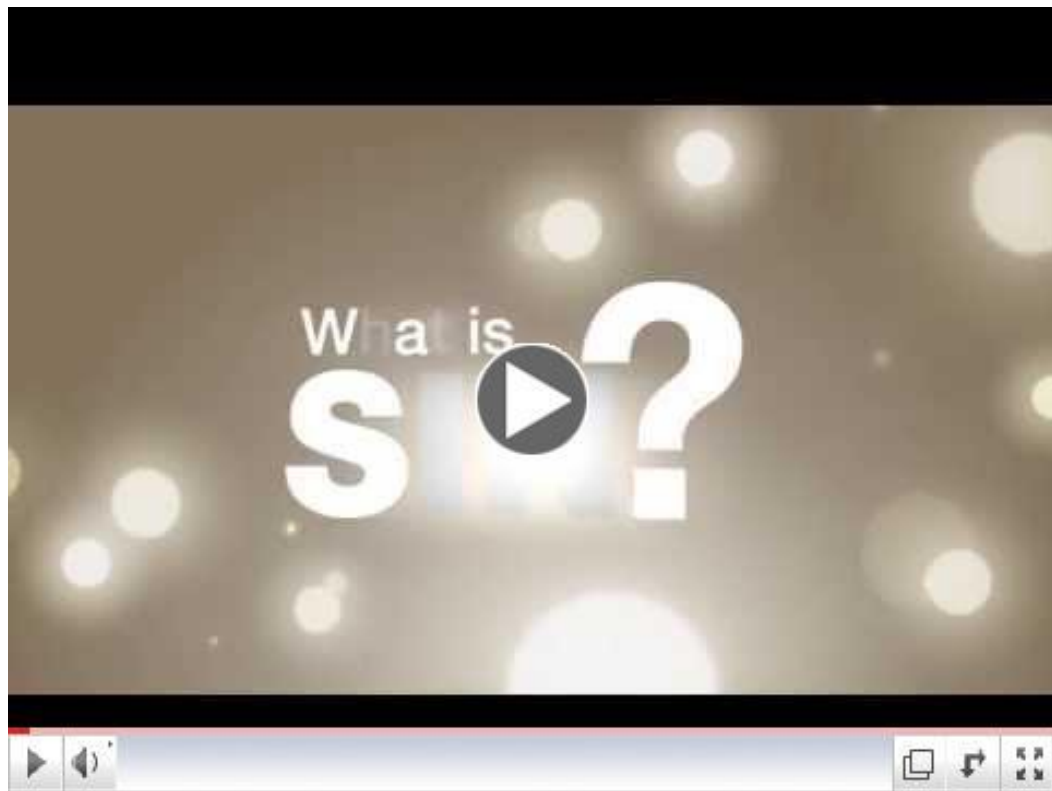
Online Resources-Links and Videos

Catechist Journey- Apologies and Forgiveness (LINK)

Personal, Not Private



[C4: Ignite Your Catholic Faith - What is Sin?](#)



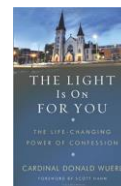
[How do I go to Confession?](#)



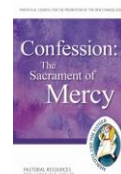
Resources from the LMC on Personal and Social Sin

Catholic Teaching on Sin and Grace (Kevin McNulty) Catholic Teaching is a series intended for adults interested in updating their own understanding of current Catholic theology. It gives a concise overview of mainstream Catholic thought to aid in the process of religious formation and the ownership of one's faith experience. Especially helpful for DRE's and RCIA candidates. Includes Catholic teaching on grace and mortal and venial sins.

