

VITAE

Margaret N. Ralph
Lexington Theological Seminary
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Born: March 23, 1941 Lincoln, Nebraska
Married: July 20, 1963 to Donald E. Ralph
Family: Four Children: Daniel, John, Anthony, Kathleen

Education

B.A. magna cum laude from St. Mary's of Notre Dame, South
Bend, Indiana, 1963
Major: English Literature
Minor: Religion-Philosophy
Education

M.A. University of Massachusetts in Amherst, 1970
Major: English Literature
Concentration: The English Bible as Literature
Thesis: "Irony in the Gospel of Luke"

Ph.D. University of Kentucky, 1980
Areas of Specialization: Medieval, Renaissance, and
19th Century Literature
Dissertation: "New Biblical Criticism and the
Synoptic Gospels"

Professional Experience

Current Position:

1988 - Present Director of the Master of Arts in
Pastoral Studies degree program
for Catholics at Lexington
Theological Seminary

Previous Positions:

1988 - 2004 Secretary of Educational Ministries
Roman Catholic Diocese of
Lexington
1988 - 2004 Director of RCIA and Evangelization
Roman Catholic Diocese of
Lexington
1982 - 1988 Consultant, Adult Faith Development
Diocese of Covington
1980 - 1988 Instructor
English Department; Religious
Studies Program, University of
Kentucky
1974 - 1983 Teacher

Religion Faculty
Lexington Catholic High School
1963 - 1964 Teacher
St. Mark's Parochial School
Hyattsville, Maryland

Committee Assignments

2002 - 2004 Total Education Advisory Committee of
CACE (Chief Administrators of Catholic Education)
1983 - 2004 Catholic Conference of Kentucky
Education Committee
1995 - 1999 Dialogue between United Methodists and
Roman Catholics, USCC
1993 - 1996 Sub committee on Catechesis, USCC
1995 - 1996 Editorial Board for Caravan - Adult
Education Newsletter for Canadian
Catholic Conference.
1989 - 1996 Board of Directors, Kentucky Council
of Churches
1990 - 1996 National Advisory Committee for
Adult Religious Education (NACARE)

Presentations

For the past thirty years I have given numerous presentations on biblical topics to parish, diocesan, state and national groups (i.e. East Coast Conference; Anaheim Conference; National Conference of Catechetical Leaders; Chief Administrators of Catholic Education; National Catholic Education Association) throughout the United States and in Canada.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Ralph, Margaret N. *A Walk Through the New Testament: An Introduction for Catholics* (Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 2009).

Ralph, Margaret N. *Breaking Open the Lectionary: Cycle A* (Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 2007).

Ralph, Margaret N. *Breaking Open the Lectionary: Cycle C* (Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 2006).

Ralph, Margaret N. *Breaking Open the Lectionary: Cycle B* (Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 2005).

Ralph, Margaret N. *And God Said What? An Introduction to Biblical Literary Forms* (Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 2003).

This is the second edition of the book published in 1986 with 3 new chapters.

Ralph, Margaret N. *Nourished by the Word* (Chicago: Loyola Press, 2000).

Also published in Spanish.

Ralph, Margaret N. *The Bible and the End of the World: Should We Be Afraid?* (Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 1997).

Also published in Italian and Portuguese.

Ralph, Margaret N. *Discovering Prophecy and Wisdom: Isaiah, Job, Proverbs and Psalms* (Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 1993).

Presently published by Wipf & Stock Publishers, Eugene, Oregon, 2001.

Also published in Korean.

Ralph, Margaret N. *Discovering Old Testament Origins: Genesis, Exodus, 1, 2 Samuel* (Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 1992).

Presently published by Wipf & Stock Publishers, Eugene, Oregon, 2001.

Also published in Korean.

Ralph, Margaret N. *Discovering the First Century Church: The Acts of the Apostles, Letters of Paul and The Book of Revelation* (Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 1991).

