



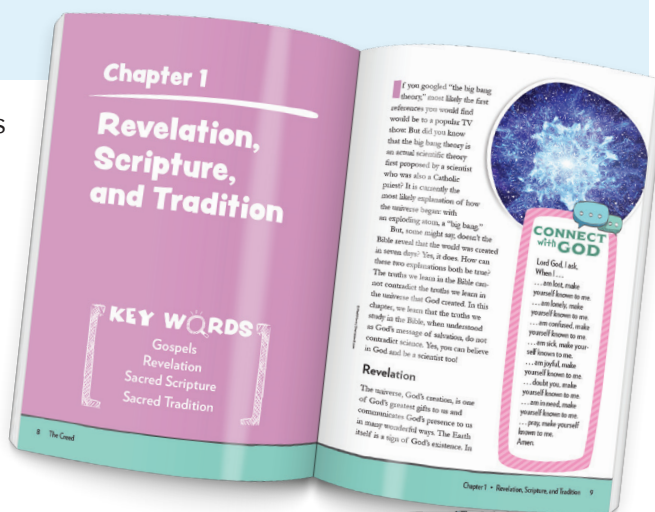
saint mary's press
touching hearts. enlivening minds.

How Is *Connect!* Different from *Catholic Connections*?

Student Book

The 50 chapters of *Connect!* cover the same topics as the 50 chapters of *Catholic Connections*; however:

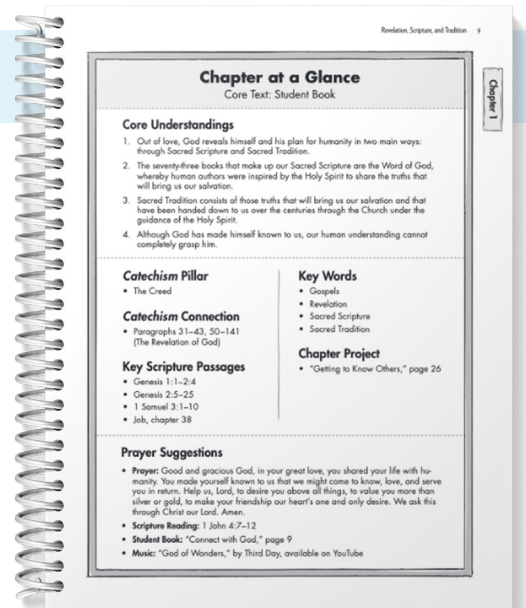
- The chapters have been completed reorganized so that attention to each of the four pillars of the *Catechism* are covered in each year. Also, the chapters have been divided into the respective years, so students have everything they need in one, distinct, visually identifiable section of the book.
- The topics have also been reorganized to be presented in an age-appropriate manner (i.e., Year 1 is more introductory, Year 2 is a deeper dive, and Year 3 covers topics that benefit from prior knowledge acquired in Year 1 and 2).
- Some of the chapter content remains the same, but stories, scenarios, and statistics have all been updated to reflect current junior high students' experiences. A new design is more contemporary and inviting, and images have been replaced to be more appealing and engaging for today's youth.



Catechist Guide Structure

The catechist guides have been restructured and reflect the following changes:

- The *Connect!* catechist guides follow the chapters for each respective year in a sequential manner. They are no longer divided by individual topics or themes (as they were in *Catholic Connections*), only Year 1, Year 2, and Year 3. This makes use even easier and eliminates questions about which topic is best covered when.
- The catechist guides incorporate a new, easy-to-use format and process, which clarify distinct movements of the lessons. This format borrows from the process used in *Discover!* so the transition from *Discover!* to *Connect!* should be quite easy for parishes that use both programs.



eLearning Lessons

This is an entirely new component of the programs and extends the way content can be processed. These lessons can be used in the home or in class and provide an interactive way to cover the topics in the student book while still connecting the whole class together through some of its unique features. **Teachers and catechists can track the progress of the youth and can view student responses.** This component can be used in a variety of creative ways to increase learning.