The Light Is on for You: The Life-Changing Power of Confession (Donald W. Wuerl) Shows us how the Sacrament of Reconciliation can heal us and bring us closer to God. Cardinal Donald Wuerl uses his gift for teaching the faith to discuss how best to examine our conscience, how to ask the Holy Spirit to reveal our sins to us, and why a regular prayer time is crucial in order to get the most out of Confession and grow in our relationship with the Lord. Scriptural examples as well as stories from the saints and from Catholics today help illustrate his points. This book will change your experience of Confession and brings its fruits into your life!



Confession: The Sacrament of Mercy (Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization) Catholics are reminded in a personal way of the beauty and power of reconciliation. Gospel passages bring forward the themes of mercy, forgiveness of sins, and conversion, which are at the heart of Jesus' teaching. This scriptural study is coupled with a deeper reflection on the Catholic Tradition and pastoral ministry of sacrament, and what it means to Christian disciples.



Jesuits on Reconciliation (DVD, Loyola Productions) The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a mystery to many, Catholic and non-Catholic alike. What is the real purpose of this sacrament? Why must a priest be involved? Doesn't God already know my shortcomings? How can Jesus really forgive me? Fr. Paul Brian Campbell, S.J., tackles these issues and illuminates this sacrament through its evolution in the church.

Child's Guide to Reconciliation (Elizabeth Ficocelli) Provides guidance on receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time, describing the purpose and procedure of the rite and why it is a reason to celebrate.



Looking for an archived newsletter? Check this [link](#) for all previous editions.

Library Media Center Resources

Resource Lists

The Library Media Center has several of the materials listed available. Contact the [library](#) to request items. Our [online catalog](#) is also available to search for materials.

Lenten Resources

[Pope Francis' Message for Lent](#) -Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for Lent 2017

[Lenten Resources for Catechists](#)- Here are links to the various Lenten resources that we have to offer. We hope they are helpful to you as we journey together through this holy season!

[Video Collection for Reconciliation & Lent](#) A short list of additional links to some great videos for Lent and Reconciliation.

[25 Great Things You Can Do for Lent \(Besides Giving Up Chocolate\)](#)

Challenge yourself this year, and go beyond the usual practice of "giving up" something. Now is a great time to take stock of your spiritual life and to grow in it. Not sure where to start?

[A Lenten Journey with ODB Films \(formerly Outside Da Box\)](#)

Beginning Ash Wednesday, ODB invites you to participate in a unique Lenten experience. Encounter Christ during this 7-week journey through artfully made, spiritually rich short films, questions for personal reflection, and Scriptures for meditation.

[Helping Families Celebrate Lent](#)

We spend hours planning activities and celebrations that we hope will impact the families we serve. The reality may be sobering. Sometimes we plan too much. Do families really care about the season of Lent, and all of its signs and symbols, all of its opportunity and potential? What can we do to help the families in our charge get the most out of this sacred time without overwhelming them with the choices?

[The Significance of Ash Wednesday](#)

They may just be ashes, but Fr. Mike points out that what they represent goes far beyond mere dust of the earth. With a simple cross on the forehead, we are recognizing that we are far from perfect, but that God loves and redeems us-not despite our brokenness, but in the midst of it. If you want to start off your Lent with a reminder of Ash Wednesday's deeper meaning, listen to Fr. Mike's heartfelt words in this **video**.

[Ash Wednesday and Lent in Two Minutes](#)

Always a great video to share each year, this brief video explains the what and why of Ash Wednesday and Lent, from the history of wearing ashes dating back to the Old Testament, to the practices of Catholics and Christians during Lent.

[From Passion to Pentecost: A Lenten Reflection \(Webinar\)](#)

"Were you there when they crucified my Lord . . .?" This familiar hymn is a staple in many churches on Good Friday. Have you ever thought about those who would have answered "yes"? What would Mary Magdalene or Simon of Cyrene tell us about their heartbreaking experiences and the aftereffects on their lives of faith? Join Kathy Hendricks for a meaningful Lenten webinar in which we'll reflect upon six witnesses of Jesus's Passion and Death and the connections each one makes to our own experience. For more information, click **[here](#)**

[Teaching Second-Graders the Beauty of Lent](#)

The beauty of Lent offers a time for the Church to relive salvation history. By practicing the penitential disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, many adults savor this transformative season. But how does an untrained teacher who meets only briefly with her wiggly second-grade faith formation class communicate the beauty and relevancy of **Lent** in language they can understand? The short answer: by acting out Christ's desert experience in a way that highlights how fasting, prayer, and almsgiving give us strength as we walk with the Lord.