Presently published by Wipf & Stock Publishers, Eugene, Oregon, 2003.

Also published in Korean.

Ralph, Margaret N. *Discovering the Gospels: Four Accounts of the Good News* (Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 1990).

Presently published by Wipf & Stock Publishers, Eugene, Oregon, 2001.

Also published in Korean

Ralph, Margaret N. *Willie of Church Street* (Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 1989).

Ralph, Margaret N. *Plain Words About Biblical Images: Growing in Our Faith Through Scripture* (Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 1989).

Presently published by Wipf and Stock Publishers, Eugene, Oregon, 2003.

Study Guides

Ralph, Margaret N. Study guide in *A People Made One* (Louisville, KY: Catholic Conference of Kentucky, 1999).

Ralph, Margaret N. *Catechism of the Catholic Church: An Access Guide for Adult Discussion Groups* (Washington, D.C.: United States Catholic Conference, 1995).

Ralph, Margaret N. *Choose Life: Reflections on the Death Penalty Study Guide* (Louisville, KY.: Catholic Conference of Kentucky, 1984).

Bible Study Resources for Small Groups

Ralph, Margaret N. Weekly Lectionary based reflections on the Sunday readings in *Share the Word* (Washington, D.C.: Paulist National Catholic Evangelization Association, 1998-2001).

Ralph, Margaret N. Small group lectionary based materials for *Disciples in Mission* (Washington, D.C.: PNCEA, Spring, 1997 through Spring, 1999).

At Home Study Materials

Ralph, Margaret N. "Scripture Insight" articles for Ordinary Time for *At Home With the Word 2010* (Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 2009).

Ralph, Margaret N. "Scripture Insight" articles for Ordinary Time for *At Home With the Word 2009* (Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 2008).

Ralph, Margaret N. "Scripture Insight" articles for the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter for *At Home With the Word 2008* (Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 2007).

Ralph, Margaret N. Six home booklets on "Jesus Christ and Discipleship" for the "At Home" Component for *People of Faith: Generations Learning Together* (The Center for Ministry Development, Harcourt, 2005).

Columnist

Biweekly for *Crossroads* - Diocesan Paper for Diocese of Lexington, KY. (1989 - 2010).

Biweekly for *The Messenger* - Diocesan

Paper for Diocese of Covington, KY.
(1987 - 1994), Bimonthly 1995 - 2005.

Nine Articles (one a month) for *Parish Works* (Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 2004-2005).

Bimonthly for *Information From - Evangelization* newspaper from Paulist National Catholic Evangelization Association, 1992-1993.

Articles

Ralph, Margaret N. "Scripture as a Living Word: What Is Use and What Is Abuse?" *Catechumenate* (Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, March, 2010).

Ralph, Margaret N. "Scripture in Context and Scripture as a Living Word: Are the Two Compatible?" *Catechumenate* (Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, January, 2010).

Ralph, Margaret N. "Anticipating the Proclamation of the Gospel according to Luke" *Catechumenate* (Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, November, 2009).

Ralph, Margaret N. "The Word of God: A Living Force: Relevant and Powerful" *Catechist* (Dayton: Peter Li Education Group, September, 2009).

Ralph, Margaret N. "Theological Reflection: Catechetical Sunday, September 21, 2008" *The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church: A Theological Reflection* (Washington D.C.: Department of Education, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2008).

This article was also published in Spanish by the USCCB.

Ralph, Margaret N. "Breaking Open the Word and Catechumenal Catechesis," *Catechumenate* (Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, January, 2008).

Ralph, Margaret N. "The Content of Catechumenal Sessions on the Bible," *Catechumenate* (Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, March, 2008).

Ralph, Margaret N. "God's Own Repentance" *The Bible Today* (Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, March, 2007).

Ralph, Margaret N. "Reflection on the Readings: Catechetical Sunday, September 17, 2006," *Who Do You Say that I Am? : Celebrating the*

Catechetical year 2006-2007 (Washington D.C. : Department of Education, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2006).

