Classification for Church Libraries
Developed by the Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd, Charlestown, NH
Very loosely based on Abridged Dewey Decimal Classification, 12th ed.
Revised 2011

100 Reference Books (non-religious)
101 Encyclopedias and Books of Facts
101.1 Almanacs
102 Atlases
   For historical atlases of Biblical times, use 209.1

104 Dictionaries, thesauri, grammar & style manuals
105 Library & Information Science
105.5 Classification and indexing
105.7 Bibliographies and Book Catalogs
107 Computer Science
120 Philosophy
120.1 Metaphysics
120.2 Epistemology
120.3 Logic
120.4 Ethics (Moral Philosophy)
120.5 Philosophical Schools of Thought
120.7 Ancient, Medieval, & Eastern Philosophies
120.8 Modern Western Philosophies

200 Christian Religion
   Dictionaries, encyclopedias and other comprehensive works on world religions or religion & spirituality in general
   For comparative religion and specific non-Christian religions, see 290-299.

209 Geography & Persons of Christianity
209.1 Atlases of historical lands in Biblical times
209.2 Travels of St. Paul, missionaries, et al.
209.3 Old Testament persons, e.g., Joshua, Solomon
209.4 Non-Biblical persons of Bible times e.g. Egyptian pharaohs
209.5 New Testament Persons and Apostles
   e.g. Jesus’s family members, John the Baptist, Pontius Pilate, Mary Magdalene
209.7 Church Fathers
209.8 Saints (excluding New Testament persons, apostles and church fathers)
   For biographies of individual saints and other noted Christians, see under 920
   For spiritual beings, angels, demons, etc. see under 234

212 Natural theology
   Religious beliefs and attitudes attained through observation and interpretation of evidence in nature, speculation, reasoning, but not through revelation.
215 Science & Religion, Humankind
215.2 Creationism & Evolution
216 Good vs. Evil
216.3 Sins
   
   For spiritual beings, e.g. angels and demons, see 234

220 Bible
    220.1 Bibles (English translations & paraphrases)
    220.12 Interlinear Greek/Hebrew/Latin or other language and English
    220.14 Concordances
    220.13 Greek or Hebrew Bibles (including specific books in those languages)
    220.19 Bibles in other languages
    220.4 Origins and authenticity
    220.6 Interpretation and criticism (exegesis)
    220.7 Commentaries
    220.8 Nonreligious subjects in the Bible
        e.g. position of women in the Bible, agricultural practices
    220.9 Chronology

   For persons and geography in Bible or biblical times, see 209.1, 209.3

221 Old Testament
222 Specific Old Testament books, e.g. Genesis, Psalms
225 New Testament
226 Specific New Testament books, e.g. Synoptic gospels, Pauline letters, Revelation
229 Apocrypha, pseudepigrapha

230 Christian Theology
231 God the Father, Trinity
232 Jesus Christ and his family, Christology
   Individual family members go under 209.4
233 Salvation (Soteriology) and Grace
234 Spiritual beings
   234.3 Angels
   234.6 Demons
236 Eschatology (Death, Second Coming, Life after death, etc.)
   236.8 Personal accounts of visits to Heaven or Hell
238 Creeds, confessions of faith, catechisms, covenants
239 Apologetics and polemics
   Apologetics: Systematic argumentation in defense of the divine origin and authority of Christianity. Polemics: Refutation of alleged errors in other systems.
240 Moral & Devotional Theology
241 Moral theology
242 Devotional literature
   Including prayers and meditations based on passages from the Bible, how to pray, schedules for annual Bible reading, etc.

245 Christian Music
245.9 Hymnals

246 Art in Christianity
246.1 Christian symbols & symbolism
246.3 Icons, drawings, and paintings
246.5 Sculptures
246.7 Church architecture
246.8 Stained glass windows

247 Church Furnishings, Vestments, and related articles

248 Christian experience
248.2 Conversion experience
248.4 Christian life and practice
   Guides to holiness, observance of restrictions and limitations, Christian marriage and family. Pilgrimages
248.9 Guides to Christian life for specific classes of persons
e.g. boys, mothers, physicians, bereaved persons

249 Christian observances in family life
Family prayer, rites, ceremonies

250 Christian Worship
251 Guides to Liturgy and Worship
   e.g. prayer books, missals, monastic diurnals, etc.

252 Sacraments
251.1 Baptism
251.2 Confirmation
251.3 Holy Communion
251.4 Ordinations
251.5 Weddings
251.6 Anointing of the Sick
251.7 Funerals

253 Preaching
   252.2 Texts of sermons

254 Pastoral Theology

255 Monasticism and religious orders
255.4 Monastic rules
   For liturgies of Divine Offices, see 251
260 Christianity and society

262 Ecclesiology

263 Days and times of religious observance, holy places
   Includes works about specific shrines, churches, cathedrals.

266 Missions and missionary works

267 Special-purpose ministries
   267.1 Military ministry
   267.5 Prison ministry
   267.7 Hospice and medical ministries