Maryknoll Lenten Reflection Guide 2017- Contains reflections, questions, prayers, and actions based on each week's Gospel reading and the written reflections and recorded discussions by the 83 Catholic peacemakers who attended the Nonviolence and Just Peace conference in Rome in April 2016. Lent offers us all a special opportunity to grow in our relationship with God and to deepen our commitment to a way of life, rooted in our baptism. Use this guide individually or in small groups to reflect upon our life patterns, to pray more deeply, and renew our spirits to face the realities of our world.

Best Lent Ever- (Dynamic Catholic) Sign up for Best Lent Ever, a FREE, video-based email program featuring internationally acclaimed speaker and New York Times bestselling author Matthew Kelly. From Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday, Matthew will help you identify what stands between you and happiness . . . and what to do about it. Are you ready for your best Lent ever?

Library Media Center February [Check It Out](#) newsletter-**NEW LENT RESOURCES** and items added to the catalog-new DVDs and books!

Upcoming Catechetical Events

Liturgy Workshop Opportunities

Spread the word about these liturgical workshops, events and formation opportunities from the Liturgy Office. Please see the Liturgy Office [Workshop & Events](#) page for more information.

David Haas in Concert

Friday, March 10, 2017 | 7:00 pm | St. Patrick Church, Seattle | Suggested Donation \$15 Per Person, \$30 Per Family | For more information and tickets, contact Sara Hanson, at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, shanson@ollseattle.org or Laura Ash, at St. Patrick Catholic Church, lauradavidash@aol.com. David Haas is highly regarded as one of the most prolific composers in liturgical music today. His songs, including "You Are Mine," "Blest Are They," and "We Are Called," appear in the hymnals of many Christian Denominations.

Retreat with David Haas

Saturday, March 11, 2017 | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm | Our Lady of the Lake Church, Seattle. "*That You Might Have Life: Spiritual Practices for the Call to Holiness*" To view the flyer, click [here](#).

Catholic Advocacy Day (NEW)

Thursday, March 16, 2017 | 9:00 - 3:00 | Olympia, WA. Meet us at [St. Michael Church](#) for our program and a legislative briefing before going to scheduled appointments with your legislators at the capitol. All parish members, staff, and Catholic organizations are invited to join us to ensure that the Gospel message to care for our neighbors is heard in Olympia. For more information and to register, click [here](#). *Please register by February 24th!*

Formation Opportunities

Foundations of Our Catholic Faith - CCP Program

This program includes Scripture, Theology, Catechetics, and Church History to support the Church's mission to evangelize. FOUNDATIONS...provides an opportunity to hear the Gospel message, understand the Church's teachings, and grow in the fullness of what it means to be a disciple of Christ. For class schedules, registration and more, visit the CCP [webpage](#).

Catechist Formation Opportunity - Going Forth in Joy!

March 4th - 5th, 2017- Catholic ministers and educators play a special role in helping their communities experience the joy of participating in God's mission of love. We are called to lay the foundations that enable this mission to be passed on to the next generation. The Missions Office of the Archdiocese of Seattle and Maryknoll invite you to join us to engage with this call and challenge with the Missionary Disciples Formation Program. For more information and to register, click [here](#). *Offered in English & Español*

Junior High Rally: Souls On Fire

Saturday, March 11, 2017 | 8:00 am - 8:00 pm | Forest Ridge School, Bellevue | Junior High Rally is a day designed to celebrate Catholic youth (in grades 6-9) and all they bring to the Church. Over 600+ youth from Washington, Oregon and Canada will come together for an interactive day where you will have the opportunity to meet new people, listen to talks that will deepen their faith, and be invited to participate in various interactive activities with the day closing with Mass! Check [here](#) for more information.