This article was also published in Spanish by the USCCB.

Ralph, Margaret N. "Reflection on the Readings: Catechetical Sunday, September 18, 2005," *Life is Christ: Celebrating the Catechetical Year 2005-2006* (Washington D.C. : Department of Education, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2005).

This article was also published in Spanish by the USCCB.

Ralph, Margaret N. "Jesus Encounters the Curious," *The Bible Today* (Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, January/February, 2005).

Ralph, Margaret N. "Ecumenical Implications for Catholic Evangelization" *Catholic Evangelization in an Ecumenical and Interreligious Society* (Washington, D.C.: United States Catholic Conference of Bishops, 2004).

Ralph, Margaret N. "Catholic Evangelizers: How Scripture Informs Us" *Liturgical Catechesis* (San Jose, CA: William J. Burns, April - May 2004).

Ralph, Margaret N. "The Lectionary and Biblical Context" *Liturgical Catechesis* (San Jose, CA: William J. Burns, August - September 2002).

Ralph, Margaret N. "Parables About the Kingdom of Heaven: What Should We Be Listening For?" *AIM Liturgy Resources* (Schiller Park, Illinois: World Library Publications, Fall, 2002).

Ralph, Margaret N. "Parables And Allegories: What Is The Difference and Why Does It Matter?" *AIM Liturgy Resources* (Schiller Park, Illinois: World Library Publications, Summer, 2002).

Ralph, Margaret N. "Prophecy And The Passion Narratives: Was The Messiah Expected To Die?" *AIM Liturgy Resources* (Schiller Park, Illinois: World Library Publications, Spring, 2002)

Ralph, Margaret N. "The Infancy Narratives: Stories of Great Good News" *AIM Liturgy Resources* (Schiller Park, Illinois: World Library Publications, Winter, 2001).

- Ralph, Margaret N. "Holding Firm While Waiting: What The Thessalonian Church and We Have in Common" *Catechist* (Dayton, Ohio: National Catholic Catechists Society, September, 1999). Reprinted in the University of Dayton Catechist Formation Program's *Participant's Readings; St. Paul: Lessons In Being Church* (Dayton, Ohio: Peter Li, Inc., 2000).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "Why Read a Whole Book of the Bible?" in *Little Rock Scripture Study Newsletter* (Collegeville, Minnesota: The Liturgical Press, Summer, 1999).
- Ralph, Margaret N. Weekly New Testament Gospel Exegeses for *Homily Helps* (Cincinnati, Ohio: St. Anthony Messenger Press, Advent, 1995 to 1998).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "In Praise of Wisdom" in *Scripture from Scratch* (Cincinnati, Ohio: St. Anthony Messenger Press, 1998).
- Ralph, Margaret N. 7 sessions on the Holy Spirit for "Small Group Resources" in *Preparing for the Jubilee Year Two, 1998* (Washington, D.C.: United States Catholic Conference, Spring, 1997).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "Jesus: Yesterday, Today, Forever," *Catechist Sunday Resource Guide* (Washington, D.C.; United States Catholic Conference, Spring, 1997).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "Access Guide to the Catechism," *Caravan* (Ottawa, Ontario: Publication Services, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, Spring, 1997).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "Is God Merciful?" *Catechist Connection* (Kansas City, Missouri: National Catholic Reporter, Publishing Company, Spring, 1997).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "What Scripture Says...and Doesn't Say" in *Scripture from Scratch* (Cincinnati, Ohio: St. Anthony Messenger Press, 1996).

Reprinted in *Bringing Catholic Youth and the Bible Together* (Winona, Minnesota: Saint Mary's Press, 2000).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "The Many Images of Jesus" *Catechist* (Dayton, Ohio: National Catholic Catechists Society, September, 1996).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "And God Said What? Helping Adult Roman Catholics Outgrow Biblical Fundamentalism" *Caravan* (Ottawa, Ontario: Publication Services, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, Summer, 1996).

