



YEAR OF FAITH

December 2022

Advent
&
Celebrating
Our Faith

PODCASTS & VIDEOS

Have the Best Advent Ever – www.dynamiccatholic.com/advent

This Advent, discover and choose the things that draw you to the light! **Get inspiring daily with video reflections sent straight to your inbox—for free.** Taken from Matthew Kelly's life-changing new book, *Life Is Messy*, each reflection will help you infuse your life with prayer, reading, authentic love of self, genuine friendship, beautiful kindness, and so much more!

And when Christmas arrives, you'll be ready to share the light you've gathered along the way!

Advent: Dreaming Big <https://youtu.be/ncgO5Jh0OyY> - Bishop Robert Barron – The Gospel of Matthew (1:18-24) reminds us that Christianity is not about sufficiently impressing a reluctant God, but rather opening our hearts and minds to the great things God wants to do for us. **Dream Big – Let your desire meet the extraordinary generosity of God.**

Let's Get Excited About Christmas This Year <https://youtu.be/jotdNA9hhrs> - As kids, we used to get really excited about Christmas. As adults, can we really say the same thing? This Advent, let's recapture some of the hope and anticipation we used to have by rooting ourselves in the life and promise of Jesus Christ.

'Celebrating a Merry Catholic Christmas' with Raymond Arroyo <https://youtu.be/p7SMPwbUKUA> - How can we and our families nurture and sustain the true meaning of Christmas? Father William Saunders discusses his new book 'Celebrating a Merry Catholic Christmas: A Guide to the Customs and Feast Days of Advent and Christmas.'

Bishop Barron on Christmas <https://youtu.be/eUW-A2qZzWY> - As only Bishop Barron can do, here is a whole new perspective on Christmas. It will forever change your understanding and appreciation of this feast.

A Short Christmas Story with Fr. Chris Alar <https://youtu.be/18rPV5B2pbY> - Hear Fr. Chris Alar tell a story about how the Christmas Tree and its elements came about. Also, see the Christmas party at the Association of Marian Helpers at the National Shrine of Divine Mercy.

BOOKS

Celebrating a Merry Catholic Christmas: A Guide to the Customs and Feast Days of Advent and Christmas - This book is a treasure that offers its riches year after year. It is a valuable resource for understanding and celebrating Advent and Christmas as a Catholic. But, more than providing the historical roots of traditions, such as the Advent wreath and Christmas tree, it also features spiritual reflections and suggestions for practices to enrich your family's Christmas preparation and celebration.

The Action Bible Review | Best Bible Resources for Kids? - <https://youtu.be/ECqV0ICFZ3Q> Do you struggle to build a biblical foundation for your children/grandkids? Learn about the bible that gave Father Mike Schmitz his first love for the bible. Now he gives this Bible to all of his nieces, nephews, and young family members.

The Action Bible presents more than 230 fast-paced narratives in chronological order, making it easy to follow the Bible's historical flow and building up to the thrilling climax of God's redemptive story. Sergio Cariello's illustrations for ***The Action Bible*** leap off the page with the same thrilling energy that earned him international recognition for his work with Marvel Comics and DC Comics. **This would make an amazing Christmas gift for that special child in your life!**

MUSIC OF THE SEASON

Pentatonix - Mary, Did You Know? (Official Video)

<https://youtu.be/ifCWN5pJGIE>

Matt Maher - Lord, I Need You (Live)

A Halleluja <https://youtu.be/vG5O5TSIaE4>

A Hallelujah Christmas by Cloverton

<https://youtu.be/ykbOxbyGIIE>

Celine Dion & Josh Groban – The Prayer

<https://youtu.be/jhxljRO6Wjl>

The Best Christmas Song I've Ever Heard. It Will Give You Chills.

<https://youtu.be/v5mdybeyLVc>

Prince of Peace - Children's Christmas Song

<https://youtu.be/pnlq3zfTXZE>

Christmas Hymns | Traditional Instrumental Christmas Songs

<https://youtu.be/wTBJa8O dnQ>

Year of Faith Continued

One of the most important goals of this Year of Faith was to introduce you to resources and tools you can use to continue to grow your personal faith. Each month this Resource Guide has given many suggestions and those will continue to be available on the SMM website.

Below is a summary of some of our favorite Year of Faith resources you can continue to follow to stay informed and inspired in the coming years. They are also valuable to you in evangelizing your Catholic faith to others.

