One of the goals of Word on Fire Spark is to form the child’s imagination to love what is true, good, and beautiful through stories. We know that parents, grandparents, godparents, teachers, and catechists often struggle to find high quality books for children that will spark a love of reading. As we develop our line of Word on Fire Spark children’s books, we’ve crafted this list of classics (and a few new titles) to enjoy with the young readers in your life.

The books are organized according to genre/age group: board books, picture books, early readers, chapter books, and graphic novels. Whether these books explicitly communicate truths about our Catholic faith or merely delight the young reader, these are stories with merit. (But please keep in mind that you know your young reader best and each book may not be the right fit for every child.)

Happy reading! And stay tuned for our new Word on Fire Spark titles launching in late 2023.

**Board Books**
- Are You My Mother? by P.D. Eastman
- Bear Snores On by Karma Wilson
- Can You See a Little Bear? by James Mayhew
- The Carrot Seed by Ruth Krauss
- A Child’s Book of Prayers by Michael Hague
- Each Peach Pear Plum by Janet and Allan Ahlberg
- Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown
- How Do Dinosaurs Say I Love You? by Jan Yolen
- I Love You, Little One by Nancy Tafuri
- Jamberry by Bruce Degan
- Little Blue Truck by Alice Schertle
- The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear by Audrey and Don Wood
- Room for a Little One by Martin Waddell
- Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear by Michael Hague
- Tomie dePaola’s Mother Goose by Tomie dePaola
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle
- We Go to Mass by George Brundage
- We’re Going on a Bear Hunt by Helen Oxenbury

**Picture Books and Storybooks**
- Aesop’s Fables for Children illustrated by Milo Winter
- Angel in the Waters by Regina Doman
- Beauty and the Beast by Jan Brett
- Blueberries for Sal by Robert McCloskey
- Brave Irene by William Steig
- Bright April by Marguerite de Angeli
- Brigid’s Cloak by Bryce Milligan
Picture Books and Storybooks

Bring Me Some Apples and I’ll Make You a Pie by Robbin Gourley
Brother Francis of Assisi by Tomie dePaola
Brother Hugo and the Bear by Katy Beebe
Brother Sun, Sister Moon by Katherine Paterson
Caps for Sale by Esphyr Slobodkina
Cendrillon by Robert D. San Souci
Chanticleer and the Fox by Barbara Cooney
The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey by Susan Wojciechowski
The Clown of God by Tomie dePaola
The Clubhouse by Joy and Nathan Clarkson
The Complete Brambly Hedge by Jill Barklem
Corduroy by Don Freeman
D’Aulaire’s Book of Greek Myths by Ingri and Edgar Parin d’Aulaire
D’Aulaire’s Book of Norse Myths by Ingri and Edgar Parin d’Aulaire
David and Goliath by Tomie dePaola
The Donkey’s Dream by Barbara Helen Berger
The Easter Story by Brian Wildsmith
The Fox and the Star by Coralie Bickford-Smith
Giant Treasury of Peter Rabbit by Beatrix Potter
Goldilocks and the Three Bears by Jan Brett
Good Night, Fairies by Kathleen and Michael Hague
Grandfather Buffalo by Jim Arnosky
Grandfather Twilight by Barbara Helen Berger
Hildegard of Bingen by DEMI
A Hole Is to Dig by Ruth Krauss
The Holy Twins by Kathleen Norris
The Important Book by Margaret Wise Brown
Joan of Arc by DEMI
John Ronald’s Dragons by Caroline McAlister
The Kitchen Knight by Margaret Hodges
The Legend of the Poinsettia by Tomie dePaola
The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush by Tomie dePaola
The Little Fir Tree by Margaret Wise Brown
The Little House by Virginia Lee Burton
Madeline by Ludwig Bemelmans
Make Way for Ducklings by Robert McCloskey
Mary by DEMI
Mary, the Mother of Jesus by Tomie dePaola
Max and the Tag-Along Moon by Floyd Cooper
Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel by Virginia Lee Burton
The Miracles of Jesus by Tomie dePaola
Miss Rumphius by Barbara Cooney
Moon Plane by Peter McCarty
Mozart: Gift of God by DEMI
Mufaro’s Beautiful Daughters by John Steptoe
Noah and the Ark by Tomie dePaola
An Orange for Frankie by Patricia Polacco
Owl Moon by Jan Yolen
Ox-Cart Man by Donald Hall
Patrick: Patron Saint of Ireland by Tomie dePaola
Petook: The Rooster Who Met Jesus by Caryll Houselander
All the Places to Love by Patricia MacLachlan
Possum Magic by Mem Fox
Queen Esther by Tomie dePaola
The Rough-Faced Girl by Rafe Martin
Roses in the Snow by Dessi Jackson
Roxaboxen by Alice McLerran
A Sick Day for Amos McGee by Philip and Erin Stead
The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats
Song of the Swallows by Leo Politi
Saint Bernadette and the Miracles of Lourdes by DEMI
Saint Francis and the Nativity by Myrna A. Strasser
Saint George and the Dragon by Margaret Hodges
Saint Valentine by Robert Sabuda
Shakespeare Stories for Young Readers by E. Nesbit
Sir Gawain and the Green Knight by Selina Hastings
Something from Nothing by Phoebe Gilman
Sonya’s Chickens by Phoebe Wahl
St. Conrad and the Wildfire by Maura Roan McKeegan
Stellaluna by Janell Canon
Stories of the Saints by Carey Wallace
The Story of Holly and Ivy by Rumer Godden
The Story of Saint John Paul II: A Boy Who Became Pope by Fabiola Garza
Strega Nona by Tomie dePaola
Take It to the Queen by Josephine Nobisso
The Tale of Three Trees by Angela Elwell Hunt
The Tasha Tudor Book of Fairy Tales by Tasha Tudor
Thunder Cake by Patricia Polacco
Picture Books and Storybooks
Tomie de Paola’s Book of Bible Stories by Tomie dePaola
Tomie de Paola’s Favorite Nursery Rhymes by Tomie dePaola
Town Mouse, Country Mouse by Jan Brett
Trouble with Trolls by Jan Brett
The Twelve Days of Christmas by Jan Brett
The Velveteen Rabbit by Margery Williams
The Very Busy Spider by Eric Carle
We Are Brothers by Yves Nadon
Wee Gillis by Munro Leaf
The Weight of a Mass by Josephine Nobisso
Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak
Yonder by Tony Johnson
Yonie Wondernose by Marguerite de Angeli

