

Bible Basics

The Bible is one amazing part of our Catholic tradition and faith. We have heard it referred to as scripture, stories inspired by God, even the Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth (BIBLE). And it is all that and more – according to the United States Council of Catholic Bishops, “*The Bible is the story of God's relationship with the people he has called to himself. It is not intended to be read as history text, a science book, or a political manifesto. In the Bible, God teaches us the truths that we need for the sake of our salvation.*” (www.usccb.org found at <https://www.usccb.org/bible/understanding-the-bible>)

We are encouraged not just to read the Bible but to prayerfully listen to God speaking to us through the Bible. He inspires us to live our faith, helps us to understand our humanness, and always guides us back to Him through a deeper relationship with Him.

There are many fantastic resources for information about the Bible. Please start at www.usccb.org and click on “Bible.” Not only will you find invaluable information and direction, the [complete Bible](#) is all there and waiting to be experienced.

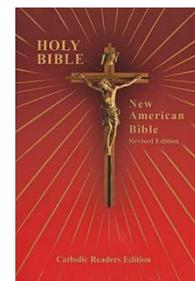
To help you get started, here is a brief direction for finding Bible verses or passages. This is taken directly from Loyola Press, a great resource for our faith basics and more. The link is shared below:

How can you find a passage in the Bible?

Bible passages are identified by book, chapter, and verse, for example, Ex 3:1-4. The name of the book comes first. It is often in abbreviated form. Your Bible's table of contents will help you determine what the abbreviation means. In our example, *Ex* stands for *Exodus*. After the name of the book, there are two numbers. The first one identifies the chapter, which in our example is chapter three; it is followed by a colon. The second number identifies the verse or verses, which in our example are verses one to four.**

**<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/scripture-and-tradition/scripture/bible-and-you-finding-bible-passages/>

Hopefully, this will help you get started. If you have any questions or need more help, do not hesitate to reach out. If you do not have a Bible at home and would like to purchase or borrow one, please contact our parish office at (937) 644-6020. A new copy of this Bible for purchase would be ~ \$5.00



Books of the Bible and their abbreviations:

(insert copy of NAB abbreviations page)