

**Do you want to help inactive Catholics  
return to the practice of their faith?**



**Discover a new resource to  
help your parish address  
an urgent pastoral challenge.**

**A NEW APPROACH TO RECONNECT  
INACTIVE CATHOLICS TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

*A Ministry of the* **Paulist National Catholic Evangelization Association**  
3031 Fourth St. NE, Washington, DC 20017 // [www.pncea.org](http://www.pncea.org)



## Greetings from the Authors of *Awakening Faith*

**Dear Pastoral Leader,**

We know how frustrating it is to see more and more Catholics participating less in parish life. Where are the Catholics we seldom see at Mass? How can we reach them? How can we help them reconnect with their faith?

We used to think that it all had to do with Catholics feeling angry or marginalized. But a new pastoral reality has become clear: it's also about Catholics losing their priorities, drifting away, and choosing other options.

Today it's not that we are primarily inviting people BACK to church (because many do not even feel that they have been away!). Rather, it's more that we are inviting inactive Catholics to reconnect with their faith, to reactivate it, or to let their faith be *awakened*.

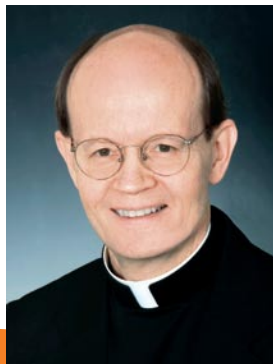
About half of inactive Catholics are thinking about becoming more active in parish life. Some yearn to come closer to Christ and the Church because they are getting married, expecting a child, changing careers, moving to a new location, searching for values and meaning, or facing the sickness of a parent or friend. And some are looking for a way to return...now!

*Awakening Faith: Reconnecting With Your Catholic Faith* offers inactive Catholics an effective way to return. This new program equips a parish to invite and welcome people to a series of conversations about themes of faith that hold particular meaning for people who are searching. By inviting inactive Catholics to talk freely about themes of faith relevant to their lives, we build a bonding process that encourages them to find a way back to the practice of the faith.

*Awakening Faith* is easy to do, and the Paulist National Catholic Evangelization Association provides the resources you need. You can learn more about *Awakening Faith* in the pages of this brochure.



Rev. Frank DeSiano, CSP



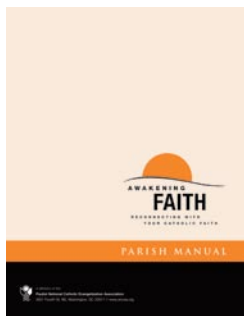
Rev. Kenneth Boyack, CSP

**Authors of *Awakening Faith***

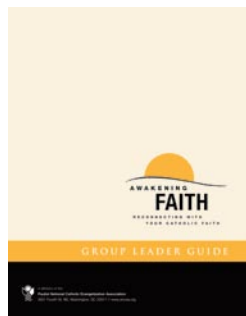
## A new resource to meet an urgent pastoral challenge

*Awakening Faith* is a conversation-based process. It provides six basic topics and four supplemental (optional) topics, which are explored in short, accessible essays and discussion questions. It includes methods for getting people to share, to reflect, and to pray. A parish can run as many groups as needed, at any time. Someone with basic catechetical skills, and a knack for getting people to talk, can lead the sessions.

### COMPREHENSIVE AND EASY-TO-USE MATERIALS



The **Parish Manual with CD** helps parish leaders envision a broad and effective outreach to less-than-active Catholics. The CD contains an invitation flyer, sample letters, newspaper and website ads, and other materials to successfully implement *Awakening Faith*.



The **Group Leader Guide** gives background information and provides a step-by-step process for each of the ten sessions.

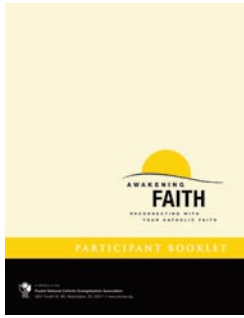


The **Participant Booklet** contains material for each of the ten sessions, plus four supplemental pamphlets on the Mass, Reconciliation, an Examination of Conscience, and Marriage-Divorce-Annulment.