Early Readers
26 Fairmont Avenue by Tomie DePaola
Amelia Bedelia by Peggy Parish
Bread and Jam for Frances by Lillian and Russell Hoban
Frog and Toad Are Friends by Arnold Lobel
Little Bear by Elise Minarack
Mercy Watson to the Rescue by Kate DiCamillo
Mouse Tales by Arnold Lobel
Mouse Soup by Arnold Lobel
Owl at Home by Arnold Lobel

Chapter Books, Classics, and Beyond
Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll
A Little Princess by Frances Hodgson Burnett
The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupery
The Adventures of Robin Hood by Roger Lancelyn Green
The American Girl books (Felicity, Josefina, Kirsten, Addy, Samantha, and Molly series)
Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery
Ballet Shoes by Noel Streatfeild
A Bear Called Paddington by Michael Bond
The Best Christmas Pageant Ever by Barbara Robinson
The Birchbark House by Louise Erdrich
The Boxcar Children by Gertrude Chandler Warren
Brilliant: 25 Catholic Scientists, Mathematicians, and Super Smart People by David Warren
Bunnicula by James and Deborah Howe
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl
Charlotte’s Web by E.B. White
A Child’s Garden of Verses by Robert Louis Stevenson
A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens
The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis
Ella Enchanted by Gail Carson Levine
Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan
From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler by E.L. Konigsburg
Five Children and It by E. Nesbit
The Great Cake Mystery by Alexander McCall Smith
The Green Ember series by S.D. Smith
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien
The Hundred and One Dalmatians by Dodie Smith
Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O’Dell
Little Women by Louisa May Alcott
Mara, Daughter of the Nile by Eloise Jarvis McGraw
Mary Poppins by P.L. Travers
Mr. Popper’s Penguins by Richard and Florence Atwater
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH by Robert C. O’Brien
Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle by Betty MacDonald
My Father’s Dragon by Ruth Stiles Gannet
The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart
Number the Stars by Lois Lowry
The Penderwicks by Jeanne Birdsall
Peter Pan by J.M. Barrie
The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster
The Princess and the Goblin by George MacDonald
The Railway Children by E. Nesbit
Redwall by Brian Jacques
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor
Sarah, Plain and Tall by Patricia MacLachlan
The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett
Stuart Little by E.B White
Swallows and Amazons by Arthur Ransome
The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo
The Trumpet of the Swan by E.B. White
Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbit
Tuesdays at the Castle by Jessica Day George
Watership Down by Richard Adams
Chapter Books, Classics, and Beyond
The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame
The Wingfeather Saga by Andrew Peterson
Winnie-the-Pooh by A.A. Milne
A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L’Engle (and entire Time Quintet)

Graphic Novels
The Adventures of Loupio by Jean-Francois Kieffer
Anne of Green Gables adapted by Maria Marsden
Catechism of the Seven Sacraments by Kevin and Mary O’Neill
The Hobbit adapted by Charles Dixon
Queen of the Sea by Dylan Meconis
The Secret Garden adapted by Maria Marsden
Zita the Space Girl by Ben Hatke