

Resources for Scripture Study and Use

Biblical Concordance

A concordance lists all the words that occur in scripture alphabetically and, underneath each word, lists all the places in scripture where that word is used. Always use the concordance that matches the version / translation you're using. The concordance for the New American Bible, the version used in the *Catholic Study Bible*, is:

Stephen J. Hartdegen, ed., *Nelson's Complete Concordance of the New American Bible* (Nashville: T. Nelson, 1977).

Bible Dictionaries

A Bible dictionary provides articles on people, places, events and issues in the scriptures. The best biblical dictionary around is the 6-volume Anchor Bible Dictionary, but there are also several good single-volume works:

David Noel Freedman et al., ed., *Anchor Bible Dictionary*, 6 vols. (New York: Doubleday, 1992).

Paul J. Achtemeier, ed., *The HarperCollins Bible Dictionary* (San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1996).

Bible Commentaries

A biblical commentary works systematically through a biblical book, exploring the historical circumstances, literary structure, and the meaning of individual phrases and pericopes (stories). The most thorough commentaries are those that focus entirely on a single book, but there are also single-volume commentaries on the entire Bible.

Raymond E. Brown, et al., ed., *The New Jerome Biblical Commentary* (Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, 1990). [single volume]

Anchor Bible series. (New York: Doubleday). [single volumes on each biblical book, scholarly but readable]

Hermeneia series. (Minneapolis: Fortress). [single volumes on each biblical book, scholarly and including references in original languages]

Sacra Pagina series. (Chicago: Liturgical Press). [single volumes, Catholic authors]

Pronunciation Guides

Susan E. Myers, *Pronunciation Guide for the Sunday Lectionary* (Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 1998).

T. S. K. Scott-Craig, *A Guide to Pronouncing Biblical Names* (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: Morehouse, 1982).

Joseph M. Staudacher, *Lector's Guide to Biblical Pronunciations* (Huntington, Indiana: Our Sunday Visitor, 1979).

More resources are available online at

<http://www-relg-studies.scu.edu/facstaff/murphy/courses/bibletools.htm>