Set the World Ablaze Women's Retreat (NEW)

March 17-19, 2017 | [Our Lady's Retreat House](#) | Stevenson, WA | -Please join us for a relaxing and Spirit-filled weekend away to reflect, renew, and reconnect with women of faith. We'll spend time with St. Catherine of Siena, Doctor of the Church, who shows us, through imagery and beauty, the relationship with God and neighbor to which we are all invited. Enjoy thoughtful discussion, quiet reflection, and witness talks, as well as free time in the beautiful Skamania hillside. Register at holyredeemervanc.org Questions: email jamiiek@holyredeemervanc.org

Guatemala Immersion for Religious Educators

June 14-22, 2017- Discover Christ in our Guatemalan sisters and brothers. Every day, these neighbors of ours from Central America make the perilous journey into the United States. Deepen your faith and enliven your ministry through encounter with their hopes, joys, and struggles. Meet and learn from the lay and religious missionaries walking with them, and discern how you can invite your own community into a spirit of encounter with our sisters and brothers on the margins, in Guatemala and here in western Washington. **Applications due March 1st!** For complete information and to apply, [click here](#).

A Parish Built to Last Retreat for Pastors and Faith Formation Directors

June 30-July 2, 2017 | Led by Fr. Bill Watson, SJ. | ABRC@Palisades, Federal Way | Built to Last is the most fully resourced parish Ignatian program available today. *Forty*

Weeks and the Whole-Life Confession help parishes accomplish what Sherry Weddell did in her important book, *Forming Intentional Disciples*, which says it is needed for activating the new evangelization that Popes from St. John Paul II to Francis has been calling individual Catholics and parishes to make a reality. This evangelization retreat will include the theological and spiritual components of *Forty Weeks* and *The Whole-Life Confession* presented by Fr. Watson. It will also include presentations from laity and clergy from Seattle Archdiocesan parishes who have been successfully implementing the both programs in their parishes. For more information and to register, click her

Mass & Celebration with our Community with Special Needs

Saturday, April 1, 2017 | Mass: 11:00 am | St. James Cathedral, Seattle | Reception and Spring Dance to follow Mass at O'Dea High School, Seattle. For more [information](#), contact Erica Cohen Moore 206-382-4852 | ericac@seattlearch.org

Cornerstone Catholic Conference: Together for Life and Justice (NEW)

October 20-21, 2017 | Tacoma | [Save the date!](#)-More information and registration details will be available in the coming months.

2016-2017 Retreat Calendar

There are many opportunities for retreats at the Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center at the Palisades. Please take a look at the retreat schedule and see what great retreats are coming up! To learn more about the Retreat Center, click [here](#).

Grief Support Ministry

Listed in this section are some upcoming events and resources that are occurring in the specified parishes related to grief support. As new events and resources become available, they will be added to this section. *Please let us know if there are related events happening around the Archdiocese that should be shared here.*



Healing Ministry for Divorced Catholics

Beginning Tuesday, March 7th, the parish will offer a 12 week DVD and discussion program called "*The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide*". Many people find themselves stuck in pain and anger after the breakdown of their marriage, but the church is here to help. The group facilitator will guide you and others who are separated or divorced through the DVDs in a private, confidential group support environment. Contact Diane Boggs 360-823-2828, diane@stjoevan.org.