- Ralph, Margaret N. "Does God Forgive? Must We?" *Catechist Sunday Resource Guide* (Washington, D.C.: United States Catholic Conference, Spring, 1996).
- Ralph, Margaret N. Commentary on "Adult Catechesis in the Christian Community" in *The Catechetical Documents* (Chicago, Illinois: Liturgy Training Publications, 1996).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "Creation," *Catechist* (Dayton, Ohio: National Catholic Catechists Society, September, 1994).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "The Bible and the Adult Catholic: A Missing Piece in Parish Catechesis," *The Living Light* (Washington, D.C.: USCC Office of Publishing and Promotion Services, Winter, 1993).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "The Power of the Living Word," *National Council for Catholic Evangelization Newsletter* (Manassas, Virginia: NCCE, September, 1993).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "Are We Teaching Fundamentalism?" *Today's Parish* (Mystic, CT: Twenty Third Publications, September, 1992).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "Parish Adult Religious Education: How to Get Started," *NCCB/USCC Currents* (Washington, D.C.: USCC Publications Service, August, 1992).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "No Structure: No Staying Power," *Today's Parish* (Mystic, CT: Twenty Third Publications, October, 1991).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "Does 'Breaking Open the Word' Promote Fundamentalism?" *Forum* (Arlington, VA: The North American Forum on the Catechumenate, Vol. 7, Issue 1, 1990).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "Program Development: A Community Process," *Christian Adulthood* (Washington, D.C.: USCC Office of Publishing and Promotion Services, 1985).
- Ralph, Margaret N. "The Sower and His Seed or the Doctor and His Pill: Renewal Programs as Adult Religious Education," *Christian Adulthood* (Washington, D.C.: USCC Office of Publishing and Promotion Service, 1987).

Videos/ DVDs/ Audio Tapes

- Ralph, Margaret N. *And God Said What?* An audio recording of

ten talks given at the Oratory in South Carolina (Canfield, Ohio: St. Paul's Communications, 20008).

- Ralph, Margaret N. In *Echoes of Faith "The Scriptures"*; Interview (Allen, Texas: RCL Benziger, 2007).
- Ralph, Margaret N. *The Book of Revelation* A video presentation for adult study groups. (Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y.: American Video Cassette Educational Library, 1989).
- Ralph, Margaret N. *"And God Said What?" An Introduction to Biblical Literary Forms* A video presentation for adult study groups. (Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y.: American Video Cassette Educational Library, 1987).

Contributions to Books

Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers, and Proclaimers of the Word:2011 United States Edition RNAB (Chicago, IL: Liturgy Training Publications, 2010). I wrote the commentaries and marginal notes for the Advent, Lent, and Easter seasons. The book is also published for Canada using the NRSV.

The Paulist Liturgy Planning Guide: Year C (Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 2006). I contributed the catechetical topics for each Sunday and feast day.

The Paulist Liturgy Planning Guide: Year B (Mahwah, N.J. : Paulist Press, 2005). I contributed the catechetical topics for each Sunday and feast day.

The Paulist Liturgy Planning Guide: Year A (Mahwah, N.J. : Paulist Press, 2004). I contributed the catechetical topics for each Sunday and feast day.

Contributions to Publications of the Bible

The Catholic Faith and Family Bible (San Francisco, CA: Harper Collins, the Center for Ministry Development, and Our Sunday Visitor, 2010). I contributed the introductions to each of the sections and each of the biblical books as well as several articles responding to difficult biblical passages.

Saint Mary's Press College Study Bible (Winona, MN: Saint Mary's Press, Christian Brothers Publications, 2007). I contributed an opening article entitled "The Bible: A Light on Our Path" and was the reviewer for the Old Testament introductory articles.