The Bible In A Year

One of the most life changing sources was *The Bible in a Year*. Don't be overwhelmed by the title. You can watch or listen to this at your own pace and in your own way. Some read along with Father and take notes. Others listen on their way to work or at the gym. Some listen or watch each day. Others may cover 2-3 episodes a couple times a week. The important thing is to let the words of the Bible wash over you so you will finally begin to understand how all this comes together in our faith and in our lives. **You will never regret doing this! Here's how to get started...**

“Bringing the Bible Back to Catholics” | Fr. Mike Schmitz and Jeff Cavins
<https://youtu.be/q7o7WjQc3as> In the Bible in a Year podcast, Fr. Mike Schmitz walks you through the entire Bible in 365 episodes, providing commentary, reflection, and prayer along the way. Unlike any other Bible podcast, Ascension's Bible in a Year Podcast follows a reading plan inspired by The Great Adventure Bible Timeline, a ground-breaking approach to understanding salvation history developed by none other than Jeff Cavins. With this podcast, you won't just read the Bible in a year ... you'll finally understand how all the pieces of the bible fit together to tell an amazing story that continues in your life today!

The Catechism In A Year

The next most logical step in growing our faith will come in 2023 with **The Catechism In A Year**. It's another book most of us have never read all the way through, but it is essential to helping us understand our Catholic faith.

Catechism in a Year – www.ascensionpress.com/catechisminayear - In response to countless requests, Ascension is launching ***The Catechism in a Year (with Fr. Mike Schmitz)*** on **January 1, 2023!** With this podcast, Catholics will:

- Read the entire Catechism of the Catholic Church in 365 days
- Understand the essentials of the Catholic Faith and why they matter
- See how Church teaching is rooted in Sacred Scripture
- Absorb over 2,000 years of Sacred Tradition
- Encounter God's plan of sheer goodness
- **Transform their relationship with the Church that Christ founded.**

If you have ever wanted to **understand what it means to be Catholic** and allow those truths to shape your life—this podcast is for you!

BOOKS

The Action Bible for Kids – This is the Bible that started Father Mike Schmitz’s love for the Bible. It is the Bible he gives to all his young family members and friends. There is a whole series of products including books for children of all ages, study Bibles, games, reproducible (make copies for your whole family or class) coloring books, YouTube videos, and hero card collections.

Sergio Cariello’s illustrations for The Action Bible series leap off the page with the same thrilling energy that earned him international recognition for his work with Marvel Comics and DC Comics. This format makes the series especially appealing and readable for kids. Available at Walmart, Hobby Lobby and Amazon

A Biblical Walk Through The Mass - by Edward Sri - The words, the gestures, and the rituals of the Mass are rich in meaning. Everything we say and do in the Liturgy is steeped in biblical language. This book explores the extraordinary biblical roots of the Liturgy and reveals what it all means and why it all matters. This fascinating tour of the Mass will renew your faith and deepen your love for and devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

Consecration to St. Joseph – Father Donald Calloway – In the midst of crisis, confusion, and a world at war with the Church, it’s time to come home again to our spiritual father, St. Joseph.

The Generosity Habit – by Matthew Kelly – This book is built on a profound principle: Give something away every day. It doesn’t need to be money or material things. This is a profound and practical invitation to go beyond the problems plaguing society and become part of the solution.

VIDEOS

Pray The Mass Like Never Before – Father Mike Schmitz <https://youtu.be/YpUp6zSGCb4>
While many people go to Mass every week, few people know what it is to worship. We show up and do our best to “pay attention,” but for too many of us, this just means we watch closely. You have been given a gift that you have most likely left unused. This gift is unused because it is largely unknown. This presentation will uncover this unknown and unused gift so that you can stop watching the Mass and start worshipping at Mass.

Why We Don't Drink Coffee at Mass https://youtu.be/jT-B2fK_EB0 - Leaving our coffee cups outside - It’s for a far greater reason than just fasting for an hour before Communion. Fr. Mike reminds us that we all have a vital role to play in the Mass, and it’s probably more significant than any of us realized!

Confession is a Place of Victory – Father Mike Schmitz - <https://youtu.be/YiVjwIUO9Sc>
Confession is one of the most joyful, humbling, and inspiring places in the world.

A Guide to Confession – Father Matt - <https://youtu.be/xOI3FAt538U> - A step by step guide to going to Confession.

What to do in Adoration? – https://youtu.be/H_917kqe27s Father Jeff takes us on a visit to the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and talks about what we do when we visit and pray with our Lord in the Eucharist.

3 Scientifically Proven Eucharistic Miracles - <https://youtu.be/93cqR-nwl8s> - In this video we're going to go over 3 Eucharistic Miracles that have been examined by top scientists around the world who eventually concluded that science could not explain the miraculous occurrence.