The **website, [www.awakeningfaith.org](http://www.awakeningfaith.org)**, includes a video introduction to the program, a video orientation for group leaders, Frequently Asked Questions, and a Contact Us option for questions and comments.

## The booklet makes it easy to participate.



**The Participant Booklet**—the heart of the *Awakening Faith* process—contains essays that engage the participants in meaningful and enjoyable conversations of faith.

**The six basic sessions explore these topics:**

- Session 1 Spirituality: What's the Buzz?
- Session 2 Who is Jesus?
- Session 3 Do We Need the Spirit?
- Session 4 Can I Accept God's Mercy?
- Session 5 Can Mass Make My Life Meaningful?
- Session 6 The Church and Me

Each topic is developed in a short, accessible essay designed to provoke thought, foster conversation, and invite participants to grow in faith. The friendly, conversation-based process is reinforced by other elements that ensure a secure setting where people can share, reflect, and pray, all in an environment of hospitality and welcome. Each session lasts 90 minutes.

*The readings and conversations provide answers, inspire faith, and build community.*

**The four additional (and optional) sessions focus on topics that touch on other issues of faith and life:**

- Session 7 Is Faith Possible Today?
- Session 8 Searching for Love
- Session 9 Marriage, Divorce, and Annulment
- Session 10 Money and the Treadmill of Life

## Supplemental materials inform and enlighten.



The inside back cover contains a pocket with **four supplemental pamphlets:**

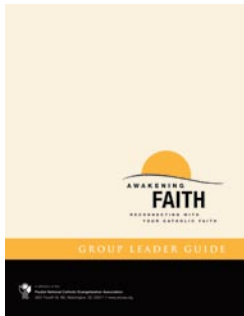
- The Eucharistic Community: Giving Witness to Faith
- What is the Sacrament of Penance?
- An Examination of Conscience for Disciples of Jesus Christ
- Understanding Annulments in the Catholic Church

If they wish, participants may read one or two selected chapters from the U.S. bishops' *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults* to explore each topic more fully.



People connect when they feel welcomed, are involved in a group, and bond with others. *Awakening Faith* employs these very dynamics to help Catholics reconnect with their faith.

## Complete and easy to follow, the Guide is a group leader's delight!

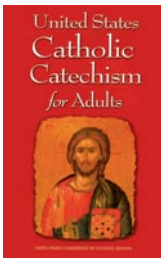


*Awakening Faith* revolves around group conversations. The group leader, who functions as a facilitator and a resource person, is key to the success of the program.

Helping people return to the practice of their faith is a wonderful and graced experience! The **Group Leader Guide** and the Participant Booklet are the basic resources a group leader needs. The Guide provides a step-by-step process for each *Awakening Faith* session, including comments on what issues might arise and how they might be approached. A short summary of the Church's teaching on the topic is included in each session.

### BASED ON SOLID CATHOLIC TEACHING

Before each session, the leader reads the Participant Booklet, the Group Leader Guide, and one or two chapters from the U.S. bishops' *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*. With this preparation, a person catechetically skilled and able to facilitate a conversation will be equipped to lead the ten *Awakening Faith* sessions.



### THOROUGH AND INFORMATIVE

The Group Leader Guide includes an overview of the *Awakening Faith* process and a chapter titled "Follow-up Opportunities for *Awakening Faith* Participants." This chapter is important because some people who attend the sessions will want to do more to grow in their faith.

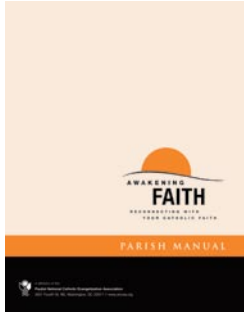
### *The Holy Spirit awakens faith through the sessions.*

**Flow of a Typical Session** (90 minutes; these are approximate times)

1. Opening activities (introductions, icebreaker, and the purpose of the meeting) / 10 min.
2. A moment of silence with a question for reflection / 6 min.
3. Scripture meditation / 1 min.
4. Reading the material for the session / 7 min.
5. General reactions to the reading / 10 min.
6. Questions for discussion / 35 min.
7. Clarifying statements by the leader / 5 min.
8. Further questions or discussion / 10 min.
9. Prayer / 3 min.
10. Announcements for the next week / 3 min.

