



THE LIVING LIGHT

*An Interdisciplinary Review of Catholic Religious Education,
Catechesis, and Youth and Pastoral Ministry*

*Border of Death, Valley of Hope:
An Immigrant Journey of Heart and Spirit*

by Daniel G. Groody

Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2002, \$24.95

This exploration of the spirituality of Mexican immigrants is structured around four dimensions of the immigrant's experience: context, revelation, transformation, and interpretation. Chapter One focuses on the social location of undocumented immigrants by describing their struggles to journey from Mexico across the border into the United States in search of a better life. The next chapter looks at an immigrant community's experience of Christian revelation and the new possibilities it opens up for them. Chapter Three examines the process of transformation or conversion that flows from the immigrant experience of God. The final chapter explores insights from cultural anthropology and recent studies of the Guadalupe narrative, the Nican Mopohua—a story, Groody argues, that functions as a hermeneutic for understanding immigrant spirituality because it draws together the Mesoamerican story, the Gospel story, and the lived experiences of the immigrants. The text includes a foreword by Virgilio Elizondo and an afterword by Gustavo Gutiérrez.