St. Louise, Bellevue

Bereavement Support Ministry - Our mission is to support the grieving process after the death of a loved one. This is achieved with one-on-one contact and a monthly support group which includes prayer, sharing our stories and learning from one another. Meetings are on the **3rd Tuesday of each month at 7PM** in the Parish Center. Contact Kathy Riley at 425-4450-x5466 or Kathy@stlouis.org

Beginning Experience Program

Beginning Experience - Divorced, Widowed or Separated? If you are ready to deal with the grief of being widowed, divorced or separated, there is help. As a faith-based organization, *Beginning Experience* offers men and women the opportunity & skills to build deeper self respect, to cope with the pain of loss, and to move into the future with renewed hope. Join us for a weekend away for a lifetime of change - available twice a year, in April & October. This coming Spring's Puget Sound area weekend is **Friday to Sunday, March 31 to April 2, 2017** at historic Carnation Farms in Carnation, WA. Please call Chris, our Beginning Experience Registrar, at (253) 223-2645 for more information and a brochure.

St James Cathedral, Seattle

Grief Support Group-meets Wednesdays, January 25-March 1, 2017. The grieving process has no timeline and is unique to each individual, but meeting with others who are going through a similar experience can provide support and help us cope. You are invited to join a new 6-week grief support group facilitated by St. James Cathedral Staff- Nancy Granger, Suzanne Lee, and Rosanne Michaels

St. John the Baptist, Covington

Grief Ministry- meets every 2nd Weds at 7 PM, providing compassionate and confidential support to parishioners and families who have suffered a loss. Various tools are provided that will help manage the grieving process, fostering hope through faith, prayer, and fellowship, with God's love and grace as our guide. Meetings are open to anyone in the Archdiocese. (Richard: 949.290.8670, Page: 253.569.5326, or Frank: 425.241.9190)

St. Michael Church, Olympia

Bridge of Hope Grief Support Ministry-8-week group meetings where those who are grieving come together to pray, learn and share with each other.

Archdiocesan News

OYYAE Website

Announcing the official launch of oyyae.org, their new online home! Feedback is welcome and encouraged! Please let us know how we can improve this new home, as well as serve you better.

NW Catholic App

The NW Catholic App is now available! [Download](#) it for Apple or Android.

NW Catholic Movie & Book Reviews

Check NW Catholic for the latest reviews on [books](#) and [movies](#)

MyUSCCB

This Week in Ministry provides timely content every week formatted for use in a variety of ways: parish bulletins, websites, E-newsletters, social media and more.

Featured This Week (Eighth Week of Ordinary Time) Blessing of the Season and of a Place of Prayer During Lent, "from Ash Wednesday to Easter, a place in the home is set aside for prayer. The family's Bible is placed there with a crucifix or cross and a candle, which is lighted when all have gathered for this blessing." This prayer can be led by a parent or other household member.

Hearing the Voice of the Poor Tom Dwyer, chair of the National Voice of the Poor Committee of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, writes about ways Catholics can work to heal divisions after a contentious national election year, by being a voice not just to the poor but to all who are feeling left out.

To learn more about MyUSCCB and to sign up for this helpful resource, visit the **USCCB** website for more information.

NCCL-Catechetical Update



The National Conference of Catechetical Leaders publishes a weekly newsletter following the Six Tasks of Catechesis.

NCCL Family Faith Survey

The National Conference for Catechetical Leadership is conducting a short survey on family faith formation. We would like to encourage all of you to take a few minutes and complete this questionnaire. If you participate in the survey, you will also receive an update on the final results! ***Please complete the survey no later than March 1st.***

A 4-Day Journey through Transformational Encounters...

Monday, May 22 - Contemplation - Personal Transformation

Tuesday, May 23 - Imagination - Prophetic Communal Transformation

Wednesday, May 24 - Vision - Articulating a Catechetical Future

Thursday, May 25 - Missionary - Leadership for the World

Learn more about the Transformative Leadership theme for #NCCL2017 here.

To learn more about this organization and view their resources, visit the website.

Featured Websites

V ENCUESTRO

What is the Goal of the **V Encuentro**? The main goal of the V Encuentro is to discern ways in which the Church in the United States can better respond to the Hispanic/Latino presence, and to strengthen the ways in which Hispanics/Latinos respond to the call to the New Evangelization as missionary disciples serving the entire Church.