**Hospitality before and after each session provides a welcoming environment.**

## With the Manual and CD, your parish has the perspective and resources needed to conduct an effective outreach to inactive Catholics.



### The **Parish Manual**...

- Discusses the pastoral issue of inactive Catholics
- Helps a parish plan and organize the *Awakening Faith* ministry
- Talks about ways to sensitize parishioners to this ministry
- Shows how to get parishioners to think about inviting others
- Gives a design for how a parish might conduct an Invitation Sunday to kick off *Awakening Faith*
- Gives suggestions for follow-up
- Includes a **CD** with sample website and newspaper ads, an invitation flyer, materials for Invitation Sunday, sample letters to parishioners and inactive Catholics, an evaluation form, and the *Awakening Faith* logo

***Awakening Faith encourages parishioners to carry out their baptismal responsibility to invite and welcome.***

We encourage you to order the ***Awakening Faith Parish Preview Pack***, which includes the **Participant Booklet**, the **Group Leader Guide**, and the **Parish Manual with CD**.



### **FOUR EASY WAYS TO ORDER:**

1. **Order from our secure website:** [www.PNCEA.org/store](http://www.PNCEA.org/store)
2. **Mail form** with your check or credit card information to:  
PNCEA, 3031 Fourth Street, NE, Washington, DC 20017  
(Please make checks payable to PNCEA)
3. **Order by telephone** toll-free (credit card only):  
800-237-5515. In DC call 202-832-5022
4. **Order by fax** (credit card only): 202-269-0209

**FILL OUT  
ORDER FORM  
ON PAGE 7**

**SEE FOR YOURSELF  
HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT CAN WORK THROUGH THESE RESOURCES TO  
AWAKEN FAITH...THIS YEAR, NEXT YEAR, AND EVERY YEAR.**

# Place Your Order Today!

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	x PRICE	= TOTAL
7540	<b>PARISH PREVIEW PACK (INCLUDES THREE ITEMS)</b> 1. <b>Participant Booklet</b> Includes four supplemental pamphlets: <i>The Eucharistic Community: Giving Witness to Faith</i> <i>What is the Sacrament of Penance?</i> <i>An Examination of Conscience for Disciples of Jesus Christ</i> <i>Understanding Annulments in the Catholic Church</i> 2. <b>Group Leader Guide</b> 3. <b>Parish Manual with CD</b>		\$59.95	
7520	<b>PARTICIPANT BOOKLET</b> 1-4 copies		\$9.95 each	
7520	<b>PARTICIPANT BOOKLET</b> 5-9 copies		\$8.95 each	
7520	<b>PARTICIPANT BOOKLET</b> 10-19 copies		\$8.50 each	
7520	<b>PARTICIPANT BOOKLET</b> 20 or more copies		\$8.10 each	
7510	<b>GROUP LEADER GUIDE</b>		\$15.95	
7500	<b>PARISH MANUAL WITH CD</b>		\$39.95	
7550	<b>UNITED STATES CATHOLIC CATECHISM FOR ADULTS</b>		\$23.95	
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>				
<b>Add shipping &amp; handling charges on all orders. Allow two weeks for delivery. Additional charge for rush orders (delivery in 3 days or less).</b>		<b>SHIPPING &amp; HANDLING</b>		
\$0 to \$10.99	\$7.95	\$75 to \$99.99	\$16.95	<b>TOTAL FOR ORDER</b> <b>ALL ORDERS MUST BE PREPAID</b>
\$11 to \$24.99	\$9.95	\$100 to \$199.99	\$19.95	
\$25 to \$49.99	\$12.95	\$200 to \$399.99	\$22.95	
\$50 to \$74.99	\$13.95	\$400 & ABOVE	\$31.95	

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Parish/Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone: (        ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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