268 Religious education
   Includes Sunday school teaching aids. Other works for children are under JUV.

269 Spiritual renewal
   Retreats, revivals, comprehensive works on evangelism, television evangelism

270 Church History
   270.1 Apostolic period (to 325 A.D.)
   270.2 Ecumenical councils (325-787 A.D.)
   270.3 Middle ages (787-1200)
   270.5 Late Middle ages through Renaissance (1200-1517)
   270.6 Reformation and Counter-Reformation (1517-1648)
   270.7 Peace of Westphalia through French Revolution (1648-1789)
   270.8 Modern period (1789-present)

271 Religious congregations and orders in church history

272 Persecutions in general church history

273 Doctrinal controversies and heresies
   e.g., Gnosticism, Arianism, Christian Manicheism
   273.5 Dead Sea scrolls

280 Christian Denominations & Sects

281 Early Churches
   281.9 Gnostic Groups

282 Coptic Church

283 Byzantine & Eastern Orthodox Churches

284 Roman Catholic Church

285 Celtic Church

286 Anglican Churches
   286.1 Church of England
   286.2 Episcopal Church of the U.S.A.
   286.4 Continuing Anglican Churches

287 Protestant denominations (traditional)
   287.1 Lutheran
   287.2 Presbyterian
   287.3 Congregationalist (United Church of Christ)
   287.4 Methodist
   287.5 Society of Friends (Quakers)
   287.7 Mennonites and Amish
   287.9 Unitarian/Universalist
288 Post-1789 denominations, e.g. Christian Science, Seventh-Day Adventist, etc.
289 Mormons

290 Comparative Religion
291 Classical (Greek & Roman) religions
292 Norse or Germanic religions
293 Judaism
294 Islam
295 Religions of Indian Origin
   295.1 Buddhism
   295.2 Hinduism
   295.9 Other Indic religions
296 Zoroastrianism
297 Bábism & Bahá’í Faith
299 Other religions, e.g. tribal religions, New Age, Wicca, cults

300 Social Sciences
310 Economics & Finance
320 Business Management
325 Church Administration
340 Law
349 Canon Law
350 Government
355 Military Services
360 Social Services & Associations
370 Education
   For religious education, use 268
380 Psychology & psychiatry
390 Anthropology & Sociology

400 Languages
   Use for foreign-language learning aids, dictionaries, instruction books, etc. If there are many of these, follow current Dewey Decimal system for specific languages

500 Sciences
   For science & religion, see 215
510 Mathematics
520 Astronomy
530 Chemistry
540 Physics
550 Earth Sciences
560 Paleontology; Paleozoology
570 Ecology
580 Botany
590 Zoology
600 Practical Arts (Technology)
   610 Building Maintenance & Repair
   620 Medicine
      *For psychiatry and psychotherapy, use 380*
   630 Gardens & Gardening
   640 Home Economics & Family Living
   641 Food & Drink
      641.5 Cookbooks
      641.7 Meal service
   646 Sewing
      *For embroidery & artistic needlework, use 746*
   647 Knitting, Crochet, & Macrame
   650 Transportation
   660 Communication
      *For Internet or other computer-based communication, use 107*

700 Fine Arts & Recreation
   Use for non-Christian art and how-to books.
   *See 246 for Religious Art. See 800 for Music and Performing Arts*

   741 Drawing, Painting & Sculpture
   746 Textile Arts (including needlework)
   747 Interior Decoration
   748 Glass
      *For stained glass windows with religious themes use 246.8*
   770 Photography
   790 Sports & Games

800 Literature & Performing Arts
   811 Poetry
   817 Humor and Satire
   820 Drama
   821 Scripts for plays or films
   822 Stage and film production
   850 Music
      *For Christian music, use 245*
   880 Dance

900 Biography, History & Travel
   910 Christian pilgrimage & travel guides
      *Use 930-996 for secular geography, travel, and history of specific places*
   920 Biography, Genealogy, & Insignia
      *For personal accounts of visits to Heaven or Hell, use 238*
   921 Biographies of Individual Saints & Church Fathers
922 Biographies of Christian individuals
  e.g. Martin Luther, Billy Graham, Pope John XXIII

923 Biographies of non-Christian religious persons
  e.g., Mohammed, Mahatma Ghandi

926 Biographies of secular persons

929 Names and Insignia
  929.1 Names
  929.3 Genealogy
  929.5 Insignia

  For Christian symbols & symbolism, use 246.1

930 Ancient Non-Christian World (to ca. 499)

940 Europe

950 Asia

960 Africa

970 North America

971 Canada

972 United States
  972.1 New England states

973 Bahamas & West Indies

979 Central America
  979.1 Mexico
  979.2 Belize
  979.3 Guatemala
  979.4 El Salvador
  979.5 Nicaragua
  979.6 Costa Rica
  979.7 Panama

980 South America

990 Other areas
  991 Australia
  992 New Zealand
  996 Antarctica

JUV Children’s books
  If desired, children’s books can be assigned the numbers as above with a J in front, e.g.,
  J200.1 Bibles for children
  J220.9 Bible stories retold for children

FIC Fiction
  Arrange alphabetically by author.