To learn more, get parish resources and watch a video with a special message from Bishop Elizondo, check out the Archdiocese of Seattle's V National Encuentro of Hispanic/Latino Ministry [page](#).

Fashioning Faith

Fashioning Faith is a subscription website designed especially for parish catechetical leaders that provides access to hundreds of program, strategies, and resources for promoting faith formation with people of all ages. New features make Fashioning Faith even easier to use and new resources easy to find! This includes resources delivered each year that help to gather the whole community of faith, connect families to children's faith formation, and build faith in families at home.



Liturgy Training Publications

Virtual Training Opportunities for Teachers and Catechists (2017)

Designed specifically for teachers and catechists, this series invites all those who work with children to engage in formation and training throughout the year.

Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intentions on Video

Apostleship of Prayer receives monthly prayer intentions from the Pope and urges Christians throughout the world to unite in prayer for those intentions. Each month Pope Francis will film his monthly prayer intention and it will be distributed on social media. Check back for a new video on the next month's prayer intention.



Welcome the Needy-
February 2017

Word On Fire Show

A weekly podcast from Bishop Robert Barron on faith and culture. Each week, the **Word On Fire** Show will release a new episode featuring Bishop Barron and our Content Director, Brandon Vogt.



To learn more information and find out how to subscribe (iPhone, Android, PC, etc.) to this great resource, click [here!](#)

Catholic Publishers

[Loyola Press](#)

[St. Mary's Press](#)

[Our Sunday Visitor](#)

[Ave Maria Press](#)

[Sadlier](#)

[Ascension Press](#)

[RCL Benziger](#)

[Lighthouse Catholic Media](#)

[Ignatius Press](#)

Helpful Links

[NFCYM-Strong Catholic Families, Strong Catholic Youth](#)

A collaborative effort by four national Catholic organizations to help church leaders envision how the Catholic Church can more effectively partner with parents to help bring home the faith.

[21st Century Catholic Evangelization](#)

Serving Catholic leaders in their ministry of evangelization with curated knowledge, approaches, strategies, and resources to reach out to those who have never heard the gospel proclaimed, to re-engage those who have lost a living faith in their daily lives, and to engage those who are faithful and need to be renewed with increased catechesis.

[Catechist Journey](#)

Sharing the Journey of Teaching the Catholic Faith. Joe Paprocki's blog that features practical tips and resources on sharing the gift of the Catholic faith.

[eCatechist](#)

eCatechist.com is a blog from Dan Pierson, that provides ideas, inspiration, and learning resources for catechists, parish catechetical leaders, and parents.

[TeamRCIA](#)

TeamRCIA.com is a free online resource for Catholic parishes and dioceses that want to form Christians for life. Offers a variety of online and in-person training for church ministers and volunteers, through webinars, e-mail courses, downloads, discussion forums, and training events led by experts in the field of initiation ministry.

[Teaching Catholic Kids](#)

Teaching Catholic Kids is a valuable tool for parents, teachers and catechists. Free downloadable activities and teacher resources are updated each month and made available from the best of Our Sunday Visitor books, workbooks and writers.

[Vibrant Faith at Home](#)

Vibrant Faith @ Home supports Christian leaders and families who are intentional about their faith and religious practice as they raise the next generation of committed Christians.

Word On Fire

Word on Fire Catholic Ministries is a nonprofit global media apostolate that supports the work of Father Robert Barron and reaches millions of people to draw them into- or back to- the Catholic faith. Word on Fire is evangelical; it proclaims Jesus Christ as the source of conversion and new life. Word on Fire is Catholic; it utilizes the tremendous resources of the Roman Catholic tradition-art, architecture, poetry, philosophy, theology, and the lives of the saints- in order to explain and interpret the event of Jesus Christ.

Stay Connected



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